# University of Alaska Southeast Program Assessment Plan for Fisheries Technology Fall 2016 Reid Brewer

# **Program Description/ Degree Title**

The Fisheries Technology Program (FT) Associates of Applied Sciences (AAS) is the only two-year, entry-level academic program in fisheries in the UA system. The mission of the FT program is to provide students with a broad educational and practical foundation in the field of fisheries technology. Students will be prepared for entry level employment in federal or state agencies, private-non-profit salmon enhancement facilities (PNPs), and various private fisheries sectors. Students will also be prepared to progress from the two-year degree to related four year degrees should they choose to continue on academic pathways. The goal is for program graduates to fill high demand fisheries jobs in Alaska or pursue a Bachelor's degree in a fisheries related field.

### **Program Assessment Methods**

This Assessment plan is for the Fisheries Technology AAS, the two Certificates (Alaska Salmon Enhancement, Fisheries Management) and the two Occupational Endorsements (Alaska Salmon Enhancement, Fisheries Management).

## 1. Faculty meetings

Fisheries Technology faculty meet weekly to discuss program agenda times, course progress, recruitment, media, teaching duties and curriculum changes. Faculty also discuss pre and post exams for assessment of student learning outcomes (#3 below)

#### 2. Student evaluations

Student evaluations are analyzed and discussed at the end of each semester among Fisheries Technology faculty to identify the strengths and weaknesses of each course.

#### 3. Pre and Post course exams

For all core Fisheries Technology courses, students are given a pre and post course exam to determine pre-course content comprehension and to determine changes in content comprehension following post-course exams. This will be a direct assessment of student learning outcomes.

#### 4. Tracking student retention

Student enrollment and retention are tracked "in-house" by Michael Mausbach, the Fisheries Technology DOL TAACCCT Grant Data Analyst.

# 5. Tracking graduate employment

Graduated employment is tracked by Michael Mausbach, the Fisheries Technology DOL TAACCCT Grant Data Analyst, Mary Lou Madden, DOL TAACCCT Grant Evaluator, and UAS Institutional Effectiveness.

## Student learning goals and UAS competencies

- Goal 1. Students will demonstrate sound knowledge of fish and their habitats (UAS competencies in information literacy and critical thinking).
- Goal 2. Students will have sound field sampling techniques (UAS competencies in quantitative skills, critical thinking, computer usage and communication).
- Goal 3. Students will operate safely while participating in program activities and utilizing program equipment (UAS competency in professional behavior).
- Goal 4. Students will understand the basic principles of salmon enhancement techniques used in Alaskan hatcheries (UAS competencies in quantitative skills and critical thinking).
- Goal 5. Students will understand the management and legal frameworks within which marine fisheries exist (UAS competencies in communication, information literacy and computer usage).

#### **Student Outcomes**

- Goal 1. Students will describe ecological attributes of fish and their habitats.
  - Outcome 1.1. Students will identify common commercial species of Alaska and understand their habitat needs.
  - Outcome 1.2. Students will describe water as an environment for life.
  - Outcome 1.3. Students will convey fishery information to faculty and classmates.
- Goal 2. Students will demonstrate sound field sampling techniques.
  - Outcome 2.1. Students will collect, analyze, and present fisheries data utilizing standard methodologies.
  - Outcome 2.2. Students will describe the importance of following protocols and techniques; utilizing good field data collection techniques and data recording techniques.
  - Outcome 2.3. Students will describe methodologies and protocols; practice good data management skills; summarize and communicate findings.
  - Outcome 2.4. Students will discuss the importance of correct data collection and analysis.
- Goal 3. Students will operate safely while participating in program activities and utilizing program equipment.
  - Outcome 3.1. Students will identify methods for reducing injury in the field and lab setting.
  - Outcome 3.2. Students will discuss safe operating procedures for equipment; assess field conditions to determine safety guidelines to follow.
  - Outcome 3.3. Students will discuss the importance of promoting safety for self and others and equipment.

Goal 4. Students will describe the basic principles of salmon enhancement techniques used in Alaskan hatcheries.

Outcome 4.1. Students will describe the basic process involved in fish rearing.

Outcome 4.2. Students will take part in "hands-on" procedures to ensure successful output of fish.

Outcome 4.3. Students will describe attributes of Salmon Culture facilities in Alaska.

Goal 5. Students will describe management and legal frameworks within which marine fisheries exist.

Outcome 5.1. Students will describe the legal and regulatory framework of marine fisheries in Alaska.

Outcome 5.2. Students will describe the current status of marine fisheries statewide.

Outcome 5.3. Students will describe the social and economic value of Alaska fisheries to the state and nation.

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Student Outcome Mapping	Major Requirements	Fisheries Oceanography	Fisheries Management Techniques Lab	Fisheries of Alaska	Alaska Salmon Culture I	Fisheries Management Techniques	Alaska Salmon Culture II	Alaska Salmon Culture Lab	Fresh Water Ecology	Fisheries Management, Law, and Economics	Fisheries Biology	Fisheries Technology Internship
I = Introduce												
D = Develop P = Proficiency		FT 110	FT 111	FT 120	FT 122	FT 211	FT 222	FT 230	FT 270	FT 272	FT 274	FT 291
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