



2007 natural history excursions

© Ian McAllister

Cruises

FEATURE TRIP

Great Bear Rainforest

September 2 - 9, 2007

Price \$3,070 Limit 15

Journey to Canada's 21 million-acre Great Bear Rainforest (above). Representing one-quarter of the remaining

coastal temperate rainforest on Earth, this primal jewel along British Columbia's Central Coast is home to the rare and elusive, white Spirit Bear (right). During our excursion, we'll explore remote islands and inlets on watch for humpback whales, grizzly bears fishing for salmon in the estuaries, and a unique coastal subspecies of gray wolf. Local native Gitga'at guides will share their knowledge, and you will travel in safety and comfort aboard Bluewater Adventure's 68-foot *Island Roamer*.



© Bluewater Adventures



▲ A colony of chinstrap penguins, Deception Island, Antarctica

Antarctica, South Georgia and the Falkland Islands

November 15 - December 5, 2007 Price from \$10,480

Explore the great continent of Antarctica (above), one of Earth's most amazing places, on this 21-day expedition through the thrilling land of penguins, icebergs and Sir Ernest Shackleton. Sail from the wildlife-rich Falkland Islands to the little-known wonderland of South Georgia with its spectacular scenery and unforgettable sight of thousands of stately king penguins. Cruise on to Elephant Island, the Antarctic Peninsula, and finish in Ushuaia, Argentina. Zegrahm Expeditions' world-class naturalists and experts are beside you every step of the way, enhancing your experience with their insights and informal presentations on the region's natural and cultural history.

© Jason Seavers/TNC

Northwest Trips

Hells Canyon Country: Wildlife and Landscapes

May 16 - 20, 2007 Price \$995 Limit 8

Explore two of North America's most unique and wild landscapes: Hells Canyon, the deepest canyon on the continent, and Zumwalt Prairie (right), one of North America's largest remaining native grasslands. Enjoy dazzling wildflower displays and observe an astounding concentration of nesting raptors. Hike through the Imnaha River gorge's ancient geology, and learn about the Nez Perce, the original inhabitants of this spectacular landscape. Watch elk, deer, bighorn sheep – and ranchers at work – in this rugged habitat. Expert naturalists will accompany you to unravel the remarkable stories of this landscape. The Nature Conservancy is proud to offer this unique trip in partnership with Wallowa Resources. (\$150)



▲ Zumwalt Prairie Preserve in Oregon's northeast corner

© Rick McEwan

and the Lewis and Clark River. Visit two Nature Conservancy protected areas and learn about the diverse ecology and colorful history of the region. Lodging is three nights each in Seaview, Washington and Cannon Beach, Oregon. (\$250)

Crater Lake: Birds and Natural History

July 6 - 9, 2007 Price \$1,095 Limit 10

Crater Lake National Park is a spectacular setting for this trip, which explores the ornithology, geology and botany of the park with naturalist Eric Horvath. We will look for regional bird specialties such as the Clark's nutcracker (right), gray-crowned rosy finch and white-headed woodpecker, enjoy beautiful alpine wildflowers, and investigate the cataclysmic geological history of the caldera which holds one of the nation's deepest and clearest lakes. We'll also visit the Conservancy's nearby 7,440-acre Williamson River Delta Preserve. Lodging is at the historic Crater Lake Lodge on the rim. (\$150)



© Eric Horvath

"Ocean in View":

Lewis and Clark on the Pacific Coast

July 22 - 28, 2007 Price \$1,600 Limit 8

Relive the journey of Lewis and Clark in the region they explored along the Pacific Coast, including one of the newest additions to the national park system – the Lewis and Clark National and State Historical Park. Begin the week at Cape Disappointment, where Lewis and Clark finally sighted the Pacific Ocean after their arduous journey across the continent. Visit their winter quarters at Fort Clatsop, and walk in William Clark's footsteps on the new "Fort-to-Sea" trail and at Tillamook Head. Explore the region by water with easy sea kayaking on the gentle, flat waters of Willapa Bay

NEW Llama Trekking through Oregon's Wallowa Mountains

August 15 - 21, 2007 Price \$1,405 Limit 9

Enjoy spectacular alpine landscapes and stunning, unspoiled vistas as you trek through Oregon's largest protected area, the Eagle Cap Wilderness, in the heart of the rugged Wallowa Mountains. In this remote, north-eastern corner of the state, sometimes called "Oregon's Alps," mountain goats wander below granite peaks rising to nearly 10,000 feet. Well-cared-for llamas carry gear while you hike at ease through glacier-carved valleys and high mountain meadows, past pristine lakes and sparkling streams. Dine on delicious backcountry cuisine, and camp beneath the stars as experienced leaders from Wallowa Llamas guide you across this amazing terrain. (\$250)



