

# Masteroppgåver ved Havforskningsinstituttet Våren 2020

## Possible master theses at the Institute of Marine Research, Spring 2020



**NB!** Det må etableres en kontakt med internveileder ved universitet så snart som mulig i de tilfeller det ikke allerede er angitt.

Contact must be established with an internal supervisor at the university as soon as possible in cases where it is not already stated.

### FG Bunnfisk – Demersal fish

Kontaktperson: Erik Olsen ([erik.olsen@hi.no](mailto:erik.olsen@hi.no))

Vi arbeider p.t. med tilrettelegging av flere masteroppgaver i Bergen. We are currently working with the facilitation of several master's theses in Bergen.

### FG Fangst – Fish capture

Contact person: Svein Løkkeborg ([svein.loekkeborg@hi.no](mailto:svein.loekkeborg@hi.no))

**Behaviour and welfare of herring and mackerel caught in purse seines.** The objective of this MSc project will be to describe and quantify the behaviour of pelagic fish (herring and mackerel) during their capture in purse seines and relate this to potential capture related stressors (e.g. hypoxia, crowding and net contact), to assess the potential impact upon the welfare of the catch. The candidate will use archived data and video from previous research cruises and will also have the opportunity to join a research cruise on a commercial purse seine vessel and collect further data.

**IMR-supervisors:** Michael Breen, [michael.breen@hi.no](mailto:michael.breen@hi.no) / Maria Tenningen, [maria.tenningen@hi.no](mailto:maria.tenningen@hi.no).

### Fiskestimenens reaksjon til fangst med ringnot og påvirkning på fangstsuksess

I prosjektet skal sonardata brukes til å undersøke hvordan makrell, sild og lodde reagerer til fangst med ringnot, hva som påvirker atferden og hvilken effekt det kan ha på fangstsuksess. Dataene er allerede innsamlede men det vil også være muligheter for å bli med på forskningstokt for å samle inn mer data.

### Fish school reactions to capture by purse seine and implications on catch success

In this project sonar data will be used to describe the reactions of pelagic fish schools (mackerel, herring and capelin) to capture by purse seine, identify key drivers underlying the behavioural reactions and discuss effects on catch success. Data is available from previous research cruises and there will be an opportunity to join a cruise on board a commercial fishing vessel for further data collection.

**IMR-supervisor:** Maria Tenningen, [maria.tenningen@hi.no](mailto:maria.tenningen@hi.no).

## **FG Fiskeernæring – Research program Fish Nutrition**

Contact person: Rune Waagbø ([Rune.Waagbo@hi.no](mailto:Rune.Waagbo@hi.no))

In principle, all our running research projects in the research program can be available for master student studies.

**Investigating the requirements for micronutrients in Lump sucker (*Cyclopterus lumpus*).** *IMR-supervisor: Øystein Sæle* ([oystein.saele@hi.no](mailto:oystein.saele@hi.no))

**Investigating the requirements for micronutrients in Ballan wrasse (*Labrus berggylta*).**

*IMR-supervisor: Øystein Sæle* ([oystein.saele@hi.no](mailto:oystein.saele@hi.no))

**Applying a gut sac model (from salmon) to investigate the impact of undesirables in feed, such as pesticides, on intestinal integrity.** *IMR-supervisor: Øystein Sæle* ([oystein.saele@hi.no](mailto:oystein.saele@hi.no))

## **FG Fiskeridynamikk – Fisheries dynamics**

Contact person: Jon Helge Vølstad ([jon.helge.voelstad@hi.no](mailto:jon.helge.voelstad@hi.no))

**Robustness-analysis of fishery dependent estimates.** The IMR run several sampling programs to collect data from commercial fisheries. An in-depth analysis on how robust estimates are to variations in sampling intensity from different gears, at different times and in different places, will provide important validation of estimates and has great potential to assist efforts in developing future sampling programs.

