



Greetings, my name is A.J. Slagle Jr,

I'm one of the storytellers you may meet aboard the *Tales & Tides: Alaskan Lore & Wildlife Cruise*—a team of lifelong Alaskans, each with our own stories, perspectives, and deep connections to this place. I wanted to share a bit about my background and what you can expect when you join us on the water.

I was born in Juneau in 1962 and arrived in Ketchikan in 1967, where I spent most of my childhood. In 1977, my family moved to a floating logging camp 40 miles north of town, where I lived for five years working in

camp maintenance. During those years, I spent every spare moment hunting, fishing, and trapping—learning the rhythms of Southeast Alaska firsthand.

In 1981, I returned to Ketchikan and went to work for my older brother, Chuck, fueling and loading aircraft while maintaining his facility—all while continuing my outdoor pursuits. I'm grateful to have lived through and witnessed the waning days of Ketchikan's wilder times.

Not long after, I ran a 15-foot boat from Ketchikan to Juneau and lived there working in aviation until 1990, when I began a career in charter fishing and big game guiding. Along the way, I gathered stories—real stories—shaped by a lifetime spent working on the water, in the forests, and alongside the people who call this place home.

I'm also a lifelong writer and poet, and over time I've come to understand that storytelling is a gift meant to be shared. Today, I bring those experiences, stories, and perspectives to life for guests from around the world.

On *Tales & Tides*, no two narrators are exactly the same—but each of us is passionate about sharing what Alaska truly means to us.

Come aboard, and let's go on an adventure.

Respectfully A.J. Slagle Jr.