



Alaskans for Palmer Hay Flats

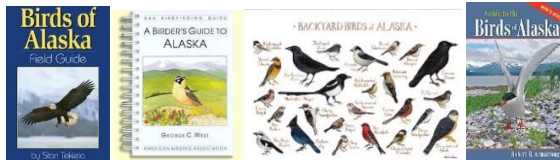
Birding at the Palmer Hay Flats

Before you go:

- Watch Videos: Birding 101 with Sheridan Alford Series on YouTube, National Audubon Society Birding 101
- Visit Websites: Cornell Lab of Ornithology website www.birds.cornell.edu, Allaboutbirds.Org, Audubon.Org, Ebird.Org

Find birdsong samples on the above websites, look for silhouette identification tools, habitats, seasonal behavior, flight patterns, and more.

- Print a free checklist of Alaska Birds:
<http://www.universityofalaskamuseumbirds.org/products/checklist.pdf>
- Get an Alaskan Bird Identification Handbook – you just need one to start.



Gather your tools:

- Binoculars
- Field Notebook for sketching birds and taking notes (Learn how to make your own here: https://youtu.be/m_7FQ6suzJk)
- Checklist of Alaska birds
- Pencil
- Bird Identification Handbook
- Optional: Camera/video recorder
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At the Palmer Hay Flats:

1. Listen for birdsong. Try to identify it.
2. Look at the habitat and the season. Think about what types of birds you may expect to see.
3. Look for bird signs – nests or woodpecker holes in trees, feathers, owl pellets and other droppings. Write notes or sketch your findings.
4. Look for birds. Identify them by shape, size, habitat, song, flight patterns, color, season, and what they are eating.
5. Take photos and videos if you like.

After your Birding experience:

Share your learning with others. Post photos on public media, tell your friends and relatives what you saw, what you felt, what you heard, and what you could smell. Tell them which birds you saw and how they behaved. Show them your notes and sketches.

Make a plan for when you will go birding again.