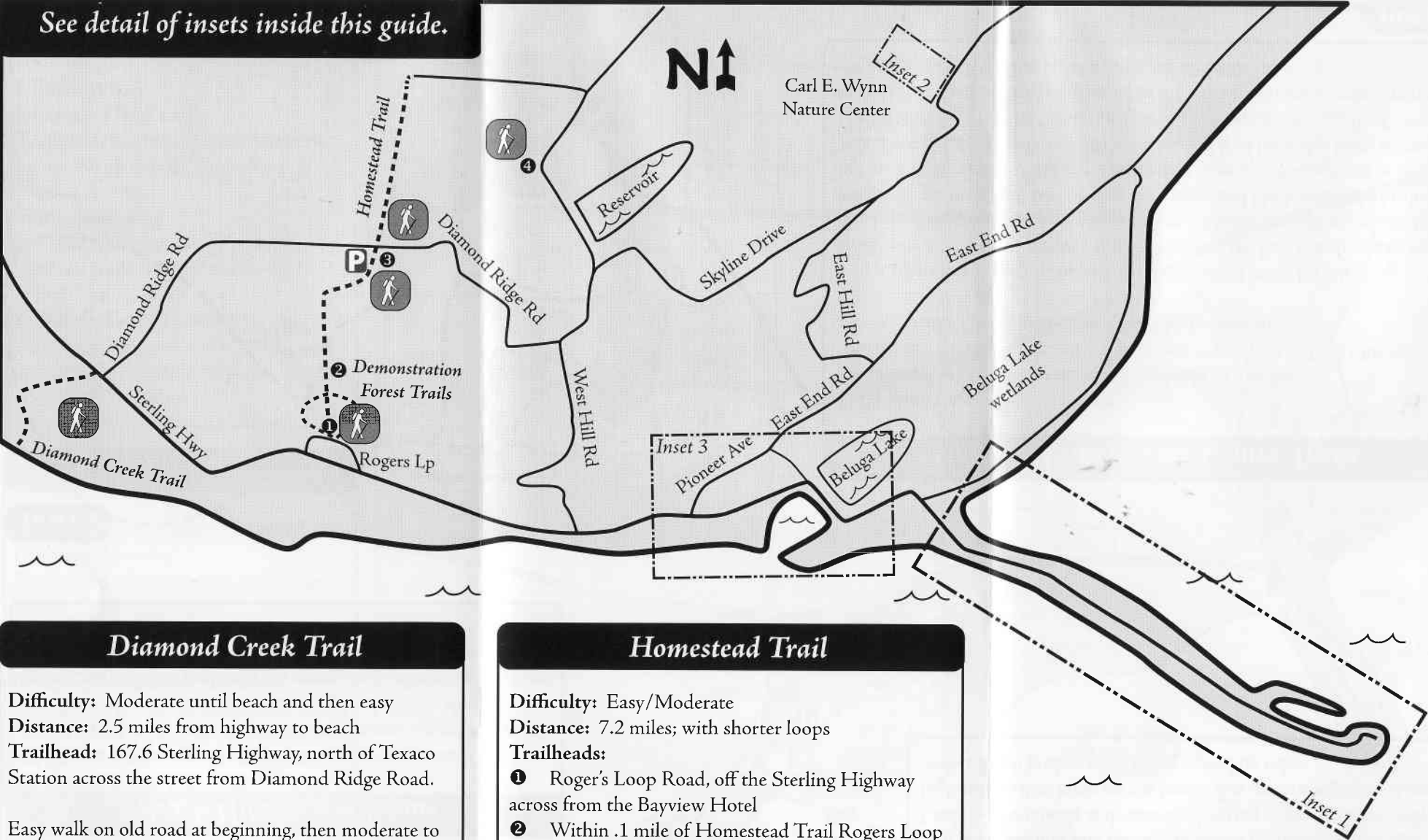


See detail of insets inside this guide.



