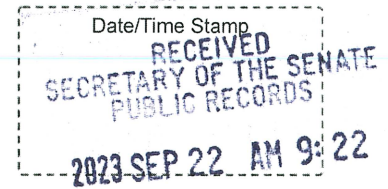


RE-2 Employee Post Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Post Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within 30 days of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the Office of Public Records in 232 Hart Building. This form is a public disclosure. The form and all attachments will be made publicly available.



Certification: In compliance with the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel, Senate Rule 35, and the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007, I certify that I accepted the following gift of privately sponsored travel:

Private Sponsor(s):

American Lands Project

Travel Dates:

Aug 17 - 23, 2023

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

n/a

Relationship to Traveler:

n/a

Total Expenses

Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meals Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
\$4,183.43	\$1,494.00	\$482.05	\$183.33

I also certify that attached to this form are all required documents for post travel disclosure, including:

- The final Employee Pre-Travel Authorization (Form RE-1)
- The final Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form with all attachments
- The final invitation
- The final approved itinerary

Finally, I certify that all trip information reflected in the attachments above accurately reflects the travel that I accepted. If there were any changes to the trip after I received approval from the Committee, the changes are described in ATTACHMENT 1.

9/21/23

Date

Caitlyn Stephenson

Printed Name of Traveler

Signature of Traveler

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the Employee Pre-Travel Authorization form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

9/21/23

Date

Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

ATTACHMENT 1 – CHANGES FROM APPROVED PRE-TRAVEL

Note: Material changes to a trip that occur after the Committee has issued an approval letter may invalidate the Committee's approval. Please contact the Committee with any questions regarding changes to an approved trip.

Were there any changes to the pre-approved travel expenses? (Transportation, Meals, Lodging, Other)?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Expense Change	Revised Amount	Explanation
Transportation	\$4,072.11	Airfare and ground transport estimate to actual
Meals	\$482.05	Changed from estimate to actual
Other (Glacier flyover)	\$183.33	Change of flight service due to availability

Were there any changes to the pre-approved itinerary?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Explanation:

See attached revised final itinerary. Minor changes include rearranging meetings and guests in Juneau due to scheduling conflicts. There was also a change to the Aug 22 glacier research site visit; due to flight logistics and availability, guests did not land at the site but instead viewed the Juneau snowfield and Taku River from the air.

Were there any additional changes to the pre-approved trip?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Explanation:

American Lands Project

Tongass National Forest and Alaska Public Lands 2023 Fact-Finding Trip Itinerary *August 17 - 23, 2023*

Thursday, August 17th

- Travel from Washington, DC to Juneau, AK
 - **8:00 a.m.** Depart DCA, Alaska Airlines #1, **10:50 a.m.** arrive SEA
 - **1:40 p.m.** Depart SEA, Alaska Airlines #123, **3:16 p.m.** arrive JNU
 - **3:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.** Shuttle from Airport to Baranof Hotel, 127 N Franklin St, Juneau, AK
- **6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.** Working dinner at Hangar on the Wharf, 2 Marine Way #106, Juneau, AK
 - Discussion around new directions in the Tongass National Forest, and groups partnering with the Forest Service to carry out projects such as stream restoration and trail building.
 - Attendees:
 - David Montes- *Chief of Staff, Senator Padilla*
 - Caitlyn Stephenson- *Chief of Staff, Senator Peters*
 - Becky Cornell- *Chief of Staff, Representative Aguilar*
 - Clay Schroers- *Chief of Staff, Representative Magaziner*
 - Dan Kirkwood - *Southeast Alaska Futures Program Manager, SalmonState*
 - Brian Holst - *Executive Director, Juneau Economic Development Council*
 - Matt Boline - *Southeast Alaska Community Engagement Manager, Trout Unlimited*
 - Ryan O'Shaugnessy - *Executive Director, Trail Mix*
 - Armando Rojas- *Program Manager, American Lands Project*

Friday, August 18th

Attendees: David Montes, Caitlyn Stephenson, Becky Cornell, Clay Schroers, Dan Kirkwood, Armando Rojas, Jeffrey and Christine Smith- *Northwest Navigation, owners and operators of the Motor Vessel David B*

- **9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.** Shuttle to Juneau waterfront
- **10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**
Board the Motor Vessel David B and have an introduction to the watercraft, which will serve as both a water-taxi and lodging through August 21st to access remote areas of the Tongass National Forest. Guests will receive a safety training from Jeffrey and Christine Smith, owners and operators of the vessel.
- **11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** Introductory discussion of southeastern Alaska and the geographies that will be observed during the remainder of the trip. The Tongass National Forest is the largest national forest in the country, totalling 16.7 million acres of land in Southeast Alaska, and is the traditional homeland of three distinct Alaska Native tribes: Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian. The forest represents the largest intact tract of coastal temperate rainforest on earth. With much of the forest consisting of remote islands and roadless areas, visiting by boat or air is the only way

to view many of these locations.

