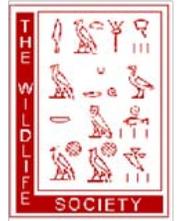




# The Alaskan Wildlifer

Newsletter of the Alaska Chapter of the Wildlife Society  
June 2011



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## Issue Highlights

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- Message from President Kris Hundertmark
  - News and announcements from around the state
  - Planning for 2012 TWS Alaska Chapter Conference in Anchorage
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## Message from President Kris Hundertmark

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Our annual meeting for 2011 is behind us and I just want to take a moment and thank the organizing committee for putting on a great conference. Mike Goldstein, Steve Brockmann, Deb Rudis, Doug Larsen, Tricia O'Conner, Brian Logan, Jamie Womble, Christine Schmale, Kevin White, Karen Blewas, Liz Solomon, Todd Rinaldi, Howard Golden, and Jerry Hupp all deserve a great deal of thanks. Hosting a conference is a great way to serve the chapter but it is a time-consuming activity, so please take an opportunity to thank those folks if and when you get a chance. The conference program was very interesting,

including great sessions on marine birds and mammals as well as alpine ecology. We had good student participation, with both oral and poster presentations. The pre-conference workshop on climate change adaptation was especially informative and gave us a glimpse of how adaptation to climate change is happening in communities and what the process of planning for change looks like. I want to give a special thanks to the Alaska Coastal Rainforest Center, particularly Mike Goldstein, for sponsoring that workshop.

Best Regards, Kris Hundertmark

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## Get Involved in Planning the 2012 Alaska Chapter Meeting

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Planning is underway for the Alaska Chapter's next annual meeting to be held in Anchorage in April 2012. Please contact Jerry Hupp (jhupp@usgs.gov) if you wish to help organize the meeting. We need 4-6 people to serve on the program and local arrangements committees. Serving on the organizing committee is a great way to serve the chapter, develop new professional relationships, and have a positive influence on content and organization of the annual meeting. Also, contact Jerry if you wish to propose a special session or workshop. The annual meeting is an excellent venue for in-depth discussion on an aspect of wildlife science that is of particular interest to you and your colleagues. Planning for the meeting will begin in earnest later this summer.

**New memberships and renewals are available on-line at The Wildlife Society's store (<https://store.wildlife.org/>).**

***You can contribute!***

*Please make note of upcoming events, projects, personnel changes, issues, or anything of interest to other AK-TWS members, and pass them on to your regional representative by the 25th of October, January, April, or July.*

And don't forget, our Newsletter and Chapter Website now have an [opinion page](#) specifically dedicated for the discussion of topics pertinent

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# Regional News

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## Southcentral

By Dave Battle, Southcentral Representative

## People/Careers

**JBER: Chuck Parsley** recently joined the Conservation Team at 673 CES/CEAN, which handles natural resources management on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER).

Chuck brings a lot of experience to the team, having worked all over Southeast Alaska for the U.S. Forest Service. He started working seasonally with Tongass National Forest on the Sitka Ranger District way back in 1989, and by 1994 had graduated from Oregon State University with a B.S. in Wildlife Science and a minor in Fisheries Science. He went on to hold a variety of positions on a variety of Ranger Districts, first as a Forestry Technician, then a Biological Technician. In 2000, he became a Fishery Biologist for the Hoonah District. Chuck was also the Zone Fishery Biologist with the Juneau Ranger District in 2000 and 2001.

In September of 2006, Chuck transferred to Petersburg Ranger District where he has been a Wildlife Biologist, Wildlife Program Manager and Lead Planning Biologist.

**The Alaska Department of Fish and Game** has had a few personnel changes recently:

**Jessy Coltrane** has accepted the position of Area Wildlife Management Biologist for Anchorage and the surrounding area (Game Management Unit 14C). Jessy started as the Assistant Area Management Biologist March 1, 2002. She has been the Acting Area Management Biologist since July 1, 2010, when her predecessor, Rick Sinnott, retired.

**Tony Kavalok**, who was the Palmer Area

Wildlife Management Biologist, has become an Assistant Director of Wildlife Conservation based in Anchorage.

