



Discovering Southeast Alaska: Connections Between Culture, Community, Climate, & Conservation **Resources List from Trip Scholars Drs. Stephanie & John Lovseth**

As we journey through Southeast Alaska's spectacular landscapes - towering glaciers, ancient forests, and vibrant coastal communities - it's important to recognize that we are entering a region where nature, culture, and sustainability are deeply intertwined.

The forces shaping Southeast Alaska today, such as, climate change, cultural resilience, ecosystem stewardship, and community ingenuity, are powerful, complex, and very much alive. Understanding these dynamics helps us see the landscape more deeply, appreciate the human and ecological stories embedded in each place, and think about our own relationships to community, sustainability, and stewardship back home.

We offer the following readings and videos to help prepare for a richer, more connected experience during the trip. They are meant to be accessible, thought-provoking, and balanced - regardless of background - inviting us all into meaningful reflection and discussion as we explore this incredible region together.

RESOURCES LIST

[Across the Shaman's River: John Muir, the Tlingit Stronghold, and the Opening of the North](#) (Daniel Lee Henry) - book

A compelling narrative about early encounters between John Muir and the Tlingit people, offering historical context for Glacier Bay and Indigenous sovereignty.

[Glacier Bay's Glacial History](#) (National Park Service) - website

Traces Glacier Bay's geological transformations and Indigenous presence through changing climates and cultures.

[The Nature of Southeast Alaska: A Guide to Plants, Animals, and Habitats](#) (Rita O'Clair and Robert H. Armstrong) - book

A field guide to Southeast Alaska's rich biodiversity; ideal for on-trip reference to plants, animals, and natural phenomena.

[The Salmon Forest | Tongass National Forest - Alaska Nature Documentary](#) (Sitka Conservation Society) - video, 30 min.

The Salmon Forest is a 30-minute documentary film that explores the connection between wild salmon and life in Alaska's Tongass National Forest, the largest national forest in the United States.

[The Tongass National Forest: America's Climate & Salmon Forest](#) (Sitka Conservation Society) - website

Highlights the Tongass as a global climate asset and vibrant habitat, touching on environmental challenges and conservation efforts.

[Tlingit History: An Introduction](#) (Haines Sheldon Museum) - website

An overview of the Tlingit people, whose enduring stewardship and culture are vital to Southeast Alaska's identity.

[Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World](#) (Katharine Hayhoe) - book

An uplifting and accessible book on how to foster hope, dialogue, and action on climate change, emphasizing the power of personal connection, relevant to Alaska and beyond.

[Southeast Alaska Sustainability Strategy](#) (USDA Forest Service) - video, 11 min.

Describes a regional partnership that blends forest conservation, Indigenous leadership, and economic sustainability - essential context for understanding the Tongass today.