Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge

PASSAGES

VISITOR GUIDE

Activities.....page 4

Wildlife.....page 10

Fire.....page 12

Alaska Geographic

Table of Contents

Visitor Activities	4
Education Programs	6
Volunteer Programs	7
Refuge Map	8
Refuge Facts	9
Wildlife	10
Fire	12
Communities Take Action	14
Planning Your Trip	15
Visitor Information Centers	16

PASSAGES

Refuge Coordinators
Heather Johnson and Mary Timm

Contributors
Heather Johnson, Kay Lynn Odle-Moore, Mary Timm, and Tetlin Refuge Staff.

Designed and Produced by

Alaska Geographic

Photos
All photos and maps courtesy of U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Printing
Anchorage Daily News
Printed on recycled paper using soy-based inks.

Passages is published by the Alaska Geographic Association in cooperation with Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge. It is funded by revenue generated from Alaska Geographic bookstore sales.

© 2011 Alaska Geographic Association

Cover photo: Black Hills looking north on the Tetlin Refuge.

Welcome to the Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge!

Tetlin Refuge is proud to be one of more than 553 refuges in the National Wildlife Refuge system, a network of public lands that has been set aside for the conservation of fish and wildlife, and their habitats. The Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1980 and encompasses over 700,000 acres along an important bird migration corridor known as the "Tetlin Passage." Over 180 bird species and 42 mammals raise their young, feed, and rest in the refuge's wetlands, rivers, and forests.

We invite you to explore the refuge, with the help of this guide, and take advantage of the opportunities to camp, hike, fish, hunt, and canoe. Recreational activities are easily accessible along 65 miles of the Alaska Highway between the Alaska/Canada border and Midway Lake.

Join us in respecting this land and passing along this gift to future generations. Enjoy your visit!

Gregory S. Risdahl

Greg Risdahl
Acting Refuge Manager

THE MISSION of the National Wildlife Refuge System is to administer a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and restoration of fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitat for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans.

Birds and Visitors Follow the Tetlin Passage

Peregrine falcons favor river bluffs and cliffs for their nests. They make spectacular high speed dives reaching 200 miles an hour to kill prey, such as waterfowl and other birds. Once faced with near extinction, peregrine falcons have rebounded dramatically due to the banning of DDT in 1972 and protection under the Endangered Species Act. The local peregrine population has recovered from four nesting pairs to 24 in the last two decades.

Heading north up the Alaska Highway? Did you know that hundreds of thousands of birds fly a similar route known as the Tetlin Passage each spring? The Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge is situated within this natural corridor of the Upper Tanana River Valley. Each spring, from April through May, songbirds, swans, ducks, geese, shorebirds, sandhill cranes, and raptors funnel through this major migration pathway. Because it is a migration corridor for sandhill cranes with important nesting habitat for trumpeter swans, this region has received special recognition from the National Audubon Society as an Important Bird Area.

Numerous birds of prey are commonly seen on the refuge. During the spring, fish-eating bald eagles and osprey often return to the same nesting areas along refuge waterways. After years of adding new material, eagle nests can span more than six feet in diameter. These habitats also support about 40 pairs of nesting osprey, the highest density in Alaska.

Keep a close lookout for other commonly sighted raptors that nest here, including red-tailed hawk, northern harrier, golden eagle, great-horned owl, and northern hawk owl.

In August, cooler temperatures and decreasing daylight prompt birds and visitors to move south. Trumpeter swans, the symbol of the Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge, begin leaving in mid-September. These departing flocks leave us with a sense of admiration for the many miles they will travel before their return next spring.

This Wilson warbler weighs little more than a quarter. A minute silver band wrapped around its leg (no wider than a toothpick) has a number that registers the bird with the National Bird Banding Lab. The Tetlin Bird Banding Station, one of only two in Alaska, has banded more than 45,000 birds since 1993. The station operates from the end of July through September and, weather permitting, birds are banded every day for a six-hour period beginning an hour after sunrise. On a busy day, banders may process over 100 birds.