- **12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.** Working Lunch: Discussion and introduction to Southeast Alaska communities, the expansion of tourism into more remote parts of the Tongass National Forest, the significance of the forest to the regional economy, and the economic challenges of seasonal employment in communities throughout the region.
- **1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.** Break
- **2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.** Review maps of the State of Alaska to gain a better understanding of the geography, watersheds, topography, and international boundaries of the state as they relate to locations on the trip, as well as the State as a whole.
- **4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.** Break
- **5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.** Working Dinner: hear from Motor Vessel David B owners Jeffrey and Christine Smith on the role of small boat tourism in Alaska and how small tourism businesses operate in the Southeast Alaskan economy.

Saturday, August 19th

Attendees: David Montes, Caitlyn Stephenson, Becky Cornell, Clay Schroers, Dan Kirkwood, Armando Rojas, Jeffrey and Christine Smith

- Breakfast on the David B
- **9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.** Discussion of public lands in the state of Alaska. Review maps and discuss the various land management priorities for conservation, resource development, research, and subsistence uses on tribal, state, and federal lands in the State of Alaska.
- **10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.** Guided hike ashore to observe old growth forest and discuss the role that public lands in Alaska play in our nation's carbon management. Alaska contains one third the country's federally managed lands, but stores an even larger share of terrestrial ecosystem carbon stocks -- 62% of all carbon contained in the soils and terrestrial ecosystems of federally managed land is held in Alaska.
 - Sack lunch will be provided
- **1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.** Break
- **2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.** Discussion regarding the history and legislation that has shaped public lands and land management practices in Alaska, focusing on the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 (ANILCA). Review the history and landscape-shaping impacts of ANILCA, which designated most of the National Park Service units in Alaska as well as wilderness areas, national wildlife refuges, and national monuments across the state. ANILCA also established a priority for subsistence uses of fish and wildlife resources for rural residents during times of scarcity. ANILCA is the foundation of federal land management in Alaska and is essential to understanding current discussions surrounding resource management and utilization in Alaska.
- **3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.** Discussion of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971

(ANCSA): Review the history and key elements of ANCSA, which extinguished aboriginal land title in Alaska, divided the state into 12 regions based on the common heritage and shared interests of the Alaska Native people within each geographic area, and mandated the creation of for-profit entities - which Congress termed "Alaska Native Corporations" - tasked with promoting the social, cultural, and economic advancement of Alaska Native people and communities.

- **4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.** Break
- **5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.** Working dinner: Overview of subsistence use and how it supports rural Alaskans across the state. Federal law defines subsistence use as "the customary and traditional uses by rural Alaska residents of wild, renewable resources for such direct personal or family consumption as food, shelter, fuel, clothing, tools or transportation; the making and selling of handicraft articles... for barter or sharing for personal or family consumption; and for customary trade."

Sunday, August 20th

Attendees: David Montes, Caitlyn Stephenson, Becky Cornell, Clay Schroers, Dan Kirkwood, Armando Rojas, Jeffrey and Christine Smith

- Breakfast on the David B
- **9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.** Discussion on the economic value of healthy Tongass watersheds to salmon fisheries and harvests. Rivers, lakes, and streams in the Tongass produce 80% of the commercial salmon harvested annually from Southeast Alaska. This harvest of about 50 million salmon is valued at \$60 million annually.
- **10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** Guided hike onshore. On the hike, discuss the history of the Roadless Rule in Southeast Alaska. In January 2023, "Roadless Rule" protections were reinstated for 9.37 million acres of roadless areas in the Tongass National Forest that support the ecological, economic, and cultural values of Southeastern Alaska.
- **12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.** Lunch on board the David B
- **1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.** Discussion presenting an overview of land management in Arctic Alaska. Review the geologic and ecological differences among the three major public land management units comprising Alaska's North Slope: the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska, and Prudhoe Bay (State of Alaska-owned land), and how these differences influence land management in each area. Also discuss the management structures unique to each area, and how the US Fish and Wildlife Service (Arctic National Wildlife Refuge), Bureau of Land Management (NPR-A), and State of Alaska (including Prudhoe Bay) each play a role in overseeing lands and resources on the North Slope.
- **3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.** Break
- **4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.** Discuss details surrounding the Southeast Alaska Sustainability Strategy, an effort from the US Department of Agriculture to support a diverse economy, enhance community resilience, and conserve natural resources in the region. Last year, \$25 million was allocated by the agency for grants to support this work.
- **5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.** Working Dinner: in-detail overview of the history of

Southeast Alaska, and the Tongass National Forest, including timber history, land acquisition, wilderness designations, and the history of Alaska Native people in the region.

