

WAYPOINTS



News and stories from Alaska's public lands



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Forces of Change

Over the past five years, Alaska Geographic has had the privilege of working with [Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve](#) to bring a remarkable story to life. In collaboration with Arrow Pictures, led by filmmaker John Brooks, we set out to create *Forces of Change*—the official park film that captures the grandeur and complexity of Glacier Bay.

The result is a powerful, visually stunning film that portrays the park in all its dimensions. *Forces of Change* tells the story of the Hoonah Tlingit, whose ancestral homeland was inundated and transformed by the advancing glaciers of the Little Ice Age—and who today stand as co-stewards of this national park that is their homeland. It also highlights the important work of park scientists, the dedication of park staff, and the wonder of modern visitors who come to witness this place of profound beauty and change.

We are deeply proud of *Forces of Change*. As the official film of Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, it honors the resilience of Tlingit culture, the passion of those who protect and study this unique landscape, and the awe that Glacier Bay continues to inspire in all who experience it. The film is now available on the Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve website, and we invite you to watch it—share in its stories, and see Glacier Bay through the eyes of those who know and love it best.

With Gratitude,

Andy Hall
Executive Director

RECENT AID TO PARTNER

Your support in the form of in-store purchases, donations, and membership allows us to give back to our public land partners. Read on to learn more about recent projects funded by Alaska Geographic.



Photos from Kiana Traditional Use Camp 2023. NPS Photo\Emily Creek

Preserving Knowledge: The Kiana Traditional Use Study

Alaska Geographic is proud to support [Western Arctic National Parklands](#) in publishing an important resource: the Kiana Traditional Use Study. Working with an Anchorage-based printing and publishing firm, Alaska Geographic is helping bring this project to life by assisting with production and distribution.

The Kiana Traditional Use Study is a foundation document that records the traditional

and subsistence practices of the Kiana Iñupiaq people. National Park Service interpretive staff will use it as an essential reference for community outreach, subsistence programs, and formal interpretive efforts. Copies will also be provided to the Kiana Elders Council and other community groups, ensuring the knowledge is passed along to youth and preserved for future generations.

For park managers, the study will provide guidance for future research and inform potential changes to subsistence regulations. For Kiana residents, it will serve as a reference and archive of their history. And for the American public, the document will be a valuable resource for researchers and others interested in the history and current use of [Kobuk Valley National Park](#).



Wrapping Up Anchorage Education’s 2025 Teen Expeditions

This summer closed with three remarkable teen expeditions that brought students into the heart of Alaska’s public lands for hands-on learning, adventure, and stewardship. We’re grateful for the students who showed up ready to learn and grow, the public lands that welcomed us, and our partners who made it possible.

Arctic Travelers

Now in its second year, thanks to our partners at Western Arctic National Parklands, the Arctic Travelers trip brought together six Far North, Northwest, and Western Alaska students. Based out of Kotzebue, the group faced weather delays that changed their route from [Cape Krusenstern National Monument](#) to a rugged backpacking trip in [Noatak National Preserve](#). Crossing the challenging tundra tested their stamina and teamwork while deepening their connection to the land. One student reflected, “Traveling up this mountain, I was really struggling. Also, it kept me going. We might be on ancestral lands that my family could have



traveled and stayed on.” This program was made possible partly by a grant from the National Park Foundation.



Denali Field Camp

Nine students stayed at the Teklanika Field Camp in [Denali National Park and Preserve](#) in July. They attended the park’s sled dog demonstration, met the newest litter of puppies from the Denali Kennels, hiked, spotted wildlife, and contributed to the [Dragonfly Mercury Project](#), a citizen science project to monitor mercury in aquatic ecosystems. By collecting samples and participating in this project, students learned how small acts of stewardship help protect the health of our public lands.



Tangle Lakes Backpacking & Stewardship

Our final expedition traveled the Denali Highway to the [Tangle Lakes Archaeological District](#). Students embarked on an off-trail backpacking adventure through this historic area. Guided by BLM archaeologist John Jangala, they explored the cultural history of this remarkable landscape—and even tried their hand at traditional tools. “I learned a lot about the archaeology and history of the Tangle Lakes area, and learning to throw the atlatl was fun,” said one participant.

To learn more about the Dragonfly Mercury Project and Citizen Science opportunities near you, click the link below!

