

# 2017 Undergraduate Research & Creative Activity (URECA)

## Project Final Report

Within one month of project completion and no later than July 15, 2017, please provide an informative but concise (1-2pp) report that addresses the questions/items below. Please submit reports, along with any project photos that you approve of being distributed or publicized, to both [kmjensen@alaska.edu](mailto:kmjensen@alaska.edu) and [bbuma@alaska.edu](mailto:bbuma@alaska.edu).

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Your Name:

Your Faculty Mentor: Sonia Nagorski

(1) What was the original project objective or purpose?

The original objective of my project was to look at how black carbon is quickening the melt rate of the Juneau Icefield as well as what the effects are on snow melt in urban and rural areas around Juneau.

(2) With respect to your proposed project activities, what have you achieved thus far?

I have finished filtering through the icefield samples as well as taken my own samples that I received analysis data from at the beginning of June. I will be looking at that data and continuing to work with Sonia on that part of my project this coming fall.

(3) Please explain any departures from your original project objectives, proposed activities, and/or notable budget changes.

I did not have any major departures from my project, I kept myself in line with what I proposed I was going to do. The only thing would be that my data sample analysis for urban vs rural black carbon took longer than expected so I did not have any final data to share when I presented what I had done for URECA.

(4) What is the current status of your project? If not complete, when do you anticipate completing it? Do you plan to spend any more of the remaining funding?

I anticipate that I will have this project completed by the end of this school year. I plan to continue to filter and analyze data throughout this coming semester.

(5) Please summarize the project outcomes and/or any tangible products that resulted (or will result) from the project.

The hope for the results of this study are to see a visible representation of how quickly (or not quickly) the black carbon is melting the snowpack. It will be important to continue this study to look at how it is changing long term, but for now we are in the beginning stages of this study. We know that black carbon is effecting the icefield and the glaciers but this will help us to see what exactly it is effecting and how severe it is.

(6) Please communicate the personal significance of your project, such as the impacts of the project on your education and experience at UAS; impacts on your future interests and outlook; how this project influenced your relationship with a faculty member; or simply use this space to provide some perspective about research & creative activities for students at UAS.

This project really opened my eyes to the environmental science world and some of the things I could potentially be doing as a career in research science. I have grown closer to my faculty mentor as she is helping me through all these analyses and just being someone I can go to for help in all my studies and questions about this career choice. URECA has been an amazing opportunity for me to grow in my research abilities. I don't think this would have been a possibility for me anywhere but UAS and with the help of Sonia, it has been a great experience.