### Diamond Creek Trail

**Difficulty:** Moderate until beach and then easy  
**Distance:** 2.5 miles from highway to beach  
**Trailhead:** 167.6 Sterling Highway, north of Texaco Station across the street from Diamond Ridge Road.

Easy walk on old road at beginning, then moderate to steep downhill hike, then rough and steep and possibly muddy down a gulch. Trail emerges at the beach mid-way between Anchor Point and Bishop's Beach, a total distance of 15 miles. The hike in either direction should take about four hours at a moderate pace but be sure to plan it around the low tide to avoid being cut off. Look for sea ducks, eagles, otters, whales, and rocky areas for tidepooling in direction of Bishop's Beach.

### Homestead Trail

**Difficulty:** Easy/Moderate  
**Distance:** 7.2 miles; with shorter loops  
**Trailheads:**

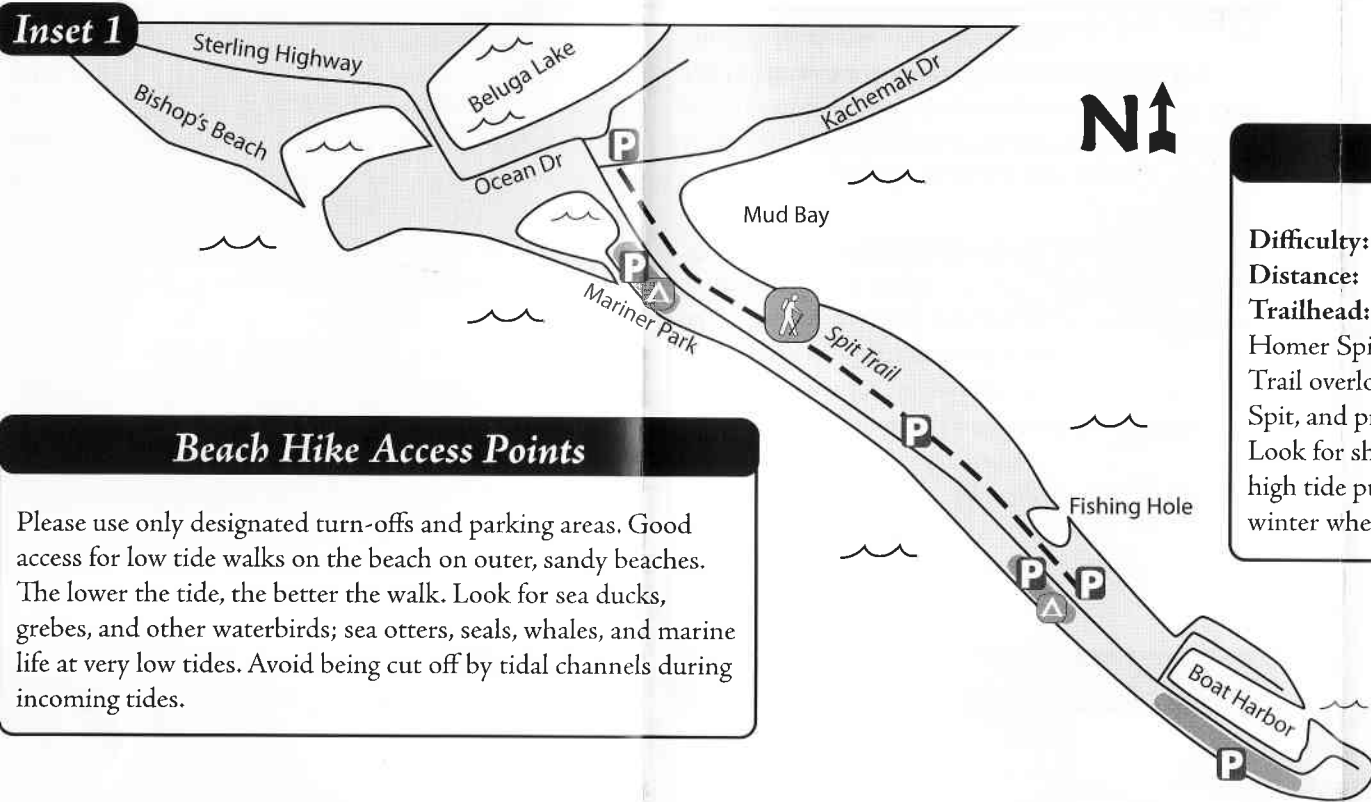
- ① Roger's Loop Road, off the Sterling Highway across from the Bayview Hotel
- ② Within .1 mile of Homestead Trail Rogers Loop trailhead, look for the self-guided Homer Demonstration Forest Nature Loop Trail.
- ③ Rucksack Road, parking lot on the south side of Diamond Ridge Road.
- ④ North end of Bridge Creek Reservoir Road off Skyline Drive.

