ANNUAL REPORT 2025–2026

Sea Grant ALASKA

Enhancing the sustainable use and conservation of Alaska's marine and freshwater resources through research, outreach and education

IN THIS REPORT

Sea Grant ALASKA

UAF UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA

NOAA NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Front cover courtesy of Curry Cunningham (Iliamna Lake). P 3 Alaska Sea Grant faculty and staff. P 4 courtesy of Ginny Eckert. P 5 Alaska Sea Grant (Fox). P 6 Kyle Kolda/Alaska Sea Grant (Bethel). P 7 (top) courtesy of Maeghan Connor/Permit NMFS LOC No. 23546 (Dease Inlet), (bottom) Kyle Kolda/Alaska Sea Grant. P 8 (top and middle) Gay Sheffield/Alaska Sea Grant (Nome), (bottom) Julie Matweyou/Alaska Sea Grant (Kodiak). P 9 (top) courtesy of Victor Tonuchuk Jr., (middle) courtesy of Norton Sound Clean Waters Program (Wales), (bottom) courtesy Jacquie Foss (Baranof Island). P 10 Jessica Whitney/Alaska Sea Grant (Homer). P 11 (middle and bottom) Dawn Montano/Alaska Sea Grant (Juneau). P 12 (top) Deborah Mercy/Alaska Sea Grant, (middle) Sara Ebersole/ University of Alaska Southeast (Sitka), (bottom) Jessica Whitney/Alaska Sea Grant (Cordova). P 13 (top and middle) James Crimp/Alaska Sea Grant (Prince of Wales Island), (bottom) courtesy of Heather Hintze/Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska. P 14 courtesy of Teresa Vicente/Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (Bethel). P 15 (top and middle) courtesy of E. Lance Howe, (bottom) Katie Basile/Alaska Sea Grant (Bethel). P 16 (top) courtesy of Katie Basile (Bethel), (middle and bottom) Tom Moran/Alaska Sea Grant (Bethel). P 17 (top) courtesy of Schuyler Alig/Alaska Conservation Foundation, (middle and bottom) courtesy of Jessica Kayser Forster (Klukwan). P 18 photo courtesy of Tricia Nash (Kodiak). P 19 (all) Leigh Lubin/Alaska Sea Grant. P 20 (middle and bottom) Tom Moran/Alaska Sea Grant (Fairbanks). P 21 (top) Gay Sheffield/Alaska Sea Grant (Nome), (middle) Deborah Mercy/ Alaska Sea Grant (Petersburg), (bottom) Tav Ammu/Alaska Sea Grant (Dillingham). P 22 Jessica Whitney/Alaska Sea Grant (Jakolof Bay). P 23 (left) Kyle Kolda/Alaska Sea Grant, (middle) courtesy of Curry Cunningham (Iliamna Lake), (right) Tom Moran/Alaska Sea Grant (Fairbanks). P 24–25 all photos courtesy of the fellow. P 26 (top) Alaska Sea Grant (Cordova), (middle) Jessica Whitney/Alaska Sea Grant (Cordova), (bottom) Ashley Dunker/Alaska Sea Grant (Kachemak Bay). Back cover Kyle Kolda/Alaska Sea Grant Bethel).

WHO WE ARE

Alaska Sea Grant is one of 34 Sea Grant programs supported by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in coastal and Great Lakes states that encourage the wise stewardship of our marine resources through research, education, outreach and technology transfer.

Alaska Sea Grant is a collaboration between NOAA and the University of Alaska Fairbanks and has been supporting healthy coastal resources, economies and communities in Alaska for over 50 years. Our staff and Marine Advisory Program agents and specialists who live and work in Alaska's coastal communities carry out this mission through research, education and outreach. ■

The Alaska Sea Grant team in Cordova, Alaska. Back row (left to right): John Williams, Shelley Masten, Davin Holen, Quentin Fong, James Crimp, Tav Ammu, Pax Templeton, Dave Partee, Dawn Montano, Sunny Rice, Sean Kelly, Arron Jones. Front row (left to right): Erica Ebert, Molly Cain, Ginny Eckert, Katie Basile, Gabe Dunham, Leigh Lubin, Julie Parshall, Kyle Kolda, Julie Matweyou, Marc Solano, Ashley Dunker, Jessica Whitney, Melissa Good and Chris Sannito. Not pictured: Gay Sheffield.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear friends and partners,

Thank you for your support of Alaska Sea Grant. We are pleased to share this overview of our activities over the past year.

