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Colby Phillips is a graduate student in archaeology at the University of Washington, and is a participant on the Kuril Biocomplexity Project (KBP) as a research assistant to Dr. Ben Fitzhugh. Colby's dissertation research is focused on characterizing the nature of social networks among the late-Holocene inhabitants of the Kuril Islands by investigating the archipelago-wide distribution of artifacts made from non-local obsidian. Colby is interested in combining more traditional lithic analysis and obsidian provenance studies with social network analysis (SNA) methodologies in order to understand the social, economic, and communicative ties among members of Kuril Island networks and the network patterns that emerge as a result of those ties.