

M.Sc. in Fisheries Science

Project: Connecting commercial fisheries with scientific monitoring.

Our research lab is seeking a motivated student to undertake a Masters of Science (M.Sc.) in fisheries monitoring. The project involves monitoring fishes in the Avon River and Estuary over two years to describe presence/absence, run timing, and demographics for multiple marine, diadromous, and freshwater fishes. The student will work in a team academic environment and will collaborate with commercial fishers and First Nations. Responsibilities and field work include: tending fyke and gill nets, eel pots, and beach seines; fish identification; monitoring and compiling environmental data (e.g. temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen), weather data (e.g. cloud cover, barometric pressure), and lunar cycles to complement fish records; and conducting fisheries analyses. Our lab specializes in data management, long-term monitoring, and applied ecological statistical analyses. The student will have a focus area on these project aspects (but will also contribute to related projects) with a key focus on learning and conducting fisheries science analyses. Analyses will include conveying general fisheries demographics, applied general linear modeling and/or Bayesian inference, and/or other statistical analyses as dictated by the project goals and student experience. A secondary focus will be on community engagement including Citizen Science initiatives across the project area and helping with other student projects with similar components. Our lab is highly motivated in teamwork due to the nature of conducting field work; therefore, the student will gain valuable experience in several areas.

For more information on some of our lab projects, visit www.strippedbass.ca.

Requirements: Working in small boats and along shores/coasts in all weather conditions, and according to the tidal cycle. Tides occur twice per day and advance by about 50 min per day (25 min per tide), thus, there will be early mornings, late evenings, and some night work.

Location: Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Canada, B4P 2R6

Funding: \$17,000/yr for 2 years.

Start Date: As soon as possible.

Department: Biology or Mathematics & Statistics (depending on student focus and skills).

Contact: Trevor Avery, Ph.D., P.Stat., Departments of Biology and Mathematics & Statistics, trevor.avery@acadiau.ca, 1-902-585-1873

Applications: Please send the following directly via email: CV/Resume, Major/Minor, GPA and courses (last 2 years, but all is better), personal/career biography, and outline (1-page maximum) of how your skills and experience will benefit the project, what you hope to gain from the project, and how this project and degree will benefit your career aspirations. Also include references and their contact information. A single PDF file is preferred!

Due Date: 21 April 2017 or until a suitable student is found.