Visitor Activities at Tetlin Refuge

Interpretive Opportunities

Tetlin Refuge Visitor Center (MP 1229 Alaska Hwy.) offers wildlife exhibits, visitor information, Native craft demonstrations, interpretive talks, and a large observation deck with spotting scopes. Open daily from May 15 to September 15, 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., with extended hours when staff is available.

Auto Tour CDs can be picked up and dropped off at Tetlin Refuge and Tok visitor centers. This oral narrative describes wildlife and habitats on the refuge, local Athabascan history and culture, and the construction of the Alaska Highway.

Deadman Lake Campground (MP 1249 Alaska Hwy.) has interpretive talks at 7 p.m. from mid-June through August.

Highway Pullouts with interpretive panels are located in five locations along 65 miles of the Alaska Highway (see refuge map page 8). These panels highlight the dynamics of the natural landscape and local wildlife.

Hiking

Hidden Lake Trail (MP 1240 Alaska Hwy.) is a one-mile, planked trail through deciduous and lowland forest to a lake stocked with rainbow trout. No facilities available.

Taiga Trail (MP 1249 Alaska Hwy.) is a 1/4-mile interpretive boardwalk trail through a black spruce forest with an observation deck at the end. Located at Deadman Lake Campground.

Airs Hill Trail (MP 1222 Alaska Hwy.) is a 10-mile roundtrip hike of moderate difficulty with a few steep sections. Allow 8-9 hours.

Backcountry Hiking and camping are allowed throughout the refuge for experienced hikers with wilderness survival skills. Please check with refuge staff to verify refuge boundaries.

Camping

Two free campgrounds located along the Alaska Highway are operated by the refuge. Each has tables, toilets, firepits, garbage containers, but no drinking water.

Deadman Lake Campground (MP 1249 Alaska Hwy.) has 15 private campsites, 6 sites are suitable for RVs. Open through late fall.

Lakeview Campground (MP 1256 Alaska Hwy.) has 11 primitive campsites—not recommended for vehicles over 30 feet.

Campground Regulations

- Maximum 14-day stay camping limit.
- Quiet hours are 10 p.m. to 7 a.m.
- No shooting of firearms within 1/4 mile of the dock and all campsites.
- No carrying, possessing, or discharging fireworks or explosives.
- No harassing of wildlife or gathering of plants.
- Please keep a clean camp and discard all garbage and waste in the bear-proof garbage containers provided. Fish refuse should be discarded in deep water or placed in bear-proof garbage containers immediately.

Emergency Contacts

Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge
Mile 1.3 Borealis Avenue, Tok, 907-883-5312

Tetlin Refuge Visitor Center
MP 1229 Alaska Highway, 907-774-2245

Any information on wildland fires should be reported to Tok State Forestry
MP 123.5 Tok Cut-off, Tok
907-883-FIRE (3473) or 907-883-5134

Boating

Boat ramps are located at Chisana River, 1/4-mile south of Northway Junction (MP 1264 Alaska Hwy.) and Deadman Lake Campground. Small boat and canoe access from Desper Creek (MP 1226 Alaska Hwy.) and Lakeview Campground.

Fishing

Northern pike, burbot, and grayling are the most popular fish on the refuge. Hidden Lake is stocked with rainbow trout. State fishing regulations are available from the visitor center, refuge headquarters, or the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Tok. Fishing licenses are available from local businesses.

Administrative Cabins

Three remote cabins, primarily used to support refuge field operations, can be reserved at other times by the public.

Hunting

Refuge lands are open to hunting under state and federal regulations. Please check with refuge staff to verify refuge boundaries.

Bird Watching

Spring and fall are the best times to see the greatest variety of species. Pick up a refuge bird checklist at the visitor center or headquarters. Waterfowl may be seen in these areas along the Alaska Highway:

MP 1221	Lakes on the north side of highway
MP 1223-1225	Desper & Scotty creeks
MP 1249	Deadman Lake Campground
MP 1256	Lakeview Campground
MP 1267	Lakes south of the highway
MP 1289	Midway Lake

Environmental Education for All Ages!

