COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

EMPLOYEE POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM ☑ *Original* ☐ *Amendment*

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from private sources for travel taken in connection with official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the annual *Financial Disclosure Statements* of those employees required to file them. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, **you must complete this form and *file it with the Clerk of the House by email at gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov*, within 15 days after travel is completed.** Please ***do not*** file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Name of Traveler: Sarina Weiss

2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ ***OR*** ☒ None
   b. Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____

3. a. Dates: Departure: Aug 3, 2024 Return: Aug 9, 2024
   b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ ***OR*** ☒ None

4. Departure City: Washington, DC Destination: Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Return City: Washington, DC

5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: American Lands Project

6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: Please see itinerary- Fact-finding trip to experience and learn first-hand about remote Arctic landscapes and meet with local residents that rely on these lands

7. Attached to this form are ***each*** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box*:
   a. ☒ a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
   b. ☒ the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor ***prior*** to the trip, ***including all*** attachments ***and*** the *Additional Sponsor Form(s)*;
   c. ☒ page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the employee; ***and***
   d. ☒ the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.

8. a. ☒ I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda. *Signify statement is true by checking the box.*
   b. If not, explain: _____

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

Signature of Traveler: Sarina Weiss **Date:** 8/21/24

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Name of Supervising Member: Raul M. Grijalva **Date:** 8/21/24

Signature of Supervising Member: Raul M. Grijalva

last updated 7/2023

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

☒ *Original* ☐ *Amendment*

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. **A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated in the trip *within 10 days of their return.*** You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House Rules and the Committee's Travel Regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Sponsor(s) who paid or provided in-kind support for the trip: American Lands Project

2. Travel Destination(s): Fairbanks, AK and Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, AK

3. Date of Departure: Aug 3 2024 Date of Return: Aug 9 2024

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Sarina Weiss

   Note: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if ***all*** information is ***identical*** for each person listed.

5. **Actual amount** of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:

	Total **Transportation** Expenses	Total **Lodging** Expenses	Total **Meal** Expenses	Total **Other** Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	$7815.06 total ($1632.53 travel to/from Fairbanks, $6075 air-taxi flights, $107.53 ground transportation)	$633.00 total ($254x2 for hotels in Fairbanks, $125 for tent rental in Arctic Refuge	$338.95 total ($63.95 for meals in Fairbanks, $275 for backcountry meals provided by guide)	$2866.67 for backcountry guide and fees
Accompanying Family Member	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

6. ☒ All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. *Signify statement is true by checking box.*

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

Signature: [signature] **Date:** 8/15/24

Name: Armando Rojas **Title:** Program Manager

Organization: American Lands Project

☒ ***I am an officer of the above-named organization. Signify statement is true by checking box.***

Address: 1904 Third Ave Suite 406, Seattle WA 98101

Telephone: 206.686.5320 **Email:** armando@americanlandsproject.org

Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103.

last updated 7/2023

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Sarina Weiss

2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: American Lands Project

3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska

4. a. Date of Departure: Aug 3, 2024 Date of Return: Aug 9, 2024

   b. Yes ☐ No ■ Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?

   If yes, list dates at personal expense: _____

5. a. Yes ☐ No ■ Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? **If yes:**

   (1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: _____

   (2) Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____

   (3) Yes ☐ No ☐ Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age?

6. a. Yes ☐ No ■ Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)?

   b. **If yes**, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:

7. Yes ■ No ☐ *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitation, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.

   NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.

8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties. **Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.**

   Sarina Weiss is a Staff Director for the House Natural Resources Committee, and focuses on energy and natural resource policy issues including those surrounding the management of America's Arctic. This trip will supply first-hand knowledge of the Arctic Refuge and the opportunity to learn about Arctic natural systems, land management history, economic drivers, and the importance of the region to Alaska Natives.

9. **Yes ☐ No ■ Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**

10. For staff travelers, to be completed by your employing Member:

ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Signature of Employing Member: Raúl M. Grijalva **Date:** 6/27/24

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a *Traveler Form* **at least 30 days before the start date of the trip**. The trip sponsor should *NOT* submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee's website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form. The Committee will notify the House invitees directly of its decision and will not notify the trip sponsors.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:

   American Lands Project

2. ☒ I represent that the trip will not be financed, in whole or in part, by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*

3. ***Check only one.*** I represent that:
   a. ☒ The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip; **OR**
   b. ☐ The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds; **OR**
   c. ☐ The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds, services, or in-kind assistance from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.