**Lem Butler**, who was the King Salmon Area Wildlife Management Biologist, has moved into the position of Region IV Wildlife Management Coordinator, based in Palmer.

**Frank Robbins** is the new Assistant Area Biologist in Glennallen. Frank comes to ADF&G from Texas with a diverse wildlife background that includes grizzly bear, big horn sheep, and deer research and management experience. Frank has a Bachelor's of Science from Texas Tech University and a Master's of Science in Range and Wildlife Management from Texas A&M. He also has experience working with staff and graduate students at the Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute at Texas A&M.

## News

### Marine Science

**Symposium:** The 2011 Alaska Marine Science Symposium, held January 17-21 at the Hotel Captain Cook and Egan Center in downtown Anchorage, had record attendance. More than one thousand people gathered to hear and see research results. A program, book of abstracts, and podcasts can be found at <http://www.alaskamarinescience.org/>



**JBER Natural Resources Planning:** Since Fort Richardson and Elmendorf Air Force Base combined into Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in October 2010, the new joint base is redoing



their Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) this year. The Sikes Act requires military installations to establish and carry out programs providing for the conservation and rehabilitation of natural resources on lands used for military mission activities. INRMPs are the means by which military installations fulfill their responsibility as stewards of public lands while maintaining full support of the military mission. JBER will be working with partners and stakeholders in development of the INRMP.

## North

By Steve Arthur, Northern Representative

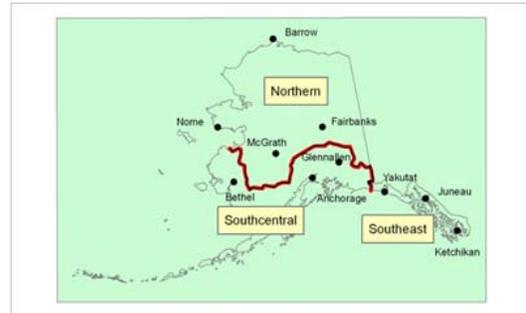
No news from this region for this newsletter.

## Southeast

By Deb Rudis, Southeast Representative

## People/Careers

**U.S. Forest Service: Cheryl Carrothers** is the U.S. Forest Service Alaska Region Wildlife Program Leader. **Brian Logan** is the Tongass Wildlife Program Leader.



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## TSW Meeting Notes: Alaska Chapter Members Gather in Juneau

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More than 100 people attended a lively Annual meeting of the Alaska State Chapter of the Wildlife Society in Juneau from 5-7 April. This record turnout for a meeting in Juneau was thanks to a diverse program that included more than 60 presentations and posters that covered topics ranging from the alpine to the ocean.

The meeting opened with 1-day workshop on climate change adaptation, sponsored by the Alaska Coastal Rainforest Center. Workshop speakers discussed how resource managers are identifying species and natural systems that are vulnerable to climate change, and culminated in an exercise in which attendees developed their own plans for managing a focal species given the uncertainties of future climate.

Special sessions on marine ecology, management of second growth forest for wildlife, and ecology of alpine ecosystems highlighted wildlife science throughout the state, but were especially relevant for a meeting in Southeast Alaska. Contributed papers and posters from 28 authors covered topics from albatross to wolverines. The poster session and banquet was held in the Juneau Arts and Culture Center where keynote speaker Dr. Dominick DellaSala gave an engaging

presentation on temperate and boreal rainforests of the world; a topic that was especially pertinent for a gathering in the heart of the Tongass National Forest.

Karen Mager and Jacqueline Ball from the University of Alaska Fairbanks won student presentation awards for best paper and poster, respectively. Ashley Stanek, Kevin Colson, and Sophie Gilbert received student travel awards from the Chapter.

Successful conferences don't simply happen. The Chapter was fortunate to have a great organizing committee for the Juneau meeting. Mike Goldstein and Steve Brockmann were the program chairs and Mike also organized the climate change adaptation workshop. Trisha O'Connor, Brian Logan, Kevin White, Karen Blejwas, Jamie Womble, and Christine Schmale put together the special sessions. Deb Rudis and Doug Larsen handled local arrangements and logistics for the meeting. Liz Solmon managed the conference web site and Todd Rinaldi ran the registration desk. Conference volunteers included Rachelle Ruffner from the student chapter at UAF and Gerry Landry. The Chapter thanks these folks for putting on a great show in Juneau.



