Postdoctoral Research Opportunity

Job Title:	Postdoctoral Researcher
Reporting to:	Dr Cóilín Minto
Location:	Marine and Freshwater Research Centre, GMIT, Galway
Duration:	36 Month Fixed Term Contract
Funding:	This project is funded by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine Competitive Research Funding Programmes (Reference 15/S/774).
Project Title:	Linking mixed fisheries and multispecies models for management advice

Description: An exciting opportunity has arisen for a highly motivated researcher as part of the large-scale collaborative project *Fisheries Knowledge for Optimal Sustainable Management (FishKOSM)* led by the Marine Institute.

A key problem in European fisheries management lies in the fact that the main commercial demersal fisheries are not only exploiting a multi-species ecosystem and food web, but are also catching these fish mixed together: the mixed fisheries problem. In many cases there are more than one fleet fishing on a given species, and multiple species fished by a given fleet. For example, the 2018 single species ICES advice for Celtic Sea cod, haddock and whiting (often caught together) is for an (approximate) 9% increase in TAC for cod, a 24% decrease for haddock and a 4% decrease for whiting. This highlights that the management approach needs to consider technical interactions, where fish species are caught together.

Current bioeconomic approaches (e.g., DAMARA project) are annual with spatial considerations incorporated via segmentation definitions. A primary focus of the postdoctoral researcher will be further development of the DAMARA model to include quarterly time steps, improved spatial resolution, updating with new data, running reference point range scenarios; all in consultation with key stakeholders.

Key Responsibilities:

- Work with the project team to develop advanced bioeconomic models for the Celtic Sea
- Develop existing tools to be more spatially and temporally resolved
- Test the performance of harvest control rules and MSY-ranges
- Develop methods to appraise how far management would need to go to address given requirements
- Lead scientific peer reviewed publications and conference presentations communicating the research outputs from the project
- Interact with stakeholders to develop relevant scenarios to test

Requirements/Qualifications:

Candidates should have a minimum of a PhD or equivalent (4 years fulltime research after primary degree) research experience (including industrial R&D). The ideal candidate will have a background in quantitative ecology and fisheries with experience of working with large models. Strong statistical modelling skills as well as statistical programming skills (e.g., R, Python, Matlab) are required. Some familiarity with mixed fisheries issues would be an advantage. They will be highly motivated with a strong publication record, commensurate with their career stage and a demonstrated ability to work as part of a dynamic team.

Conditions:
Salary: IUA level 2 point 1: €36,488 with annual increments.

Further information on the position may be obtained from Dr Cóilín Minto (coilin.minto@gmit.ie).

Interested applicants should submit a detailed Curriculum Vitae including a personal statement as to how you meet the requirements of the post described to hr@gmit.ie

The Human Resources Department
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Latest date for receipt of completed application is: 12 noon on Wednesday, 18th October 2017.

Interviews are expected to take place the week of October 30th, 2017

Please note:
Applications received after the closing date will not be accepted.
Candidates must hold a valid work permit to work in Ireland.
Garda Vetting will apply.
Applications received after the closing date will not be accepted.

The Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from people with a disability.

Cuirfear fáilte roimh chomhfhreagras trí Ghaeilge.