© Raz Rasmussen

Oregon Shorebird Weekend

August 24 - 27, 2007 Price \$745 Limit 10

Immerse yourself in Oregon's fall shorebird migration at the tidal flats near Bandon with naturalist Eric Horvath. Search for wandering tattlers, Pacific golden-plovers, pectoral sandpipers and many others at key

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Rafting & Sea Kayaking



Island Sea Kayaking

March 9 - 18, 2007 Price \$1,275 Limit 15 (FULL)
 April 18 - 27, 2007 Price \$1,275 Limit 15 (FULL)
 May 8 - 17, 2007 Price \$1,275 Limit 15

Paddle amongst extraordinary desert islands in the Gulf of California, including the magnificent Isla Espiritu Santo. Snorkel with playful sea lions, and search for seabirds or one of many whale species – including blue whales – which ply these rich waters. Paddle through green grottos, cavernous amphitheaters and mangrove-lined estuaries. Marvel at forests of giant cardon cactus, and hike rainbow-colored arroyos. A support boat – complete with all camping equipment, personal gear and food for gourmet meals prepared by the crew after they set up camp – provides safe transportation to each island and accompanies at a distance. Trip leaders are experienced guides from Baja Expeditions.

Rafting the Magnificent Owyhee River

April 28 - May 2, 2007 Price \$1,155 Limit 14

Discover steep, rugged canyons and painted rock minarets, desert vistas framed by blooming wildflowers, soaring raptors and singing canyon wrens on the magnificent Owyhee, one of America's wildest remaining rivers. With over a hundred river-miles under official protection, the Owyhee provides us with an unusually pristine wilderness experience. Join Ouzel Outfitters for this amazing journey composed of quiet floating as well as some exciting whitewater rapids. Few rivers can match it for scenery, wildlife, geology or remoteness. (\$150)

Rafting the John Day: Oregon's Longest Free-Flowing River

June 4 - 8, 2007 Price \$959 Limit 12

Journey into one of Oregon's most scenic river canyons, and enjoy the relaxed pace of a free-flowing river with few rapids, stunning scenery, interesting geology and rich natural history. Federally protected as a Wild and Scenic River, the John Day (right) is the Oregon's longest undammed waterway. We travel 71 miles in five days, exploring Indian petroglyphs, historic homesteads and towering rock formations. Bird watching is exceptional and fishing for smallmouth bass can be extremely rewarding. Enjoy gourmet meals, comfortable riverside camping and in-depth interpretation on this five-day river journey with Ouzel Outfitters. (\$150)



© Ouzel Outfitters

Rafting the Wild and Scenic Rogue River: A Camping Trip

August 12 - 15, 2007 Price \$858 Limit 19

The Rogue River is the premier whitewater rafting river of the West Coast. Abundant wildlife, slippery rock slides, steep canyon walls and exciting rapids make this a spectacular adventure. Osprey, spotted sandpipers, ravens, black bear, deer and river otter are likely wildlife sightings in these diverse habitats. The Rogue was one of the original twelve rivers protected by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Enjoy camping on the banks of this magical river throughout this four-day adventure with Ouzel Outfitters. (\$100)

Northwest Trips

(continued from page 1)

conservation sites protected with the Conservancy's help. A pelagic boat trip offers the opportunity to see black-footed albatrosses, fulmars, shearwaters and other birds rarely seen from land. (\$100)



▲ Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park, California

© George Baetjer

Walking the Redwood Coast

September 30 - October 6, 2007 Price \$1,400 Limit 8

Walk among the legendary redwood forests of California's northern coast, some of largest living things on earth. Enjoy warm fall weather and uncrowded trails as we trek through national and state parks featuring a mixture of old growth forest and scenic coastal trails. Visit two Nature Conservancy cooperative projects: Lanphere Dunes, the most pristine dune ecosystem on the West Coast, and Crook Point, a spectacular coastal headland not normally open to the public. Join experienced guide and walking tour leader George Baetjer on this magical trip. (\$250)

Trips beyond Oregon

Hawai'i: Birding Kaua'i

March 8 - 14, 2007 Price \$2,350 Limit 9
 March 17 - 23, 2007 Price \$2,350 Limit 9

Take a break from winter to enjoy the warmth and beauty of Kaua'i, the westernmost and oldest of the Hawaiian Islands. Search for a variety of birds including endemics like 'Apapane and Nene (Hawaiian goose, right), as well as Moli (Laysan albatross), 'A (brown- and red-footed boobies) and 'Iwa (great frigatebird). Walk trails in the mountain highlands, visit the stunning gorge of Waimea Canyon, snorkel and watch for whales along the spectacular cliffs of the Na Pali Coast, and relax on the beach. Take an optional extension to bird the Big Island, March 14-17. Join expert birder Eric Horvath on this tropical expedition. (\$300)