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## Biologists share trail camera photos on ADF&G website

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By Riley Woodford,  
from *Alaska Fish & Wildlife News*

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game's online publication, *Alaska Fish & Wildlife News*, now has a new trail camera gallery.

Pictures of hungry brown bears, curious marten and playful coyote puppies are just a few mouse clicks away on the Fish and Game website.

Dozens of candid wildlife images are featured in the department's new trail camera gallery on the ADF&G Wildlife Viewing website. The images were all taken by remote, motion-triggered cameras. Many of the images have been contributed by scientists, others by members of the public.

Wildlife biologists studying wolverines in the Berners Bay area north of Juneau placed trail cameras at wolverine live traps to document animal behavior at the trap sites. They've captured striking images of marten and brown bears investigating the traps, as well as wolverines.

Images have also been provided by biologist Tania Lewis of the National Park Service and graduate student Diana Raper of Oregon State University. They set up a motion triggered camera last summer on a whale carcass in Glacier Bay. Raper is also working with Fish and Game on a study of scavengers on the Gustavus Forelands. Wildlife technician Jeff Jemison provided some of the images from that study, and others images from elsewhere on the Gustavus Forelands.

Bill Stannard, a Fish and Wildlife News reader, graciously provided a set of pictures taken from a trail camera posted on his cabin in the Talkeetna Mountains.

New images will be posted as they are made available. Fish and Game invites biologists and members of the public to submit images for display. The gallery offers a way to share images, and photographers retain all rights to their pictures. Send images and information to Riley Woodford at [riley.woodford@alaska.gov](mailto:riley.woodford@alaska.gov). For questions, e-mail or call 907-465-4256.

The gallery can be viewed at: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=viewing.trailcams>.



These trail camera photos of a brown bear and then a black bear were taken on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson. Submitted by Dave Battle, Southcentral Representative



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## Announcements

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**Nature program focuses on Alaska Bears:** This May, PBS aired a program on Alaska's bears that included a segment on Anchorage's urban bears. "Nature: Bears of the Last Frontier" can be viewed online at [www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/episodes/bears-of-the-last-frontier/full-episode-city-of-bears/6668/](http://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/episodes/bears-of-the-last-frontier/full-episode-city-of-bears/6668/).

**Save the date: Integrating Climate Science, Resource Management, and Communities.**

Symposium to be held April 16-20, 2012.

Centennial Hall, Juneau. Contact Alaska Coastal Rainforest Center ([acrc@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:acrc@uas.alaska.edu)).

**Southeast BioBlitz** June 18-19 at UAS and Auke Lake. To get involved, contact Steve Brockmann 907-780-1181. The second Southeast Alaska Bioblitz will be based on the University of Alaska Southeast campus, and cover Auke Lake, Auke Creek, Auke Bay, and the surrounding environs. A starting gun will launch the 24-hour event at 2pm on Saturday, June 18, 2011 as scientists and volunteers of all ages will disperse throughout the watershed to survey amphibians, birds, fish, fungi, lichens, and mammals, search for invasive plants, and collect freshwater, marine, and terrestrial invertebrates. A full schedule of educational activities and scientific presentations will complement the survey efforts. By 2 pm on Sunday June 19, 2011, the survey teams will tally the species and produce a final count, seeing if we meet or beat the 797 species found last year in the Fish Creek Watershed on Douglas Island. This annual event in Southeast Alaska is growing in popularity and we look forward to seeing you June 18-19, 2011 at UAS and in the Auke Creek watershed. Stay tuned for more details! To get more information or to volunteer please contact: [dfg.dwc.bioblitz@alaska.gov](mailto:dfg.dwc.bioblitz@alaska.gov).

**Chugach BioBlitz (Southcentral)** July 23-24 at Portage and Begich-Boggs Visitor Center. On July 23 & 24 Chugach National Forest and Alaska Department of Fish & Game-Diversity

Program will host southcentral Alaska's first BioBlitz. On July 23 & 24 Portage Valley, part of the Chugach Children's Forest, will ring with the sounds of naturalists, biologists and citizen scientists scouring the landscape for local flora and fauna. To get involved, contact Dave Tessler, ADF&G Wildlife Diversity Program, 907-267-2332. For more information, [chugachbioblitz2011.wordpress.com/](http://chugachbioblitz2011.wordpress.com/).

