

ALASKA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY-- SUMMER 2011 FIELD ACTIVITIES

General instructions: **ALWAYS** plan for Alaska weather, carry raingear and snacks.

MAY

15 Sunday—McHugh Creek towards Rabbit Lake

Leader: Jenni Parkes

Meeting time: 7:00 AM

Time allotted: 3-4 hours

Meeting Place: Carr's Huffman SW corner of parking lot if you wish to carpool, OR meet at the lower McHugh parking lot (nearest Turnagain Arm). Hike starts at 7:30 AM

Level of difficulty: Moderate

Minimum age: No minimum age.

Description of trip: This trail is uphill all the way. No set destination. There are several rest stops/turnaround possibilities. Beautiful vistas and early flowers.

21 Saturday—Plant Sale

Leader: ALASKA ROCK GARDEN SOCIETY

Meeting time: 9:00AM-4:00 PM Meeting Place: Sally Karabelnikoff's—

26 Thursday—Seward Highway *Tragopogon* Removal

Leader: Diane Toebe

Meeting time: 6:30 PM

Meeting place: Potter Section House Parking Area (Seward Hwy just past Potter Marsh)

Level of difficulty: Moderate

Minimum Age: adults only

Description of trip: This is a work party to continue removing *Tragopogon dubius*, an invasive weed. We found the motherlode (original spot it started) last year so need to keep at it this year. Wear old clothes, rugged shoes and garden gloves. Bring a dandelion digger, useful for young plants and/or compacted ground.

Special instruction: Ground surface is steep and uneven.

28 Saturday—Plant Sale

Leader: ALASKA ROCK GARDEN SOCIETY

Meeting time: 9:00AM-4:00 PM

Meeting Place: Florene Carney's - , Wasilla.

JUNE

4 Saturday—Plant Sale

Leader: ALASKA WILDFLOWER GARDEN CLUB

Meeting time: 9:00AM-4:00 PM Meeting Place: Sally Karabelnikoff's—

4 Saturday—Campbell Creek Science Center –Trails day

Leader: Louisa Wulflein

Meeting time: 8: 30 - 9 AM for sign in. Mention ANPS and ANPS gets credit towards room rent for monthly meetings.

Allocated time: 3 hours

Meeting place: East entrance Science Center

Description of trip: This is a multi-tasking work day to clean up gardens and trails around the Science Center.

5 Sunday—Little O'Malley

Leader: Marilyn Barker

Meeting time: 9:00AM

Time allotted: 6-8 hours

Meeting place: East end of Glen Alps parking lot.

Level of difficulty: Moderate

Minimum age: 10

Description of trip: The trail drops down to the south fork of Campbell creek before climbing to Little O'Malley. The trail is steep, but has many floral rewards. Be prepared to walk thru snow. We should find pixie eye primroses and forget-me-not's in bloom. If weather permits, the hike may continue to either the Ballpark or up higher on the slopes of False O'Malley.

5 Sunday—Arctic Valley

Leader: Verna Pratt

Meeting time 8:30AM at Fred Meyers, or 9:00AM at Arctic Valley Parking Lot.

Meeting place: South side Fred Meyers Parking lot by the big sign or Arctic Valley Parking Lot.

Time allotted: 6-8 hours

Level of difficulty: Moderate

Minimum age: 10

Description of trip: Uphill hike. Be prepared to walk thru snow. Goal to refind *Douglasia gormanii*

JUNE

7 Tuesday—ABG Dandelion Removal

Leader: Verna Pratt

Meeting time: 7 PM

Allotted time: 2 hours

Meeting place: Lowenfels Trail Head.

Level of difficulty: Easy

Minimum Age: no minimum age

Description of trip: This is a work party to finish removing dandelions along the trail. Helpful items to bring: dandelion digger, kneeling pad, 5 gallon and pail.

Parking is available at Benny Benson School or a small parking area on the left side of Campbell Air Field Rd. about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile past the road to the ABG entrance.

