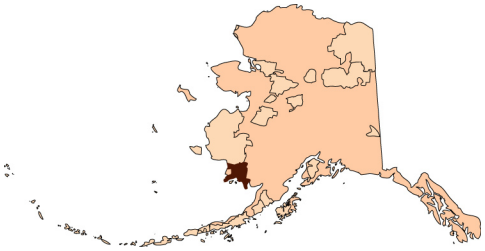
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Togiak National Wildlife Refuge

A Special Place in Alaska!

- Togiak Refuge was established to conserve salmonoids, marine birds and mammals, migratory birds, and large mammals.
- Refuge lands are roadless and total 4.7 million acres (about the size of the states of Connecticut and Rhode Island combined).
- The refuge has the second largest contiguous Wilderness Area in the National Wildlife Refuge System, with the northern 2.3 million acres designated as the Togiak Wilderness Area.
- More than 5,000 people live in eight communities within or adjacent to Togiak Refuge, many still practicing subsistence lifestyles based upon the rich and varied natural resources of the region.
- The Nushagak Peninsula was named as a site in the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network - the 4th such site to be named in Alaska.



The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service manages 16 national wildlife refuges in Alaska, or nearly 82% of the National Wildlife Refuge System acreage.

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Twenty five lakes larger than 400 acres are found within Togiak Refuge.

- Archaeological evidence suggests that areas within Togiak Refuge have been continuously occupied for at least 2,000 years. Today, the Native people of the area are collectively referred to as Yup'ik Eskimos.
- Deep, elongated lakes, some more than 900 feet deep, lie in glacier-scoured bedrock.
- Togiak Refuge has 600 miles of coastline and 35 river systems.
- The refuge is home to at least 296 species of wildlife: 48 species of mammals (31 land and 17 marine species), 214 species of birds, 33 species of fish (nine anadromous, 17 freshwater and seven saltwater species), and one amphibian species!
- Cape Peirce is one of two regularly used land-based haulouts for Pacific walrus in North America. Up to 12,000 male walrus may haul out here at one time.
- Over 500 species of plants have been identified within the refuge.
- Two caribou herds, the Nushagak Peninsula and Mulchatna, use Togiak Refuge habitats. The combined population of these herds is more than 150,000 animals.
- Togiak Refuge habitats provide important migration/staging/breeding areas for waterfowl, sea ducks, and shorebirds. Birds from the North American Pacific Flyway and several Asiatic routes funnel through the area.
- The refuge supports the largest population of mainland cliff-nesting seabirds in the Eastern Bering Sea: 1.5 million birds from 10 species nest here.
- The area is particularly rich in salmon resources that support subsistence, sport and commercial fisheries as well as the refuge ecosystem. More than one million Pacific salmon from five species spawn annually within the refuge.
- Anglers come from all over the world to fish Togiak Refuge waters, pursuing five species of Pacific salmon, rainbow trout, Arctic char, Dolly Varden, northern pike, and arctic grayling.

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