



VICINITY MAP

The Palmer Hay Flats Game Refuge is 45 square miles of wetlands, tidal sloughs, forest, and lakes located within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The Refuge encompasses the upper reaches of Knik Arm and portions of the Knik and Matanuska rivers. It is located within close proximity to over half of Alaska's residents.

Ducks, geese, sandhill cranes, moose, muskrats, salmon, and many other birds, mammal and fish call it home. It is because of this rich diversity of habitat and wildlife, as well as its natural beauty, that many Alaskans from all walks of life and recreational interest enjoy this most important and cherished place.

Unique among Alaska's game refuges is the rich and diverse history of Palmer Hay Flats. Alaska Native, Russian and American exploration and colony farming provide a rich and diverse historical background to the vibrant physical beauty of this place we enjoy today.

Alaskans for Palmer Hay Flats is a 503(c)(3) non-profit corporation working in concert with the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, other government agencies, conservation organizations and local communities for the benefit of habitat integrity and public enjoyment of the Refuge. APHF members participate in work projects and sponsor educational and recreational events for all ages.

Alaskans for Palmer Hay Flats are embarking on an effort to realize a much needed Natural Science Education/Community Center, to be located near the Refuge's Cottonwood Creek Access. Contained within this brochure is a concept

master plan for the possible full development of this facility, components of which would be determined by community needs over time. The initial phase is depicted in this document and consists of:

Main Center Building

- Grand Hall, a gathering space with interpretive information, views to the refuge, reception counter, and access to exterior deck.
- Multipurpose space, useable as classrooms or meeting space
- Office space, for APHF, ADF&G and/or other rentable space to conservation-based organizations
- Outdoor deck, partially sheltered for outdoor educational programs and events
- Kitchen, Caretaker's Residence and other support space

Parking/Entry

- Passenger car parking for visitors and staff
- Parking for up to 3 school buses
- Entry Shelter for orientation and welcome

Site Features

- Two amphitheatres for outdoor educational programs
- Initial interpretive trails

