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: Emma Reidy
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ ***OR*** ■ None
   b. Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: August 15, 2024 Return: August 21, 2024
   b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ ***OR*** ■ None
4. Departure City: Washington, DC Destination: Juneau, AK Return City: Denver, CO
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: American Lands Project
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: Met with tribal and local leaders to discuss consultation needs, met with Forest Service on outstanding needs, boat travel to see forestry concerns firsthand.
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: _____ **Date:** August 27, 2024

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: Congressman Ruben Gallego **Date:** August 27, 2024

Signature of Supervising Member: _____

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): Tongass National Forest, Juneau, Alaska
3. Date of Departure: Aug 15, 2024 Date of Return: Aug 21, 2024
4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Emma Reidy

   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	$4037.51 total ($942.40 travel to/from Juneau,	$1572 total ($822 for 3 nights in Juneau, $750 for 3	$431.73 total	$300 total (for float-plane tour of salmon watershed
Accompanying Family Member				

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: _____ **Date:** Aug 27, 2024

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.

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

This form should be completed by House Members, officers, or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule 25, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer, or employee, together with the completed and signed trip sponsor form(s) and any attachments. A copy of this form, minus this initial page, will be made available for public inspection.

This form and any attachments may be submitted at 1015 Longworth House Office Building or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

Your completed request must be submitted to the Committee no less than 30 days before your proposed departure date. Absent exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted for requests received less than 30 days before the trip commences. **You must receive explicit approval from the Committee before you depart on this trip.**

Name of Traveler: Emma Reidy

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

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

Signature: _____

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): _____

For Staff (name of employing Member or Committee): Congressman Ruben Gallego

Office Address: 1114 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Telephone Number: (202)225-4065

Email Address of Contact Person: emma.reidy@mail.house.gov

☐ Check this box if the sponsoring entity is a media outlet, the purpose of the trip is to make a media appearance sponsored by that entity, *and* these forms are being submitted to the Committee less than 30 days before the trip departure date.

NOTE: You must complete all of the contact information fields above, as Committee staff may need to contact you if additional information is required.

KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM. Page 2 (but not this page) must be submitted to the Clerk as part of the post-travel disclosure required by House Rule 25. Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting paperwork for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

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

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Emma Reidy

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: Juneau, AK

4. a. Date of Departure: Aug 15, 2024 Date of Return: Aug 21, 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.**

   As a Senior Legislative Assistant to Rep Gallego, Emma focuses on inatural resource management, public lands, and climate as they relate to federal lands such as the Tongass National Forest and others throughout Alaska. The trip will offer knowledge of these regions, with opportunities to view unique natural systems, tourism infrastructure, and areas impacted by climate change.

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: _____ **Date:** 8/2/2024

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 attached final page

5. Yes ☐ No ☒ Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of Departure: Aug 15, 2024 Date of Return: Aug 21, 2024
7. a. City of departure: Aug 21, 2024
   b. Destination(s): Juneau, 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:

   ALP seeks to inform discussions regarding important public lands in our nation, in part through facilitating fact-finding travel centered around place-based education. This trip will provide history, context, and understanding for the attendees in support of their offices' responsibilities related to public lands in Alaska. ALP is organizing and conducting all aspects of the trip outside of logistical support provided by guides and transportation operators.

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

   Portion of this trip will be on water and use a commercial motor vessel for transportation and lodging. Public Ferry service is not available to accomplish the educational objectives of the trip. Commercial float plane flight will be used to view and access watershed and snowfield sites near Juneau, AK

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): Approximately $90 per day
      2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: Opportunity to see discussion area firsthand and meet with local subject matter experts and stakeholders.

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

   Hotel Name: Hotel Baranof City: Juneau, AK Cost Per Night: $274
   Reason(s) for Selecting: Central location, comparable local seasonal price, proximity to trip locations
   Hotel Name: Motor Vessel David B City: Juneau, AK Cost Per Night: $250
   Reason(s) for Selecting: Only way to view and access remote regions of the Tongass National Forest
   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	$4121.40 total ($1021.40 for round trip to AK, $2930 for water transportation, $170 for ground transportation)	$1572 total ($822 for 3 nights in Juneau, $750 for 3 nights on boat)	$470 total
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	$300	Share of float-plane tour of salmon watershed and Juneau Icefield
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: Aug 27, 2024

Name: Armando Rojas Title: Program Manager

Organization: American Lands Project

Address: 1904 Third 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.

AMERICAN LANDS PROJECT

2024 Tongass National Forest Fact Finding Trip

House Invite List:

- Tia Bogeljic (Legislative Director, Rep. Joe Neguse)
- Emma Reidy (Sr. Legislative Assistant, Rep. Ruben Gallego)
- Jamari Hartley (Legislative Assistant, Rep. Mike Lawler)
- James Davis (Senior Member Services and Policy Advisor, House Democratic Caucus)
- Jack Klinger (Legislative Correspondent, Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick)

The above staff have been invited due to their work on natural resource issues and their work's associated connection to the Tongass National Forest and Southeast Alaska.