**IMR-supervisor:** Edvin Fuglebakk ([edvin.fuglebakk@hi.no](mailto:edvin.fuglebakk@hi.no)).

**Cath per unit effort indices.** Data sources contain information on total catch and fishing effort from commercial vessels, as well as meta-information about time, location and fishing-gear. The candidate will apply existing theory to analyse Norwegian fisheries-data.

**IMR-supervisor:** Edvin Fuglebakk ([edvin.fuglebakk@hi.no](mailto:edvin.fuglebakk@hi.no)).

**Time series analysis of survey estimates.** The survey estimates are traditionally used as input to assessment models, but there could be simpler models serving as alternatives to the assessment models, which are worth pursuing.

**Suggested contact:** Jon Helge Vølstad ([jon.helge.voelstad@hi.no](mailto:jon.helge.voelstad@hi.no))

## **FG Marin økosystemakustikk – Ecosystem acoustics**

Contact person: Rolf Korneliussen ([rolf.korneliussen@hi.no](mailto:rolf.korneliussen@hi.no))

**Bootstrapping of acoustic-trawl surveys.** Variance estimation of acoustic-trawl and swept-area survey estimates has received increasing attention with the on-going REDUS project (Reduced Uncertainty in Stock Assessment) at the IMR. Using the StoX software, the variance of the survey estimates can be estimated by bootstrapping echosounder and trawl data. This routine has however not been intensively tested with regards to number of bootstrap replicates, number of

data points available and the stochastic nature of the data. Evaluating these bootstrap routines and suggesting alternatives would be a valuable contribution to the assessment of fish stocks.

**Suggested contact:** Espen Johnsen ([espen.johnsen@hi.no](mailto:espen.johnsen@hi.no)).

**Image analysis of echosounder and sonar data.** Machine learning initiatives have been initiated at the IMR for categorizing images of fish, seals and other organisms, and similar approaches are intended for acoustic data. Alternatively, traditional image analysis can be applied.

**Suggested contact:** Nils Olav Handegard ([nilsolav@hi.no](mailto:nilsolav@hi.no)).

## **FG Oseanografi og klima – Oceanography and climate**

Contact person: Jan Erik Stiansen ([jan.erik.stiansen@hi.no](mailto:jan.erik.stiansen@hi.no))

### **Optimal plassering av oppdrettsanlegg basert på kunnskap om strøm og smittespredning.**

Kandidaten vil fortrinnsvis benytte numeriske simuleringssystemer for strøm og partikkelspredning til å gjennomføre scenarie-testing av ulike plasseringer av oppdrettsanlegg. Det vil også være muligheter for å delta på tokt og gjennomføre innsamling av hydrografi og strømdata fra felt. **HI-veileder:** Lars Asplin ([lars.asplin@hi.no](mailto:lars.asplin@hi.no)).

**Fornyning av bassengvann i terskelfjorder i dag og i et framtidig klima.** Kandidaten vil gjennom å analysere resultater fra numeriske strømmodeller identifisere bassengvann-utskiftning og hvilke prosesser som fører til dette. Med strømmodellsystemet vil kandidaten manipulere ferskvannsavrenningen og teste i hvilken grad økt nedbør og ferskvannsavrenning til fjordene vil påvirke utskiftningen av bassengvann. **HI-veileder:** Lars Asplin ([lars.asplin@hi.no](mailto:lars.asplin@hi.no)).

**Masteroppgave om strøm over terskel i Hardangerfjorden.** Havforskningsinstituttet har observasjoner som viser vertikal profil av strøm, temperatur og salt. **Kontaktperson:** Jan Erik Stiansen ([jan.erik.stiansen@hi.no](mailto:jan.erik.stiansen@hi.no))

## **FG Pelagisk fisk – Pelagic fish**

Contact person: Aril Slotte ([aril.slotte@hi.no](mailto:aril.slotte@hi.no))

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## **FG Sjøpattedyr – Marine mammals**

Contact person: Tore Haug ([tore.haug@hi.no](mailto:tore.haug@hi.no))

**Analyser av allerede innsamlede data av hvalarter.** *Kontaktperson:* Nils Øien ([nils.oien@hi.no](mailto:nils.oien@hi.no)).

