



Wildlife Watching



You will find plenty of photo ops on the trip north

■ JUDY & ALLAN BLUESTONE



Sightings of Alaska's diverse and plentiful wildlife will reward you with unexpected and exciting moments. Capturing these images on film will allow you to share them with your family and friends and help you to remember your experiences on the journey of a lifetime.

Bears, goats, a moose—and an eagle eyeing the photographer—are great shots that keep Alaska memories alive.

Being in the right place at the right time usually depends on luck, but the best times to find wildlife are early morning and early evening. That also is when the light is best for taking dramatic photographs.

If you have an adjustable lens, open it up to the larger apertures and set the F-stop for faster shutter speeds;

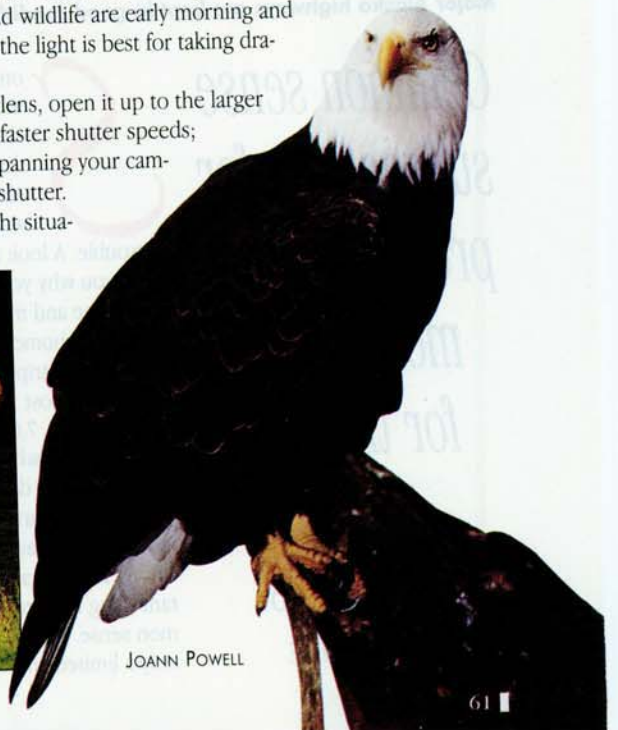
$\frac{1}{250}$ of a second is usually enough to stop action. When photographing birds in flight, try panning your camera (following the subject as it moves), and be sure to follow through after pressing the shutter.

Films with higher ISO numbers are more sensitive to light and will help in low-light situations, as well as allowing you to use a faster shutter speed. ISO 200 is recommended. If you use very high film speeds, your pictures will be grainy.

Your vehicle is an excellent way to get close to animals and birds. Prop your camera on the window opening to keep it steady. Telephoto lenses (100-300mm or larger) will be best.

Approach animals with extreme caution. Never approach the young; mama is always nearby, ready to defend her offspring. If an animal changes its behavior, you are intruding on its comfort zone. If it moves away or acts in a nervous or threatening manner, you're too close. In Denali, the rule is, you cannot approach an animal, but it's OK if the animal approaches you.

Good luck! ■



JOANN POWELL