   If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors: _____

4. Provide names and titles of **ALL** House Members *and* employees you are inviting. **For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited** (include additional pages if necessary): _____

   See final page for list and explanation

5. Yes ☐ No ☒ Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of Departure: Aug 3, 2024 Date of Return: Aug 9, 2024
7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC
   b. Destination(s): Fairbanks, Alaska, and Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska
   c. City of return: Washington, DC
8. ***Check only one.*** I represent that
   a. ☐ The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965; **OR**
   b. ☒ The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent; **OR**
   c. ☐ The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event *and* lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.

9. ***Check only one of the following.***
   a. ☒ I checked 8(a) or (b) above; **OR**
   b. ☐ I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**
   c. ☐ I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night; **OR**
   d. ☐ I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights. If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted. _____

10. ☒ Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees). *Indicate agenda is attached by checking box.*
11. ***Check only one of the following.***
   a. ☒ I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip. *Signify the statement is true by clicking the box;* **OR**
   b. ☐ *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education.
12. For ***each*** sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip ***and*** its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:

    American Lands Project seeks to inform discussions regarding important public lands in our nation, in part through facilitating fact-finding travel centered around place-based education. American Lands Project has developed the agenda of this trip and has organized all invitations to congressional guests.

13. ***Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary***:
   a. Mode of travel: Air ☒ Rail ☐ Bus ☐ Car ☒ Other ☐ (specify: _____)
   b. Class of travel: Coach ☒ Business ☐ First ☐ Charter ☐ Other ☒ (specify: Air taxi to access remote areas of Alaska)
   c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:

      The flights in and out of the Arctic will be via air taxi, which is the only way to access the remote locations being visited.

14. ☒ I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*
15. ***Check only one.*** I represent that either:
   a. ☐ The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees; **OR**
   b. ☒ The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation. If "b" is checked:
      1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided): Approx. average $36/day for meals, including backcountry meals supplied by guide and 2 meals in Fairbanks, AK
      2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: Opportunity to experience and learn first-hand about remote Arctic landscapes and meet with local residents that rely on these lands.

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:

    Hotel Name: Best Western Plus Chena River City: Fairbanks Cost Per Night: $254
    Reason(s) for Selecting: Room availability, reasonable cost in line with government rate, basic room selected.
    Hotel Name: Basecamp/tent in Arctic Refuge City: Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Cost Per Night: $31.25
    Reason(s) for Selecting: Individual backcountry tents are the only option to stay in this remote location; there are no hotels in the vicinity.
    Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____
    Reason(s) for Selecting: _____

17. ☒ I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*

18. **Total Expenses for each Participant:**

☐ Actual Amounts ☒ Good Faith Estimates	Total **Transportation** Expenses per Participant	Total **Lodging** Expenses per Participant	Total **Meal** Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	$8,900 total ($1500 travel to/from Fairbanks, $7315 air-taxi flights, $85 ground transportation)	$633 total ($254/night for 2 nights hotel in Fairbanks, $125 for tent rental in Arctic Refuge)	$247 total ($80 for meals in Fairbanks, $167 for backcountry meals provided by guide)
For each Accompanying Family Member			

	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	$2,866.67	Backcountry guide and fees
For each Accompanying Family Member		

19. ***Check only one:***
    a. ☒ I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below; **OR**
    b. ☐ *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

20. **I certify by my signature that**
    a. **I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;**
    b. **I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and**
    c. **The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature: _____ Date: 6/25/2024

Name: Armando Rojas Title: Program Manager

Organization: American Lands Project

Address: 1904 3rd Ave, Suite 406, Seattle, WA 98101

Email: armando@americanlandsproject.org Telephone: 206.686.5320

If there are questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

Congressional Guests Invited

- Josephine Amusa (Policy Advisor, Leader Hakeem Jeffries)
- Shelby Davis-Prettiman (Policy Advisor, Rep. Katherine Clark)
- Shane Trimmer (Legislative Director, Rep. Jared Huffman)
- Jeremy Marcus (Chief of Staff, Rep. Doris Matsui)
- Sarina Weiss (Staff Director, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, House Natural Resources Committee)

The above staff have been invited due to their work on natural resource issues and that work's connection to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and America's Arctic.