Alaska Sea Grant is a NOAA-university partnership with four focus areas: Healthy Coastal Ecosystems, Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture, Resilient Communities and Economies, and Environmental Literacy and Workforce Development.

Highlights of our work this year in *healthy coastal ecosystems* include development of innovative technologies to better understand marine mammal populations, engaging high school and graduate students in harmful algal bloom detection, and providing support to community-led marine debris removal and prevention projects.

We provide workforce training to current and prospective seafood farmers, harvesters and processors as one component of our work toward *sustainable fisheries and aquaculture*. This work provides instruction and resources for direct marketing, business, finance, policy and marine safety.

We support *resilient communities and conomies,* including responding to immediate needs of Western Alaska communities affected by record-setting storms, as well as fostering knowledge exchange and collaboration among researchers, traditional knowledge holders, and residents to build resilience strategies for the future.

We engage Alaskan youth and provide a variety of formal and informal educational opportunities through our work in *environmental literacy and workforce development*. Coastal Connection Camps support middle-school students' holistic development. The Alaska Marine Policy Forum connects policymakers with Alaskans. Our several public lecture series bring scientists and professionals to rural communities to address pressing issues and questions in their regions.

Alaska Sea Grant is honored to support you. Let us know how we can work together to sustain Alaska's vibrant marine, coastal and watershed ecosystems, and the coastal communities and people who make Alaska such a special place.

Sincerely,

Ginny L. Eckert, Director
Alaska Sea Grant

Members of the Alaska Sea Grant Advisory Committee and Alaska Sea Grant State Fellows tour the CRREL Permafrost Research Tunnel in Fox, Alaska.

ALASKA SEA GRANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Cathy Coon, Assistant Regional Administrator for Habitat Conservation, NOAA Fisheries Alaska Region

Leann Cyr, Director
Alaska Marine Safety Education Association

Diana Evans, Deputy Director
North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Nicole Kimball, Vice President
Pacific Seafood Processors Association

Michael Kohan *(chair)*, Science and Policy Director
Sitka Salmon Shares

Nadine Kochuten, Network Coordinator for the Aleutian Bering Sea Initiative, Alaska Conservation Foundation

Jon Kurland, Alaska Regional Administrator
NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service

Sharon Lechner, President
Commercial Fishing and Agriculture Bank

Michael LeVine, Senior Director, Alaska Programs
Ocean Conservancy

Angela Lunda, Dean, School of Education
University of Alaska Southeast

Vera Metcalf, Director
Eskimo Walrus Commission at Kawerak, Inc.

Hazel Nelson, Board of Directors
Bristol Bay Native Corporation

Theresa Peterson, Kodiak

Dave Reggiani, Aquaculture Expert
Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation

Chris Siddon, Marine Fisheries Scientist
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Katherine Schake, Manager
Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

Jennifer Wagaman, Director
University of Alaska Fairbanks Cooperative Extension Service