Special instruction: If you need a digger, contact the leader.

9 Thursday—Seward Highway *Tragopogon* Removal

Leader: Verna Pratt

Meeting time: 6:30 PM

Meeting place: Potter Section House Parking Area (Seward Hwy just past Potter Marsh)

Level of difficulty: Moderate

Minimum Age: adults only

Description of trip: This is a work party to continue removing *Tragopogon dubius*, an invasive weed. We found the motherlode (original spot it started) last year so need to keep at it this year. Wear old clothes, rugged shoes and garden gloves. Bring a dandelion digger, useful for young plants and/or compacted ground.

Special instruction: Ground surface is steep and uneven.

19 Sunday—South Fork Eagle River Valley Bird Hike

Leaders: Sirena Brownlee (Audubon) and Diane Toebe (ANPS)

Meeting time: 9 AM

Meeting place: South Fork Eagle River Valley Trailhead Level of difficulty: Easy

Description of trip: Day hike. This is a joint trip with Anchorage Audubon to look at flowers and birds. Along with the usual boreal species, we will look for Townsend's solitaire, northern shrike, northern harrier, short-eared owl, and willow ptarmigan. The wildflowers will be in full bloom in this tundra ecosystem and we will make frequent stops to enjoy the amazing diversity of plant life. We will also look for Townsend's solitaire, northern shrike, northern harrier, short-eared owl, and willow ptarmigan. Plan for at least a 3-mile hike on an established trail. Meet at 9 AM at the South Fork Eagle River Valley Trailhead. Bring a lunch, binos, and sturdy hiking boots. This is a baby/kid friendly bird walk with lots of stops to enjoy the scenery and birds.

22 Wednesday—Campbell Creek Science Center Work Party

Leader: Louisa Wulflein and Verna Pratt

Meeting time: 7 PM Mention ANPS and group gets credit towards room rent.

Allotted time: 2 hours

Meeting place: East entrance Science Center

Description of trip: This is a multi-tasking work day to clean up gardens and trails around the Science Center.

23 Thursday—Macro-photography at Alaska Botanical Garden

Leader: Julie Jessen

Meeting time: 5:30 PM Time allotted: 2 – 3 hours

Meeting place: Front gate of the Alaska Botanical Garden Minimum age: 15

Description of trip: This trip will focus on photography. Bring digital single lens reflex (SLR) camera or point-and-shoot that has a macro (flower) function. Be sure to bring the camera manual. The trip will focus on equipment, composition, depth-of-field, and techniques for macro-photography.

Special instruction: Trip is limited to 10 participants. All participants must contact the leader prior to the trip. If weather is uncooperative, the trip will be rescheduled. The leader **must** be able to contact all participants.

23 Thursday—Seward Highway *Tragopogon* Removal

Leader: Verna Pratt

Meeting time: 6:30 PM

Meeting place: Potter Section House Parking Area (Seward Hwy just past Potter Marsh)

Level of difficulty: Moderate

Minimum Age: adults only

Description of trip: This is a work party to continue removing *Tragopogon dubius*, an invasive weed. We found the mother lode (original spot it started) last year so need to keep at it this year. Wear old clothes, rugged shoes and garden gloves. Bring a dandelion digger, useful for young plants and/or compacted ground.

Special instruction: Ground surface is steep and uneven

JUNE

25 Saturday--Alpine Birding at Arctic Valley

Leader: Aaron Bowman (Audubon) and Diane Toebe (ANPS)

Meeting time: 9 AM

Meeting Place: Alpenglow ski parking lot

Description: This is a joint trip with Anchorage Audubon to look for birds and wildflowers. The hiking area is alpine slopes and up above the ski lifts. We will explore a variety of tundra and shrub habitat for alpine specialty birds including American Pipit, Horned Lark, Golden-crowned Sparrow, Northern Harrier, Golden Eagle, Wilson's Warbler, and Willow Ptarmigan. A variety of thrushes, warblers, sparrows, and jays will be singing along the trail. Bring a lunch, snacks, water, rain gear, sturdy hiking boots and dress warmly in layers. Depending on the ability of the group, we may hike towards Rendevous Peak to get access to higher areas where northern wheatear and white-tailed ptarmigan can be seen.

