



# COMMUNITY MEMBER PROFILE

**Sasha Leidman**

*RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, PHD CANDIDATE*

*GLACIAL HYDROLOGY*





## WHAT DO YOU STUDY?

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*My research focuses on what happens to the water from melting ice sheets, how that water interacts with larger glacial hydrology systems (e.g., lakes & streams), and how these systems work together to speed up or slow down climate change.*

*I'm currently working with my advisor to develop a new project that will explore how microbes found in Greenland's glacial streams reflect heat and light. This would be an opportunity to work with microbiologists in a way geohydrologists don't usually get to do.*

## WHAT FASCINATES YOU ABOUT THIS WORK?

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*It's been hugely inspiring learning how connected the incredibly remote glacial streams of the Greenland ice sheet are to the biosphere and how complex ecosystems on the ice can be.*

## WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU LIKE TO WORK ON?

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*I would love to do more projects that involve Indigenous communities on projects that focus on community engagement. I'd also love to work more in Alaska where you have both incredible river systems and significantly larger communities that rely on them compared with Greenland.*

## WHEN YOU AREN'T DOING ARCTIC RESEARCH, WHERE MIGHT WE FIND YOU?

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*I love the outdoors and take any opportunity I can to get outside. I worked as a backpacking, rock-climbing, and whitewater rafting guide all through college and spent two of my summers backpacking the Pacific Crest Trail. I just got back from hiking the Blude Ridge Mountains and I am trying to get to Alaska again soon, one of my favorite places.*





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