Greetings, Youth of the Chugach National Forest!

- Interested in learning what it takes to protect Alaska’s natural resources?
- Want to kayak among icebergs, seals, and sea otters? Ready to apply your elbow grease to volunteer work projects?
- Think you’d enjoy camping on a beach for 8 nights? Well here is your opportunity – Come try it out!

Apply for the Habitat Restoration Expedition!
Students from around Alaska will spend ten days kayaking, camping, and volunteering in Chugach National Forest. Participants work with US Forest Service scientists and rangers on projects such as invasive species management, marine debris removal, and campsite restoration. Learn about native plants and wildlife from experts. Develop wilderness skills while exploring and having fun in and around Prince William Sound. No experience necessary. This trip is for those who love adventure and a challenge!

GRADE LEVEL: Current 9-12 OR HOMESCHOOL EQUIVALENT
EXPEDITION DATES: There are 3 trips to choose from, either May 31-June 9, June 14-23, or July 10-19.

HOW DID I GET SO LUCKY?
Four Valleys Community School has been asked to partner in this project and award three Girdwood, Bird, Indian or Portage students to go on an expedition. If this sounds like the right kind of adventure for you, you’re in high school, and you’re available for an entire trip, fill out the application form and return it to Four Valleys Community School by April 5, 2013. We will set up an interview, and tell you if you are accepted or on the waitlist by 4/20/13.

DEADLINES
Youth and their families are expected to meet the following deadlines to confirm participation:
- Return Application Form to Four Valleys Community School on or before April 5, 2013.
- Return Student Paperwork Packet by May 1, 2013. (Mailed to you upon acceptance.)
- Attend a required meeting (via phone if necessary) to discuss trip details (May, Date TBA).
PROGRAM COST
Thanks to the US Forest Service and our many partners, these life-changing programs are free of charge. Participants are expected to cover travel costs to starting points in Anchorage or Whittier and to provide the clothing and gear they need for the trip (list will be provided). Limited assistance with travel and gear may be available by contacting Alaska Geographic before April 30, 2013.

CANCELLATION POLICY
Please let us know immediately if you must cancel so we can offer a place to another student.

ACTIVITY EXPECTATIONS AND PHYSICAL FITNESS
Participants in all Youth Expeditions receive active learning experiences in remote locations on water and land in Prince William Sound. Students must be capable walkers, in good health, and equipped for Alaska’s often-unpredictable weather (gear list will be provided). Participants will camp in tents on undeveloped coastal areas and will kayak between campsites and worksites. Kayaking requires some upper body strength and the ability to sit for long periods. Work projects will be moderately demanding and/or include repetitive motion. Weather can include periods of rain. Participants should therefore be in good physical condition and prepared for all weather conditions.

INSURANCE AND LIABILITY
Participants should have their own health and accident insurance. Alaska Geographic and its coordinating partners act only in the capacity of agents and instructors in all matters relating to transportation and all other related travel services. We assume no responsibility for injury, loss or damage to person or property in connection with any service or program. All participants will be asked to read and sign an Acknowledgment of Risk Form and complete the Health Form within the final packet of participant paperwork. Alaska Geographic shares liability for the Habitat Restoration Expeditions with Chugach School District.

Visit the “Chugach Children’s Forest” YouTube channel and www.chugachchildrensforest.org to see clips from past trips!

These programs are part of the Chugach Children’s Forest (www.chugachchildrensforest.org). They are made possible by generous grants and donations from key partners:
THE CHUGACH CHILDREN’S FOREST
2013 PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND YOUTH EXPEDITIONS
Student Application Form

Yes! I’m currently in Grade 9-12 and I would like to participate in one of the Habitat Restoration Expeditions this summer. (Please rank the trips by your preference 1 to 3 or n/a.)

☐ May 31-June 9  ☐ June 14-23  ☐ July 10-19

Name on official ID - First, Middle, and Last Name: ____________________________________________________________

Date of Birth: ______________________ Age: __________ Current Grade: __________________________

School you attend: ________________________________________________________________

Your Contact Information

Home phone #____________ Your cell #____________ Your email ________________________________

Home address (where you live) ________________________________________________________________

Guardian #1 (The best adult to contact: Mom, Dad, Grandma, etc)

Name ____________________________ Relationship to you ________________________________

Address ________________________________________________________________________________

Home phone # ______________ Cell phone # ______________ Email ________________________________

Guardian #2 (A second adult we can contact)

Name ____________________________ Relationship to you ________________________________

Address ________________________________________________________________________________

Home phone # ______________ Cell phone # ______________ Email ________________________________

Please list ALL other relevant phone #’s and to whom they belong:

Participant Signature: ___________________________ Date: __________________

Parent/Guardian Signature: ___________________________ Date: __________________

Return this form to the Four Valleys Community Schools office located in the Girdwood School (PO Box 790, Girdwood, AK 99587). We will submit it to Alaska Geographic.

Once students are nominated and submit an application, we will prioritize participants by those who meet the criteria and by their availability. Accepted students will be contacted by 4/20. Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee that everyone who applies will be able to participate. We will keep an active waiting list in case spots open up. Once accepted, students and guardians will be sent a paperwork packet that must be completed to confirm a spot.