

# Matthew L.H. Cheng

603-408-7618 | lhcheng@alaska.edu | Github: <https://github.com/chengmatt>

## EDUCATION

### University of Alaska Fairbanks, College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences

PhD., Fisheries Science (GPA: 4.0/4.0)

2021 - Present

Juneau, AK

### University of New Hampshire, College of Life Sciences and Agriculture

BS., Marine Estuarine and Freshwater Biology (GPA: 3.75/4.0)

2017 - 2021

Durham, NH

## PUBLICATIONS

### Published:

1. Stasse, A., **Cheng, M. L. H.**, Meyer, K., Bumbera, N., Van Volkom, K., Laferriere, A. M., Dijkstra, J. A., Brown, B. (2022). Temporal Dynamics of Eastern Oyster Larval Abundance in Great Bay Estuary, New Hampshire. **Journal of Shellfish Research**, 40(3). <https://doi.org/10.2983/035.040.0303>
2. **Cheng, M. L. H.**, Lippmann, T. C., Dijkstra, J. A., Bradt, G., Cook, S., Choi, J.-G., Brown, B. L. (2021). A baseline for microplastic particle occurrence and distribution in Great Bay Estuary. **Marine Pollution Bulletin**, 170, 112653. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpolbul.2021.112653>
3. **Cheng, M. L. H.**, Hinch, S. G., Juanes, F., Healy, S. J., Lotto, A. G., Mapley, S. J., Furey, N. B. (2022). Acoustic Imaging Observes Predator-Prey Interactions between Bull Trout and Migrating Sockeye Salmon Smolts. *North American Journal of Fisheries Management*, nafm.10833. <https://doi.org/10.1002/nafm.10833>

### In review:

1. **Cheng, M. L. H.**, Rodgveller, C.J., Langan, J.A., Cunningham C.J., Development of Fishery-dependent Abundance Indices for Alaska Sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*)" (*In review - ICES Journal of Marine Science*)

### In preparation:

1. **Cheng, M. L. H.**, Vajda, Z., Brammer, D., Harris, L.G., Monitoring of Temperature in the Benthic Zone of the Gulf of Maine and Assessment of the Effects of Temperature on Disease Incidence of *Strongylocentrotus droebachiensis* and *Henricia sanguinolenta* (*Plan to submit to Northeastern Naturalist*)
2. **Cheng, M. L. H.**, Goethel, D.R., Cunningham C.J., What do we when a new fishery emerges? Investigating the treatment of fleet structure in a rapidly developing pot fishery for the Alaska sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*) stock assessment model" (*Plan to submit to ICES Journal of Marine Science*)

### Technical reports:

1. Goethel, D.R., Rodgveller, C.J., Echave, K.B., Shotwell, S.K., Siwicke, K.A., Malecha, P.W., **Cheng, M.L.H.**, Williams, M., Omori, K., and Lunsford, C.R. 2022. Assessment of the Sablefish Stock in Alaska. 182.

## EXPERIENCE

### Research Assistant

Supervisor: Bonnie L. Brown

University of New Hampshire

May 2019 - May 2021

- A baseline for microplastic particle occurrence and distribution in Great Bay Estuary

- \* Identified, optimized, and designed physical and chemical methods for separating microplastics from sediment cores.
- \* Quantified microplastics using confocal microscopy, and analyzed data to prepare reports.
- **Evaluation of Eastern oyster larval abundance in Great Bay Estuary, New Hampshire**
  - \* Collected zooplankton via larval tows, deployed and retrieved spat collectors to quantify settling rates of oyster spat
  - \* Quantified larval abundance via microscopy, and analyzed data to prepare reports.

## Research Coordinator

Supervisor: *Elizabeth Craig*

University of New Hampshire

Jan 2021 - May 2021

- **Evaluating regurgitated pellets as indicators of microplastic ingestion by New Hampshire breeding seabirds**
  - \* Conducted literature reviews, optimized, and designed methods for separating microplastics from regurgitated pellets cores.
  - \* Coordinated project logistics and mentored two undergraduates.
    - Provided reading material, introduced R software for statistical analyses, assisted with coding.

## Research Assistant

Supervisor: *Nathan B. Furey*

University of New Hampshire

May 2020 - May 2021

- **Using acoustic imaging to assess predator-prey interactions between migrating juvenile Sockeye Salmon smolts and Bull Trout in British Columbia**
  - \* Analyzed DIDSON (acoustic sonar) videos from Chilko Lake, British Columbia to investigate predatory-prey dynamics between Bull Trout and migrating Sockeye Salmon smolts

## Research Capstone

Supervisor: *Larry G. Harris*

University of New Hampshire

Aug 2019 - May 2020

- **Monitoring of Temperature in the Benthic Zone of the Gulf of Maine and Assessment of the Effects of Temperature on Disease Incidence of *Strongylocentrotus droebachiensis* and *Henricia sanguinolenta***
  - \* Designed a microcosm experiment to investigate the impacts of warming temperature on green sea urchins and blood stars.
  - \* Developed survivorship models to elucidate wasting disease onset in response to warming temperatures.

## ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

---

### Field Technician

Supervisor: *Nathan B. Furey*

University of New Hampshire

Summer 2021

- Coordinated field logistics, conducted habitat mapping, cataloged invasive knotweed, collected stream macroinvertebrates in Northern New Hampshire
- Recaptured PIT tagged knotweed bundles to understand knotweed dispersal
- Conducted electrofishing surveys to capture Brook Trout

### Wildlife Intern

Supervisor: *Alexej Sirén*

USGS Northeast Climate Adaptation Science Center

Aug 2020 - May 2021

- Collated wildlife and snow data into a central database
- Responsible for data management and proofing of database

### NSF REU Intern

Supervisor: *Joanna York*

University of Delaware

Summer 2020

- In-person projects cancelled due to COVID-19, but relevant distance learning in topics such as scientific communication, current research at UD, science ethics, technical writing, and data visualization.

