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## 2021 AFSC Seminar Series

**Dr. Tiffany Stephens,** Seagrove Kelp Co.

Tuesday, March 23rd @ 10 am Pacific

### Alaskan seaweed mariculture: Building a new industry with people and environment in mind

The Alaskan coastline provides an unprecedented setting to develop a sustainable and resilient mariculture industry that can advance economic opportunity, locally and regionally, while also increasing national food security. Nested in this industry is the cultivation of seaweeds, which can be leveraged for commercial sale, to support other mariculture initiatives, and can also support conservation concerns. In 2017, seaweed mariculture reached a commercially-relevant scale of cultivation and continues to expand, with an enormous amount of interest expressed along coastlines in southern Alaska. I will discuss the continued development of this industry, from seed to value-added sale, with focus on our team's efforts at Seagrove Kelp Co., a vertically-integrated and for-profit company situated in southern Southeast Alaska. I will also comment on this industry in context ecosystem-wide hopes and concerns as this industry scales.



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