Potential Careers

NMU’s Fisheries and Wildlife Management Program prepares students for employment in the following careers:

Occupations

- Botanist
- Cartographer
- Chemist
- Civil Engineer
- Contract Specialist
- Ecologist
- Fisheries Biologist
- Forester
- Horticulturist
- Hydrologist
- Land Surveyor
- Park Naturalist
- Park Ranger
- Peace Corps/VISTA Volunteer
- Refuge Manager
- U.S. Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- Water Science
- Water Works Supervisor
- Wildlife Biologist
- Wildlife Inspector
- Wildlife Technician

What To Do With A Major In….

For Career Planning and Opportunities:

- Academic & Career Advisement Center
  3302 C.B. Hedgcock
  906-227-2971
  www.nmu.edu/acac

- Biology Department
  2001 New Science Facility
  906-227-2310
  www.nmu.edu/biology

For Job Search, Resume and Career Information:

- Career Services
  3502 C.B. Hedgcock
  906-227-2800
  www.nmu.edu/careers

For Information about NMU Student Organizations Associated with this Major Contact:

- Center for Student Enrichment
  1206 University Center
  906-227-2439
  www.nmu.edu/cse

- Aquatic Biological Society

Internet Resource Links:

- www.careers.org
- www.careerresource.net

For Career Information with National Organizations:

- www.obfs.org Organization of Biological Field Stations
- www.fws.gov U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- www.fisheries.org American Fisheries Society
- www.wildlife.org The Wildlife Society

Current as of Fall 2013

Provided by:

The Academic & Career Advisement Center
Fisheries & Wildlife Management

The Fisheries and Wildlife Management program is designed to train students in both theoretical and applied aspects of fisheries and wildlife management.

This major is appropriate for those interested in natural resources management careers in state, federal or tribal agencies, non-profit organizations, industry or academia. Students may specialize in either fisheries or wildlife and will gain a strong background in biology.

Skills and Competencies

The Fisheries and Wildlife Management major at NMU is a diverse program which will give you the opportunity to master many skills and gain competencies in a variety of fields—provided you exert the necessary effort and time. Strong mathematics skills are required (as physics and chemistry courses are included in the major), so be sure that your math and analytical skills are strong before entering this field. Writing skills—a absolutely necessary in any career field today—are developed through technical lab reports and research assignments. Reading skills are strengthened in order to improve your ability to analyze texts and interpret data. Critical thinking, analysis, and research skills are all developed through projects and course work. Laboratory research work is also available if you have the necessary skills and experience.

Course Work

This degree includes the following courses as part of the program requirements, and specific major requirements along with liberal studies and graduation requirements.

Biology
BI 111 Introductory Biology: Principles (4 cr.)
BI 112 Introductory Biology: Diversity (4 cr.)
BI 210 Principles of Ecology (4 cr.)
BI 218 Introduction to Cell and Molecular Biology (4 cr.)
BI 290 Fisheries and Wildlife Seminar (1 cr.)
BI 310 Ecology Theory and Methods (4 cr.)
BI 312 Genetics (4 cr.)
BI 327 Animal Physiology (4 cr.)
BI 412 Biometrics (4 cr.)
BI 441 Fisheries Management (4 cr.)
BI 442 Wildlife Management (4 cr.)
BI 489 Graduate Assessment for Biology Majors

Physical Science Cluster (8 cr.)
CH 220 Introduction to Organic Chemistry (5 cr.) or GC 100 Physical Geography (4 cr.) or GC 202 Soils (4 cr.) or GC 225 Introduction to Maps (2 cr.) or GC 335 Geographic Information Systems (4 cr.) or PH 201 College Physics I (5 cr.) or PH 220 Introductory Physics I (5 cr.)

Communication Cluster (4 cr.)
CS 101 Web Site Construction (4 cr.) or SP 100 Public Address (4 cr.) or SP 200 Argumentation (4 cr.) or SP 432 Environmental Communication (4 cr.)

Human Dimensions Cluster (8 cr.)
EC 345 Env. and Natural Resources Economics (4 cr.)
GC 320 Env. Policy and Regulation (4 cr.)
GC 475 Env. Impact Assessment (4 cr.)
NAS 310 Tribal Law and Government (4 cr.)
NAS 342 Indigenous Environmental Movements (4 cr.)

Students pick from Wildlife or Fisheries Track (24 cr.)

Other Required Courses
CH 111 General Chemistry I (5 cr.)
CH 112 General Chemistry II (5 cr.)
MA 171 Introduction to Probability and Statistics (4 cr.)

Detailed course descriptions can be found at www.nmu.edu/bulletin.

Career Development

You should begin the resume-building process as soon as you can. The Academic and Career Advisement Center can assist you with career planning, while Career Services will help you fine tune your resume and look for jobs related to your field. In the meantime, the more hands-on experience you have, the better the chances are that you will find a job. Becoming involved in a professional related internship is a way to develop your professional skills and gain experience. Your academic course work is important as well, so be sure to maintain a high grade point average.

Additional Considerations

Completion of the major will result in meeting the academic requirements for professional certification in either fisheries (American Fisheries Society) or wildlife (The Wildlife Society).

Job Outlook

Some professions within the Biology field are expected to grow faster than others. Refer to the U.S. Bureau of Labor’s Occupational Outlook Handbook (website on back) for more information. Median salaries range from $55,000 to $75,000. However, some jobs in this area are seasonal and will provide lower pay.