Sheyna Wisdom *(vice chair)*, Executive Director
Alaska Ocean Observing System

HEALTHY COASTAL ECOSYSTEMS

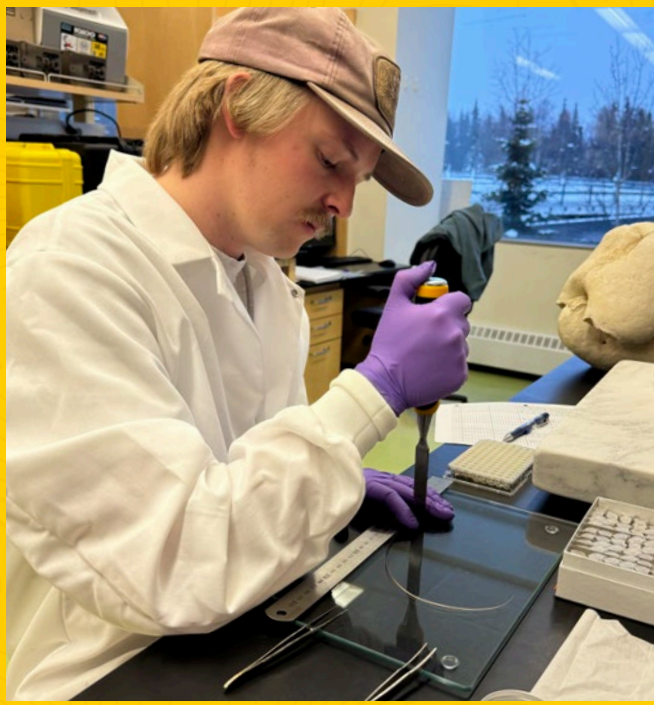
Monitoring spotted seals with new technology

Spotted seals are a vital part of Alaska's Arctic marine ecosystems. Because they are sensitive to many research techniques, researchers tested drone flights, LiDAR and time-lapse cameras to measure the effectiveness of these methods to monitor seal statistics and behavior. Findings suggest most seals remained undisturbed from drones at higher altitudes. Preliminary results indicate environmental variables like wind speed and direction, temperature, and time of year affect seal haulout behavior.

> *"This work would not have been possible without the support and collaboration of our community partners. Their insights into spotted seal behavior, local weather conditions, and familiarity with the study area were invaluable."*
> *– MAEGHAN CONNOR, UAF GRADUATE STUDENT*

Scientists scrutinize Steller stubble

Researchers are analyzing whiskers from Steller sea lions and northern fur seals to uncover the animals' ecological roles and how they may be affected by changing Bering Sea conditions. Scientists are using the whiskers' stable isotope ratios to reconstruct the animals' foraging histories and answer questions about potential competition between the two species. The research will also shed light into foraging strategies of individual Steller sea lions and how those strategies—as well as habitat use and diet—are changing over time.



Hooking Nome students on HAB research

Nome-Beltz High School students took a three-day class on harmful algal blooms (HABs), which are increasingly present in the Bering Sea and which can lead to paralytic shellfish poisoning in humans and marine mammals. As part of the class, the students went ice fishing. They jigged for tomcod in Nome's inner harbor, measured the fish and learned how to process them. The largest of the popular subsistence fish were sent to Anchorage to test for algal toxins.

> *"Tomcod are a delicious part of our diet. So we thought, we'll get the kids doing a subsistence activity. Take them to the harbor, get them out there fishing, we'll show them the tomcod, we'll get them tested and we'll show how to get the information to make informed decisions."*
> *– GAY SHEFFIELD, MARINE ADVISORY PROGRAM AGENT*

Research fellow excels in HAB lab

University of Alaska Fairbanks doctoral student Courtney White spent the summer last year at the Kodiak Seafood and Marine Science Center using an ELISA (enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay) to test blue mussels collected from sites around Kodiak for paralytic shellfish poisoning (PSP) toxins. A goal of the work, part of a NOAA-funded project, is to help reduce Kodiak's reliance on distant laboratories by establishing ELISA as a fast, reliable method for local PSP testing.

Alaska Sea Grant takes out the trash

Alaska Sea Grant's community-led marine debris removal program supports individuals and organizations in cleaning up shorelines around the state.

In the village of Kotlik, workers filled more than four 20-foot Conex containers with oil drums, scrap metal, outboard motors, fishing nets and other debris from the Kotlik River and nearby tundra. They also installed ground protection mats around the village landfill and assisted a community signage campaign to discourage illegal dumping.

