Aquatic & Fisheries Science at ESF

Program Resources and Facilities

The AFS undergraduate students are offered unique opportunities working in a variety of research and management facilities on and off campus. Many of these locations offer seasonal and academic year positions for students. Significant facilities upgrades have occurred to enhance research programs.

- Center for Integrated Teaching and Research in Aquatic Sciences www.esf.edu/efb/schulz
- Council on Hydrologic Systems Science www.esf.edu/hss
- Cranberry Lake Biological Station www.esf.edu/clbs
- Thousand Islands Biological Station

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ESF has a nationally top-ranked program and long tradition of excellence in Aquatic and Fisheries Sciences.
Challenging coursework helps develop a student’s foundation in science. The AFS Major requires courses in calculus, writing, chemistry, genetics, economics, and biology. Examples of core classes and electives from AFS program faculty include ichthyology, limnology, marine ecology, aquatic restoration ecology, fisheries biology and management, and wetlands ecology. There is also a requirement for 6 credits of field experience. A diversity of field and laboratory research opportunities are available with individual faculty in a wide range of habitats and locations.

Careers in Aquatic & Fisheries Sciences
Graduates of the AFS program have a diverse array of career opportunities. Placement rates are high in the areas of fisheries science, wetland science, limnology, marine biology, and oceanography. Jobs are available with federal and state agencies, research institutions, private consulting firms and non-governmental organizations, both locally and internationally. Exceptional students will have opportunities to continue with graduate studies, which will broaden career options and lead to positions with greater responsibility and higher salary. To pursue a career in research and teaching in a university, a Ph.D. is generally required.

Our graduates have become:
Aquatic Biologist, Fish pathologist, Fisheries Biologist, Fish Hatchery Manager, Fisheries Manager, Limnologist, Ichthyologist, Wetlands Scientist, Science Teacher, Restoration Ecologist, Habitat Biologist, Professional consultant, Aquaculturist, Biological technician, Resource Manager, Toxicologist, Marine Resources Specialist.

Aquatic and Fisheries Science is a fantastic program of study that allows you to become immersed in the world of aquatic biology through a wide array of internships, classroom courses, field courses, and independent studies"  
Eric Patch, AFS Major, Class of 2010

Dr. John Farrell, Professor  
Director, Thousand Islands Biological Station (TIBS)  
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Aquatic Ecology, Fisheries Management

Dr. Karin Limburg, Professor  
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Fish Ecology and Management

Dr. Gordon Paterson, Assistant Professor  
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Aquatic Toxicology, Ecotoxicology

Dr. Kimberly Schulz, Associate Professor and Director of Center for Integrated Teaching and Research in Aquatic Sciences  
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Limnology and Marine Ecology

Dr. Neil Ringler, Professor & ViceProvost for Research  
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Fish Ecology and Management, Stream Ecology

Dr. Donald Stewart, Professor  
Program Coordinator-Aquatic & Fisheries Science  
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Ichthyology, Fish Ecology, Tropical Ecology

Dr. Christopher Whipps, Associate Professor  
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Fish Pathology, Systematics and Evolution