

ALASKA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

1989 FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

GENERAL INFORMATION:

The purpose of Alaska Native Plant Society Field Trips is to enjoy Alaska's plants in their native habitats. The trips are designed to explore a variety of plant communities for educational and appreciative values. Hikes are leisurely paced to allow lots of time for plant observation. Hikes are held rain or shine, so be prepared.



ITEMS TO BRING:

All trips require sturdy hiking shoes, water, raingear, lunch, warm clothing and insect repellent. A walking stick may be a good idea. Bring camera, binoculars, hand lens, and field notebook as desired.

CAUTION:

Digging plants and/or collecting specimens is discouraged by ANPS; and, in most sites, is illegal.

MEETING PLACE:

Unless otherwise indicated in the trip listing, the common meeting place for Field Trips is the Northeast corner of the Sears Mall Shopping Center parking lot, corner of Northern Lights and Seward Highway. We wait a few minutes for late-comers, but please be prompt.

MAY 13---(SAT)---KIWANIS PARK OVERLOOK

Leader---Verna Pratt---

Time Allotted---3 or 4 hours

Meet---10 AM---on Hillcrest Drive just west of Minnesota Bypass, just before West High School. Bring lunch if desired.

Level of Difficulty---easy

This is a work party to improve an area frequently seen by tourists. Trees were cleared by the Municipality to provide a view of Westchester Lagoon and the City, leaving a large scarred area. Last year, the Wildflower Garden Club started the project but found it overwhelming for their small organization, considering its many other projects. We will continue the project by planting more shrubs and meadow plants. Anyone interested should show up with gardening tools, jugs of water, Native plants and shrubs, etc. *Nothing really choice*, as pilferage has been a real problem. Let's plant it with fast spreaders and undesirable garden species: such as, Devil's Club, Wild Roses and Cow Parsnips.

MAY 18---(THUR)---JOHNSON TRAIL

Leaders---Frank Bogardus and Verna Pratt---

Time Allotted---3 to 4 hours (evening trip)

Meet---6 PM---Sears Parking Lot---OR---6:20 PM at north end of Johnson Trail, south on Seward Highway, just past the Potter Section House.

Level of Difficulty---easy

This is a good beginning of season trip. Walking stick might be useful. Bring sack meal, if you haven't eaten the evening meal. THIS IS STATE PARK LAND, NO COLLECTING!!!

MAY 21---(SUN)---EKLUTNA LAKE RANGER STATION

Leader---Verna Pratt---

Time Allotted---all day

Meet---9 AM---N.E. corner of Sears parking lot, at Northern

Lts. and Seward Hiway.---OR---9:30 AM at Weigh Station on north-bound Glenn Hiway.

Level of Difficulty---easy

This is another Work Party and a Field Trip. We will continue a project that we started last year; a planting around the Ranger Station. This year we will concentrate more on planting Native Berry-bearing Shrubs. If you can find us any Wild Currants, Highbush or Lowbush Cranberries, etc., please bring them. After the planting, we will picnic by the lake and go on a Field Trip in the area.

MAY 29---(MON---MEMORIAL DAY)---NANCY LAKE RECREATION AREA (NLRA).

Leader---John Wenger---

Time Allotted---3 hours

Meet---9 AM at Tulik Trail. Directions---take Parks Hwy north to Mile 67.2, then take park road to Nancy Lake Recreation Area (large sign on Parks Hwy). Go approx. 2-1/4 miles on park road and look for sign on left-"NATURE TRAIL". Meet at parking lot. Bring binoculars, spotting scopes, field guides, lunch, bug repellent and raingear.

Level of Difficulty---easy

This is an easy 2 mile trail where we will see Orchids, Coral Root and Goodyears. This is a combined Audubon Society and ANPS outing to see both plants and birds. Highlights are the Pacific Loons and Coral Root Orchids.

JUNE 3---(SAT)---USABELLI COAL MINE (HEALY AREA)

Leader---Cathy Wright/Larry Jackson---

Time Allotted---2 to 3 hours

Meet---9 AM---at Totem Cafe (Mile 248.7 Parks Hwy) in Healy, AK

This will be an opportunity to see the revegetation program of Usabelli and the native vegetation of adjacent areas. There is a limit of 12 people for this trip unless we get another 4-WD vehicle. **Reservations are required, call Cathy Wright by May 22nd.**

Level of difficulty---easy

(NOTE: Some of the Field Trippers may want to stay and hike on the Bison Gulch Trail on Sunday. Frank & Verna Pratt have been visiting Bison Gulch for 5 or 6 years now, so most ANPS members have heard of it. It is a fabulous area for Pasque Flower, Lapland Rosebay, Parrys Wallflower, Purple Cress, Douglassia, and other early-blooming plants of Interior Alaska. It can be a very windy and cold area, so bring warm clothing. To find camping area---from paved parking area on right side of northbound Parks Hwy at Mile 243.6 go north to the crest of hill where there is a (hard to see) small gravel trail (driveable) to the right leading to a gravel dome). For non-campers, the Denali National Park Hotel and McKinley Chalet Resort will still have special rates in effect (which run from 5/19 to 6/15)---stay 2 nights for the price of 1.

