



Career Services...Career Services...
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Futures
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Major of the Month: Fisheries and Wildlife Management

Imagine that you are wading through a scenic river collecting and identifying fish. Or, imagine that you are hiking through a valley tracking an elk herd during breeding season.

Now imagine that this is your career and you are getting paid to do this. If you enjoy the outdoors and are interested in understanding and improving fish and wildlife populations, then a career in fisheries and wildlife management is right for you.

Lake Superior State University offers a Bachelor of Science degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Management with the option of a concentration in Fisheries or Wildlife. The program places a strong

emphasis on understanding the relationships between organisms and their habitats by blending a conceptual understanding of fish and wildlife ecology and population dynamics with practical skills obtained during lab and field

exercises. Students completing this program are well prepared for graduate school and for careers with government agencies, private consulting firms, and non-profit organizations.

Lake State is one of only two Michigan universities that offer this exciting degree, but only Lake State provides an emphasis on hands-on learning in the field and lab. Courses at Lake State take advantage of the 800,000 acres of forests, 3 Great Lakes, 100s of inland lakes, and 1000s of stream and river miles that are within an hour's drive of LSSU. At Lake State, F&W students don't expect to spend much time behind a desk!



St. Marys River-"outdoor classroom"

- Recent LSSU F&W Grads are working at...**
- MDNR...Wildlife Biologist
 - MDNR...Fish Hatchery Tech
 - MDNR...Fisheries Biologist
 - USFWS(ND)...Biologist
 - USFWS(MI)...Biologist Tech
 - USFWS(MI)...Fisheries Tech
 - Michigan State Univ.-Elk Research Tech
 - Idaho Fish & Game...Wildlife Tech
 - Illinois Natural History...Research Associate
 - Arizona FWCA...Fisheries Tech
 - Natural Resources Conservation Service-Biologist
 - Environmental Consulting Firm (OH)-Fish Biologist
 - Univ. of Georgia...Field Researcher
 - Univ. of Minnesota...Research Asst./Grad Student
 - Univ. of New York...Research Asst./Grad Student
 - Purdue University...Grad student

CAREER BITS

DO YOU ...?

- Enjoy the outdoors?
- Like to work in all weather conditions?
- Have interest and ability in science and mathematics?
- Have a serious concern for the environment?

SKILLS

- Ability to make keen observations and appropriate decisions
- Proficiency in reading, writing, thinking, questioning, analyzing, and problem solving
- Ability to operate scientific equipment
- Proficiency for accuracy and detail
- Ability to organize and maintain accurate records

VALUES & ATTRIBUTES

- Desire to help humanity
- Intellectual growth
- Precision
- Enthusiasm for exploring
- Spirit of scientific inquiry
- Creativity

LIKES & DISLIKES

- Some Wildlife Biologists may like:
- the satisfaction from working to protect animals and the environment
 - spending time outdoors
- Some Wildlife Biologists may dislike:
- primitive living conditions on some field trips.
 - limited job opportunities

SALARY RANGE

According to the National Assoc. of Colleges and Employers, beginning salary offers in 2003 averaged \$29,456 for biologists. The median salary for wildlife biologists was \$47,740 in 2002.

LSSU's Aquatic Research Laboratory



Lake Superior State University possesses an Aquatic Research Laboratory (ARL) that is housed in the Edison Sault hydroelectric plant on the St. Marys River. The mission of the ARL is to combine education and research on aquatic biota and their associated habitats within the Great Lakes basin to serve the academic, scientific, and public communities. The specific goals of the ARL are to:

- provide scientific information to further advance our understanding of regional water bodies and issues of concern
- provide logistical and technical support for faculty and researchers from LSSU and other institutions engaged in freshwater research
- promote and conduct hands-on training for undergraduate students in freshwater science.

- foster information transfer between scientists and local communities regarding water resources of the northern Great Lakes region.

LSSU's ARL enhances the fisheries and wildlife program by providing students with valuable learning experiences through classroom, research, and employment opportunities in efforts to prepare them for the next step in their career path. LSSU students have opportunities to gain experience in numerous biological fields, including fish culture, aquatic ecology, fisheries management, molecular biology, analytical chemistry, and ecotoxicology

*-By Dr. Ashley Moerke,
Co-Director of the ARL*

To learn more about the LSSU Fisheries and Wildlife Management degree, contact Dr. Greg Zimmerman, Chair at 635-2470 or gzimmerman@lssu.edu.



Dr. Ashley Moerke and students conducting research

COUNSELOR'S

CORNER



HAVE YOU USED OUR SERVICES YET???

Most of you have just completed your Spring schedule and by now have taken or scheduled for many of your general education classes. Have you put any thought into your choice of major? If not, NOW is the time. This important decision doesn't just happen overnight. It takes time and effort on your part, and Career Services is here to help you.

HAVE YOU...???

- Read your monthly copies of FUTURES? If not, go to your LSSU email account and take a look.
- Attended the Career Fair to explore career options?
- Obtained a user id for DISCOVER, career exploration software? If not, come to Career Services and ask for an id.
- Taken our career assessments to discover your interests, personality and abilities? If not, come visit us to get started.
- Talked to professors and professionals in areas of interest?
- Attended career workshops offered by Career Services (resume writing, job search strategies, career exploration, interview techniques)?

Mary Jo Meehan, LPC



Career Services

A division of Academic Services
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www.lssu.edu/careerservices
Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-5pm

"Behold the turtle; he makes no progress unless his neck is stuck out.."- James Conant