



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Fish and Game

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
Headquarters Office

1255 West 8th Street
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, Alaska 99811-5526
Main: 907.465.6136
Fax: 907.465.2332

September 24, 2026

Ms. Angel Drobnic, Chair
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
1007 West Third, Suite 499
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Chair Drobnic,

I am nominating Aaron Lambert for appointment to the Council's Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Groundfish Plan Team.

Mr. Lambert is a Biometrician in the Commercial Fisheries Division at the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. He is the lead author on the Northern Southeast Inside Chatham Sablefish and Gulf of Alaska Demersal Shelf Rockfish stock assessments and has worked on sablefish gear comparison analysis and pot survey design. His prior work for NOAA Fisheries included development of stock assessment models and authorship of Stock Assessment and Fisheries Evaluation (SAFE) reports. Mr. Lambert is acquainted with the Council process and has presented statistical methods to the Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee.

Mr. Lambert received his M.S. in Fisheries Science from University of Alaska Fairbanks College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences and a B.S. in Biology from University of Alaska Southeast. During his time at UAF, Mr. Lambert focused on modeling Canadian Chinook salmon abundance projections and developing Kuskokwim and Yukon River salmon management strategy evaluations.

Mr. Lambert's experience with GOA groundfish stock assessment and history with state and federal management agencies would make him a valuable addition to the GOA Groundfish Plan Team. I have attached his CV for reference. Thank you for considering his appointment at the October Council meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug".

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

Cc: Rachel Baker, Deputy Commissioner ADF&G
Diana Evans, Executive Director NPFMC

Aaron W. Lambert

PO BOX 21391, Juneau, AK 99802 • (720) 276-6240 • aaronwlambert@gmail.com

ACADEMIC HISTORY

University of Alaska Fairbanks College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, M.S. Fisheries Science, 2024

University of Alaska Southeast, B.S. Biology, 2020

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries

January 2026 – Current

- Lead stock assessment author for:
Northern Southeast Inside Chatham Sablefish
Gulf of Alaska Demersal Shelf Rockfish
- Gear comparison study analysis for hook-and-line vs. pot longline gear for sablefish.
- Sablefish pot survey design.
- Assessment and report review.

University of Alaska Fairbanks, CFOS, Juneau, Research Assistant

March 2025 – December 2025

- Kuskokwim Salmon Literature Review.
- Bethel Test Fishery and Sonar comparison and analysis.
- Kuskokwim River three species management and strategy evaluation.
- Developed a 3-species interactive Kuskokwim River Inseason salmon management simulation Shiny App.

NOAA, Alaska Regional Office, Sustainable Fisheries, Juneau, Fisheries Management Specialist

September 2024 – March 2025

- Developing Cook Inlet salmon stock assessment models and related code.
- Creating publication ready figures and tables.
- Cook Inlet Salmon Stock Assessment and Fisheries Evaluation author.
- Present statistical methods to the NPFMC Scientific and Statistical Committee.
- Presented recommended harvest specifications to the NPFMC and the public.
- Author on the Cook Inlet SAFE Environmental Assessment.

University of Alaska Fairbanks, CFOS, Juneau, Research Assistant

September 2021 – August 2024

- Developed inseason Canadian-origin Chinook salmon abundance projection models in a Bayesian updating framework.
- Developed and analyzed models using R and Stan statistical modeling platforms.
- Compiled and analyzed scientific data and technical information related to various fish enumeration projects and on the Yukon River to assess their impact on inseason abundance models and the corresponding impacts on management decisions.
- Compiled and analyzed scientific environmental data from the NOAA Daily Optimum Interpolation Sea Surface Temperature V2 data set to determine the environmental impact on salmon. Sea surface temperature and proportion ice cover data were used to

predict Yukon River Chinook salmon run timing and assess the value of run timing information on abundance projections and management decisions.

- Multiple presentations to the Yukon River Panel Joint Technical Committee. Communicated technical information related to developing inseason salmon abundance models to committee members which included diverse stakeholders and governmental representatives.

DIPAC Hatchery, Snetisham, Juneau, Fish Tech,
Sept 2020

- Harvest fish for gamete collection.
- Operate and maintain fish raceways and raceway dams.
- Follow protocols to mitigate IHN virus spread in fish stocks.

University of Alaska Southeast, Biology Department, Juneau, *Student Research Assistant*,
May 2019 – September 2019

- Perform genetic analysis on Auke Weir pink salmon SNIP data using R, BAYESCAN, GENEPOP, and GENEALX.
- Literature search and review.

University of Alaska Southeast, Learning Center, Juneau, *Tutor/Proctor*,
August 2017 – April 2019

- Tutoring for students in Calculus, Statistics, Chemistry, and Algebra.
- Proctored on-campus tests, including ID verification and test administration.

Publications and Reports

Lambert, AW, Liller, ZW, Brenner, RE, Adkison, MD, Cunningham, CJ. (in prep). Development of a Bayesian Framework for Yukon River Canadian-origin Chinook Salmon Abundance.

Lambert, AW, Liller, ZW, Brenner, RE, Adkison, MD, Cunningham, CJ. (in prep). Exploration of the potential to improve inseason projection models for Canadian-origin Yukon River Chinook salmon with run timing predictions informed by environmental covariates.

Lambert, A. W., and R. K. Ehresmann. 2026. 2026 Northern Southeast Inside Subdistrict sablefish management plan and stock assessment. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Regional Information Report No. 1J26-13, Douglas.

Brenner, R., Lambert, A., Defilippo, L., Duncan, D., Russell, J., Harrington, G., Zaleski, A., Ferriss, B., Sebens, T. 2025. Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Report for the Salmon Fisheries of the Cook Inlet Exclusive Economic Zone Area. Department of Commerce, NOAA, Juneau, AK.

Presentations

Brenner, R., Lambert, A., Defilippo, L., Duncan, D., Russell, J., Harrington, G., Zaleski, A., Ferriss, B., Sebens, T. 2025. Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Report for the Salmon Fisheries of the Cook Inlet Exclusive Economic Zone Area. **Long Talk.** North Pacific Fisheries Management Council & Science and Statistical Committee. February 2025.

- Lambert, A. W.,** and R. K. Ehresmann. 2026. 2026 Northern Southeast Inside Subdistrict sablefish industry meeting. **Long Talk** Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries.
- Lambert, AW,** Liller, ZW, Brenner, RE, Adkison, MD, Cunningham, CJ. Development of a Bayesian Framework for Yukon River Canadian-origin Chinook Salmon Abundance. **Thesis Seminar, Long Talk.** UAF College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences Juneau. March 2024.
- Lambert, AW,** CJ. Update: Development of a New Inseason Abundance Projection Tool for Canadian-origin Yukon River Chinook Salmon. **Talk.** Yukon River Panel Joint Technical Committee. March 2023.
- Lambert, AW,** CJ. Development of a New Inseason Abundance Projection Tool for Canadian-origin Yukon River Chinook Salmon. **Workshop.** Yukon River Panel Joint Technical Committee. November 2022.
- Lambert, AW,** Liller, ZW, Brenner, RE, Adkison, MD, Cunningham, CJ. Development of a Bayesian Framework for Yukon River Canadian-origin Chinook Salmon Abundance. **Short Talk (runner-up best short talk).** American Fisheries Society Alaska Student Chapter. February 2022.
- Lambert, AW,** CJ. Final Report Out: Development of a New Inseason Abundance Projection Tool for Canadian-origin Yukon River Chinook Salmon. **Talk.** Yukon River Panel Joint Technical Committee. November 2022.