Young people don't have a monopoly on having fun at Tetlin. Spurred by an idea to get some of Tok's beloved elder residents reconnected with the natural world, Tetlin Refuge is partnering with Tok Senior Center to organize enjoyable, safe, outdoor education opportunities for seniors. The first "trial runs" have been so successful that these activities are now permanent fixtures in Tetlin's education program.

A leisurely, evening raft trip down the Tok River provides a grand experience for participating elders. Along the way, a recent wildfire burn sparks discussion of fire history, ecology, and plant succession. The group spots a great horned owl and watches a rainstorm come down the valley. Further down river, a picnic supper takes main stage on a gravel bar with a great campfire. When it's time for giant marshmallows, it's discovered that seniors and kids have a lot in common.

Later in the season, during the fall bird migration, seniors visit the refuge Migration Banding Station where they can talk with refuge staff and observe birds up-close. Participants learn of the trials migratory birds face and the amazing distances they travel. Before the morning is over, each of the seniors are able to hold and then release a small migratory songbird. What an experience to hold that tiny, fragile, resilient creature in your hand and feel it's heartbeat. Tok Seniors have now joined the ranks of official bird banders!

Summer Programs

Parents and Kids Sharing the Outdoors

Remember all the fun we had as kids romping through the fields and forests, playing in empty lots, getting muddy in the river? Maybe your parents took you on family hikes or camping trips? It seemed like the natural world was never far away.

In today's busy world, it's often difficult for parents to find opportunities to share outdoor adventures with their children. Tetlin Refuge has helped make this happen through "Parents and Kids" day camps. Whether it's learning about aquatic habitats and fishing for pike at Deadman Lake, hiking up Mount Fairplay to identify plants of the alpine tundra, or rafting on the Tok River to explore the importance of natural fire in the boreal forest, families learn and have fun together. Once they realize how much fun these "backyard" adventures can be, parents will say, "I should bring the kids here to camp out later this summer." Or "I had no idea this was such a cool spot. We'll come back with our kayaks."

When families enjoy and learn about the outdoors together, the values of stewardship are passed on. The hope is that in years to come, when today's kids have families of their own, these natural places will still be here for them to enjoy outdoor adventures together.

For more information on summer programs, please call 907-883-5312.

Volunteer and Friends Programs

Get Involved and Make a Difference

Together with our wonderful volunteers, we're able to do more for you, the visitor, and the Refuge. **Who are our volunteers?** They are people who want to give back, to be good stewards of the land, to learn more about conservation, and who enjoy the outdoors.

What do our volunteers do? Our volunteers help to meet and greet visitors at our Visitor Center, give interpretive talks and hikes, help with maintenance and construction of facilities, and chaperone educational field trips. Volunteers with more specialized skills grade campground roads, band migratory birds, and conduct duck brood surveys. While giving of their time and energy, volunteers can enjoy the Refuge and get to know Tetlin's staff. When you visit Tetlin, if you find yourself thinking, "I love this place—how do I get involved?" ask us about volunteer opportunities. Time commitments vary depending on the project, with some projects requiring specialized training.

Who are the Friends? Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the conservation of natural resources for all the National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska.

The mission of our "Friends" organization is driven by the following goals:

1) Educate the public and decision-makers on local, national, and international levels about Alaska's National Wildlife Refuges.
2) Assist the refuges in accomplishing their missions through wildlife management and habitat improvement projects.
3) Fund refuge-oriented projects through grants, memberships, donations, and other activities.

Nurturing refuges beyond our own time

Over the years, the advocacy of our Friends organization has made a difference in many significant issues facing Alaska's refuges.

