



MSc Position: The use of fulvic acid in diets for improved health of fish in aquaculture

Location: UBC and DFO's Pacific Science Enterprise Centre (PSEC)

We are looking for highly motivated students, with a strong work ethic and a passion for sustainable aquaculture for this exciting research opportunity

Start date: May 2022

Duration: Two years, fully funded student stipend support

Research areas: As the aquaculture industry expands there is increasing push to reduce reliance on antibiotics and other chemicals to prevent or treat impacts from pests and pathogens. Methods to stimulate the immune system with the use of feed additives or water treatments are of great benefit to the industry. This is a unique opportunity to work on a joint project with UBC and Fisheries and Ocean Canada (DFO), in collaboration with leading finfish aquaculture industries in the province. The successful candidate will lead scientific investigations into the use of

fulvic acid as a feed and bath supplement for immune stimulation in locally important fish species for aquaculture, such as sablefish, chinook salmon, rainbow trout and/or arctic char. Desired outcomes of this study are to develop specific protocols for inclusion of these health additives into practices applicable to the hatchery environment.

Duties: The experiments will take place at PSEC in West Vancouver and the candidate will be involved with daily fish care, experimental setup, data collection, laboratory analysis, data management, statistical analysis, thesis and scientific publication write-up. The candidate will have the opportunity to present their results at a scientific meeting and transfer their gained knowledge to stakeholders.

Eligibility: A BSc in the field of animal science, marine biology, or related science discipline (Minimum grade average 70%). For students who have not completed their degree, there is the option to start this project as part of a Work-Learn position.

Candidate skills: A strong work ethic, creativity, good initiative and problem-solving skills, attention to detail, consistence, the ability to think and work both independently and within a team are essential to this role. Practical experience in laboratory analytical skills and fish husbandry are preferred.

Applications: Please submit a current CV, cover letter outlining your motivation for the position and contact details of two references to Dr. Andrea Frommel. This position will remain open until filled.

For more information, please contact:

Dr. Andrea Frommel, andrea.frommel@ubc.ca

Aquaculture and Climate Change Lab

Faculty of Land and Food Systems, UBC