

Field Notes

March 2022



Greetings Friends,

The sun is back and the birds are not far behind!

Camp Habitat is also back after a two year hiatus! Camper registration will open on March 21st. Contact camphabitat@gmail.com if you have any questions.

There are several volunteer and job opportunities on the Refuge this summer. Camp Habitat is accepting applications for camp instructors and counselors. The Alaska Department of Fish & Game is also searching for individuals interested in serving as a Refuge Hosts during the 2022 season.

It also just got easier to purchase Friends of Creamer's Field merchandise! We just launched our online store that has select Refuge-themed items available for purchase. Be sure to check out the full store at the link below.

Keep an eye on our social media and website for updates on programs and events.

See you on the Refuge!

Grace & Melanie
Friends of Creamer's Field Staff

Camp Habitat

A nature education and ecology camp for youth ages 4 - 11.

Camper registration is still open! Click the link below for more information or to register.



Pre-School Programs *Half-Day Program*

Nature Sprouts *Ages 4 - 5* **\$150**

You can register a camper for either one, or both weeks!

June 13-17 12:00 pm - 4:30 pm

June 20-24 12:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Children explore Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge through developmentally appropriate hands-on activities and games. Your kids will experience the natural world with sensory exploration, discovery hikes, ecology-themed games, songs, and creative craft projects.

Day Camp Programs *Full-Day Program 9AM - 4PM*

You can register a camper for only one week out of the two weeks listed for their age group!

Ages 6 - 7 **\$250**

Nature Detectives July 11-15

Nature Detectives July 18-22

Ages 8 - 9 **\$250**

Water Striders July 11-15

Water Striders July 18-22

Ages 10 - 11 **\$250**

Refuge Adventurers July 11-15

Refuge Adventurers July 18-22

Campers learn about the natural history of Interior Alaska through engaging activities, games, hikes, projects, and guest speakers. They will explore the natural world through themes such as plants, animals, birds, fish, habitats, and people & the environment.

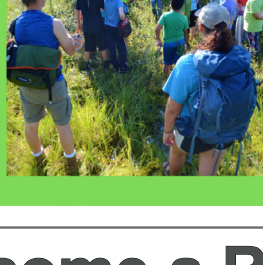
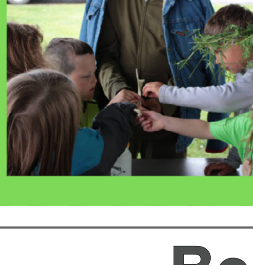
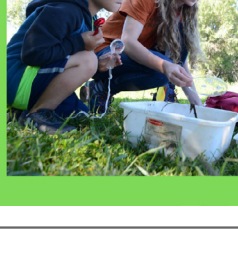


Join Our Team This Summer!

WE ARE HIRING!

Camp Habitat Instructors & Counselors

Visit www.friendsofcreamersfield.org for application materials.



Instructors

Camp Habitat Instructors are responsible for the complete curriculum planning, leadership, and supervision for one group of 10-12 children per week. Instructors develop, organize, and implement developmentally appropriate, fun, and educational activities to facilitate children's exploration and discovery of nature.

Counselors

Camp Habitat Counselors are responsible for the daily set up/take down of camp, prep work for lessons, leadership, and supervision with an instructor for one group of approximately 10-18 children per week. Counselors help instructors organize and implement developmentally appropriate, fun, and educational activities to facilitate children's exploration and discovery of nature.

Become a Refuge Host

Creamer's Field volunteer opportunity: *Refuge Host*

Description: Refuge Hosts serve at Creamer's Field as volunteers of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Wildlife Conservation Division. They provide essential services at the Refuge's hub (the 12 acre historic buildings area). The hosts work 6-7 consecutive weeks of long weekends (Saturday, Sunday and Monday).

Season: May 15th - September 15th, 2022,

Duty Periods: 1.) May 15 - June 24, 2.) June 29 - Aug 5, 3.) August 10 - September 15 .

Each duty period consists of 6-7 weeks of long weekends only. Length of duty may flex and depends on coordination with other refuge hosts and/or individual requests.

Refuge Host duties include, but are not limited to:

Staff the Farmhouse Visitor Center (9:30am to 5pm), greet visitors to refuge, sell gift shop items, maintain visitor use logs, minor litter pickup, minor maintenance. Grounds keeping (mowing and trimming) of about 7 total acres of historic dairy buildings and wildlife viewing areas. May assist with interpretive programs and other duties depending on experience/interest.

Amenities: Private parking for RV with full "hook-up": electricity, water, telephone, and sewer. Private shower is within pleasant walking distance.

For more information contact:

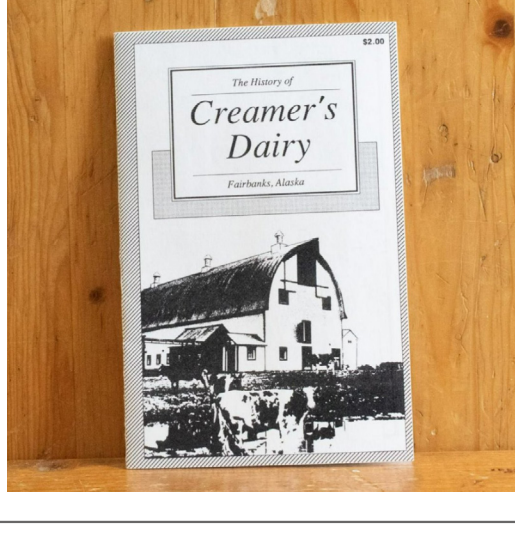
Mark D. Ross

(907) 459-7301

Alaska Department of Fish & Game, Wildlife Conservation
Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge
1300 College Road, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Shop Friends of Creamer's Field Online Store

Purchase Creamer's Field merchandise from the comfort of your own home.