## Intern

Supervisor: Andrea Tomlinson

New Hampshire Community Seafood

Jul 2019 - Dec 2020

- Engaged fishers to coordinate and collaborate with academics on future research projects
- Directed public outreach efforts on sourcing sustainable and local seafood, and fishery related topics
- Solicited potential customers to join our community supported fishery program

## OUTREACH & TEACHING

---

### CFOS NSF GRFP Workshop

Workshop Co-lead

University of Alaska Fairbanks

Fall 2022

- Co-led a workshop covering application components for the NSF GRFP, pairing up applicants with mentors to develop a fellowship application.

### BIOL 492; Biology Seminar

Guest Lecturer

University of Alaska Southeast

Spring 2022

- Presented a lecture on predator-prey interactions between sockeye smolts and bull trout and catch-per-unit-effort standardization methods.

### NSF Tamamta Graduate Fellowship

Teaching assistant

University of Alaska Fairbanks

Fall 2021

- Provided personalized tutoring for graduate students(s) taking Calculus I.

### BIOLG 541; General Ecology Teaching Assistant

Supervisor: James Haney

University of New Hampshire

Spring 2020

- Assisted with lab and field instruction, helping refine and engage students in ecological concepts

## PRESENTATIONS

---

### \*Best student presentation/poster award

**Cheng MLH**, Rodgveller CJ, Langan JA, Goethel, DR, Cunningham CJ, Standardizing sablefish catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE) across gear types and data sources. (2022) September Groundfish Plan Team Meeting

**Cheng MLH**, Rodgveller CJ, Cunningham CJ, Development of Fishery-dependent Abundance Indices for Alaska Sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*). (2022) NOAA CPUE Discussion Group

**Cheng MLH**, Rodgveller CJ, Langan JA, Cunningham CJ, Development of Fishery-dependent Abundance Indices for Alaska Sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*). (2022) 152nd Annual American Fisheries Society Meeting, Oral Presentation

\***Cheng MLH**, Rodgveller CJ, Cunningham CJ, Development of Fishery-dependent Abundance Indices for Alaska Sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*). (2022) 25th Annual American Fisheries Society Student Symposium (UAF CFOS), Oral Presentation

**Cheng MLH**, Rodgveller CJ, Cunningham CJ, Development of Fishery-dependent Abundance Indices for Alaska Sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*). (2022) American Fisheries Society Alaska Chapter Meeting, Oral Presentation

Stasse. A, Meyer. K, **Cheng MLH**, Brown BL. Evaluation of Oyster Larval Abundance in the Great Bay Estuary. (2022) Aquaculture, Poster Presentation

**Cheng MLH**, Lippmann TC, Dijkstra JA, Bradt G, Cook S, Choi JG, Brown BL. A deposition baseline for microplastic particle distribution in an estuary (2021) College of Life Sciences Agriculture Undergraduate Research Conference, Oral Presentation

**Cheng MLH**, Mapley SJ, Lotto AG, Hinch SG, Juanes F, Furey NB. Assessing predator-prey interactions between migrating juvenile sockeye salmon smolts and bull trout in British Columbia (2021) College of Life Sciences Agriculture Undergraduate Research Conference, Poster Presentation

Stasse. A, Meyer. K, **Cheng MLH**, Brown BL. Evaluation of Oyster Larval Abundance in the Great Bay Estuary. (2021) New Hampshire Sea Grant Symposium, Poster Presentation

\*McDowell L, Wardinski C, **Cheng MLH**, Caldwell AE, Craig, E. Evaluating regurgitated pellets as indicators of microplastic ingestion by NH-breeding seabirds. (2021) College of Life Sciences Agriculture Undergraduate Research Conference, Poster Presentation

Brammer D, **Cheng MLH**, Derrick. M, Dunn. T, Orzech. E Vajda. Z. Monitoring of Temperature in the Benthic Zone of the Gulf of Maine and Assessment of the Effects of Temperature on Disease Incidence of *Strongylocentrotus droebachiensis* and *Henricia sanguinolenta*. (2020) College of Life Sciences & Agriculture Undergraduate Research Conference, Poster Presentation

## SERVICE

---

University of Alaska Fairbanks Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee

University of Alaska Fairbanks Student Well-being Committee

2022 Alaska American Fisheries Society Student Symposium Organizer (UAF CFOS)

Executive Member of Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity

## AWARDS, GRANTS, AND HONORS

---

**2022** American Fisheries Society Marine Fisheries Section Student Travel Award (\$500)

**2022** Alaska EPSCoR NSF Travel Award (\$2500)

**2022** National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (Award offered)

**2022** Alaska American Fisheries Society Student Symposium Best Long Talk

**2021** National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (Honorable Mention)

**2019** Rutman Scholars Initiative (\$1500)

**2019** John and Katharyn Williams Scholarship (\$3500)

## SKILLS

---

**Programming languages:** R, LATEX, ADMB, TMB

**Statistical methods:** regression methods, maximum likelihood estimation, Generalized Additive Models, Bayesian statistics, age-structured models

## REFERENCES

---

**Curry J. Cunningham:** University of Alaska Fairbanks, Assistant Professor of Fisheries Science  
cjcunningham@alaska.edu

**Bonnie L. Brown:** University of New Hampshire, Professor of Biological Sciences  
Bonnie.Brown@unh.edu

**Nathan B. Furey:** University of New Hampshire, Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences  
Nathan.Furey@unh.edu

**Larry G. Harris:** University of New Hampshire, Professor Emeritus  
Larry.Harris@unh.edu