



# 2023 NORTH AMERICAN CARIBOU WORKSHOP & ARCTIC UNGULATE CONFERENCE

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

## **NACW-AUC 2023 Field Trips – Friday, 12 May**

### **Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center Tour**

Location: Portage, Alaska

Cost: \$85

Max attendance: 56

Time: 11:30 am – 5:00 pm

Description: Take a trip 45 miles south of Anchorage along beautiful [Turnagain Arm](#) to visit the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center (AWCC). AWCC is a not-for-profit organization and wildlife sanctuary dedicated to preserving Alaska's wildlife through conservation, education, research, and quality animal care. The sanctuary maintains over 200 acres of spacious habitats for resident animals including caribou, reindeer, moose, muskox, and wood bison. During this field adventure, tour the sanctuary with AWCC Naturalists, hear about ungulate human care practices, learn about AWCC's contributions to the wood bison reintroduction project, and enjoy an up-close experience with resident ungulates. Lunch is included. Learn more about AWCC at [www.alaskawildlife.org](http://www.alaskawildlife.org).

### **Visit to the Foraging Ecology and Wildlife Nutritional Analysis (FaWNA) Lab**

Location: Palmer, Alaska

Cost: \$65

Max attendance: 22

Time: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Description: Have you ever wondered how researchers study food habits, nutrition, and physiology of tame animals? If so, consider attending a field trip to the Foraging Ecology and Wildlife Nutritional Analysis (FaWNA) research facility of the Alaska Department of Fish and

Game (ADFG). The facility is home to tame moose and caribou as well as a laboratory where researchers determine the nutritional quality of ungulate foods using traditional wet chemistry techniques (e.g., sequential fiber analysis). Attendees will have opportunities to directly observe animals foraging on seasonally available forages, tour the lab, and ask questions of ADFG staff and collaborators about methods, analyses, and future research directions. **Masks are required to attend the FaWNA Lab field trip, due to the potential of zoonotic transmission.**

### **Hiking and Botany Trip to Chugach State Park**

Location: Chugach State Park, Anchorage, Alaska

Cost: \$65

Max attendance: 33

Time: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Description: Join Dr. Elizabeth Bella, Botanist and National Park Service Environmental Planning and Compliance Team Lead for the Alaska Region, and Karin Sonnen, Botanist/Lichenologist and Natural Resources Conservation Service State Rangeland Specialist on a walk in the alpine of the Chugach National Forest to experience and learn about the hardy plants and lichens that our arctic ungulates depend on for winter survival and what these plants and lichen can tell us about the ecology and grazing history of an area. Come and experience some of the beautiful vistas Alaska has to offer and learn about our local flora. Hike difficulty will be easy to moderate and exact location will be snowpack-dependent.

### **Prince William Sound Tour**

Location: Prince William Sound, Alaska

Cost: \$330, plus gratuity (see below)

Min attendance: 15

Max attendance: 27

Time: 9:30 am – 6:30 pm

NOTE: This trip is independently organized and must be signed up for at [this link](#).

Description: Journey into Prince William Sound with Lazy Otter Charters to view tidewater glaciers and magnificent waterfalls. Sit at the face of a wall of ice and get a chance to cruise up to an active bird rookery. A lunch will be served onboard this intimate boat cruise. The lunch includes: sandwich of choice (ham, turkey, roast beef or veggie) on ciabatta bread, fresh baked

cookies, Alaska Chips, trail mix, and fruit. Coffee, tea, soft drinks and water available all day. Please bring a refillable water bottle to help us reduce single use plastic – bonus the water in Whittier has won national awards, seriously Award-Winning Whittier Water!

We go rain or shine! Prince William Sound is a temperate rainforest, so you should expect rain - that is what gives us all the beautiful glaciers and spectacular waterfalls! Any adventure on the water will be 10-20 degrees cooler than on shore. Dress in layers - be sure to bring a fleece layer, waterproof jacket, waterproof pants and closed toed, water resistant hiking shoe.

Trip includes:

- Local Alaskan guide(s)
- Admission through the Anton Anderson Memorial Tunnel into Whittier
- Photo stops
- Lunch
- Snacks and water
- Anchorage hotel pick up
- Anchorage hotel drop off

Not included:

The crew today consists of your local driver/guide from Anchorage, Captain and Deckhand on the larger boats. We recommend a basic guide gratuity for your driver/guide at \$10 per person. Gratuity received on board the day cruise is split evenly between the captain and deckhand. In general, the recommended gratuity for a day cruise is \$20 per person.