



Environmental Grantmakers Association

2009 Fall Retreat

Pre & Post Field Trips

Pre-Retreat Field Trips

1. Lake Clark National Park: Sept 24th - 28th

Guided Raft Trip with Alaska Alpine Adventures.

This trip is a phenomenal introduction to Alaska's wilderness. The trip departs Anchorage via charter plane and embarks on a journey through scenic valleys and rugged peaks, eventually arriving in remote Lake Clark National Park. You will raft down the Tlikikila River in Lake Clark National Park riding the silty waters of the Tlikikila River from the headwaters, down to Lake Clark. This is a journey that few ever have taken, and as a funder, you will have a unique experiential and intimate look at the economic and ecological value of federally protected public lands and the potential impact extractive industries in the region. If you are interested in wildlife, don't forget to bring your camera as possible sightings of moose, caribou, bears, migratory birds, and resident raptors are very likely!

Trip Cost: \$2,125.00 pp (includes local transportation, airfare, food and all costs at Lake Clark National Park)

2. Hatcher Pass State Park: Sept 27th - 28th

Backpacking in the Backcountry

You will hike the Reed Lakes Trail in Hatcher Pass State Park, which will take you into the heart of the Talkeetna Mountains, a land of jagged granite peaks, rock walls, blocky boulders, glaciers, and turquoise cirque lakes. This particular area provides a unique learning opportunity on high alpine tundra habitats, and you may be able to see some arctic marmots, ground squirrels, bears and raptors foraging before winter fully hits! This hike is considered moderate for those in good hiking shape. (Participants must be able to carry a backpack of 30lbs or more, for six hours, on diverse terrain.)

Trip Cost: \$200.00 pp (includes transportation, meals and gear)

3. Chugach State Park Day Hike: Sept 28th

Wolverine Peak

Chugach State Park is comprised of roughly 500,000 acres of recreational and wild lands in the backyard of Alaska's largest metropolitan area, Anchorage. Unfortunately, private development along the park's boundaries is limiting public access to our park. The Great Land Trust, in collaboration with the Conservation Fund are working to secure public access to Chugach State Park by conserving key land parcels adjacent to the Park to provide for additional trailheads to meet current and future public use by the thousands of Alaskans and visitors. On this day hike be sure to bring your cameras. At 4491ft. the Wolverine Peak hike offers a superb opportunity to experience the wilderness of Chugach State Park and to understand why we need to preserve access of places such as this for the community to enjoy. The hike offers a superb overlooks of the upper valleys of North and Middle Fork Campbell

Creek and views of some of Chugach State Park's rugged inner peaks. During this time of year Bull Moose are in the rut and often groups of 10-20 moose can be seen gathered in the lower alpine valleys, awaiting suitors.

Trip Cost: \$25.00 pp (includes transportation and lunch)

Post-Retreat Field Trips

1. Barrow: Oct 2nd - 4th

Surviving and Thriving in the Arctic

Experience the dramatic effects of climate change in the Arctic Circle! Located at the top of the world, at the junction of the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas on the Arctic Ocean, Barrow is the northernmost community in the United States and home to the largest Inupiat Eskimo community in the world. Even if you are already a climate change funder, or just learning about the issues, this three-day trip will offer you unique opportunities to discover the cultural and natural history of the area, witness the annual bowhead whale harvest activities, and witness first-hand some of the impacts the oil and gas industry has brought to the region. This once in a lifetime trip will include visits with scientists who will discuss climate change research projects taking place in the Arctic circle, and meetings with community members who experience the effects of global warming in their daily lives. It will conclude with a site visit to Point Barrow, about 30-minutes outside of town, to view polar bears in their natural, yet shrinking, habitat.

Trip Cost: \$1,090.00 pp (includes tours, lodging and airfare from Anchorage)

2. Cordova: Oct 2nd – 4th

20-years After the Oil Spill: Sustainable Communities, Economies, Fisheries and the effects of Climate Change.

On this life changing trip, participants will travel to Cordova the traditional home of the Eyak Tribe, to experience one of North America's last remaining substantially intact ecosystems. It boasts 3,000 miles of coastline, 4.4 million acres of National Forest and 10,000 square miles of waterways islands, fjords, glaciers, a plethora of water and land based wildlife. Unfortunately, equally matched with the richness of the ecosystem and the strength of the Native cultures in the region, threats to this area have been unwavering. Expect to learn about wildlife habitat and cultural heritage protection, sustainable fisheries management, spill response preparedness, sustainable economic development, eco-tourism, citizen oversight of the trans-Alaska pipeline, ecosystem based conservation planning, and blocking the emerging threats from oil and gas development. Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!

Trip Cost: \$700.00 pp (includes transportation and lodging)

3. Seward: Oct 3rd

Resurrection Bay Wildlife Cruise

Join your EGA colleagues in a marine adventure at Resurrection Bay! If you currently support or are considering funding marine issues, don't miss this trip! You will travel by motor coach to the stunningly beautiful seaside town of Seward, Alaska to explore Kenai Fjords National Park and Resurrection Bay. While on the tour you can expect to see an impressive array of marine wildlife including pods of humpback and orca (killer) whales, porpoise, seabirds, sea lions, seals, sea otters, and other marine life as well as tidewater glaciers. The tour boat captain and the Director of the Sea Life Center, Alaska's

only marine research and rehabilitation center, will narrate the trip focusing on the recent changes in the marine ecosystem in the region, and share scientific findings in Resurrection Bay. This trip will give participants a taste of Alaska's biological diversity and raise questions about our future as our climate changes.

Trip Cost: \$185.00 pp (includes lunch and round trip transportation). Dinner is not included in the price above.