

## Fully Funded PhD opportunity in Fisheries Ecology

Atlantic halibut (*Hippoglossus hippoglossus*) is currently experiencing population and fisheries recoveries as it now supports the most valuable groundfish fishery per-unit-weight in Atlantic Canada. Despite its high socio-economic importance for five Canadian provinces, the biology and ecology of this species is still poorly understood making the fishery and its management vulnerable to changing ecosystem conditions and potential interactions with other fisheries. Fundamental questions around the species' maturity, reproduction and diet remain to be answered to improve current estimates of stock size and facilitate the development of new management approaches.

We are seeking to recruit a highly motivated PhD student to lead a project on the biology and ecology of Atlantic halibut in the Northwest Atlantic. By collaborating with the fishing industry and Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the candidate will collect new data on halibut biology and ecology, develop analytical methods, and contribute to Fisheries and Oceans Canada meetings for direct application of research results into the stock assessment and management processes. The candidate is anticipated to participate in and lead field operations to collect data on maturity and diet aboard research and fishing vessels across Atlantic Canada.

Funding includes a \$25K annual stipend plus funds to purchase equipment and travel to professional meetings and conferences.

**Location.** The candidate will be registered in the PhD program in Fisheries Science offered at the Fisheries and Marine Institute of Memorial University of Newfoundland in St. John's, Canada (<https://www.mi.mun.ca/programsandcourses/programs/fisheriessciencedoctorofphilosophyphd/>).

The Fisheries and Marine Institute of Memorial University which is Canada's most comprehensive centre for education, training, applied research and industrial support for the ocean industries. Memorial is a dynamic university with teaching and research programs of international distinction. The University has more than 18,500 undergraduate and graduate students supported by 1,100 faculty members and a staff of over 2,500 employees. St. John's is a family friendly vibrant city, with mild winters and comfortable summers, with a rich culture and history and provides the best of outdoor lifestyles and activities along with city living. Please visit [www.newfoundlandlabrador.com](http://www.newfoundlandlabrador.com) for more information.

**Co-supervisors.** Arnault Le Bris and Jonathan Fisher (Fisheries and Marine Institute – Memorial University)

**Collaborative environment.** Nell den Heyer (DFO - Bedford Institute of Oceanography) and Rick Rideout (DFO – Northwest Atlantic Fishery Centre).

### **Requirements.**

- M.Sc. degree in Marine Biology, Fisheries Ecology, Oceanography, or related discipline from a recognized institution.
- Ability to work aboard fishing vessels and in the laboratory.
- Demonstrated quantitative skills and experience with R, Matlab, or Python.
- Strong written and oral communication skills.

**Start date.** April 1st, 2021.

**Application.** Please send a cover letter, curriculum vitae and university transcripts (official or unofficial) by email to both Dr. Jonathan Fisher [jonathan.fisher@mi.mun.ca](mailto:jonathan.fisher@mi.mun.ca) and Dr. Arnault Le Bris, [arnault.lebris@mi.mun.ca](mailto:arnault.lebris@mi.mun.ca). Application deadline is November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020.