



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

1011 E. Tudor Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-6199



Office of the Secretariat
East Asian Australasian Flyway Partnership
1905 Get-Pearl Tower, Songdo, Yeonsu-gu,
Incheon 406-840, Republic of Korea

MAR 08 2012

Subject: MoP7, US – Alaska, June 10-14, 2013

To the Chief Executive:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will host the seventh Meeting of Partners of the East Asian Australasian Flyway Partnership in the towns of Anchorage and Seward, Alaska, June 10–14, 2013. EAAFP members and observers are invited. For local planning purposes, we request that you RSVP by notifying Mr. Paul Matusewic at paul_matusewic@fws.gov with cc to Ms. Francisca Gutierrez at francisca_gutierrez@fws.gov by February 28, 2013. Meeting participants should also notify the EAAFP Office of the Secretariat of their intentions to participate in the meetings and the optional field trips to ensure accurate estimates of attendance.

Travelers should arrive in Anchorage no later than June 9, and plan departure no earlier than 9 pm, Friday, June 14. However, arrival on the 8th of June will help the traveler adjust to the Alaska time zone. International travel is to/from the Ted Stevens International Airport in Anchorage, Alaska. Meeting dates, venues, transportation, and other opportunities for travel outside of meeting dates are described in Enclosure 1.

Reservation information for lodging is provided in Enclosure 2. Travelers must reserve their own rooms at both locations using the information provided. We recommend you also notify the EAAFP Secretariat, especially for sponsored participants, to ensure a smooth and completed registration process.

We look forward to hosting MoP7 of the EAAFP. If you have further questions, contact the two individuals cited above via email, or Doug Alcorn, Assistant Regional Director, Migratory Birds and State Programs at doug_alcorn@fws.gov or (907) 786-3545.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey L. Haskett
Regional Director

Enclosures (2)



Overview of meeting venues and dates

Arrival: Saturday June 8 or Sunday June 9

Participants should arrive in Anchorage at the Ted Stevens International Airport no later than Sunday evening, June 9. Travel 10 minutes by Yellow Cab Taxi (local telephone 222-2222, cost approximately \$20 + customary tip) to lodge at the Hotel Captain Cook in downtown Anchorage. Dine on your own at hotel or local restaurants within easy walking distance. Lodging and meals will be booked and paid for by individual travelers. Contact information provided below.

Optional Birding Tour (*Please RSVP as noted in cover letter*): Sunday, June 9, 9am – 5pm

Depart hotel lobby at 9 am for local birding tour of Potter Marsh, Westchester Lagoon, and Turnagain Arm mud flats accessible via the Tony Knowles Trail. Breakfast and dinner are on your own at local restaurants. Lunch will be provided on the field trip. Transportation will be provided. Return to hotel at approximately 5 pm.

Day 1: Monday, June 10

The first plenary session will convene at 9 am June 10, at the Hotel Captain Cook in Anchorage. Following the morning's plenary session, meeting participants will have lunch, and then be transported in the afternoon by provided bus to the Seward Windsong Lodge located in Seward, Alaska. Dinner and accommodation at the Windsong Lodge. Dinner hosted by the Secretariat. Lodging should be booked and paid for by individual travelers unless instructed otherwise by the Secretariat. Contact information for hotels is provided below.

Days 2 – 3: Tuesday – Wednesday, June 11 - 12

Plenary and breakout sessions occur at Seward Windsong Lodge. Agenda will be developed and distributed in advance. Breakfasts and lunches are generally served at travelers' expense. Some meals will be hosted by the office of the Secretariat.

Day 4: Thursday, June 13

Optional 8 hour field trip – Kenai Fjords tour of Resurrection Bay, includes viewing marine and terrestrial wildlife, nesting seabird colonies and marine foraging birds, glacier viewing, and lunch. A portion or all of the cost may be covered by the Office of the Secretariat. More detailed information will follow as the meeting dates approach. Or, tour Seward and local bird viewing opportunities on your own.

Day 5: June 14

Morning plenary close out session, hotel check out, return transportation will be provided by bus to Anchorage with stops at Ted Stevens International Airport (arrive approximately 6 pm) and Hotel Captain Cook (7 pm). Dine on own.

Departure:

Flights departing Ted Stevens International Airport: travelers should not book flights departing Anchorage before 9 pm, June 14, based on anticipated arrival time of 6 pm.

Transportation

International transportation:

International transportation to/from Ted Stevens International Airport, Anchorage, Alaska can be booked by most major US and world carriers. Book through your respective travel agent.

