

## Abi Fergus, M.S.

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### Education

University of Wisconsin-Madison; Fall 2020, M.S. environment and resources, 3.714 GPA

Alma College; Winter 2017, B.S. biology, environmental studies minor, 3.667 GPA

CyberTracker Certified Level 3 Tracker 2021

### Contract Experience

Controlled Burn Crew Member for David Borneman LLC	<i>Spring 2024; Fall 2024</i>
Supplied Traditional Teas to the Great Lakes Indigenous Food Coalition	<i>Fall 2023; Summer 2024</i>
Developed Wolf Monitoring Program for Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe	<i>November 2022-May 2023</i>
Copyedited Midwest Hazelnut Marketing Report	<i>November 2022</i>
Maintained Native Landscaping in Bayfield County	<i>August 2022 -October 2023</i>
Taught Beekeeping and Traditional Herbs at Bad River Food Sovereignty	<i>October 2022</i>
Researched and Wrote Plant and Mushroom Guide for Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources	<i>August-October 2022</i>

### Job Experience

Community Conservationist, Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council, Wisconsin	<i>January 2023-May 2023</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provided technical support to Indigenous food producers throughout Wisconsin</li><li>• Hosted trainings on FDA &amp; GLIFWC food safety as well as USDA NRCS programs</li></ul>	
Wildlife Specialist, Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources, Odanah, WI	<i>July 2019-July 2022</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Managed wildlife program for Bad River Tribe on 124,655 acre Reservation</li><li>• Wrote and contributed to updates of Gray Wolf and Watershed Conservation Plans</li><li>• Organized and hosted the 2020 Mashkiiziibii Maaingan Symposium</li></ul>	
Wildlife Technician, Mashkiiziibii Band Natural Resources, Odanah, WI	<i>April 2018-November 2018</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assisted in conservation of endangered and threatened species: sharp-tailed grouse, piping plover, gray wolf</li><li>• Used wildlife tracking to monitor wildlife populations on Chequamegon Point and Bad River Reservation</li></ul>	
Editor-in-Chief The Almanian newspaper, Alma College, Alma, MI	<i>September 2014-December 2017</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hired, trained, and supervised student staff</li><li>• Conducted interviews, wrote articles, copyedited print, designed graphics, and edited layout</li></ul>	

### Boards and Committees

Mutual Aid Network Ypsilanti Eco Survival Support- Urban Farm Member	<i>November 2024-Present</i>
The Queer Outdoors- Educator, Board Member	<i>April 2024-Present</i>
Superior River Watershed Association- VP, Board Member, Secretary	<i>January 2022-Present</i>
Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council- Wildlife Committee Co-Chair	<i>October 2020-July 2022</i>
Wisconsin State Wolf Plan Update Committee	<i>July-October 2021</i>
Marengo River Watershed Plan Update Committee	<i>August 2021-July 2022</i>
Lake Superior LAMP Update Committee	<i>August 2019 - December 2020</i>
Leaders for Environmental Awareness, Protection and Sustainability Founding Member	<i>January 2015-December 2017</i>

## Presentations

- "Wildlife Tracking: Taking Another Animal's Perspective" Science on Tap with SRWA **2024**.
- "Tracking Tales from the Northwoods" Capital Area District Library Lansing **2024**.
- "Tracking Toward Carnivore Coexistence: Applications on Livestock Farms" Tracker Certification North America **2023**.
- "Tracking & Ma'iingan: Building Connection & Understanding with our Ecosystems" LCO College **2022**.
- "Employing the Ancestral Science of Tracking for Non-Invasive Wildlife Conservation and Coexistence" WCTWS **2022**.
- "Working on a Better Future with Ma'iingan (Gray Wolf)", Great Lakes Regional NAFWS Conference **2021**.
- "Ecological and Cultural Importance of Lake Superior Wolves", Wisconsin Water Week **2021**.
- "Relationship Building with Indigenous Groups Toward Carnivore Coexistence", Great Lakes Wolf Symposium **2020**.
- "Coexisting with Ma'iingan: Mashkiizibii Ma'iingan Relationship Plan", Mashkiizibii Ma'iingan Symposium **2020**.
- "Mashkiizibii Wildlife Program and Ma'iingan", Great Lakes Regional NAFWS Conference **2019**.
- "Recommendations for the Update of the Bad River Band Ma'iingan Plan," Midwest FWS Conference **2018**.
- "Forest Hill Digital Nature Trail", Alma College Kapp Honors Day **2017**.
- "Evaluating grub damage to assess the annual imidacloprid application", Alma College Kapp Honors Day **2017**.

## Research Experience

- Research Assistant and Student; Carnivore Coexistence Lab, Madison, WI *January 2019-December 2020*
- Co-investigated predator deterrent effectiveness with the Bad River Tribe
  - Recruited farmers for research on deterring predators from livestock animals
- Student; Posey Global Leadership Fellows Program, Odanah, WI *July 2017-August 2017*
- Conducted interviews with livestock owners, wolf biologists, and tribal members on Ma'iingan conservation
  - Conducted wolf howl surveys and shadowed wolf trapper
- Research Assistant; Dow e-STEM, Alma College, Alma, MI *June 2016-August 2017*
- Developed digital nature trail to educate elementary students on biodiversity
- Student; Bee Partitioning, La Selva Biological Station, Heredia Province, Costa Rica *May 2017*
- Researched partitioning along forest strata and climatic conditions in Euglossini and Meliponini,
- Student; Grub Survey, Alma College, Alma, MI *September 2016-December 2016*
- Conducted a grub survey to evaluate necessity of pesticide use on college campus
- Student; Environmental Journalism, Alma College, Alma, MI *September 2015-December 2016*
- Reported journalistically on honeybee colony collapse disorder and on Gray Wolf conservation
- Student; Ornithology Research Assistant, Alma College, Alma, MI *June 2014 - August 2015*
- Assisted with capturing passerines and woodpeckers in mist nets for photographing and banding

## Awards and Grants

- 2020-22 Bureau of Indian Affairs Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grants- **\$930,367**
- 2018-21 Bureau of Indian Affairs Endangered Species Grants- **\$434,452.64**
- Alma College: 2017 Posey Global Award ; 2015-17 Dow e-STEM research grant

## Relevant Coursework

Natural Resources in Native North America • Conservation Biology • Renewable Energy Systems • Biometry  
Preserving Nature • Ethnobotany • Qualitative Research Skills • Ecology • Animal Behavior • Zoology  
Tropical Rainforest Ecology • Evolution • Botany • Genetics • Environmental Studies • Environmental Communication  
Environmental Ethics • Environmental Geology • Human and Environmental Risk Assessment  
Public Management and Policy • International Law and Organization • Journalistic Writing