Support JAS at the Public Market!

Get your favorite jams and support the Juneau Audubon Society again at the Public Market. This year, JAS wares will be on sale in the JACC Annex just across the parking lot from Centennial Hall. We still need volunteers to staff our booth! Contact Patricia Wherry if you would like to help out: wherry.patricia@gmail.com (907)209-3374

Southeast Alaska Birding Trail

By Gwen Baluss

Raven readers know that Southeast Alaska offers specialties, such as high densities of Marbled Murrelets, Bald Eagles, and a shimmering summer chorus of Varied and Hermit Thrushes. They also know the challenges of birding the region, especially accessing good birding spots.

How to share this wild corner of the world with more birders? How to boost tourism with more independent, low impact travelers? How to put information from the many existing bird lists and guides in a central place? Audubon Alaska, with help from Juneau Audubon Society, and the US Forest Service, is building a virtual birding trail. This will be a web-based map with downloadable or save-to-phone options. The map will highlight known birding sites throughout the region from Yakutat to Prince of Wales Island and the local avifauna around popular attractions.

Countless locals have shared their knowledge about good places to see birds, and site visits have rated the feasibility of pointing visitors to these spots. Planning continues, with an unveiling projected by fall 2019.

Have a great tip to share? Contact Melanie Smith at masmith@audubon.org or (907) 276-7034

Get Ready for the Christmas Bird Count!

December’s monthly Juneau Audubon Society meeting is all about identifying Juneau’s winter birds. Learn from local experts and prepare to ID the birds who visit your backyard during the Christmas Bird Count. Meeting on December 13th at UAS Egan lecture hall, room 112 at 7pm. Just in time for the Christmas Bird count on December 15th!

Photo: black-billed magpie by Gwen Baluss

Upcoming Juneau Audubon Society Events:

**Alaska Bald Eagle Festival**
American Bald Eagle Foundation Haines, Alaska
Nov 7-10

**Juneau Public Market**
Join JAS at the JACC
Nov 23-25

**JAS Monthly Meeting**
Winter bird ID—get ready for the Christmas bird count!
Dec 13
Bald Eagles Return to Chilkat Valley

The Alaska Bald Eagle Festival takes place each year as eagles from all over Alaska return to the confluence of the Chilkat, Tsirku, and Klehini rivers where plentiful salmon await. A unique aquifer in the area traps warm water which percolates upward as temperatures begin to drop, resulting in a large section of the river remaining unfrozen. While other waterways in the area are host to salmon runs this time of year, the fish are often inaccessible due to freezing. This makes the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve an appealing destination. Between two and four thousand bald eagles are present on the river between November and December. Birders from around the world travel to Haines, Alaska to see this sight. The Alaska Bald Eagle Festival offers naturalist walks, interpretive programs, speakers and story-telling. 2017 Bald Eagle Festival photos by Bill McRoberts.