Coastal wildflower meadows, forested areas, boggy areas with boardwalks, open, grassy slopes; tall grass fields, and alder thickets. Great views. Look for songbirds, moose and black bears.

### Other Area Trails

**Caribou Lake Trail**  
7.5 mile trail to be completed, fall, 2005.  
Trailhead on Circle Lake Road north of East End Road.

Map available at <http://www.homerswcd.org>

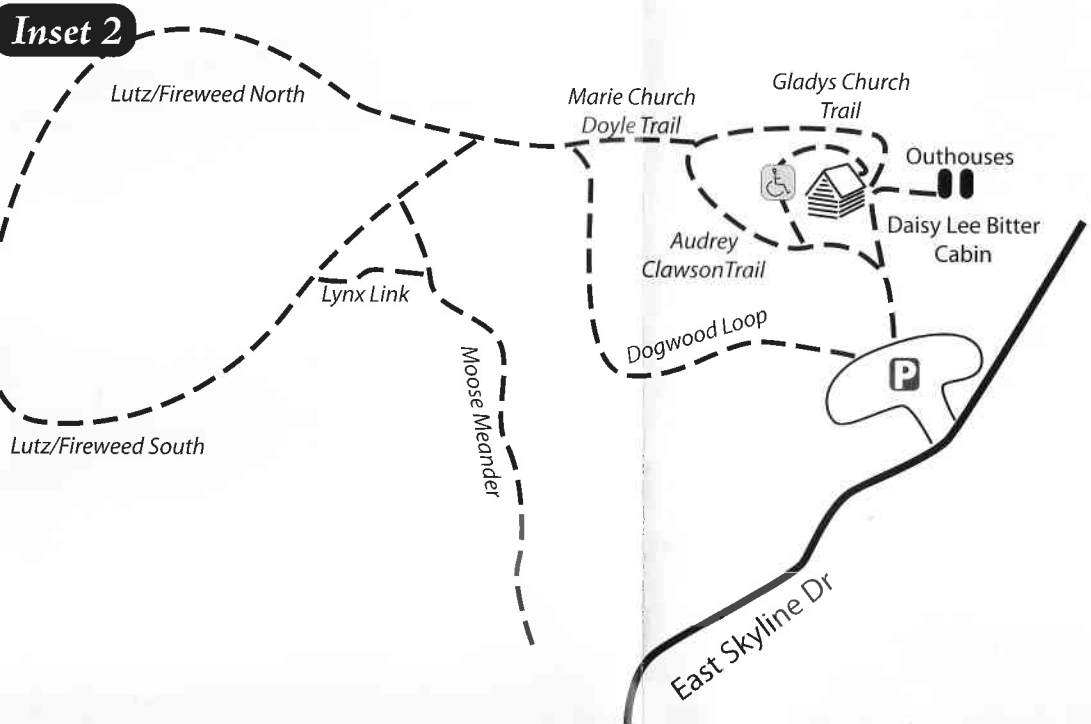


**Homer Spit Trail**

**Difficulty:** Easy (paved)  
**Distance:** 3.2 miles to Fishing Hole, 4 miles to harbor  
**Trailhead:** Parking area across Kachemak Drive at base of Homer Spit Road.  
 Trail overlooks Mud Bay, a birding hot spot at the base of the Spit, and provides safe pedestrian access to the end of the Spit. Look for shorebirds and waterfowl during migration, especially as high tide pushes birds up the beach. Sea otters congregate during winter when broken ice is being moved by tides.

