



ANDY RITCHIE FUND APPLICATION INFORMATION

Background

The Andy Ritchie Fund (AR Fund) was set up in the year 2000. The purpose of the Scholarship Fund is to support practical research in the field of New Zealand Aquaculture, to gain better knowledge and understanding of the environment we operate in, the species farmed and any impacts associated with marine farming operations.

\$2,500 per annum is available. Ideally for a master's student to assist in research for the Aquaculture industry. The funding area is nationwide, but preference will be given to projects that benefit Top of the South aquaculture. It is open to all species and aquaculture products.

Each year a grant will be available for specific research topics. The topics for the current year are listed below

The Committee has the discretion to approve grants outside the above criteria if it considers them to be appropriate.

Timeline

The table below lists the timeline for the scholarship application and approval process

Item	Description	Timeline
Topics	Research Topics are identified	By the 30 th September
Promotion	Information distributed regarding the grant application process	By the 31 st October
Applications	Applications close	15 th November
Funding Granted	Approval of grant	By the 30 th November
Notification	Grant applicants notified of the outcome	By the 15 th December

Grant Promotion

Promotion of the grant will be via the following identities:

NMIT	Victoria University	AQNZ
Cawthron	Open Polytech	MFA website
NIWA	University of Waikato	NZ Marine Sciences Society
Department of Conservation	University of Canterbury	Website
University of Auckland	Lincoln University	
University of Otago	Massey University	

Research Topics

The Research Topics identified for the 2020 grant are:

1. **Wild Spat Catch:** *Reasons for long term reduction in wild perna spat catch in the Pelorus Sound.*
2. **Spat Retention:** *Increasing proportion of mussel spat grown through to harvest size (currently around 5%).*
3. **Plastics:** *Innovation to replace use of plastics in marine farming.*
4. **Marine Debris:** *Innovation to reduce at source the likelihood of marine debris arising from marine farming.*
5. **Spat Monitoring:** *New methods to cost-effectively monitor spat levels in Pelorus Sound while retaining high levels of compatibility with the long-term data set.*
6. Any other topic that benefits aquaculture in the Top of the South will be considered by the committee

APPLICATION FORM

The form below must be completed in full and returned to the MFA by the 15th November.

Name:		Date of Birth:	
Email:		Phone:	
Address:			
Gender:		Are you a NZ resident?	
Current education facility or employer:			
Current Qualifications:			
Topic: (Must be a topic listed in the application information)			
Essay: Applicants must submit an essay of a maximum of 500 words outlining the details of their research and the desired outcome			
Referee details: Provide a name and phone number of a referee			
Project supervisor: Provide a name and phone number of the person that will supervise the project			
Checklist: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Have you completed all fields of the form above and provided these items with your application:	ID: Copy of Birth Certificate or passport	Permanent resident visa: (If applicable)	
Submit Application:	Please email your application to: info@marinefarming.co.nz by the 15th November		