



Campbell Tract

Watchable Wildlife

This 730-acre area is a wildlife oasis in the middle of Anchorage. Walk, jog, bike, ski, dog mush, or ride horses on trails that wind along Campbell Creek and through bright white birch trees and dark evergreens. Look for evidence of the many animals that call this place home.



Bob Wick, BLM

Habitats Boreal forest | Shrubland | Riverine/riparian

Species to See



BLM

Salmon - Every year, adult salmon return from the ocean and swim through the city of Anchorage to spawn. King (Chinook), red (sockeye) and silver (coho) salmon all spawn in Campbell Creek. The young that hatch from these eggs stay in the creek until they are big enough to swim to the ocean. Approximately 3,800 silver salmon return to Campbell Creek each year, making them the most abundant salmon in the creek.



Brian Gratwicke

American dipper - Find North America's only aquatic songbird hunting for aquatic invertebrates in the clear, fast-moving Campbell Creek. This bird hunts underwater by grabbing and walking on the stream floor with its feet, or swimming upstream with its wings. The dipper is named for the up and down bobbing movement it makes when it perches.



Donna Dewhurst, USFWS

Red squirrel - This small, rust-colored rodent lives in spruce forests around Alaska, munching on spruce cone seeds. Red squirrels spend their days collecting green spruce cones and storing them in large piles, called middens, so that they have food all winter long. Squirrels release sharp, chattering alarm sounds when intruders enter their territory.



Bob Wick, BLM

Moose - The moose that live in Alaska and the Yukon are the biggest moose in the world. These giants munch on all sorts of leafy vegetation in the summer and then switch to eating the woody twigs of willow and birch in winter. Male moose are identifiable most of the year by their antlers, which they shed and regrow seasonally. Look for females with small calves beginning in mid-May.



- Brown bear
- Black bear
- Canada lynx
- Coyote
- Porcupine
- Snowshoe hare
- Boreal chickadee
- Great horned owl
- Hermit thrush
- Ruby-crowned kinglet
- Slate-colored junco
- Spruce grouse
- Varied thrush
- Yellow-rumped warbler