**Beach Hike Access Points**

Please use only designated turn-offs and parking areas. Good access for low tide walks on the beach on outer, sandy beaches. The lower the tide, the better the walk. Look for sea ducks, grebes, and other waterbirds; sea otters, seals, whales, and marine life at very low tides. Avoid being cut off by tidal channels during incoming tides.



**Carl E. Wynn Nature Center Trails**

**Difficulty:** Easy  
**Distance:** Variable, 800' accessible boardwalk to 3 miles.  
**Trailhead:** Parking lot on left 1.5 mile east of junction of East Hill and Skyline Drive. Check in at cabin, June 15 - Labor Day.

Open 10-6 daily during summer with daily guided hikes highlighting wildflowers, forest ecology, area history, views of the bay, and the many uses of native Alaskan plants. Self-guided hikes available, including a marked loop with guide. Migration corridor for moose and black bears and birding hot spot with variety of habitats for greatest diversity of songbirds in the area. Porcupines, weasels, snowshoe hares, and lynx have also been spotted. Use fee supports Nature Center programs and management by the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies. Also open for winter recreation with a marked snowshoe trail For more information, call 235-6667.

## Pratt Museum Trail

**Difficulty:** Easy  
**Distance:** 1/3 of a mile  
**Trailhead:** Behind the Pratt Museum, on the left up Bartlett Street from Pioneer Avenue.

Self-guided forest ecology trail with markers, guide, and occasional outdoor art exhibits. Look for moose and songbirds. Trail may be muddy after a rain. Botanical garden with good diversity of labeled native plants is in front of the museum.

## Beluga Slough Trails

**Difficulty:** Easy (boardwalk/gravel)  
**Distance:** 0.6 miles

**Trailheads:** Alaska Islands and Ocean Visitor Center parking lot, East end of Bunnell Avenue, Bishop's Beach parking lot. Interpretive boardwalk trail winds through forest and salt marsh habitats and overlooks Beluga Slough, a birding hot spot for shorebirds and waterfowl, particularly during migration.