If you are interested in volunteering at the refuge or in becoming a Friend, please visit http://tetlin.fws.gov/involved.htm

Tetlin
0
Canoe Access
Hiking Access
Boat Access
Tetlin Refuge
Tetlin Refuge
Alaska Highway
Tetlin Refuge Headquarters
Tok
Taylor Highway
Tetlin Jct.
Glenn Highway
Tok River
Tanana River
Interpretive Pullout MP 1289.8
17b Easement Trail MP 1285
Tetlin Village
Tetlin Lake
Interpretive Pullout MP 1273
Interpretive Pullout MP 1269
Chisana Boat Launch
Northway Junction
Northway Village
Northway Airport
Lakeview Camp
MP 1256.
Nabesna River
Nabesna River Cabin
Mentasta Mountains
Chesilna River
Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge
Jatahmund Lake
Jatahmund Lake Cabin
Wrangell- St. Elias National Park & Preserve
Nabesna

Tetlin Wildlife Refuge encompasses 934,513 acres and is part of the world's largest contiguous conservation unit, sharing a border with Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve and Kluane National Park in Canada.

The Alaska Highway borders the refuge for 65 miles providing unique opportunities to explore the area.

Hundreds of thousands of birds fly the Tetlin Passage traveling from as far away as South America.

Thousands of sandhill cranes migrate through the refuge in the spring and fall.

Nesting trumpeter swans, once rare, are now commonly found on the refuge.

The importance of this region to trumpeter swans and sandhill cranes led to the Tetlin Refuge and the Upper Tanana Valley being recognized as an Important Bird Area (IBA) of global significance.

Wildlife

Viewing Safely

Keep Your Distance. If an animal alters its behavior because of your presence, you are too close. Responsible visitors use binoculars and telephoto lenses to observe an animal's normal behavior.

Respect the Animals. Animals often respond to repeated interference by abandoning their home, nesting sites, and even their young. Remember that we are the visitors.

Never Feed the Wildlife. Animals that become accustomed to human food become problem animals that need to be removed from the area. Don't leave backpacks, trash, or food where an animal might find it.

Drive Safely. When you see wildlife, stop to view them from a safe pullout, not from the roadway. Please do not follow an animal at close distance in your vehicle. Be alert for animals crossing the road, especially at dawn, dusk, and at night.

Help Protect the Refuge. Remind others of their ethical responsibility when viewing wildlife.

Viewing Tips

- Wildlife tend to be more visible during early morning twilight hours.
- Be still and quiet so animals can maintain normal activity.
- Your car is the best place to view and photograph wildlife.
- Be aware of what's around you, not just your chosen subject.
- Stop by local visitor centers to check the daily wildlife and bird sighting report.
- Become familiar with the habitat(s) and habits of the species you want to see.

Common Animals and Their Habitats

Ponds and lake edges

Beaver
Moose
American Green-winged Teal
American Widgeon
Bald Eagle
Horned Grebe
Mallard
Northern Pintail
Northern Shoveler
Pacific Loon
Spotted Sandpiper
Trumpeter Swan

Wet meadows and burned areas

Black Bear
Coyote
Red Fox
American Robin
Common Snipe
Northern Harrier
Northern Hawk Owl
Red-tailed Hawk
Rough-legged Hawk
Savannah Sparrow
Violet-green Swallow
White-crowned Sparrow

Forests and forest edges

Black Bear
Porcupine
Red Squirrel
Snowshoe Hare
Black-capped Chickadee
Boreal Chickadee
Common Redpoll
Gray Jay
Northern Flicker
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Varied Thrush
Yellow-rumped Warbler

Caribou
(Rangifer tarandus)

A member of the deer family, caribou primarily eat lichen during the winter.

Both males and females have antlers; males shed antlers in early winter and females in spring.

Caribou from two separate herds use the refuge during their migration between wintering areas and calving grounds.

Moose
(Alces alces)

This largest member of the deer family feeds primarily on willow, aspen, and birch.

Only males have antlers which can grow an inch (2.5 cm) each day; antlers are shed in early winter.

Moose often graze near the highway where shrubs and plants are plentiful. Both adults and young can appear suddenly from brushy roadside habitat. Be prepared for a calf and cow to cross the road separately.

