

Scientist of the Month

February 2016



Amanda Grimes

Amanda is an undergraduate student originally from Palmer, AK. She is interested in veterinary medicine, wildlife disease, and marine mammal toxicology. Amanda is the current president of the UAF Pre-Vet Club and will begin the UAF-CSU Collaborative Veterinary Program this fall.

Research

Amanda investigates how specific environmental contaminants, (i.e. mercury) accumulate in fish, the marine mammals that consume them, and the rest of the marine food web.

The concentrations of toxins are measured from several different sources; such as blood, hair, and muscle. Samples she has collected originate from various locations, including the Arctic Ocean and the Bering Sea.

The results from this research will be used to determine influences of contaminants on humans, animals, and the environment – the One Health perspective of biomedical research.



Teaching

Amanda is the teaching assistant for UAF's Wildlife Diseases course (WLF 305). She arranges laboratory space and assists with necropsies of ungulates, marine mammals and fish used for course instruction.

Mentoring

Amanda travels to rural locations around Alaska to conduct workshops (including animal health assessments through necropsy demonstrations) with students and community members. Through these workshops, BLaST demonstrates the relevance of One Health/biomedical research in rural Alaska.