Michael Guest, Mississippi
Chairman
Susan Wild, Pennsylvania
Ranking Member

David P. Joyce, Ohio
John H. Rutherford, Florida
Andrew R. Garbarino, New York
Michelle Fischbach, Minnesota

Veronica Escobar, Texas
Mark DeSaulnier, California
Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Keelie Broom
Counsel to the Chairman

David Arrojo
Counsel to the Ranking Member

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515–6328
Telephone: (202) 225–7103
Facsimile: (202) 225–7392

July 25, 2024

Ms. Sarina Weiss
Committee on Natural Resources
1332 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Weiss:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Fairbanks and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska, scheduled for August 3 to 9, 2024, sponsored by American Lands Project.

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, you must also report all travel expenses totaling more than $480 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

Michael Guest
Chairman

Susan Wild
Ranking Member

MG/SW:tn

American Lands Project

Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
2024 Fact-Finding Trip Itinerary

Saturday, August 3, 2024

- Travel from Washington DC to Fairbanks, AK
  - **8:00 a.m.** Depart DCA, Alaska Air #1, **10:49 a.m.** arrive SEA
  - **12:06 p.m.** Depart SEA, Alaska Air #106, **2:51 p.m.** arrive FAI

- **3:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m**. Ground transportation from airport to Best Western Plus Chena River Lodge, 1255 Tvsa Way, Fairbanks, AK

- **6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.** Working dinner at Lavelle's Bistro- 575 First Ave, Fairbanks
  - Meet with representatives from the Gwich'in Steering Committee to learn about their work and connections between the Gwich'in and Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.
  - *Attendees: Josephine Amusa (Policy Advisor, Leader Hakeem Jeffries), Shelby Davis-Prettiman (Policy Advisor, Rep. Katherine Clark), Shane Trimmer (Legislative Director, Rep. Jared Huffman), Jeremy Marcus (Chief of Staff, Rep. Doris Matsui), Sarina Weiss (Staff Director, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, House Natural Resources Committee), Armando Rojas (Program Manager, American Lands Project)*

Sunday, August 4, 2024

Attendees: Josephine Amusa, Shelby Davis-Prettiman, Shane Trimmer, Jeremy Marcus, Sarina Weiss, Armando Rojas, Cyn Merrow (Guide assigned by Arctic Treks)

- Travel from Fairbanks, AK to Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, AK
  - **7:00 a.m.** Ground transportation to airport
  - **8:00* a.m.** Depart FAI, Everts Air, **10:00* a.m.** Arrive at landing strip and staging area outside of Arctic Refuge (location dependent on weather and conditions) to access the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
  - **10:30* a.m.** Depart staging area, Coyote Air, **11:30* a.m.** Arrive at Arctic National Wildlife Refuge basecamp location.

- **12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.** Set up camp

- **12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.** Camp orientation by Arctic Treks guide to review location and safety, and additional context of the trip and the group's location within the Arctic Refuge.

- **1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.** Review maps of Alaska's North Slope to become oriented with respect to the tribal, state and federal lands and land management designations in the Alaskan Arctic, and their relation to conservation, resource development, research, and subsistence uses.

(All flight times and specific basecamp destinations in the Arctic Refuge are subject to change based on weather)*

- **2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.** Discussion: History leading up to and following the first designation of the Arctic Refuge. Established in 1960 as the Arctic National Wildlife Range, in the 1980s it was expanded to its current size of 19 million acres and was renamed as the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Guests will gain knowledge on the background that led to these designations, and how these changes affected management.

- **3:30 p.m – 6:00 p.m.** Guided hike to observe the Coastal Plain of the Arctic Refuge and discuss its importance to the Porcupine Caribou Herd as well as numerous other wildlife species. The Porcupine Caribou Herd uses the area as its summer calving ground, after completing the longest land migration of any land mammal, covering over 1,500 miles every year and spanning the Alaska-Yukon border. Discuss the complexities of managing the health of the herd across the US-Canadian international border, and how groups such as the Porcupine Caribou Management Board navigate these issues.

- **6:00 p.m – 7:00 p.m.** Working Dinner: 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 (NPR-A), and State of Alaska 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.

