

Presentation of MAR-ECO Students

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Degree: MSci Marine and Freshwater Biology

Working title of project: Age estimation and growth rate analysis of Macrouridae species from the Mid-Atlantic Ridge

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Summary of Project: Age estimation from sagittal otoliths and subsequent growth rate analysis will be conducted on species of Macrouridae caught from the MAR-ECO M.S. *Loran* and R.V. *G.O. Sars* cruises on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge in 2004. While this study aims to contribute to the developing knowledge on age and growth rates of *Coryphaenoides rupestris* and *Macrourus berglax*, it will also supply new information on species that have never previously been aged (*C. armatus*, *C. brevibarbis*, *C. carapinus*, *C. guentheri* and *C. mediterraneus*). There is a lack of knowledge enveloping the life history strategies of this family; the data gained from this study will be compiled with that from other analyses in an effort to answer some of these questions and ultimately gain a more expansive understanding of this deep-sea family.