

***Please read and follow these instructions carefully.***

- *Fill out every applicable field (fields will automatically expand as necessary).*
- *Sign and email the completed form to the Curator (Link Olson, [link.olson@alaska.edu](mailto:link.olson@alaska.edu)) and Collection Manager (Aren Gunderson, [amgunderson@alaska.edu](mailto:amgunderson@alaska.edu)). If you are requesting frozen tissues, also copy the Genomic Resources Collection Manager Kyndall Hildebrandt ([kbhildebrandt@alaska.edu](mailto:kbhildebrandt@alaska.edu))*
- *Review the conditions that apply to granted requests on our web page and be aware that compliance with these conditions will be considered when evaluating future requests from you, your advisor, or your lab PI.*

**Date of request:**2014-10-13

**Your name:**Jocelyn Colella

**E-mail address:**[jcolella@unm.edu](mailto:jcolella@unm.edu)

**Your current position (e.g., graduate student, faculty researcher, etc.):** Graduate Student

**Advisor's name (if student or postdoc):**Joseph Cook

**Institution (where research will be conducted):**University of New Mexico

**Street address (where loan will be sent):**University of New Mexico  
CERIA Bldg 83, Room 204  
Albuquerque, NM 87131

**Shipping is paid by the recipient. We ship via Fed-Ex only:**

*Please list Fed-Ex account number to be charged here:*8037 3695 0592

*If other shipping arrangements are needed please enter details here:*

**Phone number (required for deliveries):**512-567-9843

**For destructive/consumptive requests (e.g., frozen tissues, samples for stable isotope analysis), please provide the name of the Principal Investigator whose lab will be used (if different from advisor):**

**Project title (to be made publicly available on UAM's collection database):**

Stoat (*Mustela erminea*) diversity and phylogeography in Alaska's Alexander Archipelago: a genomic and morphometric approach

**Brief summary of the proposed research. This should address the following:**

- 1. Objectives of the project**
- 2. Complementarity of proposed research to previous or ongoing studies**
- 3. Data to be obtained and methods of analysis**
- 4. Feasibility and time frame**
- 5. Qualifications of the investigator(s) to conduct the research**

Objectives:

- 1) Reanalyze the degree of morphological and genetic divergence between 20 ermine sub-species defined by E.R. Hall in 1944
- 2) Resolve the taxonomic status of ermine using genomic and morphometric data
- 3) Test for contact and hybridization among clades. Detail the extent and dynamics of contemporary and historical introgression. Translate these findings into an assessment of species limits.

Previous molecular research (Dawson et al. 2013, 2007; Fleming and Cook, 2002) indicates that ermine likely persisted through the last glacial maximum in isolated, un-glaciated pockets of coastal land leading to isolation and divergence. Glacial recession has led to massive range expansion and secondary contact between 4 morphologically and genetically distinct clades in southeast Alaska. Preliminary genetic data indicate that the endemic *Mustela erminea haidarum* (island-based ermine subspecies) may be a relict population sufficiently divergent to warrant protection under the Endangered Species Act but further characterization is necessary. Additionally, recent genomic work by my collaborator Dr. Charlotte Lindqvist at the University of Buffalo indicates that hybridization may be occurring along the northern extent of the Alexander Archipelago. Characterizing the extent of hybridization and introgression in this region will provide insight into the processes of diversification and speciation in the presence of gene flow, an understudied phenomenon in the animal world. A previous loan, including samples from UAM has already generated over 50 complete mitochondrial genomes and a suite of 10 nuclear markers for 96 individuals. This genomic data will be combined with geometric morphological findings from the skulls requested here, to more fully characterized diversity and phylogeography of ermine across the topographically complex and insular Alexander Archipelago.

I will be using a high-resolution camera in conjunction with Helicon Remote and Focus software to generate three dimensional images of each skull. Images will be collapsed into a single file and marked with 24 distinct landmarks. Eight of these landmarks will correspond to lateral measurements obtained by E.R. Hall in his original study of ermine morphology (1944). Additional measurements will provide more robust insight into morphological differences, allow for analyses of shape differences between subspecies and eliminate size as a confounding variable. I am conducting this research under the supervision of senior PhD student Bryan S. McLean, my advisor Dr. Joseph A. Cook and collaborators Dr. Charlotte Lindqvist and Dr. Sandra Talbot. This team of researchers has published on the diversification of multiple arctic systems, signatures of coastal refugia, morphometric analyses of rodents, and have used molecular data to detect hybridization. These top-level researchers have agreed to train me in the generation and analysis of molecular and morphological data and have the necessary equipment available to complete the proposed work.

