NEW CONSTRUCTION

The University of Alaska Fairbanks School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences began construction on a new facility dedicated to fisheries education and research in late March 2007. The new facility will create the infrastructure for a world-class center of excellence for studying Alaska’s vast marine resources and will provide the Fisheries Division with much needed space, vital for the planned expansion of the fisheries educational program.

The Lena Point Fisheries Facility is co-located with the new NOAA Ted Stevens Marine Research Institute. The current fisheries facility for the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences is located next to NOAA’s Auke Bay Laboratory. With the co-location of the new facility, the SFOS fisheries scientists and students can continue and expand their collaborative relationship with NOAA.

BACKGROUND

The UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences has operated in Juneau for more than twenty years. SFOS has statewide responsibility for fisheries and marine education, and offers the only graduate-level fisheries degree program in Alaska.

The Fisheries Division has graduated more than 150 students with master’s degrees and doctorates, many of whom have remained in the state as policymakers and scientists that help manage the state’s vast marine resources.

PROJECT SCOPE

The total facility is a three-story building consisting of approximately 30,600 square feet and 300 square feet of enclosed outdoor and covered storage. The building is designed to provide space for 13 faculty members, 4 research assistants, 15 graduate students and their associated classes and research. The facility also provides space for departmental administration.

The academic space consists of two classrooms and one teaching lab. The research space consists of 11 laboratories for a multitude of scientific disciplines, ranging from computer labs for statistical analysis to wet labs with large saltwater tanks.

QUICK FACTS

- Estimated completion date: September 2008.
- Consolidates classrooms, laboratories and faculty that are currently scattered among three locations in Juneau
- Accommodates 13 faculty, 4 research assistants and 15 graduate students, plus classroom and research space.
- Enhances cooperative research with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA NMFS) with the UAF SFOS fisheries program
- Allows for the expansion and improvement of the UAF SFOS fisheries program by providing the appropriate facilities for education and research
- Total construction costs are estimated at $26.5 million
- Total facility space is approximately 30,600 square feet