

The **Institute of Sea Fisheries (SF)** of the Johann Heinrich von Thünen-Institute (TI), Federal Research Institute for Rural Areas, Forestry and Fisheries, department of **Living Marine Resources**, is looking to immediately fill a position for

**a scientific employee
(in the area of Fisheries Biology / Fisheries Science)**

The position is limited to a fixed term of 3 years, and is placed within the EU project Pandora. The Pandora project plans to develop a toolbox of modelling methods that will enable better management of important stocks in the EU. The aim is to exploit the full potential of available data (e.g., survey data, satellite data) using an ecosystem approach.

As part of the EU project, the candidate will investigate the influence of environmental variability on the recruitment of fish stocks in the North Sea, including the exploration of novel environmental indices, in order to gain insight into the lack of recovery of some stocks despite declining fishing mortality rates. The combination of these findings with available information on trophodynamic processes in the food web of the North Sea will then be used to expand the population dynamic part of the bio-economic model FLBEIA towards a multi-species approach. This will allow for detailed simulations of management scenarios that take into account both the biological interactions (food webs) and technical interactions (different species being caught together) in the fisheries of the North Sea. Furthermore the candidate should help coordinate the work of the TI in the Pandora project and actively participate in the cooperation with international partners. In particular, the work includes the following

Tasks:

- Analysis of factors influencing the productivity of commercially important fish stocks in the North Sea
- Further development and implementation of biological information into the bio-economic model FLBEIA; in particular, the modeling of biological interactions in the food web of the North Sea
- Test new management approaches for an ecosystem approach to fisheries management
- Participation in working groups within the project and in relevant working groups of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)
- Assist in coordinating the work of the TI in the Pandora project; in particular, the North Sea case study
- Presentation of scientific results in the peer-reviewed publications, but also to the public (for example on the Internet and other media, or through lectures or other publications)

What we are looking for:

- A degree (preferably PhD) in biology in the field of fishery biology / oceanography with a focus on quantitative data analysis and modeling or equivalent
- Sound knowledge of stock assessment methods
- Very good knowledge of population dynamic modeling
- Very good programming knowledge in R, ADMB or similar programming environments is mandatory; practical experience in ecosystem modeling is beneficial
- Sound knowledge of statistical methods used in fisheries biology; Experience with the programming of statistical evaluations (for example in R or MATLAB)
- Very good English language skills
- Assertiveness, but able to work within a team and possessing social skills necessary for conflict resolution



What we offer:

- A highly interesting work environment in applied research at the interface between science and fisheries management, where results are of considerable public interest
- A high degree of personal research freedom
- Intense interdisciplinary and international cooperation

The employment contract is governed by the provisions of the collective agreement for the civil service (TVöD). Payment of the fee is made according to the tariff group 13 TVöD. A part time position is also possible.

The Thünen Institute promotes the professional equality of women and men and therefore explicitly encourages women to apply.

Handicapped people are given preferential consideration in cases of equivalent qualifications. They must only demonstrate a minimum of physical fitness in the context of the task required.

Technical questions may be addressed to Dr. Alex Kempf (Tel. 0471-94460-251) or Dr. Marc Taylor (Tel. 0471-94460-252).

Written applications, containing a tabular curriculum vitae with information on education and professional career, and copies of certificates should be sent by July 9th, 2018 containing the reference "**SF_Pandora**", to

Johann Heinrich von Thünen Institute
Head of Institute of Sea Fishing
Herwigstrasse 31, 27568 Bremerhaven
e-mail: sf@thuenen.de

Electronic applications are welcome, preferably as a single file (PDF).