28 Tuesday--ABG Dandelion Removal

Leader: Verna Pratt

Meeting time: 7 PM

Allotted time: 2 hours

Meeting place: Lowenfels Trail Head.

Level of difficulty: Easy

Minimum Age: no minimum age

Description of trip: This is a work party to finish removing dandelions along the trail. Helpful items to bring: dandelion digger, kneeling pad, 5 gallon and pail.

Parking is available at Benny Benson School or a small parking area on the left side of Campbell Air Field Rd. about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile past the road to the ABG entrance.

Special instruction: If you need a digger, contact the leader.

JULY

6 Wednesday—Campbell Creek Science Center Work Party

Leader: Verna Pratt

Meeting time: 10 AM. Mention ANPS and group gets credit towards room rent.

Allotted time: 2 hours

Meeting place: East entrance Science Center

Description of trip: This is a multi-tasking work day to clean up gardens and trails around the Science Center.

7 Thursday—Seward Highway *Tragopogon* Removal

Leader: Verna Pratt

Meeting time: 6:30 PM

Meeting place: Potter Section House Parking Area (Seward Hwy just past Potter Marsh)

Level of difficulty: Moderate

Minimum Age: adults only

Description of trip: This is a work party to continue removing *Tragopogon dubius*, an invasive weed. We found the motherlode (original spot it started) last year so need to keep at it this year. Wear old clothes, rugged shoes and garden gloves. Bring a dandelion digger, useful for young plants and/or compacted ground.

Special instruction: Ground surface is steep and uneven.

16 Saturday-- Bear Creek, in the Alaska Range southeast of Fairbanks

Leader: Alan Batten

Meeting Time: 9:30 a.m. Time Allotted: All day

Meeting Place: Donnelly Creek Wayside at mile 238 Richardson Highway

Level of Difficulty: Moderate

Minimum Age: 8

Description of trip: I plan to camp at Donnelly Campground/Wayside Friday night. Participants are encouraged to do the same. The campground is on the order of 120 miles southeast of Fairbanks. This is a State campground and costs \$10 per night per campsite. There are 12 campsites available on a first-come first-served basis. Firewood is not available, but I plan to bring some. For more campground info: <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/aspunits/northern/donnellycksrs.htm>. I am planning to stay at this campground Saturday night (after the field trip) as well, and leave for Sunday's field trip from here. The campground is on the Delta River floodplain and is an interesting place in its own right. If you want to poke around on the floodplain it would be best to bring Xtra-Tuffs or to otherwise be prepared for some shallow wading. *Eleagnus* is on the floodplain here, and, though I've never myself seen it here, there are 3 records of *Salix setchelliana* in Arctos (<http://arctos.database.museum>) from the floodplain just a few miles south of here.

We will follow an informal, steep trail up the north side of Bear Creek leaving from the bridge where the creek crosses the Richardson Highway 10-15 miles south of Donnelly Creek. It starts out in spruce forest, and we should be able to get up into some subalpine meadows and rock outcrops.

Special instructions: Bring sturdy hiking shoes, warm clothes (avoid cotton) including hat and gloves, and rain gear. Lunch, water, binoculars and mosquito repellent are also needed. **Contact leader by 10 July if you plan to attend.**

JULY continued

17 Sunday--Donnelly Dome, northern flanks of the Alaska Range.

Leader: Alan Batten

Meeting Time: 9:30 a.m. Time Allotted: All day, or whatever

Meeting Place: Donnelly Creek Campground at mile 238 Richardson Highway.

