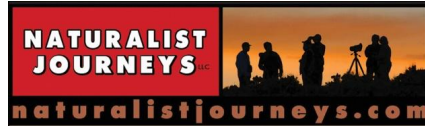


Northern Passages and Glacier Bay Cruise Species List | July 11-18, 2026 with Naturalist Journeys



Compiled by guide Bryan Calk with Margo, Kevin, David, Sarah, Anne, Frank, Tony, Ann, Janet, Debby, Larry, and Vicky

Our journey through Southeast Alaska took us from Sitka to Juneau through a remarkable mix of rainforest, fjords, wildlife-rich bays, and active glacial landscapes. We began among the totem poles and towering Sitka Spruce of Sitka National Historical Park before heading out by ship into protected inlets where Humpback Whales, Sea Otters, Marbled Murrelets, Bald Eagles, loons, and Sitka Black-tailed Deer became regular companions. Some of the most memorable moments came unexpectedly, including Leach's Storm-Petrels resting on glassy water in Sukoi Inlet and watching Coastal Brown Bears feeding on returning salmon at Hidden Falls Hatchery.

Farther north, the scenery grew increasingly dramatic as we entered Glacier Bay National Park. South Marble Island was alive with Tufted and Horned Puffins, Common Murres, cormorants, Black Oystercatchers, and Steller Sea Lions, while Mountain Goats climbed the cliffs at Gloomy Knob. We cruised among floating ice toward Johns Hopkins Glacier, explored around Lamplugh Glacier by skiff and on foot, and found Kittlitz's Murrelets and a family of Willow Ptarmigan along the way. Our final day in Neka Bay brought beautiful sunshine, calm water, and time to enjoy the Tongass rainforest before a final captain's dinner together, bringing an incredible week of wildlife, scenery, and good company to a close.

BIRDS (61):

During the trip, sixty-one species were recorded of which eight were heard only, one was endemic and two were introduced. Details are included below.

The eBird link below details the 61 species of birds our group observed during the tour. If you're new to eBird, be sure to click "Show All Details" on the right side of the list to expand the report and reveal where and when each of the birds were seen and how many.

[Northern Passages and Glacier Bay Cruise | July 11-18, 2026 | eBird Trip Report](#)

MAMMALS (10):

Gray Whale *Eschrichtius robustus* – Several feeding in Sitka Sound on our first evening, with repeated views of blows and tail flukes.

Humpback Whale *Megaptera novaeangliae* – Seen regularly throughout the voyage, including animals surfacing and feeding around Kalinin Bay and Peril Strait.

Dall's Porpoise *Phocoenoides dalli* – Seen while cruising into Saook Bay, moving rapidly through the water near the ship.

Sitka Black-tailed Deer *Odocoileus hemionus sitkensis* – Seen along the forested shoreline in Sukoi Inlet and Saook Bay.

Sea Otter *Enhydra lutris* – Common in protected coastal waters throughout the trip, especially in Kalinin Bay and Glacier Bay.

Coastal Brown Bear *Ursus arctos* – Several memorable sightings, including a sow with three cubs along Peril Strait and exceptionally close views of bears catching returning salmon at Hidden Falls Hatchery.

Hoary Marmot *Marmota caligata* – Seen and heard during one of the shore excursions in Glacier Bay National Park.

Harbor Seal *Phoca vitulina* – Seen hauled out along rocky shorelines, including around Kalinin Bay and Kasnyku Bay.

Steller Sea Lion *Eumetopias jubatus* – Large numbers hauled out on South Marble Island in Glacier Bay.

Mountain Goat *Oreamnos americanus* – Seen climbing the steep slopes of Gloomy Knob in Glacier Bay, including a female with a kid.