Seeking a motivated PhD student to work on eelgrass restoration

About the position

A fully funded 4-year PhD position to work on eelgrass restoration is available at the Fisheries and Marine Institute of Memorial University of Newfoundland in St. John’s, Newfoundland, Canada. The successful candidate will work with Dr. Arnault Le Bris (www.arnaultlebris.com) in a dynamic team with numerous partners as part of a Coastal Restoration Fund Project in Placentia Bay, Newfoundland. The candidate will be registered in the graduate program in Fisheries Science:
https://www.mi.mun.ca/programsandcourses/programs/

Eelgrass (Zostera marina) is an ecologically significant species that provides numerous ecosystems services. In Placentia Bay, eelgrass beds have declined by 50 to 100% at numerous sites following the recent invasion of European green crab (Carcinus maenas). The objectives of the project are to identify the best practices for eelgrass restoration in cold water ecosystems and evaluate the benefits of planned eelgrass restoration efforts in Placentia Bay. This research project involves a significant amount of field work and GIS analyses, but the student will have the opportunity to define his own research questions.

Qualification

The successful candidate will have an MSc in Marine Biology, Ecology, Oceanography, Environmental Sciences, or a related discipline. GIS skills and capacity to lead field work activities are required. Scuba-diving certification, knowledge of seagrass biology, estuarine ecology and coastal oceanography, as well as experience in maintaining oceanographic equipment are additional assets. The successful candidate will work in a team-oriented environment and needs strong written and oral communication skills.

Application and start date

The ideal candidate will be able to relocate and begin the PhD program by June 15th, 2018. To apply please send a cover letter, a curriculum vitae, and unofficial transcripts to Arnault Le Bris, arnault.lebris@mi.mun.ca. We will accept applications until March 15, 2018 or until a suitable candidate is found.