Monday, August 21

Attendees: David Montes, Caitlyn Stephenson, Becky Cornell, Clay Schroers, Dan Kirkwood, Armando Rojas, Jeffrey and Christine Smith

- Breakfast on the David B
- **9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.** View aquatic and terrestrial wildlife from the deck of the David B, and discuss how natural systems function in this landscape and the importance of the Tongass National Forest to salmon, grizzly bears, marine mammals, and other regional wildlife.
- **10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** Discuss mining, logging, and fossil fuel development across Alaska, and the history of these industries in the State. Use maps to examine the geography and chronology of timber projects and energy and infrastructure development. Discuss transboundary mine challenges in Southeast Alaska and the Ambler Road project, a proposed 211-mile road south of the Brooks Range that would connect the Ambler Mining District to existing road infrastructure.
- **12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.** Working Lunch: Concluding discussions with Jeffrey and Christine as the Motor Vessel David B approaches the Juneau Waterfront to dock.
- **1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.** Shuttle from Juneau Waterfront to check in to lodging accommodations at Baranoff Hotel
- **1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.** Break
- **3:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.** Rental car to Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska offices, 9097 Glacier Hwy, Juneau, AK
- **3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.** Meet with Alaska Native leaders to discuss their perspectives and priorities as relating to the Tongass National Forest and Southeast Alaska
 - Additional Attendees:
 - President Richard Peterson - *President, Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska*
 - Jill Weitz - *Natural Resource Manager for Native Lands & Resources Division, Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska*
- **5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.** Rental car to SALT, 200 Seward St, Juneau, AK
- **6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.** Working dinner at SALT
 - Discussion surrounding the expansion of tourism in Southeast Alaska and the Tongass National Forest with local business leaders.
 - Additional Attendees:
 - Dan Blanchard – *owner of UnCruise Adventures*
 - Zak Kirkpatrick - *Alaska Dream Cruises*
- **7:00 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.** Rental car to Hotel

Tuesday, August 22nd

Attendees: David Montes, Caitlyn Stephenson, Becky Cornell, Clay Schroers, Dan Kirkwood, Armando Rojas

- **8:45 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.** Rental car to Juneau Airport
- **10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** ¹ Discuss transboundary mines and climate change impacts and then take a flightseeing tour to view the Taku watershed and Juneau Snowfield to discuss the importance of the Taku River and the snowfields for watershed health and salmon populations. Access will be provided via commercial float plane (Alaska Seaplanes), as it is the only way to reach this site.
 - Additional attendees providing subject-area expertise:
 - Evan Hood - *Professor of Environmental Science, University of Alaska Southeast*
 - Bre Walker - *Salmon Beyond Borders Director, SalmonState*
- **12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.** Break and time for lunch
- **1:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.** Rental car to Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska offices, 9097 Glacier Hwy, Juneau, AK
- **2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.** Roundtable discussion with local partners in the Southeast Alaska Sustainability Strategy to discuss partnerships, shared goals, and the collective vision for the future of the region.
 - Additional attendees providing subject-area expertise on the Southeast Alaska Sustainability Strategy through their partnerships and involvement in the program:
 - President Richard Peterson - *President, Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska*
 - Jill Weitz - *Natural Resource Manager for Native Lands & Resources Division, Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska*
 - Anthony Malott - *President and CEO, Sealaska*
 - Bobby Meszaros - *Development Director, Spruce Root*
 - Tripp J Crouse - *Communications Specialist, Spruce Root*
 - Katie Riley - *Deputy Director, Sitka Conservation Society*
 - Dan Lesh - *Deputy Director, Southeast Conference*
 - Dave Schmidt - *Regional Forester, Alaska Region, USFS*
 - Laurie Cooper - *Special Assistant to Regional Forester, USFS*
- **3:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.** Rental car to hotel
- **3:45 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.** Tour of Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Recreation Area and short hike with US Forest Service staff. Hike will view Mendenhall Glacier and tour visitor center and wildlife viewing boardwalks. Accessible natural areas like the Mendenhall Visitor Center and many of the wild salmon watersheds help draw over 1 million tourists and generate approximately \$1 billion in revenue for the region annually. Approximately 90% of summer visitors to Mendenhall are brought to the site by tourism operators generating approximately \$700,000 annually to the Forest Service in fees.
 - Additional Attendees:
 - Dave Schmidt - *Regional Forester, Alaska Region, USFS*
 - Laurie Cooper - *Special Assistant to Regional Forester, USFS*

