

## Dr. George Rose launches new book

Dr. George Rose, a professor and head of Fisheries Conservation with the Fisheries and Marine Institute of Memorial University of Newfoundland, has released a new book. The official launch took place at the Marine Institute on December 7, 2007.

*Cod – The Ecological History of the North Atlantic Fisheries*, focuses on the devastation of many of the greatest North Atlantic cod stocks, particularly those of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Grand Banks.

Dr. Rose tells the full story of that devastation, in scientific detail, for the first time – from the formation of the North Atlantic marine ecosystems to the massive stock declines in the last half of the 20th century.

“When the cod moratorium hit back in the early 90’s, people from all over Newfoundland and Labrador, all over Canada and the world for that matter wanted to know what happened. They wanted to read about it,” said Dr. Rose. “I quickly realized that there just wasn’t anything out there. There were hundreds of scientific papers published that commented on the topic but there was no book that really recounted the story.”

In the book, Dr. Rose also recounts the many political influences on the fisheries over several centuries and describes how neglect from the late 1800s onward led to insufficient scientific knowledge and little protection for the stocks when massive Euro-Russian fleets targeted the Grand Banks after World War II, destroying the most prolific fishery the world has known.

Dr. Rose holds a PhD in biology from McGill University. His research interests are in acoustics, fisheries conservation and the effects that fisheries and environmental changes have on fish stock dynamics.

