

Curriculum Vitae: **KYOKO OKANO**

Center for Ecosystem Science and Society

Department of Biological Sciences

Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ 86011 ko468@nau.edu

EDUCATION

PhD Biological Sciences

Northern Arizona University, expected in 5/2022

MS Biological Sciences

University of Alaska Fairbanks, GPA: 4.0, 5/2018

BS Biological Sciences with Minors in Natural Resources Management and Spanish

University of Alaska Fairbanks (*magna cum laude*, University Honors), GPA: 3.87, 12/2012

PUBLICATIONS

Okano, K., & Bret-Harte, M. S. (2015). Warming and neighbor removal affect white spruce seedling growth differently above and below treeline. *SpringerPlus*, 4, 79.

<http://doi.org/10.1186/s40064-015-0833-x>

Okano, K. (2012). A prediction of habitat change for white spruce (*Picea glauca* (Moench) Voss) in Denali National Park and Preserve. Undergraduate thesis, University of Alaska Fairbanks.

AWARDS & HONORS

Research Awards

Thesis Completion Fellowship (2017-2018)

IAB 2017 Summer Research Graduate Fellowship (07/2017-08/2017)

IAB 2016 Summer Research Graduate Fellowship (06/2016-08/2016)

ASUAF travel grant (12/2015)

IAB 2015 Summer Research Graduate Fellowship (06/2015-08/2015)

Global Change Student Research Competition (7/2014-06/2015)

EPSCoR Undergraduate Student Research Stipend (Spring2012)

URSA Student Funding (2011-2012)

Undergraduate Research Competition Awards (2010-2011)

Scholarships

Friends of UWA Scholarship (2015-2016, 2016-2017)

Randy Howenstein Field Research Scholarship (2014-2015)

Lowell Thomas Jr. Scholarship (2013-2014)

Biological Science Outstanding Student Award (2009-2010)

Chancellor's List (Spring 2010, Fall 2009, Spring 2009, Spring 2008)

Member of UAF Honors Program (08/2010-12/2012)

PRESENTATIONS

Roles of neighboring plants and temperature on growth and survival of white spruce seedlings along elevational gradients in Alaska. Master's thesis defense, University of Alaska Fairbanks, 2017

Critical first two years and site specific survival of white spruce (*Picea glauca*) at subarctic treelines in warming Alaska. Poster presentation at Midnight Sun Symposium, University of Alaska Fairbanks, 2017

Critical first two years and site specific survival of white spruce (*Picea glauca*) at subarctic treelines in warming Alaska. Poster presentation at Toolik All Scientists Meeting, Portland, 2017

Interspecific competition is the key to the successful growth of white spruce (*Picea glauca*) at subarctic treelines in warming Alaska. Poster presentation at Arctic LTER meeting in Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, 2016

Interspecific competition and trade-offs in resource allocation are the key to the successful growth of white spruce (*Picea glauca*) at subarctic treelines in warming Alaska. Poster presentation at American Geophysical Union Fall 2015 meeting, San Francisco, 2015

Warming and neighbor removal affect white spruce seedling growth differently above and below treeline. Oral presentation at Technical Session in the Society of American Foresters Meeting, Fairbanks, 2015

Natural History of Alaska. Oral presentation at Summer Session, University of Alaska Fairbanks, 2015

Growth of White Spruce (*Picea glauca* (Moench) Voss) Seedlings could be Altered by Climate Change. Poster presentation at Midnight Sun Symposium, University of Alaska Fairbanks, 2014

Growth of White Spruce (*Picea glauca* (Moench) Voss) Seedlings could be Altered by Climate Change. Poster presentation at Arctic LTER meeting in MBL, Woods Hole, 2014

Application of $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ to plant ecology in Alaska. Oral presentation at Hokudai EES Laboratory Short Course on Stable Isotopes, Hokkaido University, 2013

Growth response of white spruce [*Picea glauca* (Moench) Voss] in Denali National Park under warming climate. Poster presentation on Alaska EPSCoR All-Hands Meeting, 2012

Growth response of white spruce [*Picea glauca* (Moench) Voss] in Denali National Park under warming climate. Poster presentation on the UAF Campus Research Day, 2012

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Field study at Camp Denali, UAF. 05/2010 – 09/2015

Growth response of white spruce (*Picea glauca*) in Denali National Park (undergraduate thesis, 2010 – 2011; master's thesis, 2012 – 2015)

Greenhouse study, UAF. Spring 2011

Effects of warming and neighboring interactions on establishment and growth of white spruce (*Picea glauca* (Moench) Voss), 2011

PAST INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Stable isotope project at Hokkaido University, Japan. 10/2013-11/2013

Only MS student accepted as a project leader: planned, led, and organized the project on foliar stable isotopes ($\delta^{15}\text{N}$ and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$) of black and white spruce at different environments and years

Study abroad to Universidad Veritas, San Jose, Costa Rica. 09/2011-12/2011

Learned Tropical Ecology and Spanish

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Teaching assistant (Life of the cell), Biological Sciences, NAU, Fall 2018

Field assistant, Mack Lab, NAU, Summer 2018

Field intern, Morris Lab, Duke University, Summer 2017

Helped data collection of alpine herb, *Douglasia alaskana*, at four remote sites in Alaska.

Teaching assistant (Systematic botany), Biology and Wildlife, UAF, Spring 2017

Teaching assistant (Structure and function in vascular plants), Biology and Wildlife, UAF, Spring 2015

Teaching assistant (Microbiology), Biology and Wildlife, UAF, Spring 2014

Research assistant, Bret-Harte Lab, UAF, Fall 2013

Lab assistant, Bret-Harte Lab, UAF, Summer 2010, Summer 2011, Summer 2013

Prepared plant samples for analyses at a lab and collected field data at Toolik Field Station

Office assistant, Geobotany Center, UAF, 10/30/2008 - 05/09/2009

Organized bibliography of Dr. D.A Walker

ACTIVITIES & SKILLS

Volunteering (One Tree Alaska, K12 outreach; Camp Denali, greenhouse help; Toolik Field Station, plucking, lab and field work; Really "Free" Market, setting up)

Computers (MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, ArcGIS, python, JMP, R)

Languages (Japanese, Spanish)

Certification (Wilderness first responder)

Hobbies (Indoor/rock/ice climbing, winter/summer camping, hiking, jogging, skiing)