¹ Flight times and programming were subject to change based on weather

- **5:45 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.** Rental car to In Boco Al Lupo, 120 2nd St Suite B, Juneau, AK
- **6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.** Working dinner: In Boco Al Lupo
 - Summarize the trip, and discuss any remaining questions and topics.
- **7:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.** Rental car to Hotel

Wednesday, August 23rd

- Travel from Juneau, AK to Washington, DC
 - **6:00 a.m.** Rental car to JNU airport
 - **8:05 a.m.** Depart JNU, Alaska Airlines #142, **11:25 a.m.** arrive SEA
 - **2:00 p.m.** Depart SEA, Alaska Airlines #2, **9:59 p.m.** arrive DCA

RE-1 Employee Pre-Travel Authorization

Date/Time Stamp

Pre-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the Select Committee on Ethics in SH-220. Incomplete and late travel submissions will not be considered or approved.

Name of Traveler:
Caitlyn Stephenson

Employing Office/Committee:
PETERS, GARY

Private Sponsor(s):
American Lands Project

Destination(s):
Juneau, Alaska Juneau, Alaska Juneau, Alaska

Travel Dates:

~~07/15/2023 to 07/25/2023~~

8/17/23-8/23/23

NOTE: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you must notify the Committee.

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties.

As the Senator's chief one of my responsibilities is advising him on a wide range of policy issues. This trips purpose is to learn more about the Tongass National Forest, the impacts of climate change and a broader array of public lands topics. The trip will include meetings, presentations and first hand experiences to better understand those topics.

Do you have an accompanying family member or spouse on this trip?
No

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
N/A

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.

7/17/23

Date

Caitlyn Stephenson
Signature of Employee

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER

(President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms,
Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain)

Gary C. Peters

(Print Senator's/Officer's Name)

hereby authorize

Caitlyn Stephenson

(Print Traveler's Name)

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate.



(signify "yes" by checking box)

7/18/2023

Date

Gary C. Peters
Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

American Lands Project: Aug 17th - 23rd Tongass Fact Finding Trip

 Caitlyn Stephenson

Title:

Chief of Staff

Employing Office/Committee:

PETERS, GARY

Duty Station:

WASHINGTON, DC

Destination(s):

Juneau, Alaska

Juneau, Alaska

Juneau, Alaska

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

As the Senator's chief one of my responsibilities is advising him on a wide range of policy issues. This trip's purpose is to learn more about the Tongass National Forest, the impacts of climate change and a broader array of public lands topics. The trip will include meetings, presentations and first hand experiences to better understand those topics.

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Not Entered

Name and Relationship to Traveler:

None

Organization Information

Organization Name

American Lands Project

Is your organization classified as a §501(c)(3)?☒ Yes ☐ No**§501(c)(3) Organization Type**

Public Charity

Address

1904 3rd Ave

Address 2 (Optional)

Public Charity

City, State Zip

Seattle, Washington 98101 United States

Phone Number

5097604217

Organization URLamericanlandsproject.org

History of Congressional Travel

American Lands Project has organized sponsored travel opportunities for House Members to Southeast Alaska (2021), and for a Senate Member and Senate staff to Arctic Alaska (three different trips in 2022). ALP also sponsored travel for Senate staff to visit the Owyhee Canyonlands in 2022.

Educational Activities

American Lands Project conducts educational briefings for decision-makers in Washington, DC, and works in coalition with diverse organizations engaged with policies surrounding the use and management of America's public lands and waters.

Lobbyist and Foreign Agent Registration Information

Lobbyist Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not a federally registered lobbyist and do not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist.*

Foreign Agent Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not an agent of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ an agent of a foreign principal.*

Foreign Government Involvement

Foreign Agent Registration Status:

- ☒ I certify that the sponsor is not a foreign government.
- ☒ I certify that the sponsor is not an entity that is owned or operated by a foreign government.
- ☒ I certify that the sponsor does not receive funding from a foreign government.

Comments

None Entered

Signature Page

The signature page is below.

Purpose and Details

Provide a brief description of the trip.