**Save the date: 4th International Sea Duck Conference**

The 4th International Sea Duck Conference will be held in Seward, Alaska from September 12-16. This gathering of scientists from throughout the world provides a venue for discussion of research and management of sea ducks. The program includes sessions on sea duck population ecology, energetics, breeding biology, physiology, and migration. The conference will also include a poster session, closing banquet with entertainment by Mr. Whitekeys, and a boat tour of Kenai Fjords. Registration and conference information are at: <https://seaduckconference.com/index.html>



**Registration open for Hawaii TWS Conference**  
Registration for The Wildlife Society 18th Annual Conference is now open. The conference will take place from November 5-10 at the Hilton Waikoloa Village, located on the "Big Island" of Hawaii. Register soon and save with the early registration discount. In addition, TWS is currently running a special offer: Register by September 2, 2011, and become eligible to win a four-night complimentary stay courtesy of The Hilton Waikoloa Village. The Wildlife Society will randomly select three winners the week of September 5, and notify the winners that week. Winners will also be announced in the September edition of The Wildlifer.



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# Alaska Chapter Leadership

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## Your 2010-2012 Executive Board

**President:** Kris Hundertmark, Department of Biology and Wildlife, 412 Irving 1, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK 99775, khundert@alaska.edu, phone (907) 474-7159, fax (907) 474-6967.

**President-Elect:** Jerry Hupp, USGS-Alaska Science Center, 4210 University Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508, jerry\_hupp@usgs.gov, phone (907) 474-7159, fax (907) 474-6967.

**Past-President:** Howard Golden, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518, howard.golden@alaska.gov, phone (907) 267-2177, fax (907) 267-2433.

**Secretary-Treasurer:** Todd Rinaldi, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518, todd.rinaldi@alaska.gov, phone (907) 267-2267, fax (907) 267-2433.

**Northern Representative:** Steve Arthur, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, 1300 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701, steve.arthur@alaska.gov, phone (907) 459-7213, fax (907) 452-6410.

**Southcentral Representative:** David Battle, Natural Resources Specialist, Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson, 724 Postal Service Loop Road, #4500, JBER, AK 99505-4500, david.battle@us.army.mil Phone (907) 384-3909.

**Southeast Representative:** Deb Rudis, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 3000 Vintage Blvd., Suite 201, Juneau, AK 99801, deborah\_rudis@fws.gov, phone (907) 780-1183.

**Newsletter Editor (non-voting):** Elizabeth Manning, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518, elizabeth.manning@alaska.gov, phone (907) 267-2168, fax (907) 267-2433.

**UAF Student Chapter TWS Representative (non-voting):** Jessica Bodle, UAF Student Chapter of TWS, c/o Christine Hunter, Department of Biology and Wildlife, 412 Irving 1, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK 99775, uafwildlife@gmail.com.

**Webmaster:** Elizabeth Solomon, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, 43961 Kalifornsky Beach Rd, Ste. B Soldotna, AK 99669-8367, elizabeth.solomon@alaska.gov, phone (907) 260-2927.

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## Conference News/Updates

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By Dave Battle, Southcentral Representative

The 46th North American Moose Conference and Workshop (<http://gf.state.wy.us/wildlife/moose/MooseConference2011/index.asp>) was held May 23-26 at the Virginian Lodge in Jackson, Wyoming. The conference was well attended, with approximately 100 participants from the United States, Canada, and overseas. Conference activities included a variety of presentations on moose biology, management,

and research, a field trip to nearby Grand Teton National Park, a public symposium on Moose Predator/Prey Relationships, and a workshop on Physical and Chemical Capture of Moose, presented by Dr Terry Kreeger. Conveniently, the annual Elkfest (<http://elkfest.org/>) was in Jackson the weekend prior (May 21-22), and the North American Moose Foundation (<http://www.moosefoundation.org/>) held their banquet and fund raiser the weekend after the Moose Conference (May 27).