[Dragonfly Mercury Project](#)

SUPPORT OUR EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Join us at our upcoming [Cruise for Public Lands](#) event on September 27, 2025, in celebration of National Public Lands Day!

Help Raise Funds for AK Geo's Education Programs

Now more than ever, our community must come together to invest in the next generation of public land stewards. Through our education programs, Alaska teens have the opportunity to engage directly with agency partners—learning, growing, and building the skills and passion needed to protect our state's wild places.

These meaningful interactions are not just enriching, they're essential. Ensuring these programs continue is vital for the future of Alaska's public lands. Your support will help keep these life-changing programs strong. Together, we can protect the future of Alaska's natural heritage—one student at a time.



Alaska Geographic

Major
MARINE TOURS
SEWARD, ALASKA



Cruise for Public Lands

A National Public Lands Day fundraiser for Alaska Geographic's education programs



DATE: Sept 27

ARRIVAL: Please arrive by 3:00 PM for a 3:30 PM departure

LOCATION: Meet at Seward Harbor 360 Hotel

ABOARD: Major Marine Tours' Spirit of Matushka

Set sail in celebration of Alaska's public lands! Join Alaska Geographic for an evening of connection, community, and breathtaking views as we raise critical support for hands-on education and stewardship. Enjoy Food, drinks, and meet with Alaska Geographic employees and community partners!

- SCENIC CRUISE
- FOOD & DRINKS
- MINGLE WITH PUBLIC LAND PARTNERS AND EDUCATORS
- SUPPORTS YOUTH, EDUCATION & STEWARDSHIP ON ALASKA'S PUBLIC LANDS

Hosted by Alaska Geographic

The official nonprofit connecting people to Alaska's public lands through the creation and delivery of educational products and programs.

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Reserve your spot today!

Tickets available at:



Space is limited – don't miss the boat!

Watch this Video to Learn More About Our Education Programs!



[For More Information & To Register for the Event](#)

A Summer of Exploration in Denali National Park and Preserve

August in Denali National Park and Preserve brings a plethora of mushrooms, vibrant fall colors, termination dust, and an end to the Alaska Geographic field course season.

And what an incredible season it has been! This year's field courses have taken participants on journeys of exploration, connection, and learning throughout the park, following Denali's natural rhythms—from a focus on wildflowers and birds in June, to bears and mushrooms in August, with many more in between.



One participant shared that the best part of their experience was “experiencing Denali and the great outdoors with knowledgeable guides and instructors. As a more inexperienced hiker/outdoors person, I wouldn't be comfortable planning a similar trip or exploring the park on my own.”

Without established trails, exploring Denali independently can feel intimidating—which is a big part of why these programs exist. Field courses offer accessible entry into the park's backcountry alongside subject experts who help participants tune into and learn about the landscape around them.

Interested in joining us next summer? 2026 offerings will be announced by January, and registration typically begins in February. Spaces fill quickly, so

watch our website and this newsletter for more details. Or, join us at our Cruise for Public Lands event to bid on two tickets and get the first pick of the offerings!

Pictured: A field course participant practices telemetry to locate an animal collar.

Sign up to be notified when 2026 courses are posted!

2025 Denali Field Courses

Behind the Shelves: How We Curate Our Stores

Every item in our stores — from mugs and maps to cozy sweatshirts — is carefully chosen to help visitors connect more deeply with Alaska’s public lands. Each fall, after the summer rush, our retail team shifts into “product development season,” a time to dream, collaborate, and plan what you’ll discover in stores next year.

Working with agency partners, local artists, and trusted makers, we seek out products that reflect the beauty and spirit of Alaska’s parks and refuges. We revisit each site’s interpretive themes and topics and look for new ways to tell the natural and cultural story of these amazing places. It’s more than just retail — it’s about creating meaningful keepsakes and useful publications that support stewardship of the lands we all love.

So the next time you bring home a purchase from one of our stores, know that it’s part of a thoughtful effort to carry the story of Alaska into your hands, home, and heart.

We’re always on the lookout for unique, high-quality products that enhance the visitor experience. If you think your product is a fit, we’d love to hear from you. Please send inquiries to info@akgeo.org.

Shop Our Webstore

Alaska Geographic works in support of our agency partners:



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