

Alaska EPSCoR 2021 Seed Grants

The following UA faculty and students have been awarded grants to fund innovative projects with the potential to create new lines of EPSCoR research, education and outreach:

Coastal Margins faculty

- Eric Klein, an Assistant Professor of Geological Sciences in the UAA Department of Geological Sciences, was funded for “High-resolution water isotope samples reveal changing water sources in proglacial streams feeding Kachemak Bay, Alaska.”
- Schery Umanzor, a Research Assistant Professor in the UAF College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, was funded for “Ecophysiological responses of *Fucus distichus* to varying physical and chemical conditions along a glacial to non-glacial gradient.”

Coastal Margins students

- Josianne Haag, an M.S. student at the UAF College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, was funded for “Characterizing groundwater discharge and bay connectivity in Kachemak Bay by constraining radium sources.”
- Courtney Hart, a Ph.D student at the UAF College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, was funded for “Using harmful algal bloom monitoring to understand PSP risks and mitigate testing burdens at a shellfish farm in South-east Alaska.”
- Jordan Jenckes, a Ph.D student in the UAA Department of Geological Sciences, was funded for “Trace metal micronutrient sources and transport to the intertidal waters of Kachemak Bay, Gulf of Alaska.”
- Lindsey Stadler, an M.S. student at the UAF College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, was funded for “Food web ecology of nearshore fishes along a gradient of glacially influenced watersheds.”
- Brian Ulaski, a Ph.D student at the UAF College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, was funded for “Associations between drifting and beach-cast macroalgal communities along a glacial gradient.”

Boreal Fires faculty

- Thomas Ballinger, a Research Assistant Professor at the UAF International Arctic Research Center, was funded for “Alaska wildfire activity and atmospheric blocking: An evaluation of subseasonal-to-seasonal linkages.”

- Micah Hahn, an Assistant Professor of Environmental Health at the UAA Institute for Circumpolar Health Studies, was partially funded for “Assessing the role of preparedness, social supports, and trust in leadership in reducing mental health problems associated with a recent Alaskan wildfire.”
- Jessie Young-Robertson, a Research Assistant Professor with the UAF Institute of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Extension, was funded for “Tree water content: A multi-year dataset of live fuel moisture for Interior Alaska.”

Boreal Fires student

- Elizabeth Hinkle, a Ph.D student in the UAF College of Fisheries and Ocean Science, was funded for “Arctic grayling movement and genetic relatedness in response to wildfire.”



photo by Brenda Konar/UAF

Seed grant recipient Lindsey Stadler (r) beach seining at Tutka Bay with fellow grad student James Schloemer.



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