© Herb Andrews

Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Base Camp

June 20 - 25, 2007 Price \$2,950 Limit 5
 June 25 - 30, 2007 Price \$2,950 Limit 5
 June 30 - July 5, 2007 Price \$2,950 Limit 5

Explore the wild, coastal plain of "America's Serengeti," Alaska's 19-million-acre Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, in search of grizzly bears, wolves, wolverines, arctic and red foxes, and some of the 120,000 caribou migrating from Canada each summer to bear their calves. Enjoy day hikes across the tundra looking for more than 70 species of migrating birds, including yellow wagtails from Borneo and American golden plovers from Argentina. Join an experienced guide from Wilderness Birding Adventures on this journey to the "biological heart" of the refuge. (\$200*)

Veracruz River of Raptors

September 28 - October 6, 2007
 Price \$2,100 Limit 15

Witness one of the world's greatest migrations, the Veracruz River of Raptors, when over five million raptors soar along the coast near this historic Mexican port city. On a good day, over 100,000 raptors and vultures can be seen, and occasionally over 500,000 are counted! Look for some of the 540 bird species known to central Veracruz, including over 25 endemics, as well as the passerine and waterbird migration, estimated at over 10 million each fall. Visit a bat cave where approximately 250,000 bats emerge. Tour archaeological sites, including La Antigua and Cempoala, where Hernan Cortez had his first Spanish colony, and visit the world-renowned Archaeological Museum in Xalapa. Explore a variety of habitats from sea level to over 6,000 feet including tropical thorn forest, coastal lagoons, cloud forest, shade coffee plantations and pine-oak forest. Join experienced guides from Pronatura Veracruz for this breathtaking natural event. (\$300)



© Pronatura Veracruz

About Our Naturalists & Guides

George Baetjer is an experienced naturalist with photography credits including two decades teaching college and community education courses and publication in several calendars, books and *Oregon Coast Magazine*. George will be an insightful guide during your visits to Lewis and Clark's Pacific Coast and California's redwoods.



calls. Eric's zoology degree and his interests in botany and geology combine to make your Hawai'i, Crater Lake and Oregon coast trips memorable birding experiences.



Since 1996, nonprofit organization **Wallowa Resources** has worked to blend the ecological needs of the land with the economic needs of the community to preserve Wallowa County's heritage of making a living from the land.



Pioneers of adventure travel in Baja California, Mexico, **Baja Expeditions, Inc.** has been offering a variety of eco-expeditions for over 25 years. Working with local people to set a warm tone for your travel, accommodating staff take care of all daily details and provide a truly catered sea kayaking expedition.



BAJA • EXPEDITIONS

One of British Columbia's original ecotour companies, **Bluewater Adventures** has been operating small group excursions to Canada's coastal wilderness since 1974. Focused on learning, experiencing and enjoying wildlife and native culture, their experienced staff will help make your Great Bear Rainforest cruise unforgettable.



Having conducted extensive ornithological research, **Eric Horvath's** birding experience has given him exceptional abilities to identify birds by their songs and

Ouzel Outfitters has offered premier wilderness vacations on Northwest rivers for over two decades. Dedicated to the Conservancy's mission of biodiversity preservation, the company continually strives to protect places visited. Experience Ouzel Outfitters' professionalism, attention to safety and dedication to customer service while you ride the magnificent Owyhee, John Day and Rogue rivers.



Founded in 1981, **Pronatura** is a Mexican non-profit organization whose mission is the conservation of flora, fauna and priority ecosystems promoting society's development in harmony with nature. Their local, experienced staff will guide you through Veracruz's breathtaking raptor event



For more than two decades, **Wallowa Llamas** has conducted small, guided tours into Oregon's largest wilderness area, the Eagle Cap. Dedicated staff work together to provide an enjoyable and educational outdoor experience while having a minimal impact on the area's fragile alpine environment.



Motivated by the natural world's endless possibilities, **Wilderness Birding Adventures** has been dedicated to the exploration, conservation and sharing of Alaska's profoundly rich environment since 1986. Founding husband and wife owners Bob Dittrick and Lisa Moorehead direct knowledgeable and skilled guides to provide deeply rewarding, safe and fun exploration of the amazing Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.



Zegrahm Expeditions specializes in expert-led excursions to remote locations around the world. Aboard a variety of vessels including icebreakers, specially-designed expedition ships and elegant sailing yachts, their unique, small-group voyages are led by seasoned experts and feature renowned lecturers. Come aboard for an awe-inspiring cruise to Antarctica, South Georgia and the Falkland Islands.



