Faces of Science: Joel Rowland

March 4, 2015

Asking “why?” solves riddles of permafrost

Joel Rowland’s favorite high-school class was earth science.

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While in college, Joel began to major in political science, but upon taking an introductory oceanography class, he was reminded that studying the natural world was much more rewarding.

As a Los Alamos scientist, Joel is studying how climate change affects the shape and organization of landscapes dominated by permafrost.

While performing such work, Joel has realized there is always another “why” that brings about a deeper understanding of the Earth’s surface.

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Nate McDowell works for EES-14's Earth Systems Observations group.