

The LIENSS (Research Center for the study of Exploited Littoral Ecosystems, University of La Rochelle, France) offers a post doctoral position in eco-physiology and marine ecology. The successful candidate will contribute to an interdisciplinary French research program VASIREMI which began in September 2006 and aims at assessing the trophic significance of microbial biofilms in intertidal mudflats. The candidate will study the grazing pressure on biofilm by individual mullets (*Liza ramada* and/or *Liza aurata*) in order to estimate the organic matter flux from mudflats to macro predators. Experimental approach will be carried out in mesocosms, at temperatures representing winter and summer conditions, respectively. Benthic substrate of mudflats will be reproduced and biofilm growth (microphytobenthos and bacteria) will be stimulated. Feeding of a known number of juvenile mullets will be observed using video tracking system. The ideal candidate should have a background in dynamics of the benthic micro-organism production and in eco-physiology (more particularly foraging behaviour); experience in laboratory culture of biofilm, animal experimentation and video analysis will be appreciated. For more information about our research program and the post doctoral application, please contact Dr Christel Lefrançois or Dr Pierre Richard. Candidate should send a letter of interest describing the qualifications relevant to the project and past research experience, a detailed CV and two letters of recommendation to both of the following addresses: [clefranc@univ-lr.fr](mailto:clefranc@univ-lr.fr) and [pierre.richard@ifremer.fr](mailto:pierre.richard@ifremer.fr)

Duration of the contract: 6 months

Start of the contract: 1st of September 2008

Application deadline: 1st of July 2008

Net Salary: 1750 euros/ month