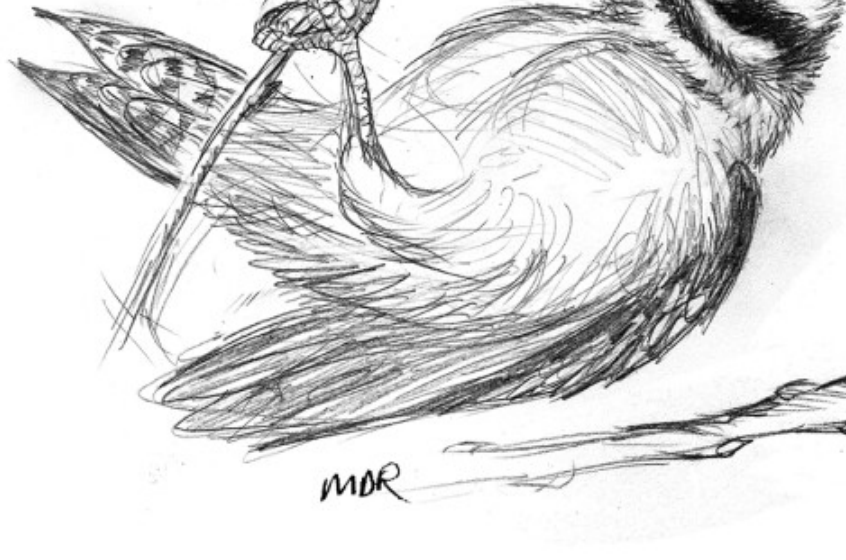
Field Sketch

Presented by ADFG Biologist, Mark D. Ross

Creamer's Field, your local wildlife refuge
Field Sketches:
Visit the refuge, College Rd. back by the big barns.
Mark D. Ross, 459-7301

After a quick bit of book research and examination of a few of the willow twig tips, I determined they were searching not for plant material, they were after tiny animals; the larval stage of a gnat:

Look to the pencil -



Willow gail, 1"

Downy Woodpecker, 6.5"

Here's what I found upon taking a closer look:

I opened the end of a twig and found a larvae within:

Beaked willow gail with larvae within.

The gail, a bulbous swelling of the twig, is induced by the midge larvae.

The gnat commonly known as a beaked-gall midge; the adult form is a tiny two winged insect:



actual size is just a few millimeters ---

FAIRBANKS EARTH DAY

Celebrate Earth Day 2022 with the Fairbanks Community Earth Day Committee! They will be hosting various events leading up to Earth Day on April 22, 2022. Join the Facebook group (linked below) for more information and updates!

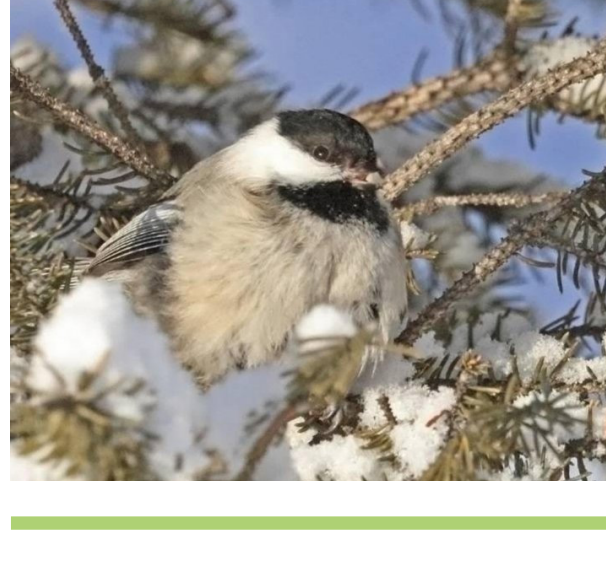
Submit your art or poetry to be featured at the annual Earth Day Poetry Walk.

Art and poetry will be displayed at Creamer's Field and the Chena River Walk for Earth Week, April 16-24.

Annual Earth Day Poetry Walk

SUBMIT POEMS & ARTWORK BY APRIL 11!

Send submissions to poetryartwalk2022@gmail.com or drop off at Creamer's Field Farmhouse Visitor's Center.



Thank you for being a Friend!

In addition to allowing us to provide our Refuge programs and events at no charge, your donations have allowed us to contract with a local company to clean the outhouses on the Refuge, thus allowing all four to now be open for public use. Thank you!



Our Contact Information

Friends of Creamer's Field

P.O. Box 81065

Fairbanks, AK 99708

(907) 978-8457

director@friendsofcreamersfield.org

www.friendsofcreamersfield.org

Mission Statement

"Inspiring environmental stewardship and lifelong learning through experience, awareness, appreciation and conservation of the natural and historic resources of Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge."

