

UAS Mariculture Program Expansion

FY2026 Request: \$2,000,000
Reference No: 66183

AP/AL: Appropriation
Category: University
Location: Sitka

Project Type: Construction
House District: Sitka/Petersburg/Yakutat (HD 2)

Impact House District: Sitka/Petersburg/Yakutat (HD 2)

Contact: Michelle Rizk

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2025 - 06/30/2030 **Contact Phone:** (907)450-8187

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

The University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) Applied Fisheries Program has been expanding its mariculture offerings in response to the increasing demand for skilled technicians and farmers within this emerging industry. To facilitate the growth of the program this project will purchase an existing fully equipped floating mariculture laboratory and then construct a floating strut frame moorage.

Funding:	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031	Total
1004 Gen Fund	\$2,000,000						\$2,000,000
Total:	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,000,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
<u>One-Time Startup:</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals:	0	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

Project Description/Justification:

The UAS Applied Fisheries Program has been expanding its mariculture offerings in response to the increasing demand for skilled technicians and farmers within this emerging industry. To facilitate the growth of the program, this project will purchase an existing fully equipped floating mariculture laboratory and then construct a floating strut frame moorage. This floating laboratory will be moored on the Sitka Campus waterfront. This facility will also support instructional activities such as scuba diving, small skiff operation, and cold-water survival training, all of which are instrumental in preparing students for careers in the mariculture industry.

The total project cost is \$5.5 million, with \$1.4 million of support from a previous one-time legislative appropriation.

The Board of Regents approved the Formal Project Approval (FPA) on May 23, 2024.