Another project removed more than 63,000 pounds of waste from two Norton Sound villages. Near Wales, workers collected more than 28,000 pounds of debris, more than 19,000 pounds of which was nets, lines and ropes. In Brevig Mission, a dozen derelict vessels were hauled away, as were 289 metal drums from a mining operation.

Fishermen Jacquie Foss and her husband Zachary led nine cleanup trips across southern Baranof Island, collecting more than 10,000 pounds of debris. The family's long-term goal is to encourage the use of commercial fishing fleets in cleanup efforts.

> *"We receive a lot of positive feedback from our communities about this work. People like seeing nets and debris off of the beaches. We get calls asking when we're coming out to do cleanups next."*
>
> *– RENAE IVANOFF, DIRECTOR OF NORTON SOUND FISHERIES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION*

SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

Updated seafood marketing manual

Alaska Sea Grant collaborated with three West Coast Sea Grant programs to revise the Seafood Direct Marketing Manual, which guides fishermen and mariculture operators in selling directly to consumers. The sixth edition includes new information about online sales, farmers' markets, direct-from-the-boat sales and more. With more than 5,000 copies distributed since 1997, the manual is a trusted resource for entrepreneurs. The PDF is free and a printed manual costs $5.

Young fishermen gather for summit

Twenty early-career fishermen congregated in Juneau for the 2026 Alaska Young Fishermen's Summit, where they learned the ropes of their profession through panels, field trips and sharing knowledge. Panels were dedicated to aspects of fishing, including financing, taxes, fishing regulations and insurance. Sessions with state legislators offered the fishermen the chance to learn how to advocate for themselves. Evening receptions provided opportunities for participants to network with each other and with experienced fishermen, and to connect with leaders and policymakers.

> *"We had good representation across our state from attendees who are new or aspiring commercial fishing business owners. AYFS attendees are knowledgeable and passionate about fisheries, and that brings a strong desire to know how to be successful."*
>
> *– GABE DUNHAM, ALASKA SEA GRANT FISHERIES SPECIALIST*

Teaching life-saving skills to commercial fishermen

Alaska Sea Grant regularly partners with the Alaska Marine Safety Association (AMSEA) to provide safety training to fishermen and crews, teaching skills that make a difference in reducing fishing-related accidents, injuries and fatalities. Alaska Sea Grant remains committed to helping Alaska's fishing communities stay safe, prepared and productive. Thanks to decades of increased focus on training, awareness and preparation, we are seeing progress: from 1990 to 2023, fatalities from traumatic injuries in Alaska's fisheries dropped by 70 percent.

> *"Seaweed and shellfish farmers will be much more likely to wear their PFDs regularly if they have something practical and comfortable."*
>
> *– JAMES CRIMP, ALASKA SEA GRANT SHELLFISH MARICULTURE SPECIALIST*

Enhancing safety culture in mariculture

Alaska Sea Grant is partnering on a safety curriculum aimed at the state's burgeoning mariculture industry. The material is being developed by AMSEA and the University of Alaska Southeast (UAS). It focuses on particular safety concerns for mariculture farmers, who often work off of small boats or platforms. The curriculum is designed for use by workforce development programs and AMSEA instructors, and UAS will also offer an online version.

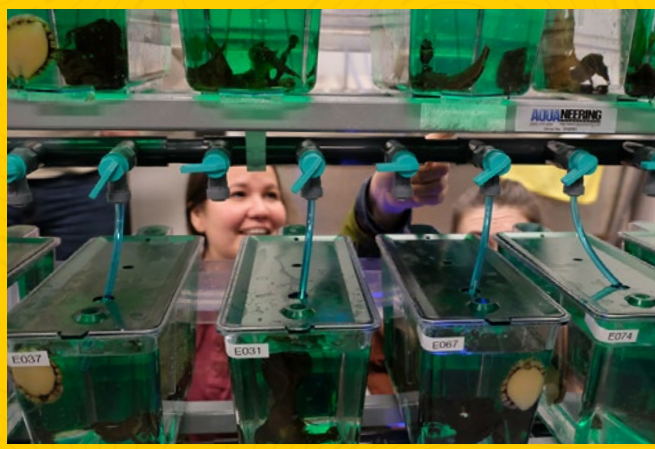
Oyster farmers learn the trade

Alaska Sea Grant's Oyster Farming Operations Workshop gave six fledgling farmers the opportunity to learn the trade in the classroom and through visits to operating farms on Prince of Wales Island. "The chance to learn first-hand from farmers and get my questions answered was super-valuable as I make decisions about purchasing grow-out gear and sorting equipment," noted one participant.

