Create your career in water...

Multiple opportunities on your horizon

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Freshwater Studies Program

Expand your career options with a degree in Freshwater Studies

- Monitor water quality
- Assess the health of streams, rivers and lakes
- Mitigate risk in water management
- Apply interdisciplinary approaches to water protection
- Evaluate environmental decisions from multiple perspectives
- Explore economic opportunities in water

Find your water career

- Water Advocacy
- Sustainable Water Management
- Water Infrastructure
- Natural Resource Management
- Scientific Research
- Water Policy
- Fisheries and Wildlife Management

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Program highlights
• Partnership with WMU for first BS in Freshwater Science and Sustainability in Traverse City
• Multiple University Center partnerships for additional bachelors’ degrees
• Collaboration with local and regional organizations
• Partnerships with water related industries
• Local and global internships

Areas of Emphasis
• History and management overview of the Great Lakes and other freshwater bodies around the world
• Water Policy and Sustainability
• Watershed Science
• Oceanography
• Meteorology and Climatology
• Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
“The Freshwater Studies degree gave me the valuable education and skills to complete my undergrad degree and be a competitive candidate for my position as Avian Botulism Crew Lead partnering with Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore.”

Erica Plesha, Freshwater Studies graduate 2013, WMU BS in Freshwater Science and Sustainability graduate 2016

“After graduating from the Freshwater Studies program and gaining valuable internship experiences, I am now the Communications Specialist for the Northwest Michigan Invasive Species Network.”

Rebecca Koteskey, Freshwater Studies graduate 2017, Communications Specialist, NW Michigan Invasive Species Network, Grand Traverse Conservation District

This program provided exceptional and relevant course work, extensive field experience, and scholarship opportunities allowing for the seamless transition and completion of a four-year degree, as well as my current position as Marine Tech Laboratory Coordinator at NMC’s Great Lakes Water Studies Institute.”

John Lutchko, Freshwater Studies graduate 2013, WMU BS in Freshwater Science & Sustainability graduate 2016

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RV Northwestern returning to port