Please send me more information on the following natural history excursions in 2007:

Cruises:

- Great Bear Rainforest September 2 - 9
- Antarctica, South Georgia and the Falkland Islands November 15 - December 5

Northwest Trips:

- Hells Canyon Country: Wildlife and Landscapes May 16 - 20
- Crater Lake: Birds and Natural History July 6 - 9
- "Ocean in View": Lewis and Clark on the Pacific Coast July 22 - 28
- Llama Trekking through Oregon's Wallowa Mountains August 15 - 21
- Oregon Shorebird Weekend August 24 - 27
- Walking the Redwood Coast September 30 - October 6

Trips beyond Oregon:

- Hawai'i: Birding Kaua'i March 8 - 14 or March 17 - 23
- Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Base Camp June 20 - 25 or June 25 - 30 or June 30 - July 5
- Veracruz River of Raptors September 28 - October 6

Rafting & Sea Kayaking:

- Island Sea Kayaking March 9 - 18 (FULL) or April 18 - 27 (FULL) or May 8 - 17
- Rafting the Magnificent Owyhee River April 28 - May 2
- Rafting the John Day: Oregon's Longest Free-Flowing River June 4 - 8
- Rafting the Wild and Scenic Rogue River: A Camping Trip August 12 - 15

If your name and address are listed correctly on the reverse side, there is no need to repeat them here. However, please include a phone number in case we need to call you.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Questions? Contact Jason Seivers, Field Trip Program Manager, The Nature Conservancy in Oregon

P.O. Box 1464, Cannon Beach, OR 97110 Phone: 503 436-2022 E-mail: excursions@tnc.org Web: nature.org/oregon



SAVING THE LAST GREAT PLACES ON EARTH

2007 natural history excursions

Dear Friends and Fellow Travelers,

I am happy to present you with this exciting list of natural history excursions for 2007! The Nature Conservancy in Oregon has been creating remarkable nature-based experiences for our members since the late 1980s, and we are excited to continue this tradition.



▲ Jason Seivers, field trip manager, amidst a sea of king penguins on South Georgia Island

Back by popular demand is the trip many consider the ultimate natural history excursion – *Antarctica, South Georgia and the Falkland Islands*. The site of 100,000 king penguins, thousands of marine mammals and brilliant icy landscapes are some of the highlights on this voyage to the White Continent. We're also thrilled to offer several new trips, including a voyage to the *Great Bear Rainforest* along the coast of British Columbia in search of the rare Spirit Bear; a birding trip to the Hawaiian island of Kauai; and, a wildlife extravaganza along Mexico's Gulf Coast to witness the awesome migration spectacle known as the *Veracruz River of Raptors*, where up to 500,000 raptors and vultures can be seen in a single day!

Escape winter's chill for the warmth and sun of sea kayaking along the islands off southern Baja, or visit the unspoiled wilderness of Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Enjoy some excitement while rafting Oregon's Owyhee, John Day or Rogue rivers, or explore the high country of Hells Canyon and The Nature Conservancy's Zumwalt Prairie Preserve. Walk amongst the legendary giant trees of California's redwood forests, or – if you prefer four-legged walking companions – come llama trekking through the Wallowa Mountains' alpine beauty.

In addition, you'll find two wonderful opportunities to enjoy the Oregon coast. Join us for shorebird watching on the south coast, or follow the path of Lewis and Clark along the north coast as you retrace their route along the Pacific Ocean. Last, but certainly not least, experience the jaw-dropping beauty of Oregon's crown jewel as you discover the birds and natural history of Crater Lake.

Our mission is to provide Conservancy members and their friends with educational vacations that allow participants to re-connect with the natural world and re-ignite their love of nature. It is our hope that, through these trips, your knowledge of the diversity of life will grow and, accordingly, your dedication to preserving it will strengthen. All our trips are led by experienced naturalists and outfitters who consistently receive rave reviews. The costs listed for most of our trips include a suggested tax-deductible contribution to The Nature Conservancy to help protect the diversity of life you enjoy in Oregon and the places we visit.

If you have any questions, feel free to call me at 503 436-2022 or send an e-mail to excursions@tnc.org. Or you may visit our web site at nature.org/oregon to view brochures online. I hope you will be able to join us for an adventure in 2007!

Jason A. Seivers, field trip program manager



© Robert Straub

▲ Laughing falcons are one of over 500 bird species seen during Mexico's famed Veracruz River migration.



© George Baetjer

▲ Ecola State Park, "the grandest and most pleasing prospect" ever surveyed by Lewis and Clark



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