Testing the waters of mariculture

Alaska Sea Grant and the Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska held an introductory mariculture workshop in Juneau. Preference was given to Alaska Native applicants from Southeast Alaska, and the event attracted 17 attendees from throughout the region. The day included a classroom session and tours of oyster, kelp and abalone hatcheries, including an oyster floating upweller system. Attendees also toured a company that markets kelp-based products and enjoyed an oyster reception.

> *"There is interest in cultivating for food sovereignty. So, food for the communities to be shared with one another and to support communities, rather than to be commercially sold."*
>
> *– ANA VELASQUEZ, ALASKA SEA GRANT STATE FELLOW*



RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND ECONOMIES

Film documents resilience in Western Alaska

"Cumikluten (Pay Attention)" is a 36-minute film showing how residents of Chevak and Dillingham are responding constructively to environmental change. The film was produced by POLARIS (Pursuing Opportunities for Long-Term Arctic Resilience for Infrastructure and Society), an interdisciplinary NSF-funded project to identify sources of resilience in Western Alaska communities. The film tracks residents as they hunt, forage, garden, teach and learn, describing the environmental changes they see around them and revealing sources of community strength.

> *"It's really a celebration of the resilience of the communities and people of Western Alaska."*
> *– DAVIN HOLEN, ALASKA SEA GRANT COASTAL COMMUNITY RESILIENCE SPECIALIST*

Food drive aids Halong recovery

Ex-Typhoon Halong devastated parts of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, and in the process destroyed many families' food reserves. Alaska Sea Grant partnered with organizations to collect donations of subsistence foods. They received and distributed a bounty of berries, moose meat, pike and other dried whitefish, seal oil, different types of wildfowl, and more. An estimated 3,000 to 5,000 pounds of food was donated by individuals and another 16,000 pounds from nonprofits.

In a typhoon's wake at WAISC

Ex-Typhoon Halong was the central topic at the 2026 Western Alaska Interdisciplinary Science Conference (WAISC). The event was held in Bethel, located on the Kuskokwim River about 50 miles inland from where Halong slammed into the Bering Sea coast. The conference included a panel of area residents who shared their sometimes-harrowing experiences of the storm, as well as Yup'ik perspectives on weather prediction and environmental change.

WAISC rotates among Western Alaska communities, and topics at the conference are dictated by local relevance rather than scientific discipline—hence the focus this year on Halong. The event is designed to foster knowledge exchange and collaborations among researchers, traditional knowledge holders, and residents of these remote areas.

This year's presenters included traditional academics, Yup'ik Elders, health professionals, high school and middle school students, and even a quartet of local birders. Sessions covered an eclectic range of topics, from environmental change in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta to fisheries policies, harmful algal blooms, energy solutions and public health. The 2026 conference drew more than 160 people, the most since the annual event began in 2008.

> *"A person who pays attention in life will learn the signs that tell you when a storm is going to come. Today it's so important that we tell our children about those teachings."*
> *— DAVID JOHN, A YUP'IK ELDER FROM KWIGILLINGOK*

Planning the future of Indigenous stewardship

Indigenous leaders in Alaska and Canada met in Fairbanks to discuss developing Indigenous-led stewardship programs in Alaska. Often known as Guardians programs, these initiatives engage Native people to monitor and protect traditional lands and waters. Canada has a large Guardians network, and programs in Alaska are relatively new and disconnected from one another. The event, which drew nearly 100 people, facilitated connections and conversations between programs in the two nations.

