

# Career Outlook: Environmental Studies

## Environmental Studies Programs Available at Bemidji State University:

**Majors:** Environmental Studies (B.S.); Indigenous Sustainability Studies (B.S.); Environmental Communication (B.S.); Policy and Planning (B.S.) Sustainability and Resource Management (B.A.S.)

**Minors:** Environmental Science, Environmental Communication, Sustainability, Indigenous Sustainability Studies, Water Science

**Fields of Emphasis:** Environmental Health and Toxicology, Ecosystem, Geohydrology, Natural Resources Planning

**Department Website:** <https://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/departments/css/environmental-studies/>

### **EMPLOYMENT AREAS AND PROJECTED DEMAND:**

The "Occupational Outlook Handbook" (OOH) reports environmental scientists and specialists held about 80,000 jobs in 2021. 22% were employed in management, scientific and technical consulting services. About 40% of environmental scientists were employed in state and local governments; and 10% were employed in engineering services.

OOH reports that the nationwide demand for environmental scientists and specialists is expected to grow 5% (as fast as average) through 2031, with people established in their career earning between \$46,200 and \$129,070 per year. The median annual wages of environmental scientists and specialists were \$76,530 in 2021. Many hold graduate degrees.

### **PLACEMENT INFORMATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES GRADUATES:**

There are many career opportunities for Bemidji State University Environmental Studies graduates. Of the 13 Bemidji State University 2020-2021 Environmental Studies graduates, 90.9% reported obtaining related employment within one year of graduation, and two went on to continue their education. The two Bemidji State University 2020-2021 Indigenous Sustainability Studies graduates reported continuing their education within one year of graduation. This does not include students who were not seeking employment, unavailable, or had unknown status.

### **PARTIAL LIST OF EMPLOYERS WHO HAVE REPORTED HIRING BSU ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES GRADUATES\*: (This list only includes employment within one year of graduation)**

Conservation Corps of Minnesota and Iowa	Monarch Crew Member	Des Moines, IA
Department of Natural Resources	Fisheries Technician	Spooner, WI
Environmental Protection Agency	Toxicology Researcher	Duluth, MN
Frontier Energy	Program Associate	Chanhausen, MN
Frontier Energy	Energy Analyst	Chanhausen, MN
PLM Lake & Land Management, Corp.	Project Manager	Brainerd, MN
Renville County	Environmental Technician	Olivia, MN
Voyageurs National Park	Fire Technician	International Falls, MN

### **COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WHERE BSU ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES GRADUATES HAVE GONE TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION:**

- Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN
- North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND
- Hazelton Betty Ford Graduate School, Minneapolis, MN

\*Degrees alone do not get students jobs. Internships, summer jobs, volunteer work, part-time jobs, work-study positions, and active participation in student organizations on campus are all ways to become more competitive in a tight job market.

#### **Bibliography:**

[Annual Graduate Follow-Up Study 2020-2021](#). Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN (2023)  
[Bemidji State University Undergraduate Catalog 2022-2023](#). Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN (2023)  
[Occupational Outlook Handbook](#). U.S. Dept. of Labor, JIST Publishing Inc., Indianapolis, IN (2022)

**For more information, contact Career Services; Decker Hall/218-755-2038/career@bemidjistate.edu**

**For more job listings please visit:**

## *Handshake*

<https://www.bemidjistate.edu/services/career/events-guides-resources/job-listings/>



Bemidji State University is an affirmative action, equal opportunity educator and employer. This document is available in alternate formats to individuals by: 800.475.2001 | 218.755.3883 | [accessibilityservices@bemidjistate.edu](mailto:accessibilityservices@bemidjistate.edu)