Monday, August 5, 2024
Attendees: Josephine Amusa, Shelby Davis-Prettiman, Shane Trimmer, Jeremy Marcus, Sarina Weiss, Armando Rojas, Cyn Merrow

- **8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.** Breakfast

- **9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.** Discussion of fossil fuel resources in the Arctic, and history of development. Use maps to examine the geography and chronology of energy and infrastructure development on the North Slope of Alaska. Discussion will also cover recent assessments of fossil fuel resources on the North Slope, the 2017 Tax Act and subsequent mandated lease sales, and offshore drilling in state and federal waters. This will help guests better understand Alaska's fossil fuel resources, and how their extraction and use relate to the nation's energy and climate goals.

- **10:30 a.m. – 12:30 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. A thirteenth Native Corporation was later created for Alaska Natives who no longer resided in Alaska.

- **12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.** Lunch

(All flight times and specific basecamp destinations in the Arctic Refuge are subject to change based on weather)*

- **1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.** Discussion: Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). Guests will learn about the history and landscape-shaping impact of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) of 1980. ANILCA designated most of the National Park Service units in Alaska, as well as wilderness areas, national wildlife refuges (including the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge), and national monuments across the state. It 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. – 6:00 p.m.** Guided hike from basecamp to observe geologic features of the Arctic Refuge and view permafrost soils and other features of the tundra landscape. During the hike, overview oil and gas exploration practices, including seismic surveying, ice roads, and directional drilling technologies.

- **6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.** Dinner

Tuesday, August 6, 2024
Attendees: Josephine Amusa, Shelby Davis-Prettiman, Shane Trimmer, Jeremy Marcus, Sarina Weiss, Armando Rojas, Cyn Merrow

- **8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.** Breakfast

- **9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.** Discussion: Additional overview of Indigenous community connections to America's Arctic, and discussions that have occurred between the Iñupiat and Gwich'in regarding their roles in land protection and management.

- **10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.** Discuss evidence of melting permafrost and saltwater intrusion from the coast into freshwater systems due to rising Arctic temperatures, trends in these impacts over time, and how they affect wildlife and North Slope communities. Review how communities are considering adaptation of infrastructure and practices to deal with these changes, and how the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act of 2021 works to address this, including its investments in a new Tribal transition and relocation assistance program with approximately $216 million in funding to support planning and voluntary, community-led transitions for those Tribal communities which are most vulnerable to accelerating climate-driven impacts.

- **11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.** Working Lunch: Overview of subsistence use and how it supports rural Alaskans. 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."

- **1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.** Break down camp.

- **2:00* p.m. - 3:00* p.m.** Travel from first basecamp to a second basecamp location within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge via air-taxi flight from Coyote Air. Discussion

enroute with Dirk Nickisch, pilot/owner of Coyote Air re: recent weather events, recreational use of the Refuge and changes observed over the past 20 years which are necessitating changes in business operations.

- **3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.** Set-up camp at a new location within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and break time to get oriented in the new landscape.

- **5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.** Working dinner: Overview of the North Slope Borough and its villages. Most of the Borough's approximately 11,000 permanent residents live in eight communities: Anaktuvuk Pass, Atqasuk, Kaktovik, Nuiqsut, Point Hope, Point Lay, Utqiagvik, and Wainwright. Utqiagvik (formerly Barrow) serves as the Borough seat of government. Maps will be provided to help guests understand the size and location of these communities.

Wednesday, August 7, 2024
Attendees: Josephine Amusa, Shelby Davis-Prettiman, Shane Trimmer, Jeremy Marcus, Sarina Weiss, Armando Rojas, Cyn Merrow

- **8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.** Breakfast

- **9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.** Review the background and history of the National Petroleum Reserve- Alaska (NPR-A), including initial designation in 1923 as an emergency oil supply for the U.S. Navy, Navy management of the land until the area was conveyed to the Department of the Interior in 1976 in accordance with the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act, and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) management from that conveyance until present day. Discuss the seven Special Areas designated within the 23-million-acre landscape and the ecological importance of each as important habitat for polar bears, seals, walrus, birds, and caribou herds that have sustained the Native people of Alaska's North Slope for over 10,000 years.
  Also review the recent announcements that the Department of Interior has made regarding the NPR-A, including the approval of new oil and gas development projects such as the Willow Oil Project, and rulemaking that formalizes regulations for the NPR-A.

- **10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.** Discussion of 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.