Bear
(Ursus)

Bears are active day and night, and can be anywhere. Watch for tracks and scat. If you come in close proximity to a bear stop, remain calm, talk quietly, and then back away slowly. Don't make sudden movements, loud noises, or turn your back on a bear. If the bear approaches, stand your ground. **Do not run!**

Please report all bear encounters at the visitor center or headquarters. For more information on traveling in bear country visit http://tetlin.fws.gov/campgrounds.htm

Fire: A Work in Progress

Interior Alaska's boreal forest is an unfinished masterpiece, reshaped each year by wildland fires. It's hard to imagine that a charred landscape can be cause for celebration, but along with wind and rain, fire plays an essential role in Interior Alaska's ecosystems. Plants and animals here have adapted to fire and often benefit from it.

- Black spruce are very common in the Interior and have semi-serotinous cones—they need heat (from fire or intense sunlight) to open and spread seeds on newly exposed soils. A new generation is born as old trees are consumed by fire.
- Wildflowers such as lupine, fireweed, and bluebells also take advantage of exposed soil, weaving colorful carpets that may cover burned areas for several years.
- Willows develop wholesome new shoots that are eaten by moose and a host of small mammals.
- An explosion of highly regarded morel mushrooms often occurs the summer following a wildfire, providing a tasty treat for people and wildlife.
- Burned trees eventually topple and create cover for small mammals such as marten and snowshoe hares.

Over time, fires remove accumulated dead vegetation and break up continuous forest stands into a patchwork of plant communities. These areas support a diversity of animals seeking food, water, and shelter. Fire is the herald of new beginnings in Interior Alaska, where most plants and animals thrive because of fire, not in spite of it.

Firewise

Northway and Tetlin village councils and other communities are working with Tetlin Refuge and the Alaska Division of Forestry to protect homes, schools, and other structures from wildland fires.

With federal and state funding, crews thin the forest around communities and create fire breaks that dramatically reduce the wildfire hazard and provide fuel for biomass boilers that heat schools and other public buildings.

Other cooperative efforts to protect developed areas include assistance agreements with local fire departments and a homeowner awareness program called "Firewise." Firewise encourages residents to reduce hazards around homes before they are threatened by a fire. The Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge, the Alaska Division of Forestry, and residents of the Upper Tanana Valley continue to work toward "fire safe" communities in a fire-prone land.

A Wilderness Laboratory

During the past 50 years, scientists have greatly improved their understanding of fires. Some work has been completed in the laboratory, but much of it has been accomplished in the forest during and following actual fires. Large fires make excellent laboratories, especially when they can be monitored without being suppressed. The Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge has been designated as a Land Management Resource Demonstration Area where the effects of fire can be studied.

Some of the projects already underway on the refuge include:

- Studying how fire affects the seasonal distrubution of moose, and the relationship between fire and moose populations.
- Monitoring burn severity (how hot the fire burned) based on satellite imagery to simplify future fire assessments.
- Monitoring post-fire plant change over time so that long-term consequences of fire management decisions can be predicted.

Fire Facts

- WILDFIRE CYCLE: In a typical, boreal spruce forest, as found at Tetlin, the time between natural wildland fires is 80 to 200 years.
- LIGHTNING ROD: The record for lightning strikes in Alaska over a 24-hour period is 9,022 on July 15, 2004.
- SOME LIKE IT HOT: Black spruce cones are semi-serotinous—they need heat (from fire or intense sunlight) to open and spread seeds.
- IMPROVING PLANTLIFE: Fires improve growing conditions in permafrost areas by adding nutrients to the soil and increasing the depth and warmth of the unfrozen active layer (the layer of ground above permafrost).
- LOCAL FIRES: The Taylor Complex fires of 2004 near Tok and Northway burned 1,305,252 acres.
- RECORD FIRE: 2004 was the largest fire season in Alaska's history—6.5 million acres burned. Lightning caused most of these fires.

One of the most common invasive plants on Tetlin Refuge is white sweet clover, a tall bushy plant with little white flowers commonly seen along the road.