## FG Økosystemprosesser – Ecosystem processes

Contact person: Mette Mauritzen ([mette.mauritzen@hi.no](mailto:mette.mauritzen@hi.no)).

**Diettanalyser 0-gruppe torsk gjennom kritisk fase Skagerrak.** *Innsamlet materiale, men studenten kan bli med på tokt. To oppgaver. HI-veileder: Tore Johannessen ([tore.johannessen@hi.no](mailto:tore.johannessen@hi.no)).*

**Endringer i bentos-biomasse i tid og rom; transekter – koble til miljøvariabel.** *Innsamlet materiale, men studenten kan bli med på tokt. HI-veileder: Lis Lindal Jørgensen ([lislina@hi.no](mailto:lislina@hi.no)).*

**Eksperimentelt oppsett for å teste konkurranse mellom stillehavøsters fucus-arter ift. kolonisering av hardbunn.** *HI-veileder: Anders Jelmert ([anders.jelmert@hi.no](mailto:anders.jelmert@hi.no)).*

**Økosystembasert høsting av rekefjorder i Finnmark inkl. modelleringsverktøyet ECOPATH.** *I dette prosjektet kan det bli aktuelt med masterstudenter i flere arbeidspakker. HI-veiledere: Guldborg Søvik, [guldborg.soevik@hi.no](mailto:guldborg.soevik@hi.no), Kjell Nedreaas, [kjelln@hi.no](mailto:kjelln@hi.no) og Lis Lindal Jørgensen ([lislina@hi.no](mailto:lislina@hi.no)).*

## FG Reproduksjon og utviklingsbiologi – Reproduction and developmental biology

Kontaktperson: FG-leder Anna Troedsson Wargelius ([annaw@hi.no](mailto:annaw@hi.no)).

I satsningsområdet **Bærekraftig oppdrett av marin fisk** kan vi tilby oppgaver innen reproduksjon og tidlige livsstadier på kveite og andre marine fiskearter som kan være aktuelle som kandidater for oppdrett. Within the focus area «Sustainable aquaculture of marine fish», we have MSc thesis projects on reproductive physiology and early development of Atlantic halibut and other species that may be candidates for aquaculture. **HI-veileder:** Birgitta Norberg ([birgittan@hi.no](mailto:birgittan@hi.no))

**Influence of light on signaling pathways and metamorphosis behaviour of halibut (*Hippoglossus hippoglossus*).** The aim of this MSc project is to understand the signaling pathways that will lead to flatfish swimming behaviour prior eye migration and pigmentation formation under influence of light. The student will use imaging and video analyses for recording fish behaviour and morphological defects (eye and pigmentation) under light regime. He/she will also examine molecular markers involved in eye migration modulation. **Contact:** Torstein Harboe ([torsteinh@hi.no](mailto:torsteinh@hi.no)); Prescilla Perrichon (prescilla [perrichon@hi.no](mailto:perrichon@hi.no)); Birgitta Norberg ([birgittan@hi.no](mailto:birgittan@hi.no))

### **The role of multiple vitellogenins and cathepsins in acquisition of egg buoyancy in Atlantic halibut (*Hippoglossus hippoglossus*)**

Atlantic halibut oocytes undergo extraordinary hydration during maturation, and halibut eggs exhibit highly variable buoyancy. Egg buoyancy is an important parameter representing egg quality in most marine fishes. The objective of this MSc project is to 1) investigate the involvement of multiple vitellogenins (Vtgs) and the functionality of certain cathepsins (CTS)

in the process of maturational yolk proteolysis and oocyte hydration in the Atlantic halibut, and 2) relate them to egg quality. The candidate will utilize molecular, biochemical and immunochemical tools for detection of multiple Vtgs in prehydrated and mature oocytes leading to eggs of different buoyancy grades.