## Coastal Trail (Beach Walk)

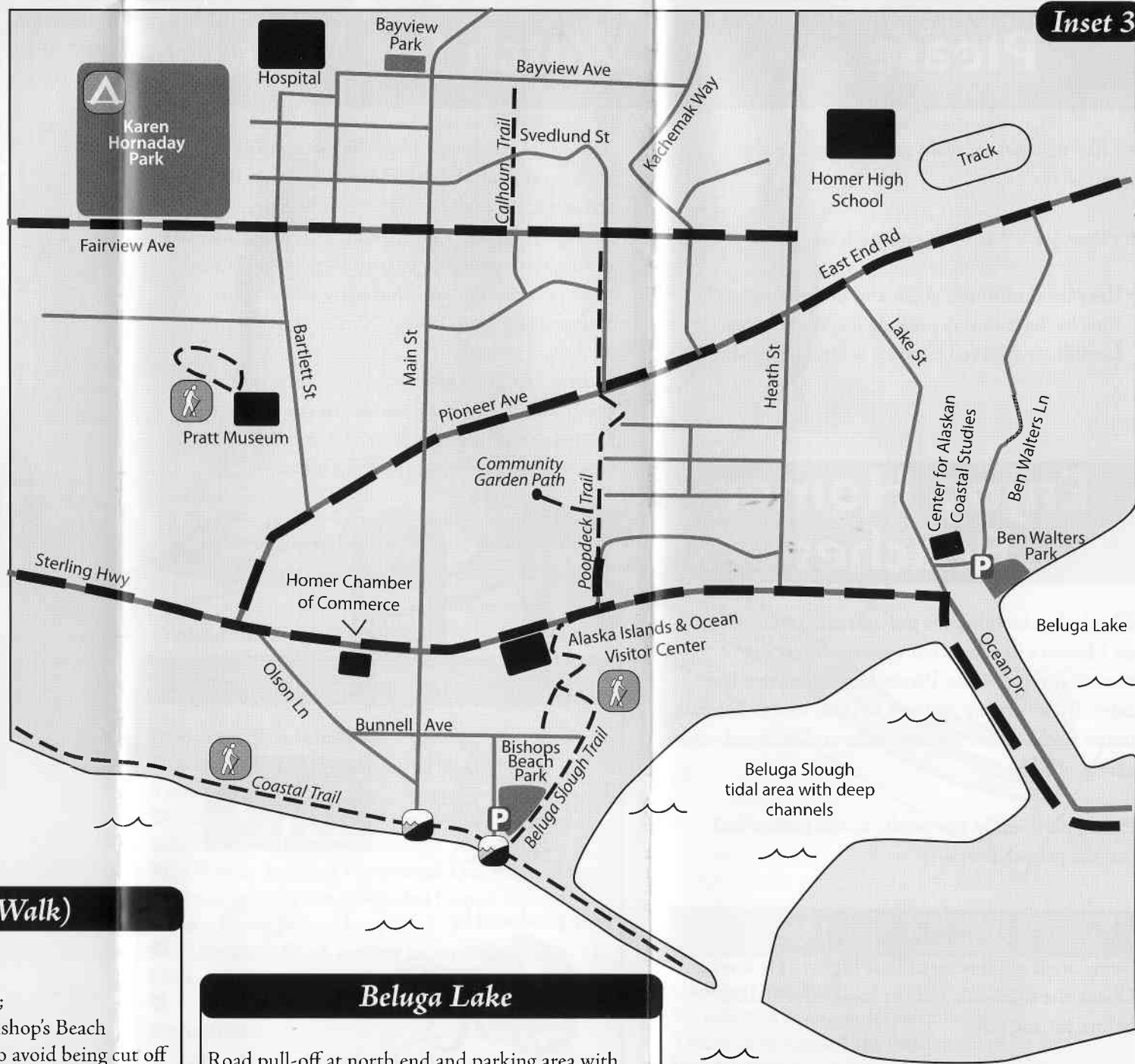
**Difficulty:** Easy, on sand or cobble,  
**Distance:** 7.5 miles to Diamond Creek trail;  
 15 miles to Anchor Point from Bishop's Beach  
 No defined trail. Be sure to plan your hike to avoid being cut off by rising tides. Some stream crossings.

Look for sea ducks, eagles, otters, whales, and rocky areas for tidepooling at extreme low tides.

## Beluga Lake

Road pull-off at north end and parking area with short trail to small dock behind McDonald's.

Waterfowl, including swans, during migration. Look for nesting red-necked grebes.



**Inset 3**

- Sidewalk or Walkable Shoulder
- Trail
- Beach Access

# Please . . .

# Watch for Wildlife

# Walking Guide to the Homer Area

- Hike on existing trails and respect private property.
- Please pack out what you pack in.
- Recycle aluminum, glass, and newspaper in the bins in the Safeway parking lot, the Homer landfill; or McNeil Canyon school dumpster area

You could encounter black bears on trails and moose on trails. Both can be dangerous. Be on the alert and make noise to avoid surprises. Always yield the "right of way" particularly to cow moose with calves or bear sows with cubs. Keep your pets under control or leave them home. Respect city leash laws.

Homer is a great place to watch birds on the bay, on mudflats and beaches, and in the forest. Look for the *Homer Birding Map & Guide* brochure to find out about the most likely spots.