Fact-finding trip to visit Southeast Alaska and view the Tongass National Forest, learn about forest and land management planning, old growth forest, statewide climate impacts, regional economic drivers, and Alaska Native communities. Guests will have the opportunity to visit remote areas of the Tongass National Forest firsthand to better understand the discussion topics, and then meet with local stakeholders in Juneau to learn more about local initiatives.

Explain how the purpose of the trip relates to your organization's mission.

American Lands Project seeks to inform discussions regarding important public lands in our nation, in part by facilitating fact-finding travel centered on place-based education. This trip will provide history, context, and understanding for guests in support of their responsibilities related to public lands in Alaska and the Tongass National Forest.

Is your organization the only sponsor for this trip?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Grantmaking Organizations (Optional)

There are no grantmaking organizations.

With or Without Regard for Congressional Participation

The trip is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Involvement in Planning, Organizing, Requesting or Arranging

- ☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal, other than de minimis involvement.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Financing

- ☒ The trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.
- ☒ No funds or in-kind contributions were earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Accompaniment

Complete if all sponsors are §501(c)(3) organizations

- ☒ The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and one overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and two overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Complete if any of the sponsors is not a §501(c)(3) organizations.

- ☐ The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and one overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and two overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Certification of No Recreational Activity and No Alcohol

- ☒ Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for recreational activities.
- ☒ Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for alcohol, except as permitted by the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel.

Invitees

i Members and staff from the House of Representatives will receive invitations.

The list of invitees is below.

Travel Details

Trip Start Date/Time:
07/14/2023 @ 08:56 PM



Trip End Date/Time:
07/23/2023 @ 04:19 AM

Will the traveler be accompanied by a family member for whom the sponsor will pay travel expenses?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Itinerary

The itinerary is below.

Transportation (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$4,942.69 | Accompanying Family Member: \$0.00)

Transportation Type	Class	Amount
Airfare	Coach	\$1,300.00
Note Round trip commercial airline flight between Washington, DC and Juneau, AK		
Ground Transportation	Coach	\$139.69
Note Share of cost of base-model rental car for transportation in Juneau, Alaska.		
Other	N/A	\$2,873.00
Note Charge for water transportation on a small commercially operated motor vessel that will transport, house, and feed guests to view remote areas of the Tongass National Forest from Aug 18 - 21. These areas are only possible to view via water or air, and public ferry service is not available to accomplish the educational objectives of the trip.		
Other	Coach	\$630.00
Note One way ticket on commercially operated water-taxi vessel to transport guests to No-Name Cove, where the group will board a different vessel that will function as transportation and lodging between Aug 18 and Aug 21. Coach-class equivalent.		

Lodging (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$1,494.00)

Check-In	Check-Out	Facility	City	State	Country	Nights	Cost/Night	Cost Exceed Per Diem
07/17/2023	07/18/2023	Hotel Baranof	Juneau	Alaska	United States	1	\$249.00	No
07/18/2023	07/21/2023	Motor Vessel David B	Juneau	Alaska	United States	3	\$249.00	No
07/21/2023	07/23/2023	Hotel Baranof	Juneau	Alaska	United States	2	\$249.00	No

Meals (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$490.00)

Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Total	City	State	Country	Cost Exceeds Per Diem
07/17/2023	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$40.00	Juneau	Alaska	United States	No
07/18/2023	\$20.00	\$30.00	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$90.00	Juneau	Alaska	United States	No
07/19/2023	\$20.00	\$30.00	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$90.00	Juneau	Alaska	United States	No
07/20/2023	\$20.00	\$30.00	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$90.00	Juneau	Alaska	United States	No
07/21/2023	\$20.00	\$30.00	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$90.00	Juneau	Alaska	United States	No
07/22/2023	\$20.00	\$30.00	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$90.00	Juneau	Alaska	United States	No

Reasonable Miscellaneous Expenses (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$750.00)

Expense Type	Amount	Notes
Other (Tour of Mendenhall Glacier)	\$750.00	Includes use of commercial helicopter air-taxi, guide service, and safety equipment rental for an educational tour of the Mendenhall Glacier and flyover of the Taku River watershed (as written on the attached itinerary).

Additional Attachments

Document Name
There are no additional attachments.



July 15, 2023

Caitlyn Stephenson
Chief of Staff to Senator Peters
724 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Caitlyn,

The American Lands Project appreciates your office's interest in the Tongass National Forest in Southeast Alaska and public lands in the state of Alaska. At 17 million acres, the Tongass is the largest National Forest in the country. It is home to wild salmon watersheds that are among the most productive on the Pacific Coast, and which support an annual \$1 billion commercial fishery. The region's glaciers, forests, and wildlife are a global attraction which generate another \$1 billion from tourism annually. The old growth trees of the Tongass National Forest hold 44% of all the carbon stored by the United States' national forests, on top of the fact that 62% of all carbon contained in the soils and terrestrial ecosystems of federally managed land is held in Alaska. And the region's forests are valued by members of the Alaska Native community for the subsistence resources they provide, and for broader cultural and historic connections to the land.

