



Funded Masters Opportunity in Fisheries Science and Technology

Fishing industries are a significant source of plastic debris, contributing more than 10% of plastic marine debris worldwide. Most fishing gear components do not decompose at sea and are not easily recycled. In an effort to reduce marine debris, we have funding to field test a biodegradable crab bait system to replace the current plastic alternative in the Newfoundland snow crab (*Chionoecetes opilio*) fishery. Snow crab has the highest landing value of any fishery in the Newfoundland and Labrador province, at over \$295 million in 2018 while fishing over 4.6 million pots.

We are seeking a highly motivated Masters student to focus their research-based thesis around this project – determining the effectiveness of the biodegradable crab bait system and snow crab behaviour during pot capture. The successful candidate must be willing to go to sea aboard a commercial snow crab fishing vessel and be admitted into the MSc program in Fisheries Science and Technology offered at the Fisheries and Marine Institute of Memorial University of Newfoundland in St. John's, Canada.

<https://www.mi.mun.ca/programsandcourses/programs/fisheriessciencefisheriesscienceandtechnology/masterofsciencedegree/>

Preferred experience includes biology, fisheries science, at-sea research, statistics, and related disciplines. To apply, send a cover letter, CV, and copies of university transcripts to Dr. Shannon Bayse Shannon.Bayse@mi.mun.ca. This project is supported and conducted in collaboration with SINTEF Seafood Technology, Norway.