Klukwan partners to study environmental impacts

An Alaska Sea Grant Community Partnership Development Grant is supporting the Chilkat Indian Village of Klukwan to partner with two NSF-funded research efforts. The K̲utí Geohazards Project is studying debris flows near Klukwan as part of an effort to develop tools to reduce landslide and flood risks across Southeast Alaska. Alaska NSF EPSCoR Interface of Change is monitoring red seaweed at popular harvest sites near Klukwan, as part of its project to study how environment shifts are impacting species vital to Alaska coastal communities.

ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Coastal youth camps expand

Coastal Connections Camps had their biggest year ever in 2025, engaging more than 70 students and adding two new communities. Camps were offered in Valdez by Valdez Parks and Recreation, Kodiak by the Ocean Science Discovery Program, and Seward and Whittier by the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Area. The camps support students' cognitive, social, emotional and physical development, while giving them opportunities to explore and learn about their local coastal environments. Activities focus on outdoor exploration, team-building, cultural connections and personal resilience.

> *"I can see the personal growth in these kids and the stronger connection to their local environments as they deepen their scientific understanding."*
>
> *– LEIGH LUBIN, ALASKA SEA GRANT EDUCATION SPECIALIST*

Education alliance fosters teaching connections

The Alaska Knowledge, Science, and Education Alliance (AKSEA) assembled three teams of four people each to craft K–12 curricula focused on marine phenomena in Prince William Sound. Each team consisted of two teachers, one academic expert, and one local knowledge holder, who met via videoconference. One group crafted lessons about the salmon lifecycle, another about the Pacific Ocean "Blob" heatwave, and the third about how environmental change impacts subsistence resources and how communities can adapt.

ALASKA MARINE POLICY FORUM

Long-running forum spotlights Alaska's marine policy

Alaska Sea Grant and the Alaska Ocean Observing System are co-sponsors of the 17-year-old Alaska Marine Policy Forum. Each hour-long meeting begins with updates and discussion with representatives of Alaska's Congressional delegation, and with state lawmakers and their staff during the legislative session. This is followed by one or more short presentations on marine policy topics and an opportunity for attendees to make announcements. The bi-monthly event attracts a regular crowd of 40–60 people.

Arctic Research Open House booth bags a crowd

Visitors to Alaska Sea Grant's wildly popular booth at the annual University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) Arctic Research Open House block-printed images of marine life onto reusable tote bags. Participants crafted about 125 bags over the course of the four-hour event, which welcomed the public to UAF for fun activities and displays to learn about the university's wide-ranging research. Booth visitors received informational cards about the species featured on the stamps, including salmon, bull kelp, Pacific halibut, sea stars, rockfish and Pacific oysters.

Sharing science across Alaska

Alaska Sea Grant supported three public lecture series in 2025–2026, based in Nome, Petersburg and Dillingham.

From Nome, Strait Science offers evening talks on current and recent research developments in the Bering Strait region. Topics in 2026 have ranged from surface trawl surveys to the tracking of heritage pieces from the Bering Strait region in museums across the U.S. Midwest. Nearly 200 of the talks are available on YouTube.

The Petersburg Science Series features scientists and professionals discussing natural science subjects. Recent topics have included landslides, water level monitoring and Dungeness crabs. The talks are generally held monthly at the Petersburg Public Library during the winter months.

Nearly 50 lectures have been delivered at the Bristol Bay Lunch and Learn, most available on YouTube. The subjects often center on commercial fishing, but recent topics have also included Alaska bats, harmful algal blooms and suicide prevention. The hourlong talks are usually held on Tuesdays at noon on the UAF Bristol Bay Campus in Dillingham.