In 2011 the US Department of Agriculture announced a Tongass Transition Framework to move forest management away from old-growth logging, and towards supporting other industries that are the basis of the Southeast Alaska economy. In 2016, the US Forest Service finalized an updated management plan for the Tongass that phased out old-growth logging, provided greater protection for wild salmon watersheds, and recognized the Roadless Rule protections for parts of the forest. Then, in 2020 the Trump Administration exempted the Tongass from the Roadless rule, opening over 9 million acres to potential road-building and timber. That exemption has been reversed by the current Administration, and a new commitment has been made to ending old-growth logging in the Tongass and supporting sustainable economies for the region.

We would like to invite you to join American Lands Project for a trip to the Tongass National Forest from August 17th - 23rd, 2023. Attached is a detailed itinerary that includes opportunities to see and experience first-hand the Tongass National Forest, learn about climate impacts and opportunities in the region and state, and use the region as a lens through which to gain knowledge on a broader array of public lands topics in the state of Alaska.

Please let me know if I can be helpful in answering any questions about the proposed trip, and I hope you will be able to join us. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Armando Rojas
Program Manager

1904 3rd Avenue, Suite 406, Seattle WA 98101 | americanlandsproject.org



Aug 17th - 23rd Tongass Fact Finding Trip

Senate Invite List:

David Montes- Chief of Staff, Senator Padilla

Caitlyn Stephenson- Chief of Staff, Senator Peters

American Lands Project

Tongass National Forest and Alaska Public Lands 2023 Fact-Finding Trip Itinerary

August 17 - 23, 2023

Thursday, August 17th

- Travel from Washington, DC to Juneau, AK
 - **8:00 a.m.** Depart DCA, Alaska Airlines #1, **10:50 a.m.** arrive SEA
 - **1:40 p.m.** Depart SEA, Alaska Airlines #123, **3:16 p.m.** arrive JNU
 - **3:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.** Taxi from Airport to Baranof Hotel, 127 N Franklin St, Juneau, AK
- **6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.** Working dinner at SALT, 200 Seward St, Juneau, AK
 - Discussion surrounding the expansion of tourism in Southeast Alaska and the Tongass National Forest with local business leaders.
 - Attendees:
 - David Montes- *Chief of Staff, Senator Padilla*
 - Caitlyn Stephenson- *Chief of Staff, Senator Peters*
 - Becky Cornell- *Chief of Staff, Representative Aguilar*
 - Clay Schroers- *Chief of Staff, Representative Magaziner*
 - Dan Blanchard - *owner of UnCruise Adventures*
 - Dan Kirkwood - *Southeast Alaska Futures Program Manager, SalmonState*
 - Zak Kirkpatrick and Travis Mingo- *Alaska Dream Cruises*
 - Armando Rojas- *Program Manager, American Lands Project*

Friday, August 18th

Attendees: David Montes, Caitlyn Stephenson, Becky Cornell, Clay Schroers, Dan Kirkwood, Armando Rojas, Jeffrey and Christine Smith- *Northwest Navigation, owners and operators of the Motor Vessel David B*

- Breakfast on the David B
- **8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.** Walk to Juneau waterfront
- **9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.** Board water-taxi via Melino's Marine Service to transport the group to the Motor Vessel David B, anchored at No Name Cove, Alaska.
 - During the transport, have introductory discussion of southeastern Alaska and the geographies that will be observed during the remainder of the trip. The Tongass National Forest is the largest national forest in the country, totalling 16.7 million acres of land in Southeast Alaska, and is the traditional homeland of three distinct Alaska Native tribes: Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian. The forest represents the largest intact tract of coastal temperate rainforest on earth. With much of the forest consisting of remote islands and roadless areas, visiting by boat or air is the only way to view many of these locations.
- **11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**
Board the Motor Vessel David B and have an introduction to the watercraft, which will serve as both a water-taxi and lodging through August 21st to access remote areas of the Tongass National Forest. Guests will receive a safety training from Jeffrey and Christine Smith, owners and operators of the vessel.