- **11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** Working Lunch: Review estimates on the quantity of methane stored in permafrost in the Arctic along with recent scientific studies analyzing the climate inputs associated with a warming Arctic. Arctic landscapes are a major reservoir of this greenhouse gas, and rising temperatures have been accelerating release from existing stores in the permafrost. View physical examples near basecamp of the slumping of surface soils due to the melting of permafrost and observe changes in the local plant community due to warming in the Arctic.

- **12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.** Guided hike from basecamp to observe wildlife and plants and discuss how natural systems function in this arctic tundra landscape, and the use of the

Arctic Refuge by migratory birds, caribou, polar bear and other wildlife.

- **2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.** Break

- **5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.** Working Dinner: Overview of the major caribou herds of the North Slope located outside the Arctic Refuge, including current population data and trends, and management history with a focus on the Western Arctic Caribou Herd and its associated Working Group. Overview of the role of the latest survey data on caribou population counts and fluctuations over time. The Working Group is composed of subsistence users, other Alaska hunters, reindeer herders, hunting guides, transporters and conservationists, with agency staff, biologists and natural resource managers serving in an advisory capacity. The Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group meets annually to evaluate the health of what until recent years has been Alaska's largest caribou herd, and also works to identify concerns, request information, and advocate for actions that will conserve and benefit the herd.

Thursday, August 8, 2024
Attendees: Josephine Amusa, Shelby Davis-Prettiman, Shane Trimmer, Jeremy Marcus, Sarina Weiss, Armando Rojas, Cyn Merrow

- **8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.** Breakfast

- **9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.** Discussion of Trans-Alaska Pipeline. Guests will learn about the 45 year history of the $8B Trans-Alaska Pipeline authorized by President Nixon in 1973, its construction, role in North Slope development, and its role in catalyzing the Alaska Permanent Fund.

- **10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.** Discussion: Overview of the Alaska Permanent Fund. The Permanent Fund was created in 1976 via an amendment of the state constitution to help manage the growing state income from oil and gas development. It mandates that at least 25 percent of all mineral lease rentals, royalties, royalty sale proceeds, federal mineral revenue sharing payments and bonuses received by the State be deposited into the Fund. The Permanent Fund also allows for the distribution of dividend checks to Alaska residents.

- **11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m** Break down camp

- **12:00* p.m.** Depart Arctic Refuge basecamp, Coyote Air, **1:00* p.m.** Arrive at Arctic Village, an Alaska Native village (Gwich'in) at the southern border of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Arctic Village also functions as a staging point to access or depart the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.
    - During the flight and waiting time, discuss international Arctic politics and collaborative efforts beyond Alaska, including the Arctic Council, which was created as an intergovernmental forum to foster cooperation in the circumpolar Arctic. Overview the United States' role as an Arctic Nation, the 6 permanent participants in the Arctic Council, and impacts of increased shipping in the Arctic as a result of melting sea ice. Management of the circumpolar Arctic and the role(s) and governance of Indigenous Arctic Peoples outside the United States will also be explored.

(All flight times and specific basecamp destinations in the Arctic Refuge are subject to change based on weather)*

- **1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.** Working lunch in Arctic Village with the Arctic Village Council to discuss their priorities and connections to the Arctic Refuge.

- **2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.** Tour of Arctic Village. Learn more about the history of Indigenous people in Arctic Alaska, dating back more than 10,000 years, and learn about the Village, its people, and their connections to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for spiritual, cultural, and subsistence needs.
    - Additional Attendees: Sarah James- Spokesperson for Arctic Refuge (Arctic Village Council and Native Village of Venetie Tribal Governments)

- **4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.** Return to Arctic Village landing strip and review main topics of the trip. Answer any additional questions.

- Return to Fairbanks, AK.
    - **6:00* p.m.** Depart Arctic Village, Everts Air, **8:00* p.m.** Arrive FAI
    - **8:20 p.m.** Shuttle from airport to Best Western Plus Chena River Lodge, 1255 Tvsa Way, Fairbanks, AK

Friday, August 9, 2024

- Travel from Fairbanks, AK to Washington, DC
    - **7:00 a.m.** Depart FAI, Alaska Airlines #236. **11:41 a.m.** arrive SEA.
    - **1:54 p.m.** Depart SEA, Alaska Airlines #2. **9:59 p.m.** arrive DCA.

(All flight times and specific basecamp destinations in the Arctic Refuge are subject to change based on weather)*