**Briefly explain your efforts to obtain material from other sources and why the requested UAM specimens are necessary for this project:**

I have all tissue loans necessary to complete the genomic portion of this project through the acquisition of 2 loans from MSB and UAM. To test for the existence of Hall's pre-defined subspecies (1944) using expanded sample sizes, my study requires broad-scale sampling across the each sub-species' geographic range. This expansive sampling can only be achieved by securing loans from a variety of museums including UAM, MSB, and MVZ. Fortunately, active collecting from all of these repositories allows large-scale phylogenetic studies, like mine, to produce representative samples capable of testing broad evolutionary questions.

**Have you (or your current advisor/Lab PI) previously borrowed or used material from UAM's Mammal Collection? Yes  No**

**If you answered "yes":**

*Have all resulting publications, GenBank accession numbers, or other products been communicated to UAM? Yes  No*

*Were all UAM specimens included in any published study individually identified by UAM catalog number? Yes  No  No resulting publications*

**Please indicate how data you will obtain from UAM specimens will be made available to the scientific community (e.g., publications, GenBank accessions, MorphoBank submissions):**

Publications in high-impact scientific journals (Target journals: Molecular Ecology and Genomic Biology and Evolution) - including supplemental materials, incorporation into my Masters Thesis, Sequences generated will be submitted to GenBank

**If this is a request for destructive sampling (e.g., hair, bone, skin, or other material to be permanently removed from a specimen; does not apply to consumptive requests for frozen tissues), please describe the type and amount of material you are requesting and your experience and expertise in obtaining similar data from similar specimens or samples:**

**Source of funding for the proposed research (if applicable):**

*If NSF funds are being used for the proposed research, please provide:*

**\*NSF project title:**

**\*NSF Award Number:**

**\*NSF abstract URL:**

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*\*Because we rely on funding from the National Science Foundation to support our collections, we ask that you provide this information to further demonstrate and document NSF's support of collection development and use. Knowledge of other sources of funding for collections-based research is also helpful in our efforts to continue obtaining funds for supporting the collection and making specimens freely available to the scientific community.*

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**Material requested.** For each specimen requested, please provide the UAM *catalog* number (do not use any other number), scientific name, and specimen part (e.g., frozen tissue sample; skin; skull; etc.). Tabular data downloaded from [Arctos](#) and edited in Excel or any word processor can be pasted directly into the field below. If you are not requesting a specific specimen (e.g., if you only need a tissue sample from a single representative of a particular taxon), please provide as much information on what you are requesting as possible.

UAM:Mamm:48734

UAM:Mamm:49986

UAM:Mamm:51441

UAM:Mamm:62579

UAM:Mamm:76193

UAM:Mamm:101868

UAM:Mamm:101972

UAM:Mamm:115824

UAM:Mamm:48742

UAM:Mamm:49488

UAM:Mamm:49493

UAM:Mamm:56100

UAM:Mamm:71987

UAM:Mamm:71988

UAM:Mamm:32766

UAM:Mamm:37099

UAM:Mamm:4385

UAM:Mamm:4596

UAM:Mamm:4756

UAM:Mamm:66486

UAM:Mamm:73022

UAM:Mamm:73023

UAM:Mamm:7658

UAM:Mamm:87968

UAM:Mamm:93287

UAM:Mamm:99495

UAM:Mamm:14815

UAM:Mamm:64259

UAM:Mamm:64260

UAM:Mamm:64261

UAM:Mamm:69425

UAM:Mamm:49556

UAM:Mamm:35024

UAM:Mamm:35025

UAM:Mamm:49486

UAM:Mamm:54540

UAM:Mamm:54540

UAM:Mamm:63080

UAM:Mamm:63101

UAM:Mamm:64253

UAM:Mamm:67072

UAM:Mamm:71490

UAM:Mamm:73575

UAM:Mamm:74555

UAM:Mamm:83215  
UAM:Mamm:83664  
UAM:Mamm:83667  
UAM:Mamm:80030  
UAM:Mamm:80715

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**Signature**

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**Advisor's signature**

*(for graduate students or postdocs, your advisor or major professor must cosign)*

UAM:Mamm:83664

UAM:Mamm:83667

UAM:Mamm:80030

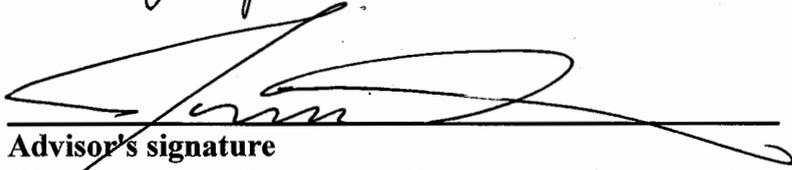
UAM:Mamm:80715

Signature

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Judy A. Culler", written over a horizontal line.

Advisor's signature

*(for graduate students or postdocs, your advisor or major professor must cosign)*

A large, stylized handwritten signature in cursive script, written over a horizontal line.