> *"The goal of the Lunch and Learns is to get subject matter experts into our community, either physically or via Zoom, to help share that information and answer questions live."*
> *– TAV AMMU, MARINE ADVISORY PROGRAM AGENT*

OUR PEOPLE

ALASKA SEA GRANT RESEARCH TRAINEES

Claudia Berry MS environmental and marine sciences
Development of a non-lethal genetic-based method for aging Pacific halibut

Elizabeth Burnbaum MS oceanography
Building towards locally sustained monitoring of harmful algal bloom species *Alexandrium catenella* in Utqiagvik

Maeghan Connor MS wildlife biology and conservation
Integrating emerging technologies with community-based observations to assess spotted seal ecology at terrestrial haul-outs in Arctic Alaska

Aydah Daniels MS oceanography
Mercury release from thawing permafrost

Elena Eberhardt MS fisheries
Quantifying the influence of environmental conditions on potential trophic interactions and growth of juvenile sockeye salmon and threespine stickleback within Iliamna Lake

Sof Fox MS fisheries
Evolutionary underpinnings of stress response in Pacific oysters

Akiva Gebler MS marine biology
Ecosystem services of farmed macroalgae: Tracking the fate of kelp detritus in the coastal food web

Sara Mach MS marine biology
Investigating implications of increased gray whale foraging on Pacific herring eggs in Sitka Sound, Alaska

Riley O'Neil MS marine biology
Do mariculture farms improve habitat for sea otter prey?

George Payne MS civil engineering
Nature-based and community-engaged Arctic coastal protection

Ben Peterson MS biology
Too big to ignore: Foraging strategies and competition between marine top predators in a rapidly changing Bering Sea

Zach Stamplis MS fisheries
A transformative approach to rapidly assess critical life history and energetic responses of fish to environmental change

Emily Williams PhD biological sciences
Early-life environmental requirements of chum salmon in a changing north

ALASKA SEA GRANT
COMMUNITY-ENGAGED FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Class of 2026

Hannah Bogdan

Tessa Davis

Alex Devon

Amiah Jared

Ayla Knodel

Bergen Kludt-Painter

Six undergraduate students worked on research and education projects in Alaska's coastal communities through Alaska Sea Grant's Community-Engaged Fellowship program.

University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) undergraduate Ayla Knodel conducted beach surveys in Nome and the Bering Strait region to collect data on marine animals impacted by harmful algal blooms and other environmental factors.

University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) undergraduate Amiah Jared explored ways local food production can build resilience in coastal communities, with a focus on Cordova, Haines, Klukwan, Seldovia and Homer. She also assisted in ongoing NSF EPSCoR and NOAA projects.

Recent University of Idaho graduate Bergen Kludt-Painter conducted European green crab monitoring and outreach in Petersburg and Wrangell, including writing a policy brief for the state Legislature on the subject.

Recent UAA graduate Alex Devon worked with the Alaska Sea Grant coastal resilience team in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, including assisting with a youth workshop and on a NOAA-funded project on coastal inundation and sea level rise.

Kodiak College graduate Tessa Davis assisted in testing for harmful algal blooms in the Kodiak Seafood and Marine Science Center shellfish lab. She also collected field samples and joined in phytoplankton surveys.

UAS undergraduate Hannah Bogdan helped with Coastal Connections Camps and related activities in Valdez and Seward, and assisted in changes to Alaska Sea Grant's education website.

ALASKA SEA GRANT STATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Class of 2026