- **12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.** Working Lunch: Discussion and introduction to Southeast Alaska communities, the expansion of tourism into more remote parts of the Tongass National Forest, the significance of the forest to the regional economy, and the economic challenges of seasonal employment in communities throughout the region.
- **1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.** Break
- **2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.** Review maps of the State of Alaska to gain a better understanding of the geography, watersheds, topography, and international boundaries of the state as they relate to locations on the trip, as well as the State as a whole.
- **4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.** Break
- **5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.** Working Dinner: hear from Motor Vessel David B owners Jeffrey and Christine Smith on the role of small boat tourism in Alaska and how small tourism businesses operate in the Southeast Alaskan economy.

Saturday, August 19th

Attendees: David Montes, Caitlyn Stephenson, Becky Cornell, Clay Schroers, Dan Kirkwood, Armando Rojas, Jeffrey and Christine Smith

- Breakfast on the David B
- **9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.** Discussion of public lands in the state of Alaska. Review maps and discuss the various land management priorities for conservation, resource development, research, and subsistence uses on tribal, state, and federal lands in the State of Alaska.
- **10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.** Guided hike ashore to observe old growth forest and discuss the role that public lands in Alaska play in our nation's carbon management. Alaska contains one third the country's federally managed lands, but stores an even larger share of terrestrial ecosystem carbon stocks -- 62% of all carbon contained in the soils and terrestrial ecosystems of federally managed land is held in Alaska.
 - Sack lunch will be provided
- **1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.** Break
- **2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.** Discussion regarding the history and legislation that has shaped public lands and land management practices in Alaska, focusing on the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 (ANILCA). Review the history and landscape-shaping impacts of ANILCA, which designated most of the National Park Service units in Alaska as well as wilderness areas, national wildlife refuges, and national monuments across the state. ANILCA also established a priority for subsistence uses of fish and wildlife resources for rural residents during times of scarcity. ANILCA is the foundation of federal land management in Alaska and is essential to understanding current discussions surrounding resource management and utilization in Alaska.
- **3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.** Discussion of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 (ANCSA): Review the history and key elements of ANCSA, which extinguished aboriginal land title in Alaska, divided the state into 12 regions based on the common

heritage and shared interests of the Alaska Native people within each geographic area, and mandated the creation of for-profit entities - which Congress termed "Alaska Native Corporations" - tasked with promoting the social, cultural, and economic advancement of Alaska Native people and communities.

- **4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.** Break
- **5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.** Working dinner: Overview of subsistence use and how it supports rural Alaskans across the state. Federal law defines subsistence use as "the customary and traditional uses by rural Alaska residents of wild, renewable resources for such direct personal or family consumption as food, shelter, fuel, clothing, tools or transportation; the making and selling of handicraft articles... for barter or sharing for personal or family consumption; and for customary trade."

Sunday, August 20th

Attendees: David Montes, Caitlyn Stephenson, Becky Cornell, Clay Schroers, Dan Kirkwood, Armando Rojas, Jeffrey and Christine Smith

- Breakfast on the David B
- **9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.** Discussion on the economic value of healthy Tongass watersheds to salmon fisheries and harvests. Rivers, lakes, and streams in the Tongass produce 80% of the commercial salmon harvested annually from Southeast Alaska. This harvest of about 50 million salmon is valued at \$60 million annually.
- **10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.** Guided hike onshore. On the hike, discuss the history of the Roadless Rule in Southeast Alaska. In January 2023, "Roadless Rule" protections were reinstated for 9.37 million acres of roadless areas in the Tongass National Forest that support the ecological, economic, and cultural values of Southeastern Alaska.
- **12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.** Lunch on board the David B
- **1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.** Discussion presenting an overview of land management in Arctic Alaska. Review the geologic and ecological differences among the three major public land management units comprising Alaska's North Slope: the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska, and Prudhoe Bay (State of Alaska-owned land), and how these differences influence land management in each area. Also discuss the management structures unique to each area, and how the US Fish and Wildlife Service (Arctic National Wildlife Refuge), Bureau of Land Management (NPR-A), and State of Alaska (including Prudhoe Bay) each play a role in overseeing lands and resources on the North Slope.
- **3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.** Break
- **4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.** Discuss details surrounding the Southeast Alaska Sustainability Strategy, an effort from the US Department of Agriculture to support a diverse economy, enhance community resilience, and conserve natural resources in the region. Last year, \$25 million was allocated by the agency for grants to support this work.
- **5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.** Working Dinner: in-detail overview of the history of Southeast Alaska, and the Tongass National Forest, including timber history, land acquisition, wilderness designations, and the history of Alaska Native people in the region.

