


University of Alaska Fairbanks Institute of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Extension
1751 Tanana Loop
PO Box 756180
Fairbanks, AK 99775-6180

Date: 4/15/2026

Project Name: Mariculture product development for agricultural uses

Project Deliverable	% completed
<p>In Vitro Digestibility and Comparison of Alaskan Kelp Species as Potential Feed Ingredients for Cattle</p> <p>This quarter, preparations for this project have progressed. Approval from UAF’s Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee has been acquired, the Matanuska Experiment Farm and Extension Center has been approved for cattle housing, cattle have been acquired and are currently being trained to be worked with for the collection of ruminal (forestomach) fluid for incubations, chemicals, supplies, and kelp have been ordered. This project will be executed in Q2 of 2026 and is expected to be fully completed by the end of Q4.</p> 	15%
<p>Investigating the Feasibility of the Utilization of Kelp Derived Byproducts as a Feed Ingredient for Cattle Using In Vitro Batch Culture</p> <p>This quarter, preparations for this project have been progressed. Approval from UAF’s Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee has been acquired, the Matanuska Experiment Farm and Extension Center has been approved for cattle housing, cattle have been acquired and are currently being trained to be worked with for the collection of ruminal (forestomach) fluid for incubations, chemicals, supplies, kelp and kelp byproducts have been ordered. One kelp</p>	20%

byproduct has been delivered, processed, and sent out for preliminary nutrient composition testing. This project will be executed in Q2 of 2026 and is expected to be fully completed by the end of Q4.

Determining the Feasibility of Alaskan Kelp as a Replacement for a Conventional Mineral Supplement in the Diets of Growing Beef Cattle

10%

This quarter, preparations for this project have begun. Approval from the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee is in its final step of approval, facility updates (new fencing and continued building repair) are progressing as planned and will be completed in the coming weeks, the animal feeding system has been installed and the feed mixer has been delivered and assembled, and kelp has been acquired and is currently drying at the Kodiak Seafood and Marine Science Center. Q2 will consist of final approval, facility inspection, cattle delivery and training, and the commencement of the feeding trial. Completion of the feeding trial will occur in Q3, with analysis of samples and data spanning into and beyond Q4.

