**University of Maine**

**Job Description**

**Title:** Aquaculture Research Hatchery Manager

**Department:** Aquaculture Research Institute

**Date:** March 2024

**Reports To:** Aquaculture Innovation Specialist

**Purpose:** The Aquaculture Research Hatchery Manager will work with members of the Aquaculture Research Institute (ARI), School of Marine Sciences (SMS), and collaborators in support of aquaculture related research activities based primarily at the Darling Marine Center (DMC) in Walpole, Maine. The integrated aquaculture research programs at the DMC support full cycle aquaculture research for bivalves and macroalgae from hatchery through grow out and this position will assist in supporting all facets of production and research.

**Essential Duties and Responsibilities:**

* Supervise microalgae production in support of ongoing bivalve hatchery projects.
* Work with research partners from ARI, SMS, Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center (MAIC), and Maine Sea Grant to manage an oyster breeding program and assist with maintenance and husbandry tasks for other ongoing bivalve hatchery projects (oysters, scallops, razor clams).
* Assist with macroalgal nursery production and field research.
* Working with multiple researchers and partners, this position will manage and assist in maintaining and developing the Aquaculture Research and Demonstration (ARD) Farm at the Darling Marine Center. The ARD Farm is a full research farm supporting ongoing projects with multiple species (oysters, scallops, macroalgae, and other candidate species).
* Ensure the ARD farm maintains compliance with university and state rules and regulations as permitted.
* Engage, support, and coordinate with multiple researchers and concurrent research projects on the farm.
* Coordinate with the Aquaculture Innovation Specialist, graduate students and research partners to maintain critical farm infrastructure.
* May also conduct other related research activities in the interest of aquaculture research as desired and as skills set allows for such as field support and boat operations, oceanographic equipment maintenance and deployment, or scientific diving.
* Perform other related duties as assigned.

**Knowledge, Skills and Qualifications:**

**Required:**

* Master’s level degree in marine aquaculture or related field, or equivalent combination of education and experience.
* Strong work ethic and attention to detail.
* Demonstrate the ability to work as part of a group, but also as a self-starter, working sometimes with significant independence.
* Computer proficiency.
* Strong skills in written and oral communication, comfort in working both in groups and in a one-on-one setting.
* Comfort and skill working in outdoor environments, including aboard small to moderate marine vessels.
* Ability to learn, follow and where needed develop protocols and maintain detailed records.
* Experience in a laboratory setting requiring sterile technique and adherence to biosecurity protocols.

**Preferred:**

* Five years or more of applied research, or direct experience in the aquaculture field.
* Direct experience with hatchery culture of marine bivalves and microalgae
* Significant experience in related research and project coordination.
* Experience as an industry collaborator or direct experience with aquaculture or fishing industries.

**Working Environment/Dynamics:** Work will be primarily performed at the Darling Marine Center in Walpole, Maine. Work will be conducted primarily in the Marine Culture Laboratory (MCL) under limited general supervision. Work will involve general laboratory practices and involves working with flowing seawater systems, sterile techniques and quarantine protocols.The Marine Culture Laboratory (MCL) is home to most aquaculture research facilities and has ready access to the DMC’s waterfront and lease sites. These include a broodstock and quarantine room, larval room, algal culture facility with SEACAPS system and research bays.

**Work Schedule:** Normal University of Maine business hours are Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Work outside of normal business hours will be expected to fulfill the needs and duties of this position and may include weekends, early mornings, and nights.

**Position Type:** Contingent on external funding.

**Work Year:** Full-time, fiscal year.

**Supervisory Responsibilities:** The incumbent will be directly responsible for managing other professional employees, and graduate and undergraduate student employees.

**Schedule for Evaluation:** In the initial six months of employment and annually thereafter, in accordance with the UMPSA agreement.

**Job Family/Salary Grade:** 04/04.

The finalist for this position must successfully complete a pre-employment physical, and appropriate background checks will be required.

All UMS employees are required to comply with applicable policies and procedures, as well as to complete applicable workplace related screenings, and required employee trainings, such as Information Security, Safety Training, Workplace Violence and Sexual Harassment.