JUN 10---(SAT)---ARCTIC VALLEY

Leader---Karl Francke---

Time Allotted---5 hours

Meet---10 AM---Sears Parking Lot (see General Information, above)---OR---10:45 AM---at Civilian Side Ski Lodge, Arctic Valley.

Level of Difficulty---moderate to steep

Minimum Age---4 years

Nice alpine area. See progression of nearby plants during the early summer.

JUN 13---(TUES)---COASTAL TRAIL

Leader---Peggy Pletcher---

Time Allotted---all evening

Meet---6 PM---at Earthquake Park Parking Lot

Level of Difficulty---easy

JUN 24---(SAT)---McHUGH PEAK

Leader---Julie Riley---

Time Allotted---4 to 8 hours

Meet---Carr's Mall at New Seward Hwy and Huffman Road, south side of parking lot

Level of Difficulty---moderate, the last hour's climb is more difficult

A hike along a ridge with views of Cook Inlet and a view of Hope from the summit.

JUN 30-JUL 8---(WEEK LONG)---FAIRBANKS & POINTS NORTH

Leader---Jean & Jim Poor---

Time Allotted---one week

Meet---Carr's, Eagle River

Level of difficulty---easy

This is a joint trip with the Chugach Gem & Mineral Society. **Reservations required, call Jean Poor by June 9th.**

FAIRBANKS & POINTS NORTH (CONT'D)

Leader's vehicle will have Chugach Gem & Mineral Society Banner.

Tentative itinerary is as follows:

Jun 30---Fri---Healy---June Creek Campground
Jul 1----Sat---Fairbanks---Chatanika N mile 39, Steese Hwy
Jul 2----Sun---Eagle Summit / Central / Circle Hot Springs
Jul 3----Mon---Central / Chatanika N
Jul 4----Tue---Fairbanks / Anch / Chatanika S
Jul 5----Wed---Yukon Crossing
Jul 6----Thur---Yukon Crossing
Jul 7----Fri---Fairbanks
Jul 8----Sat---Anchorage

JUL 1-3---(SAT-SUN-MON)---SELDOYIA AREA / JACKLOF BAY

Leader---Jan Schofield---

Time Allotted---3 or 4 days

Meet---call Lynn Catlin at _____ for details

Level of Difficulty---easy to moderately difficult

Minimum age---12 years

Proposed itinerary:

SAT---Arrive Jakolof at noon via air or water taxi. Beach picnic. Explore beach plants and take leisurely 7-mile hike to Jan & Ed Schofield's. Plants of bog & woodland can be explored.

SUN---Options include---hike to alpine or hike to Wilderness Park (great wildflower meadow) or explore along river.

MON---Begin hike out. All who desire to do so can take side trip to Red Mountain and spend all afternoon there. Return to Homer.

[TUES---Any folks still in Homer could explore Stepstone Bog with me if they'd like].

NOTE: Limit of 8 people on this trip. Reservations required, call Lynn Catlin by June 15.

Trip leader has the following suggestions: Travel light so that hiking is a pleasure. Each person or couple prepare one meal [for all participants] to make food planning easy and avoid duplication. Everyone will need a sleeping bag and pad. Floor space will be available. Anderson's Flora is at the cabin. Air taxi costs \$40 per person round-trip. Water taxi depends on number of people on the boat---it is \$40 (or more). Participants should be good hikers. Pace will be leisurely, but the country is hilly.

JUL 8---(SAT)---GRANITE TORS---(FAIRBANKS AREA)

Leader---Kay Holmes / Eileen Helmstetter---

Time Allotted---all day

Meet---8 AM---Trail head is at 2nd bridge & gravel quarry N mile 40, Chena Hot Springs Road. Patty Gum, U of A can share rides out.

Level of Difficulty---moderate, long hike-15 miles (Good hiking boots a must).

A gradual, but steady climb through spruce and aspen forest into alpine tundra dotted with towering granite tors.

JUL 20---(THUR)---MT. ALYESKA

Leader---Bobbie Kallam / Yerna Pratt---

Time Allotted---all day

Meet---9:15 AM---Sears Parking Lot---OR---10:45 AM Alyeska Ski Lodge Ticket Office

Level of difficulty---long strenuous hike

We will take the chair lift to the top and then hike the ridge beyond. Perhaps we will see some different plants that have strayed over from Prince William Sound. Bring lunch, etc. Cost of chairlift is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Anyone interested in hiking all the way up from the lodge rather than taking the lift should contact Bobbie and should plan on at least a 1 hour hike.

JUL 28-29-30---(FRI-SAT-SUN)---NORTH FORK CAMPBELL CREEK LAKE

Leader---Warren Jones---

Time Allotted---2 or 3 days

Meet---1st group at 4 PM---2nd group at 6 PM---at Prospect Heights entrance to Chugach State Park.