Protect Natural Wildlands and Wildlife

Invasive plants are aggressive, introduced species that out-compete native plants for light, water, and nutrients. They often grow rapidly, mature early, spread seeds that survive a long time, and have no natural controls. When alien plants displace native plants, habitats may be altered and no longer suitable for some resident wildlife.

People unintentionally contribute to the spread of these unwanted plants. Here's how you can help:

- Learn invasive plant names and how to identify them.
- Avoid purchasing contaminated seed mixes.
- Plant only native species.
- Don't pick the flowers of unknown plants or transplant wildflowers that can't be identified.

If you see an invasive species in the backcountry, report it to the Alaska Committee for Noxious and Invasive Plant Management at www.cnipm.org. Thanks for doing your part to insure that invasives don't displace Alaska's native plants.

Working Together

Working together with five Upper Tanana Native communities, the refuge is managing subsistence resources and activities. By including traditional ecological knowledge in our research we are better able to understand the unique relationship traditional cultures have with nature in Alaska.

This relationship has been handed down from generation-to-generation for longer than anyone really knows. With it has come guidance for respectful attitudes and actions towards the natural world. Concepts such as "only taking what is needed," "reciprocity," and "our interrelatedness with all beings" help us to understand how to manage the resources today and for generations of Americans yet to come.

Timing Is Everything

Over the millennia, many birds have synchronized their annual return to Tetlin to coincide with the most favorable conditions for breeding, including when food is available. The timing of reoccurring life history events in plants and animals, such as flowering, breeding, and migration is known as phenology.

Phenology is of special interest to biologists because phenological events, like migration and flowering, are among the most sensitive biological responses to climate change. For example, warmer spring temperatures on Tetlin's breeding grounds can lead to changes in the availability of food, such as insects. Insects are very sensitive to temperature and may reach peak abundance earlier than in the past. Some bird species may be able to adapt, but for many birds the timing of spring migration is triggered by cues that are not linked to the climate at their breeding grounds; this could lead to a miss-match in the synchrony of important life history events.

Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge is collaborating with the National Phenology Network to expand its observations of phenology for several key species. Some of the species being observed here at Tetlin include the American robin, dark-eyed junco, lesser yellowlegs, rusty blackbird, bumblebees, Canadian swallowtail butterfly, four-spotted skimmer dragonfly, fireweed, blueberry, and aspen.

Over the long-term, local changes in the timing of biological and climatic events, when combined with phenological records gathered elsewhere, will provide us with a "big picture" look at how things are changing. This will help Tetlin Refuge adapt its management efforts to a changing environment.

Refuge Partners

As the primary nonprofit education partner of the Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska Geographic connects people to Alaska's magnificent wildlands through experiential education, award-winning books and maps, and by directly supporting the state's parks, forests, and refuges. Over the past 50 years, Alaska Geographic has donated more than $20 million to help fund educational and interpretive programs throughout Alaska's public lands.

Alaska Geographic operates 48 bookstores across the state, including our bookstores at the Tetlin Refuge Visitor Center and the Refuge Headquarters. Your purchases at these locations directly support the Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge—a portion of every sale helps fund educational and interpretive programs throughout the refuge.

To find out more, become a member, or browse our wide selection of Alaska books, maps, and films, stop by any Alaska Geographic bookstore or visit our website at www.alaskageographic.org

Alaska Geographic

Alaska Geographic
810 East Ninth Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 274-8440 or toll-free at (866) AK-PARKS
www.alaskageographic.org

TETLIN
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

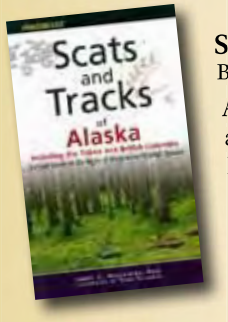
PLANNING YOUR TRIP

Visit the Tetlin Refuge Visitor Center to find these useful guides. In addition to books, visitors will also find maps, journals, posters, field bags, and more.