## Enjoy Homer Beaches

Check the tidebook for the extreme minus tides on Homer's beaches that expose a diversity of marine invertebrates. Please handle marine life carefully, returning animals to their micro-habitats under rocks and replacing rocks and seaweed cover gently.

Please park safely, use public access points and respect private property.

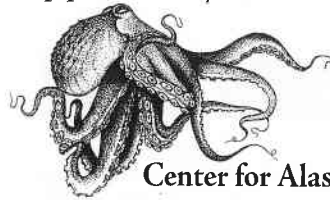
### WARNING!

Some areas are inaccessible at higher tide levels. Check the tidebook and get local information before setting out.

Financial support for this map provided by  
Alaska Conservation Foundation  
Watchable Wildlife Trust



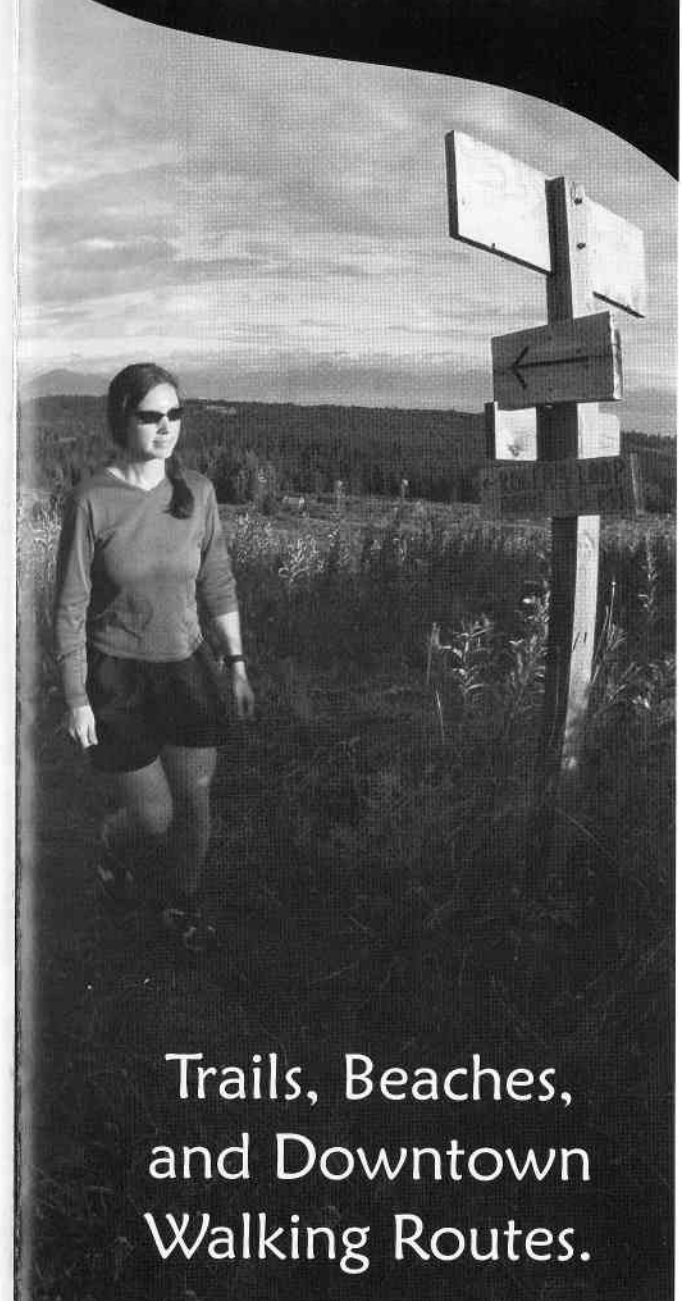
Map produced by



Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies  
(907) 235-6667

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Trails, Beaches,  
and Downtown  
Walking Routes.