



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
*National Marine Fisheries Service*  
*P.O. Box 21668*  
*Juneau, AK 99802-1668*

May 17, 2023

Mr. David Witherell  
Executive Director  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
1007 West Third Ave., Suite 400  
L92 Building, 4th floor  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252

Dear David:

We recommend that the North Pacific Fishery Management Council replace Mary Furuness with Steve Whitney on the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Groundfish Plan Team. Ms. Furuness will not be available to continue in her current role on the Groundfish Plan Team. Mr. Whitney has relevant expertise in the groundfish fisheries, inseason management, and Federal rule making from the Alaska Region perspective. I have attached Mr. Whitney's resume for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jonathan M. Kurland".

Jonathan M. Kurland  
Regional Administrator

Enclosure



STEVE WHITNEY • STEVEN.WHITNEY@NOAA.GOV

## EDUCATION

Graduate Studies, Biological Oceanography, University of Alaska Fairbanks 1998-2002  
Bachelor of Science, The Evergreen State College, Washington June 1991

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Fishery Management Specialist** 2003-Present

*NOAA Fisheries, Inseason Management and Community Development Quota Section, Juneau, Alaska*  
Manage Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands as well as Gulf of Alaska fisheries inseason, and in particular, Community Development Quota Fisheries, Amendment 80 fisheries, trawl limited access fisheries, and Gulf of Alaska Rockfish Program fisheries. Have authored the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Groundfish Harvest Specifications since 2009.

**Commercial Salmon Seiner and Harvest Diver in Southeast Alaska**

1995

*Seiner: Skip Mallory, FV Northern Light*

Seined salmon as a deckhand based out of Petersburg and dove for abalone and sea cucumbers as a contractor based out of Ketchikan.

**North Pacific Groundfish Observer**

1992-1995

Observed on 13 trawl, fixed gear, and catcher vessels; shore plants; and catcher/processors from Prince William Sound to the Western Aleutian Islands and as far north as the Russian border, out of five ports.

**Principal in the mussel farm Puget Sound Mussels, LLC**

1993-2001

## ACADEMIC HONORS

**Rasmuson Fisheries Fellowship**

2001-2002

Received the Rasmuson Fisheries Fellowship for work on the scyphomedusae *Chrysaora melanaster* in the Bering Sea and its impacts upon food webs and larval fish.