

LUKE WESS

Richlands, VA · (276)-701-0165

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EXPERIENCE

MAY 2018 TO SEPTEMBER 2018 AND MAY 2019 TO SEPTEMBER 2019

LIFEGUARD, RICHLANDS RECREATION PARK

My responsibilities being a lifeguard were to watch over the public at the pool and ensure that everyone was behaving in a safe manner. I also worked at the front desk which involved running the register and checking customers out. In between my front desk shifts and lifeguard duties, I had responsibilities such as taking out the trash, cleaning the bathrooms and lobby area, organizing the pool deck, cleaning the pool, and restocking the concession stand.

MAY 2022 TO AUGUST 2022

SELF-EMPLOYED, LUKE'S LAWN CARE

My responsibilities being self-employed over this summer involved me to run a business page on Facebook and creating a schedule for each week. My work consisted of mowing and weed-eating lawns, trimming trees and bushes, brush removal, laying mulch, landscaping, and pressure washing.

MAY 2023 TO JUNE 2023

FIELD TECHNICIAN, FRIMPONG LAB

My responsibilities as a lab technician in Frimpong's lab were to go out in the morning/evening to check on the status of the Bluehead Chub nests that were already documented while searching for new ones walking the edge of the stream. This involved taking notes and recording data on the nests to update their status if need be. I also helped strategically take apart nests while collecting eggs and rocks to do sampling on them in the laboratory. Also, working under Frimpong's lab gave me the opportunity to go sample streams in rural southwest Virginia for the Candy Darter project. This involved electro-shocking different sections of the stream and collecting data on what species we found after each passing with the shocker.

JUNE 2023 TO AUGUST 2023

FIELD TECHNICIAN, NOAA TILEFISH RESEARCH

My responsibilities as a field technician on the NOAA Tilefish research project were going on offshore fishing trips where we targeted Blueline Tilefish. I was tasked with fishing for these fish while we were offshore then once we got back to shore, we had to collect data on our catching. To do this, I had to take measurements of the fish and then dissect them to collect the ovaries/gonads. I had to label bottles and write down the data in an organized manner to make sure that our data was completely accurate. Once I got back to the lab at Virginia Tech, I was tasked with doing otolith dissections on the fish as well.

AUGUST 2023 TO PRESENT

FIELD TECHNICIAN/LAB TECHNICIAN, EASTERN HELLBENDER PROJECT

My responsibilities as a field/lab technician on the Eastern Hellbender Project conducted by Hopkins Lab involve an abundance of hands-on labor. I have been given a variety of different tasks to complete for this project. The tasks presented to me in the field for this position include long field days snorkeling in search of Eastern Hellbender nest boxes, nest sampling, measuring and tagging adult Eastern Hellbenders, water collection, and placing nest boxes into the streambed. In the lab, my tasks are to do water changes, egg checks, dissolved oxygen checks, raise or lower dissolved oxygen levels, and construct floating “boats” used to house the hatched larvae.

EDUCATION

AUGUST 2017 TO MAY 2021

Advanced Diploma, RICHLANDS HIGH SCHOOL

Throughout my four years at Richlands High School, I was able to maintain a 4.1 GPA and rank 9th in my class. I was also a member of the National Beta Club and the National History Club.

AUGUST 2021 TO MAY 2022

ASSOCIATE DEGREE IN GENERAL STUDIES, SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

During my time at Southwest Virginia Community College, I was able to maintain a 4.0 GPA. I was also a member of the National Honors Society at Southwest Virginia Community College.

AUGUST 2022 TO PRESENT

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN WILDLIFE CONSERVATION, VIRGINIA TECH

SKILLS

- Empathy
- Teamwork
- Leadership
- Able to use Microsoft Word, Excel, and Sheets
- Reliable/Hard Worker
- Communication
- Drive
- Able to use all social media platforms

CERTIFICATIONS

- VA boater’s license
- VA driver’s license

ACTIVITIES

- Member of the Virginia Tech Club Basketball Team
- Treasurer and founding member of The Herpetology Club at Virginia Tech University

REFERENCES

Mrs. Jessica Lawrence
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