National Wildilfe Refuges of Alaska
By Elaine Rhode

Discover each of Alaska's 16 national wildlife refuges and the natural wonders they offer in this lyrical, photographic book.

$9.95



Scats and Tracks of Alaska
By James C. Halfpenny, Ph.D.

A field guide to the signs of wildlife along the trails in Alaska, the Yukon, and British Columbia. Detailed illustrations, measurements, and a glossary of terms are all included.

$9.95

Guide to the Birds of Alaska
By Robert Armstrong

This comprehensive guide to all 480 species found in the state includes full-color photos of birds that regularly appear.

$26.95

Wildflowers Along the Alaska Highway
By Verna Pratt

This guide covers the territory from Dawson Creek, B.C. to Delta Junction and Fairbanks, Alaska and includes nearly 500 full-color photographs.

$19.95

Also available online at www.alaskageographic.org

Visitor Information Centers

Tetlin Refuge Visitor Center
Alaska Highway MP 1229
Open daily from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
May 15 - September 15.
907-774-2245
http://tetlin.fws.gov/center.htm

Alaska Public Lands Information Center
Alaska Highway MP 1314, Tok
Open daily from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
June 1-August 30.
907-833-5666
www.nps.gov/aplic/center

Tok Mainstreet Visitor Center
Alaska Highway MP 1314.5, Tok
Open daily from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
May 1-September 15.
907-833-5775
www.tokalaskainfo.com

State and Federal Agencies

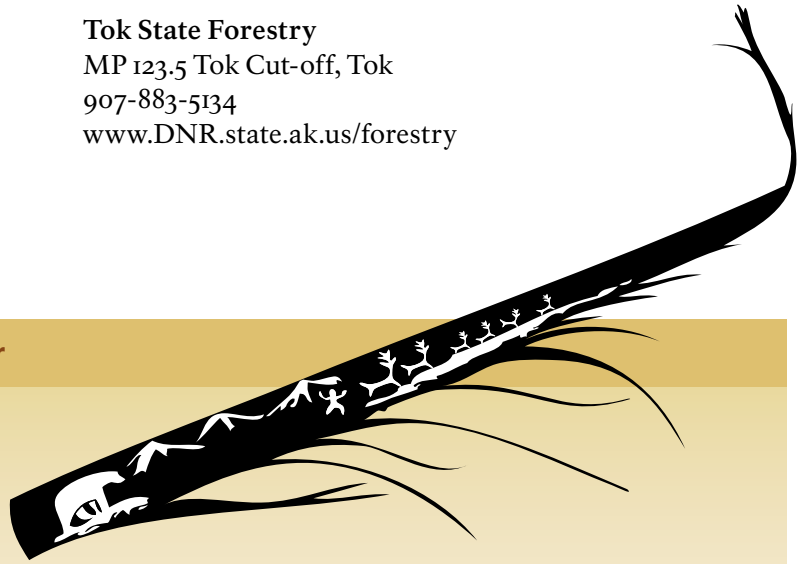
Tetlin Refuge Headquarters
Mile 1.3 Borealis Ave, Tok
Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
907-883-5312
http://tetlin.fws.gov

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Right at Tok Junction, 1 block on left
Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in summer.
907-883-2971
www.adfg.state.ak.us

Tok State Forestry
MP 123.5 Tok Cut-off, Tok
907-883-5134
www.DNR.state.ak.us/forestry

Headed Home with an Alaska Souvenir

Wild game meat, animal parts, and some Alaska craft items made with wildlife parts (fur, ivory, baleen, bone) may require an export permit if you are driving through Canada. If you are an international visitor, please check your country's regulations. Handcrafted items valued at less than $250 generally do not need a permit unless it uses bear, wolf, lynx, or river otter products. Marine mammal parts are not allowed into Canada. These pieces should be mailed or flown home.



For More Information:
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Office, Anchorage, 907-271-6198
Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge Office, Tok, 907-883-5312
U.S. Customs, Alaska Highway, 907-774-2252
Canadian Customs, Beaver Creek, YT, 867-862-7230