Level of Difficulty---moderate to difficult backpacking

Minimum Age---10 years, unless they are used to backpacking

Over night tent-out, requires full camping gear and warm clothing. One-half day (or less) hike in. no definite trails part way. Starts over Near Point Trail. 6 hour hike. First group will leave at 4 PM and mark the trail for those who want to meet and leave as a second group at 6 PM. Hikers can call Warren for alternate routes to the campsite. STATE PARK LAND---NO COLLECTING!!!

AUG 5---(SAT)---HATCHER PASS

Leader---Forest Baldwin---H-

Time Allotted---all day

Meet---9 AM---Sears Mall Parking Lot, Anchorage---OR---9:45 to 10 AM---north corner of Valley Fair Mall, left side of Glenn Hwy near end of State Fair Grounds in Palmer. (Forest lives in the valley and will meet you there).

Level of Difficulty---easy to medium

Minimum Age---5 years

A nice day trip to explore the Hatcher Pass area. STATE PARK LAND---NO COLLECTING!!!

AUG 10---(THUR)---CAMPBELL TRACT INTERPRETIVE TRAIL

Leader---Dean Littlepage---

Time Allotted---evening

Meet---6 PM---Parking lot at Mile 1, Campbell Airstrip Road. (2nd parking area on right).

Level of Difficulty---easy

Field trip to site an interpretive trail on the Campbell Tract, near South Fork Campbell Creek. Bring a sack dinner for a picnic near the creek.

AUG 13---(SUN)---THE RAMP, CHUGACH MTS.

Leader---Verna Pratt---

Time Allotted---all day

Meet---8:30 AM---Sears Parking Lot---OR---regroup at 9:15 AM at Glen Alps Parking Lot

Level of Difficulty---Long hike

Minimum Age---4 years

A trip in the alpine with spectacular views. May need to wade stream, so bring rubber boots or extra pair of tennis shoes. STATE PARKLAND---NO COLLECTING!!!

AUG 17---(THUR)---MOSQUITO LAKE BOG

Leader---Marilyn Barker---

Time Allotted---2 to 4hours

Meet---6 PM---S.E. corner of free parkinglot at UAA Arts Bldg., just beyond the Modern Art Sculpture off of A.P.U. Drive.

Level of Difficulty---easy

Bring rubber boots and be prepared to key out the little-noticed sedges which will be in seed at that time.

AUG 19---(SAT)---MUSHROOM TRIP --- (WASILLA AREA)

Leader---Ben Guild---

Time Allotted---4 to 6 hours

Meet---9 AM---"Pat's Place", Mile 39.5 (from Anchorage) on Parks Hwy. after Seward Meridian Road, (R.V. park there). House can be seen (on top of hill) from here. Take 1st right at crest of hill. Small sign-"Pat's Place". If you get to Nye Ford, you have gone too far.

Level of Difficulty---easy

Pat has 40 acres to explore. Bring a sack lunch and enjoy the day.

AUG 26---(SAT)---McHUGH, JOHNSON TRAIL

Leader---Bobbie Kallam---

Time Allotted---all day

Meet---9 AM---Sears Parking Lot---OR---9:30 AM at parking lot at McHugh State Park.

Level of Difficulty---easy

This should be a fun late summer trip designed to gather seeds and/or berries. Bring lunch and small containers to collect seeds. STATE PARK---NO COLLECTING!!! (EXCEPT BERRIES OR SEEDS)

SEP 10---(SUN)---MT. EKLUTNA / PETER'S CREEK DRAINAGE

Leader---Verna Pratt---

Time Allotted---all day

Meet---8:30 AM---Sears Mall Parking Lot

Level of Difficulty---long hike, moderate difficulty

Minimum Age---5 years

Might get to some berry-picking areas along the way, while taking in a beautiful fall hike overlooking Peters Creek valley. This will also be a great trip to gather seeds for next years seed sale. Bring small containers or envelopes. STATE PARK---NO COLLECTING!!! (EXCEPT BERRIES OR SEEDS)

NOTES:

1. Look for a Moss Trip by Marilyn Barker in late September if the weather holds good.

2. A new Fall course at UAA---Biology 333 (3 credits)---Instructor-Dr. Marilyn Barker. Comparative study of structure, development and life history of the major groups of Algae, Fungi, and Mosses. Prerequisites: Biology 105, 106, or faculty permission. AUDITORS WELCOME. Includes 3 Field Trips to learn about these unique plants.

A BIG "THANK YOU" TO ALL WHO VOLUNTEERED TO LEAD FIELD TRIPS. IT LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE A VERY NICE SCHEDULE WITH SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU ON SOME OF THE TRIPS.

Field Trips arranged and scheduled by Field Trip Coordinator, Cathy Wright; and published by the staff of BOREALIS, newsletter of the Alaska Native Plant Society, P.O. Box 141613, Anchorage, Alaska 99514.

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