



School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences  
University of Alaska Fairbanks  
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## MEDIA ADVISORY

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### **UAF breaks ground on new Juneau fisheries facility**

JUNEAU, Alaska-- The University of Alaska Fairbanks School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences broke ground Thursday, April 20, 2006 on a new facility dedicated to fisheries education and research.

The new Lena Point fisheries facility in Juneau will create the infrastructure for a world-class center of excellence for studying Alaska's marine resources. At approximately 28,000 square feet, the three-story building will have research space for 16 laboratories, two classrooms, a teaching lab and large saltwater tanks for studying live sea creatures.



*An artist's rendering of the new UAF fisheries facility.*

UAF offers the only graduate-level degrees in fisheries in Alaska and has awarded more than 150 such degrees. Many of the graduating students go on to work for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The fisheries division of the UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences has operated in Juneau for more than 20 years next to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Auke Bay Laboratory. The new building will be located on the same site as the NOAA Ted Stevens Marine Research Institute, which is currently under construction.

"We are looking forward to continuing our tradition of cooperative research and collaboration with the scientists and managers of NOAA at our new facility," said Bill Smoker, director of the UAF fisheries division.

Many of the Alaska legislators who were instrumental in securing the funding for the \$21-million facility attended the Thursday groundbreaking ceremony.

Speakers included Lieutenant Governor Loren Leman and University of Alaska President Mark Hamilton.

*The UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences conducts world-class marine and fisheries research, education and outreach across Alaska, the Arctic and Antarctic. More than 60 faculty scientists and 150 graduate students are engaged in building knowledge about Alaska and the world's coastal and marine ecosystems. SFOS is headquartered at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and serves the state from facilities located in Seward, Juneau, Anchorage and Kodiak.*

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