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

August 8, 2024

Ms. Emma Reidy
Office of the Honorable Ruben Gallego
1114 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Reidy:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Jueanu, Alaska, scheduled for August 15 to 21, 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:rp

American Lands Project

Tongass National Forest and Alaska Public Lands
2024 Fact-Finding Trip Itinerary

August 15 - 21, 2024

Thursday, August 15th

Attendees: Tia Bogeljic (Legislative Director, Rep. Joe Neguse), James Davis (Senior Member Services and Policy Advisor, House Democratic Caucus), Emma Reidy (Senior Legislative Assistant, Rep. Ruben Gallego), Jamari Hartley (Legislative Assistant, Rep. Mike Lawler), Jack Klinger (Legislative Correspondent, Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick), Dan Kirkwood (Southeast Alaska Futures Program Manager, SalmonState), Leah Wieneke (Board Member, American Lands Project)

- 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, tourism and economic drivers, and groups partnering with the Forest Service to carry out joint projects such as stream restoration.
  - Additional attendees:
    - Tim Bristol - *Executive Director, Salmonstate*

Friday, August 16th

Attendees: Attendees: Tia Bogeljic, James Davis, Emma Reidy, Jamari Hartley, Jack Klinger, Dan Kirkwood, Leah Wieneke, Jeffrey and Christine Smith (Owners and operators, Motor Vessel David B)

- **9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.** Shuttle to Juneau waterfront

- **10:00 a.m. - 10:30 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.** View the surrounding landscape from the deck and discuss themes of biological succession in the surrounding glacier-carved landscape. The Tongass is a geologically "young" region, much of it recently exposed within the last 10,000 years with the retreat of glacial ice. View and discuss evidence of glacial succession on the surrounding fjord walls.

- **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 17th
Attendees: Tia Bogeljic, James Davis, Emma Reidy, Jamari Hartley, Jack Klinger, Dan Kirkwood, Jeffrey and Christine Smith, Leah Wieneke

- 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.

- **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 18th
Attendees: Tia Bogeljic, James Davis, Emma Reidy, Jamari Hartley, Jack Klinger, Dan Kirkwood, Jeffrey and Christine Smith, Leah Wieneke

- 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 the current Tongass Forest Plan and plans the US Forest Service has announced for the Forest Plan in the coming years. The current Forest Plan was developed in 1997, and a new Forest Plan Revision is in the works, announced in 2023.

- **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.

- **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 19th
Attendees: Tia Bogeljic, James Davis, Emma Reidy, Jamari Hartley, Jack Klinger, Dan Kirkwood, Jeffrey and Christine Smith, Leah Wieneke

- 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.

- **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

- **2:00 p.m - 3:00 p.m.** Walk through downtown Juneau and discussion of Alaska-specific context: Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANSCA) and Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). Also cover topics of Southeast Alaska Sustainability Strategy and tribal engagement in Southeast Alaska.
    - Additional Attendees:
        - Anthony Mallott - *Spruce Root, and former CEO of Sealaska Corp.*

- **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*

- **5:30 p.m. - 6:00 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 – *UnCruise Adventures*
        - Kirby Day - *Holland America Group, Princess Cruises*
        - Arne Johnston - *Bear Creek Outfitters*

- **7:00 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.** Rental car to Hotel

Tuesday, August 20th

Attendees: Tia Bogeljic, James Davis, Emma Reidy, Jamari Hartley, Jack Klinger, Dan Kirkwood, Jeffrey and Christine Smith, Leah Wieneke

- **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:
        - Eran Hood - *Professor of Environmental Science, University of Alaska Southeast*

- **12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.** Break and time for lunch

- **1:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.** Rental car to Auke Recreation Area, Juneau, AK

- **2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.** Hike Auk Recreation Area to view flora and fauna, including waterfowl and seabirds that the area supports.

- **3:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.** Rental car to Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center, 6000 Glacier Spur Rd, Juneau, AK 99801

- **3:45 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.** Tour of Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center and 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:
        - Chad VanOrmer - *Regional Forester, Alaska Region, USFS*
        - Laurie Cooper - *Acting Deputy Regional Forester, USFS*
        - Barb Miranda - *Deputy Forest Supervisor, Tongass National Forest.*

- **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 Bocca Al Lupo
    - Summarize the trip, and discuss any remaining questions and topics.

- **7:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.** Rental car to Hotel

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

Wednesday, August 21st

- Travel from Juneau, AK to Washington, DC
    - **6:00 a.m.** Rental car to JNU airport
    - **8:00 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

AMERICAN
LANDS
PROJECT

Emma Reidy
Senior Legislative Assistant
Rep. Ruben Gallego
1114 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Emma,

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 15th - 21st, 2024. 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