Level of Difficulty: Moderate Minimum Age: 8

Description of trip: I plan to stay at the Donnelly Creek Campground after Saturday's field trip. It is only 5-10 miles north from the campground to the Donnelly Dome trailhead. **Contact leader by 10 July if you plan to attend.**

This is an informal, but well-used, trail that starts out in tall shrub birch shrubland and quickly gets up into steep alpine slopes with occasional outcrops.

Special instructions: Bring sturdy hiking shoes, warm clothes including hat and gloves, and rain gear. Lunch, water, binoculars and mosquito repellent are also needed. Please call or email the leader ahead of time.

19 Tuesday—ABG Dandelion Removal

Leader: Verna Pratt

Meeting time: 7 PM Allotted time: 2 hours

Meeting place: Lowenfels Trail Head.

Level of difficulty: Easy Minimum Age: no minimum age

Description of trip: This is a work party to finish removing dandelions along the trail. Helpful items to bring: dandelion digger, kneeling pad, 5 gallon and pail.

Parking is available at Benny Benson School or a small parking area on the left side of Campbell Air Field Rd. about ½ mile past the road to the ABG entrance.

Special instruction: If you need a digger, contact the leader.

20 Wednesday—Campbell Creek Science Center Work Party

Leader: Verna Pratt

Meeting time: 7 PM. Mention ANPS and group gets credit towards room rent.

Allotted time: 2 hours

Meeting place: East entrance Science Center

Description of trip: This is a multi-tasking work day to clean up gardens and trails around the Science Center.

21 Thursday—Seward Highway *Tragopogon* Removal

Leader: Verna Pratt

Meeting time: 6:30 PM

Meeting place: Potter Section House Parking Area (Seward Hwy just past Potter Marsh)

Level of difficulty: Moderate Minimum Age: adults only

Description of trip: This is a work party to continue removing *Tragopogon dubius*, an invasive weed. We found the motherlode (original spot it started) last year so need to keep at it this year. Wear old clothes, rugged shoes and garden gloves. Bring a dandelion digger, useful for young plants and/or compacted ground.

Special instruction: Ground surface is steep and uneven.

23-24 Saturday—Sunday Bioblast in Portage Valley

Leaders: Marilyn Barker and Alan Batten

Meeting time: Saturday 10 AM Time allotted: all day on July 23, and morning on July 24.

Meeting Place: Whittier tunnel parking lot (in time to catch the 10:30 passage)

Meeting time Sunday 9 AM

Meeting Place: Entrance to Williwaw Campground

Minimum age: 10

Description of trip: As part of the Forest Service "bioblast" we will survey the plants in the Portage Valley watershed. The trip will officially begin at the top of Portage pass at noon.

The goal will be to list all the plant species. Upon returning through the tunnel, we will stay at the Begich-Boggs Visitor Center so we can get an early start on Sunday. After dinner if daylight permits we will survey plants on the Byron glacier trail, a 1.6 mile round trip. On Sunday we will continue to survey plant species in Portage Valley, if possible to the salt marsh at Turnagain arm. The survey officially ends at noon Sunday. Other folks will be in the watershed at the same time surveying birds, fish, insects, mammals, anything alive!

Special instruction: Participants may choose to do both Saturday and Sunday, or Saturday only or Sunday only. For those staying overnight, bring appropriate sleeping bags, pads, food, ect. Of course raingear, this is Portage!



Last Regular Meeting Before Summer

May 2- 7:30 PM Campbell Creek Science Center

Main Speaker: Beth Baker with a reprisal of her infamously entertaining overview of all things Linneaus – Carl, that is. Don't Miss It!

Plant Family - Apiaceae: *Osmorrhiza*, *Bupleurum*
Presenter: Verna Pratt

Alaska Native Plant Society SUMMER FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

ANCHORAGE AK 99520-2202
PO BOX 202202
ALASKA BOTANICAL GARDEN

Alaska Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 141613
Anchorage, AK 99514