Monday, August 21

Attendees: David Montes, Caitlyn Stephenson, Becky Cornell, Clay Schroers, Dan Kirkwood, Armando Rojas, Jeffrey and Christine Smith

- Breakfast on the David B
- **9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.** View aquatic and terrestrial wildlife from the deck of the David B, and discuss how natural systems function in this landscape and the importance of the Tongass National Forest to salmon, grizzly bears, marine mammals, and other regional wildlife.
- **10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** Discuss mining, logging, and fossil fuel development across Alaska, and the history of these industries in the State. Use maps to examine the geography and chronology of timber projects and energy and infrastructure development. Discuss transboundary mine challenges in Southeast Alaska and the Ambler Road project, a proposed 211-mile road south of the Brooks Range that would connect the Ambler Mining District to existing road infrastructure.
- **12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.** Working Lunch: Concluding discussions with Jeffrey and Christine as the Motor Vessel David B approaches the Juneau Waterfront to dock.
- **1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.** Walk from Juneau Waterfront to check in to lodging accommodations at Baranoff Hotel
- **1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.** Break
- **3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.** Meet with Alaska Native leaders: discuss Tongass natural resource management, transboundary mining, the Roadless Rule exemption process and the petition for a Traditional Homelands Conservation Rule that was advanced in 2020 by Southeast Alaska tribes.
 - Attendees: President Richard Peterson, Raymond Paddock, and Jill Weitz - *Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska*
 - Meeting location within Juneau to be determined.
- **5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.** Rental car to Squires Rest- 11806 Glacier Hwy, Juneau, Alaska.
- **5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.** Working dinner at Squires Rest: Overview previous discussions from the trip, field questions, and discuss logistics and goals the next day.
- **7:00 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.** Rental car to Hotel

Tuesday, August 22nd

Attendees: David Montes, Caitlyn Stephenson, Becky Cornell, Clay Schroers, Dan Kirkwood, Armando Rojas

- **8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.** Breakfast at hotel
- **8:45 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.** Rental car to airport

- **9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** ¹ Site visit of the Mendenhall Glacier and hike onto the glacier to discuss forest management, tourism and climate change impacts. Access will be provided via commercial helicopter, as it is the only way to reach this glacier research site. Following the glacier visit, conduct a flyover of the Taku River watershed and discuss transboundary mining and impacts.
 - Professional guide, to be determined, will provide glacier hiking gear and present a safety orientation.
 - Additional attendees providing subject-area expertise:
 - Natalie Dawson- *Director of Strategic Partnerships, Alaska Venture Fund*
 - Bre Walker - *Salmon Beyond Borders Director, SalmonState*
- **12:30 p.m. - 12:45 p.m.** Rental car to Downtown Juneau
- **12:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.** Break and time for lunch
- **2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.** Rental Car to Mendenhall Visitor Center
- **2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.** Tour of Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Recreation Area and short hike with OneUSDA Team and local partners in the Southeast Alaska Sustainability Strategy. Hike will view Mendenhall Glacier and tour visitor center and wildlife viewing boardwalks. Accessible natural areas like the Mendenhall Visitor Center and many of the wild salmon watersheds help draw over 1 million tourists and generate approximately \$1 billion in revenue for the region annually. Approximately 90% of summer visitors to Mendenhall are brought to the site by tourism operators generating approximately \$700,000 annually to the Forest Service in fees.
 - Additional attendees:
 - Richard Peterson and Jill Weitz- *Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Tribes of Alaska*
 - Alana Peterson- *Spruce Root*
 - Marina Anderson- *Director, Sustainable Southeast Partnership*
 - Andrew Thoms- *Sitka Conservation Society, Southeast Sustainability Partnership steering committee*
 - Brian Holst- *Juneau Economic Development Council*
 - Dave Schmidt- *Regional Forester, Alaska Region, USFS*
 - Laurie Cooper- *Special Assistant to Regional Forester, USFS*
 - Keith Perkins and Julia Hnilicka - *USDA Rural Development*
- **4:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.** Rental car to hotel
- **4:45 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.** Break
- **6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.** Working dinner: In Boco Al Lupo, 120 2nd St Suite B, Juneau, AK
 - Summarize the trip, and discuss any remaining questions and topics. Attendees of other programming over the last two days may join as they are available.

¹ Flight times and programming are subject to change based on weather

Wednesday, August 23rd

- Travel from Juneau, AK to Washington, DC
 - **5:45 a.m.** Rental car to JNU airport
 - **8:05 a.m.** Depart JNU, Alaska Airlines #142, **11:25 a.m.** arrive SEA
 - **2:00 p.m.** Depart SEA, Alaska Airlines #2, **9:59 p.m.** arrive DCA