Sydney Almgren

Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation

Izabella "Bella" Block

Alaska Sea Grant, Coastal Resilience Program

Elizabeth "Lizi" Byrd

NOAA Fisheries, Protected Resources Division

Elena Eberhardt

NOAA Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Auke Bay Laboratories

Maris Goodwin

Alaska Sea Grant, Coastal Resilience Program

Madison Haumschild

Alaska Ocean Observing System

Kyle Kolda

Alaska Sea Grant, Communications

Lauran Liggan

NOAA Fisheries, Alaska Region

Emma Maxtutis

Alaska Center for Marine Debris and Marine Debris Foundation

Emily Nicholson

Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries

Riley O'Neil

Alaska Sea Grant, Mariculture Program

Tamsen Peeples

NOAA Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Auke Bay Laboratories

Marissa Scott

NOAA Fisheries Alaska Regional Office Communications Program

Pax Templeton

Alaska Sea Grant, Alaska Clean Harbors

Emily Waggoner

NOAA Fisheries, Protected Resources Division

ALASKA SEA GRANT TEAM

Ginny Eckert Director, Juneau

Tav Ammu Marine Advisory Agent, Dillingham

Katie Basile Coastal Resilience Specialist, Bethel

Molly Cain Associate Director for Research, Fairbanks

James Crimp Shellfish Mariculture Specialist, Juneau

Gabe Dunham MAP Leader and Fisheries Specialist, Juneau

Ashley Dunker Program and Event Coordinator, Kodiak

Quentin Fong Seafood Marketing Specialist, Kodiak

Melissa Good Mariculture Specialist, KSMSC coordinator, Kodiak

Davin Holen Coastal Community Resilience Specialist, Anchorage

Arron Jones Mariculture Trainer and Technician, Kodiak

Sean Kelly Climate Adaptation Specialist, Anchorage

Leigh Lubin Marine Education Specialist, Valdez

Shelley Masten Administrative Assistant, Anchorage

Julie Matweyou Marine Advisory Agent, Kodiak

Dawn Montano Communications Manager, Fairbanks

Tom Moran Science Writer, Fairbanks

Julie Parshall Program Administrator, Fairbanks

Dave Partee Technology and Communications, Fairbanks

Sunny Rice Marine Advisory Agent, Petersburg

Chris Sannito Seafood Technology Specialist, Kodiak

Marc Solano Seafood Processing Workforce Development Coordinator, Kodiak

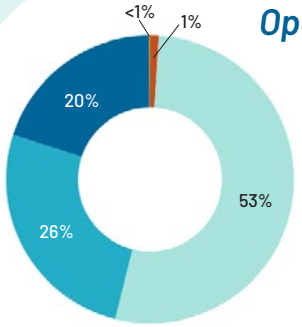
Gay Sheffield Marine Advisory Agent, Nome

John Williams Fisheries Workforce Specialist, Cordova

ALASKA SEA GRANT BY THE NUMBERS

Reporting data represents activities Feb. 1, 2025, to Jan. 31, 2026, which aligns with the National Sea Grant College Program's reporting cycle.

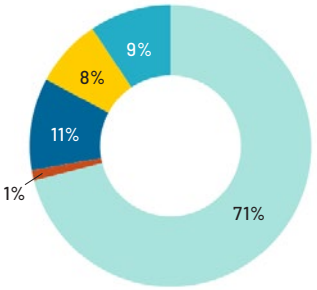
Operating Revenue



- NOAA Omnibus and supplements (federal)
- University of Alaska funds (includes match and ICR)
- Grants (non-Omnibus)
- Event and auxilliary income
- Donations (cash and in-kind)

NOAA Omnibus and supplements (federal)	$2,691,988
University of Alaska funds (includes match and ICR)	$2,050,405
Grants (non-Omnibus)	$5,450,201
Event and auxillary income	$101,043
Donations (cash and in-kind)	$9,135

Expenditures



- Outreach, education and communications
- Program development
- Program management
- Research and student fellowships
- State and Knauss fellowships

Outreach, education and communications	$7,364,967
Program development	$121,143
Program management	$1,099,205
Research and student fellowships	$810,550
State and Knauss fellowships	$972,256

$17,776,711
ECONOMIC BENEFIT

739
K-12 STUDENTS EDUCATED IN MARINE SCIENCE

18
K-12 EDUCATORS TRAINED

2,652
PUBS DISTRIBUTED

4
GRADUATE STUDENTS WHO GOT JOBS

41
GRADUATE STUDENTS WORKED ON SEA GRANT-FUNDED RESEARCH

115
BUSINESSES RETAINED OR SUPPORTED

242
JOBS SUSTAINED OR CREATED

114
FISHERMEN/ PROCESSORS TRAINED

161
EVENTS HELD

11,732
EVENT PARTICIPANTS


Sea Grant
ALASKA
UAF
UNIVERSITY OF
ALASKA
FAIRBANKS
NOAA
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

AK-ADMIN-119