**Contact:** Birgitta Norberg ([birgittan@hi.no](mailto:birgittan@hi.no)); Özlem Yilmaz ([ozlem.yilmaz@hi.no](mailto:ozlem.yilmaz@hi.no))

## FG Plankton

Kontaktperson: FG-leder Kjell Gundersen ([kjell.gundersen@hi.no](mailto:kjell.gundersen@hi.no))

Two Master's projects will study **the feeding ecology of myctophids in the Northeast Atlantic Ocean**. Samples have been collected during the "Mesopelagisk Irmingerhavet" cruise 2018 by the IMR. These projects will investigate and compare the diet change along the longitudinal gradient and fish size. Resource partitioning, diet overlap and prey selectiveness will also be investigated. **One project** will study the stomach contents of smaller myctophid species (*Benthosema glaciale*, *Myctophum punctatum* and *Protomyctophum arcticum*) and a **second project** will study the stomach contents of larger myctophid species (*Lampadena speculigera*, *Lampanyctus* sp. and *Notoscopelus kroeyeri*). Laboratory work is a component for both projects. We are searching two motivated students that can work together on similar topics. Participation in a cruise to learn how sampling mesopelagic fish is optional. Both projects will require collaborating with the IMR. The projects are open to Master students in Marine biology, Biodiversity, Evolution and ecology, and Fisheries biology and management. **IMR-supervisor:** Eva García Seoane ([eva.garcia.seoane@hi.no](mailto:eva.garcia.seoane@hi.no)).

### Trophic position of myctophids in the Northeast Atlantic.

In this Master project, we will conduct stable isotope analysis ( $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  and  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ ) on myctophid, but also in their potential prey and competitors. This project cover specimens collected in the Northeast Atlantic. The trophic relationship between the myctophid species will be study, and also their position in the trophic web. Laboratory work is required and participation in a mesopelagic cruise will be optional. The master student will be a member of the Theoretical Ecology Group <http://bio.uib.no/te/> and also collaborate with researchers in the Institute of Marine Research. **IMR-supervisor:** Eva García Seoane ([eva.garcia.seoane@hi.no](mailto:eva.garcia.seoane@hi.no)).

## FG Benthiske ressurser og prosesser – Benthic resources and processes

Contact person: Carsten Hvingel ([carsten.hvingel@hi.no](mailto:carsten.hvingel@hi.no))

### Utvikling av bestandsvurdering av taskekrabbe og sjøkreps langs norskekysten.

Fiske etter skalldyr som taskekrabbe eller sjøkreps er en viktig næring langs norskekysten, men disse fiskeriene er i dag faktisk uregulert og datagrunnlaget for å vurdere tilstand og utvikling av disse bestandene er veldig begrenset. For å forbedre rådene våre til forvaltningen utvikler vi på HI bestandsvurderingsmetoder for denne typen bestander. Som masterkandidat vil du bidra til dette ved å tilpasse, teste og sammenligne forskjellige bestandsvurderingsmetoder for å evaluere strategier for en bærekraftig høsting og legge grunnlaget for forvaltningsråd. Det vil være muligheter for kandidaten å delta i relevant feltarbeid.

Contact persons: Guldborg Søvik ([guldborg.soevik@hi.no](mailto:guldborg.soevik@hi.no)) , Fabian Zimmermann ([fabian.zimmermann@hi.no](mailto:fabian.zimmermann@hi.no))

**Developing a stock assessment for coastal crab and Norway lobster stocks.**

Coastal shellfish fisheries such as those for edible crab or Norway lobster are regionally important but largely unregulated, and little data exist to assess the state and development of these stocks. To improve our advice and the management of these stocks, IMR is developing stock assessments methods for these data-limited stocks. The candidate will contribute to this work by adapting, testing and comparing different assessment methods to determine the sustainable levels of fishing and lay the foundation for management advice. There will be possibilities for participating in relevant fieldwork.

Contact persons: Guldborg Søvik ([guldborg.soevik@hi.no](mailto:guldborg.soevik@hi.no)) , Fabian Zimmermann ([fabian.zimmermann@hi.no](mailto:fabian.zimmermann@hi.no))

See also <https://www.hi.no/hi/forskning/student-som-vil-bli-havforsker>