Local transportation while in Anchorage:

Anchorage: Yellow cab taxis serve all of Anchorage to convey travelers to/from Ted Stevens International Airport. Call (907) 222-2222 to arrange local pickup/delivery.

Transportation between Anchorage and Seward:

Participants will be shuttled in a complimentary bus from Anchorage to Seward the afternoon of June 10. Participants may return to Anchorage from Seward in similar fashion the afternoon of June 14, returning to Ted Stevens International Airport (approximately 6 pm) and Hotel Captain Cook (approximately 7 pm). Travel outside of these conveyances and dates must be arranged and paid for by each individual traveler.

Local transportation while in Seward:

Free shuttles operated by the Seward Windsong Lodge operate on the half-hour 7am - 10pm daily, to transport guests to/from the lodge to downtown Seward. Local taxi service can also be obtained using local telephone numbers. See lodge operators for local telephone numbers. Seward has essential services and a population of about 3,500 year-round residents.

Details for Day 4 Kenai Fjords field trip:

- 8.5-hour cruise (10am - 6:30pm)
- Expert guide gives clear information and identifies wildlife throughout the tour.
- Tour includes a healthy hand-held lunch of chicken and salad.
- Also, step ashore at Fox Island Lodge for an all-you-can-eat wild Alaska salmon (fish) and prime rib (beef) dinner. Add half a pound of Alaska king crab for a nominal fee.
- National Park Ranger presentation.
- For registered delegates, the tour will be included in the MoP7 arrangements. For accompanying spouses or friends the cost will be approximately \$164 Adults / \$82.00 Children (2-11), plus tax and fees.
- Visit <http://www.kenaifjords.com> for more information.

Options for travel outside of meeting dates:

Two popular attractions for tourist travel include the Homer area (6 hours by road from Anchorage) and Denali National Park (5 hours by road). Transportation to Homer from Anchorage can be accomplished by rental car or by commercial air carrier. Transportation to Denali National Park is by rental car, Alaska Railroad, or tour bus. Websites for each of these attractions are:

<http://homer.alaska.com/>

<http://www.alaskatravel.com/>

<http://www.nps.gov/dena/index.htm>

<http://www.flyera.com/>

<http://alaskarailroad.com/>

Arctic birding opportunity in Barrow, Alaska:

Travel to Barrow on the Arctic Sea coast via Alaska Airlines regular jet service from Anchorage or Fairbanks (<http://www.alaskair.com>) and arrange local lodging in the King Eider Inn (<http://www.kingeider.net/>), or Top of the World Hotel (<http://www.tundratoursinc.com/>). Local travel can be arranged by taxi or rental car. Car rental can be obtained at Ukpeagvik Inupiat Corporation ([http://wikitravel.org/en/Barrow_\(Alaska\)](http://wikitravel.org/en/Barrow_(Alaska))) or rented through the King Eider Inn (website noted above). Barrow is an outpost with numerous restaurants and other essential services. The year-round population is about 4,500. Depending on seasonal conditions and weather, visitors may be fortunate to see breeding shorebirds, terns, jaegers, eider ducks, loons and/or iconic Snowy Owls, some as close as the town edge, in the thawing tree-less tundra. Summer weather is variable in Barrow. It can be quite cold and breezy with snow or clear, sunny, and cool. Temperatures can range from the low 30 F to mid 60 F that time of year. Medium coats, long pants and hats are recommended.

Summer Weather in Southcentral Alaska:

The cities of Anchorage, Seward, and Homer are located in Southcentral Alaska. Summers are brief and typically cool (55 F to 70 F). Rain is common but we can be blessed with clear skies in June. Daylight hours are long, with 19 hours of daylight. Light coats and windbreakers are recommended as well as long pants and hats if you are sensitive to sunshine.

Tippling for good meal service:

When dining on your own, it is customary to tip meal servers 18 to 20% of the total meal cost. Servers work for minimal salary but expect to be tipped by diners for good care and service. Fast food providers are not generally tipped.

Lodging Venues:

Hotel Captain Cook
939 West 5th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

For reservations, call number below and reference the USFWS/EAAFP block room rate.

Toll free telephone (800) 843-1950

Telephone +1 907-276-6000

<http://www.captaincook.com/>

Seward Windsong Lodge
Mile 0.5 Herman Leirer / Exit Glacier Road
Seward AK 99664
Local telephone +1 907-224-7116

For reservations, call number below and reference the USFWS/EAAFP block room rate.

Toll free telephone (877) 777-4079

US international code +1 907-777-2855

<http://www.sewardwindsong.com/>