

June 11, 2006
Sunday 10:00 am
Homer Spit, Alaska

Daily Log

I have already seen some gorgeous scenery, including the Canadian Rocky Mountains, Glacier Bay National Park, Anchorage, and Homer. The flight into Homer was a bit bumpy on such a small plane. There were maybe 15 passengers! I saw a moose as we arrived in Homer in some swampy waters near the coast - no antlers though. The Homer Airport reminded me of my hometown Thomasville Airport - VERY SMALL! The land here is much different than at home. The coast, a sheer drop off from the above plateau, has very muddy "beaches." From the airport, I got a ride with some other scientists boarding the FAIRWEATHER to the Homer Spit. This is the pier where many boats are docked and people camp and vacation. Apparently there is a strip of stores further down the pier - yes, it includes a McDonalds! As we drove into the Deep Water Dock where the ship was located a huge cruise dwarfed the image of the FAIRWEATHER. There was also a US Coast Guard ship at the same dock. Take a look at the pictures below of what I saw on the Deep Water Dock!



U. S. Coast Guard Ship docked in the Deep Water Dock of the Homer Spit.



As I prepared to board the ship I quickly snapped a picture of the ramp up to the NOAA ship FAIRWEATHER.



View off the end of the Deep Water Dock looking towards the Homer Airport up on top.

Personal Log

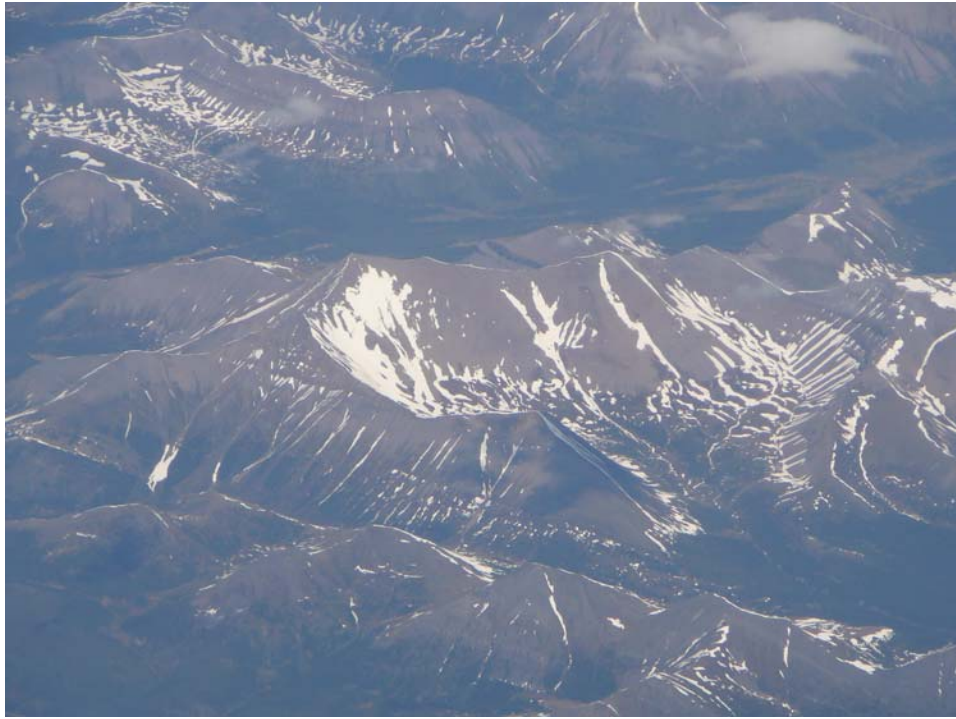
The flight across country was long and exhausting. I realized that I would be adding four hours to my day and be very tired if I stayed up late. I retired in my stateroom at about 9:00 pm Alaska time, 1:00 am Pennsylvania time! What a way to start summer vacation! The noise while I slept was deafening, but I was so tired I didn't move until my trusty alarm went off at 7:00 am today. I headed to breakfast and the start of my day!



My Stateroom SR C-05-106

Question of the Day

Explain the reasoning why there are no trees (but lots of snow!) at the tops of the mountains in places like the Canadian Rockies and Glacier Bay National Park.



Overlooking the Canadian Rocky Mountains from the plane.



Glacier Bay National Park, AK