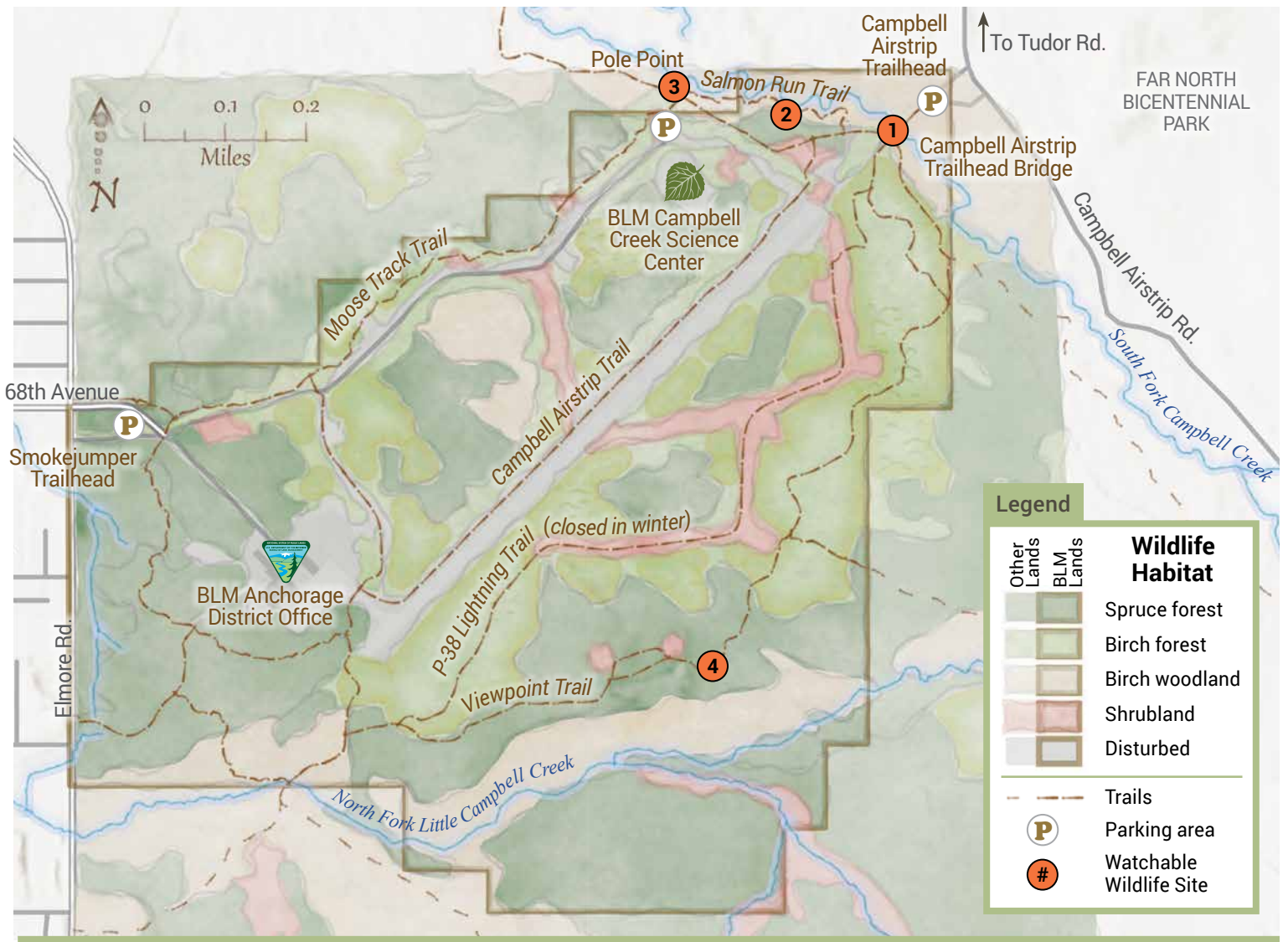
Wildlife Viewing Tips

Visit the Campbell Creek Science Center to learn more about Alaskan wildlife, the Campbell Tract, and more. Find out about the Science Center and its educational programs at blm.gov/ccsc.

Though it is on the edge of the city, Campbell Tract is still quite wild. Be wildlife safe and bear aware. Salmon runs bring brown bears to the creek from June-October. Use caution when visiting the creek in summer, and practice bear aware techniques: travel in groups, make noise, and carry bear spray.

Other Resources

[Campbell Tract Georeferenced Map](#) | [Campbell Tract Trail Map](#)



Wildlife Viewing Sites

- 1 **Campbell Airstrip Trailhead Bridge** - Gaze down at the creek and look for salmon in the clear water. Spot American dippers bobbing on the rocks and looking for food.
- 2 **Salmon Run Trail** - Follow this winding trail along Campbell Creek. Stop and look for salmon in the creek and pollinators flying from flower to flower. Listen and look for migratory songbirds such as the yellow-rumped warbler, Wilson's warbler, varied thrush and more.
- 3 **Pole Point** - Relax and listen to the sounds of the creek at this shallow gravel bar. Turn over rocks in the water and look for macroinvertebrates, such as mayflies and caddisflies. Watch for salmon and Dolly Varden in the water.
- 4 **Viewpoint Trail** - Take this trail through dense spruce forests and open birch forests. Listen for the whoosh of spruce grouse and chatter of red squirrels. Watch for moose. In the winter, search for snowshoe hare, moose, and red squirrel tracks in the snow.



Other Notable Locations

- **Potter's Marsh, Alaska Department of Fish and Game.** Walk the boardwalk in the summer for a chance to see moose, salmon, and a variety of migratory birds, including Arctic terns, trumpeter swans, and lesser yellowlegs.
- **Beluga Point, Alaska State Parks.** This rocky outcrop on Turnagain Arm provides viewing opportunities for beluga whales, Dall sheep, and bald eagles.