

Matthew L.H. Cheng

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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. **Cheng, M. L. H.**, Rodgveller, C. J., Langan, J. A., Cunningham, C. J. (2023). Standardizing fishery-dependent catch-rate information across gears and data collection programs for Alaska sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*). **ICES Journal of Marine Science**, fsad037. <https://doi.org/10.1093/icesjms/fsad037>
2. **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>
3. 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>
4. **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>

In review:

1. Fitzgerald K.A., Bellmore R.J., Fellman J.B., **Cheng M. L. H.**, Delbecq C.E., Falke J.A. "Stream hydrology and a pulse subsidy shape patterns of fish foraging" *In review - Journal of Animal Ecology*
2. **Cheng, M. L. H.**, Thorson, J.T., Ianelli, J.N., Cunningham C.J., Estimating age, year, and cohort effects in stock assessments: demonstration of a computationally efficient and reproducible framework" *In review - Fisheries Research*

In preparation (Available upon request):

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*
2. **Cheng, M. L. H.**, Goethel, D.R., Cunningham C.J., Incorporating dynamic spatiotemporal fleet structure in stock assessment models: Accounting for a rapidly developing pot fishery for Alaska sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*) " *Plan to submit to Fisheries Research*
3. Fitzgerald K.A., **Cheng, M. L. H.**, Boyles-Muehlebeck N., Bellmore R.J., Fellman J.B., Delbecq C.E., Falke J.A., Pink Salmon spawning abundance fluctuations impart biennial growth disparities to juvenile Coho Salmon in a southeast Alaska watershed"

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

Field Technician

University of New Hampshire

Supervisor: *Nathan B. Furey*

Jun 2021 - Aug 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 and other stream fishes

Research Assistant

University of New Hampshire

Supervisor: *Bonnie L. Brown*

May 2019 - May 2021

- 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.
- 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

University of New Hampshire

Supervisor: *Elizabeth Craig*

Jan 2021 - May 2021

- 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

University of New Hampshire

Supervisor: *Nathan B. Furey*

May 2020 - May 2021

- Analyzed DIDSON (acoustic sonar) videos from Chilko Lake, British Columbia to investigate predatory-prey dynamics between Bull Trout and migrating Sockeye Salmon smolts

Wildlife Intern

USGS Northeast Climate Adaptation Science Center

Supervisor: *Alexej Sirén*

Aug 2020 - May 2021

- Collated wildlife and snow data into a central database
- Responsible for data management and proofing of database (Microsoft Access)

NSF REU Intern

University of Delaware

Supervisor: *Joanna York*

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

New Hampshire Community Seafood

Supervisor: *Andrea Tomlinson*

Jul 2019 - Dec 2020

- Engaged fishers to coordinate and collaborate with academics on 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

University of Alaska Fairbanks

Workshop Co-lead

Fall 2022

- Co-led a workshop covering application components for the NSF GRFP, pairing up applicants with mentors to develop a fellowship application (2 awards, 1 Honorable Mention).

BIOL 492; Biology Seminar

University of Alaska Southeast

Guest Lecturer

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

University of Alaska Fairbanks

Teaching assistant

Fall 2021

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

BIOLG 541; General Ecology Teaching Assistant

University of New Hampshire

Supervisor: James Haney

Spring 2020

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

PRESENTATIONS

*Best student (or runner-up) presentation/poster award

Cheng, M. L. H., Goethel, D.R., Cunningham C.J., Incorporating dynamic fleet structure in stock assessment models: Accounting for a rapidly developing pot fishery for Alaska sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*)" (2023) Western Groundfish Conference, *Oral Presentation*, Juneau AK

***Cheng, M. L. H.**, Goethel, D.R., Cunningham C.J., Incorporating dynamic fleet structure in stock assessment models: Accounting for a rapidly developing pot fishery for Alaska sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*)" (2023) 49th Annual American Fisheries Society Alaska Chapter Meeting, *Oral Presentation*, Fairbanks AK

*Muehleck, N., Fitzgerald K.A., **Cheng, M. L. H.**, Bellmore, J.R., Fellman, J.B., Falke, J.A., "Juvenile Coho Salmon growth patterns track biennial Pink Salmon spawning abundance fluctuations in a southeast Alaska watershed" (2023) 49th Annual American Fisheries Society Alaska Chapter Meeting, *Poster Presentation*, Fairbanks AK

***Cheng, M. L. H.**, Thorson, J.T., Ianelli, J.N., Cunningham C.J., Unlocking the triad of age, year, and cohort effects in stock assessment: a proof-of-concept study" 26th Annual American Fisheries Society Student Symposium (UAF CFOS), *Oral Presentation*, Juneau AK

Cheng M. L. H., 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, *Oral Presentation*, Seattle WA

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

Cheng M. L. H., 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*, Spokane WA

***Cheng M.LH.**, 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*, Juneau AK

Cheng M.L.H., Rodgveller CJ, Cunningham CJ, Development of Fishery-dependent Abundance Indices for Alaska Sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*). (2022) 48th Annual American Fisheries Society Alaska Chapter Meeting, *Oral Presentation*, Virtual

Stasse. A, Meyer. K, **Cheng M. L. H.**, Brown BL. Evaluation of Oyster Larval Abundance in the Great Bay Estuary. (2022) Aquaculture, *Poster Presentation*, San Diego CA

Cheng M. L. H., 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*, Virtual

Cheng M. L. H., 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*, Virtual

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

*McDowell L, Wardinski C, **Cheng M. L. H.**, 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*, Virtual

Brammer D, **Cheng M. L. H.**, 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*, Virtual

SERVICE

Western Groundfish Conference, Juneau AK, Volunteer (2023)

University of Alaska Fairbanks Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee (2021 - 2022)

University of Alaska Fairbanks Student Well-being Committee (2021 - 2022)

Alaska American Fisheries Society Student Symposium Organizer (UAF CFOS; 2021 - 2023)

Executive Member of Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND HONORS

2023 Alaska EPSCoR NSF Travel Award (\$1000)

2023 49th Annual American Fisheries Society Alaska Chapter Meeting, Best PhD Oral Presentation (\$450)

2023 Alaska American Fisheries Society Student Symposium, Runner Up for Best Short Talk

2023 Alaska Chapter American Fisheries Society Travel Award (\$1300)

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) (\$147,000)

2022 Alaska American Fisheries Society Student Symposium Best Long Talk (\$100)

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

2019 Rutman Scholars Initiative (\$1500)

2019 John and Katharyn Williams Scholarship (\$3500)

COURSEWORK

University of Alaska Fairbanks: Statistical Computing in R, Regression and Analysis of Variance, Estimation of Fish Abundance, Bayesian Decision Theory for Resource Management, Ecosystem-based Fisheries Management, Time Series, Quantitative Population Dynamics, Modern Applied Statistics for Fisheries (*Informal audit*)

University of New Hampshire: Quantitative Ecology, Experimental Design and Analysis, Introduction to the R Software, Physiology of Fishes, Sharks and Bony Fishes (Ichthyology), Fisheries Biology, Sustainable Marine Fisheries, Biological Oceanography, Evolution

SKILLS

Programming languages: R, LATEX, ADMB, TMB

Statistical methods: regression methods, maximum likelihood estimation, time series, Bayesian statistics, non-linear models, age-structured models