Title: **M.S. Graduate Assistantship – Stone crab bioeconomic modeling**
Location: **University of Florida, Gainesville, FL**
Categories: **Student**
Salary: **$24,000 per year, plus tuition**
Applications Due By: **open until filled**

Description: The United States stone crab fishery operates primarily along Florida's Gulf Coast, as well as the Florida Keys and southeast Florida. The fishery is one of the most valuable in Florida, with over $30 million in revenue generated annually, but landings have been declining and highly volatile over recent years. We are seeking a M.S. student to develop bioeconomic fisheries models for the stone crab fishery to estimate fundamental demand equations that describe the relationship between stock size, market price, and revenues. The demand equations will link to an age-structured population model to estimate how management options will impact revenue, cost and economic performance in the stone crab fishery. The student will be advised by Dr. Frank Asche (UF Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences) and Dr. David Chagaris (UF/IFAS Nature Coast Biological Station). The student will also work alongside Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) scientists and Sea Grant agents to conduct scoping and management workshops around the state, exposing him/her to the diversity of Florida's fisheries stakeholders. The anticipated start date is Fall 2020 and is contingent on funding of a research grant.

Qualifications: B.S. degree in economics, fisheries, biology, ecology, or related field. Preference will be given to students with a quantitative background and interest in natural resource management, fisheries economics, and mathematical modeling. Minimum academic qualifications include GRE scores in the upper 50th percentile in each category and a GPA of at least 3.0 (on a 4.0 system).

Contact: For questions about the opportunity please email Dr. David Chagaris, dchagaris@ufl.edu. To be considered for the position, a letter of interest, current CV, unofficial transcripts, GRE scores, and contact information of three references is required.