

**Wong Herr, Law Enforcement Ranger
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources**



Photo: Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Wong Herr likes the variety of his law enforcement ranger position. On any given day he may respond to an accident, investigate illegal activity, greet park visitors, explain park policies, or cut down a hazardous tree. "I've been working with the Wisconsin DNR for 6 years, and I have enjoyed every bit," Wong says.

Wong says he chose to work with the Wisconsin DNR because of the environment. "Most of my childhood life involved living in the jungle of Laos," he says. "The rain forest played a major role in my life. What kept my family alive was a deep dependence on what we could gather from the forest. So I know how important our natural resources are."

Wong believes ranger enforcement plays a major role in protecting and saving natural resources for future generations. He has an associate degree in police science and a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. Today, Wong is stationed at Rib Mountain State Park in Wausau, Wis.

To Learn More:

If you'd like to learn more about careers in natural resources and the environment, contact your high school, college, or university career guidance center or the personnel office at state, national, county or local natural resource agencies, including the agencies that sponsored this brochure, below.



www.fs.fed.us/r5/sierra/cc_consortium



www.dnr.wi.gov
www.dnr.wi.gov/employment



www.dnr.state.mn.us
www.dnr.state.mn.us/jobs

Natural Resource Careers



Photo: Deborah Rose, MN Dept. of Natural Resources

Do you like the outdoors? Are you interested in protecting the environment and conserving natural resources for future generations to enjoy?

There are many rewarding careers in natural resources. Let's visit three Hmong natural resource professionals and see what they enjoy about their jobs.

**Kao Thao, Park Naturalist
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources**



Photo: Deborah Rose, MN Dept. of Natural Resources

Kao Thao remembers two things about visiting a Minnesota state park as a child. One is how much he loved it. The other is how little his family knew about the plants and animals there. Today, as a naturalist at Fort Snelling State Park, he helps others understand Minnesota's natural resources.

One of Kao's favorite responsibilities is teaching people of Southeast Asian descent about Minnesota's great outdoors. Last year a group of Hmong children visited his park. He taught them that the Mississippi River provides the water they drink every day. That made the children want to help take care of the river. They came back and cleaned up the riverbanks.

"It's really exciting, seeing how excited they are picking up trash," Kao says.

**Khous Moua, Wildlife Biologist
and Peace Corps Volunteer**

Khous Moua grew up in the natural beauty of Montana and developed a love for the outdoors at an early age. She has many fond memories of fishing and picking huckleberries with her family. After graduating from high school, Khous got a summer job with the U.S. Forest Service: "We spent the summer hiking to lakes and ponds doing things I would have never expected and got paid for it!" After that experience, she knew that she wanted a career in natural resources.

Khous spent the next 4 years getting her bachelor's degree in wildlife biology and spent the summers working for the Forest Service as a wildlife and fisheries technician. "I spent the summer with other technicians gathering data in the field to help biologists better understand wildlife species' behavior, population and habitat, and I loved it." While working for the Forest Service, Khous met quite a few returned Peace Corps volunteers. "The stories they told were so genuine that I told myself I had to do that." Khous is currently finishing her 2 year Peace Corps service in Jamaica.

When she returns to the U.S., Khous plans to pursue a career with a variety of public, private, non-profit, and international organizations focused on protecting the environment



Photo: Tanio Tanwi, Peace Corps



Photo: Dave Menke, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

There are many rewarding careers in natural resources, including fisheries biology, forestry, plant ecology, landscape architecture, recreation management, geographic information systems, and many more that may fit with your interests and talents.



Photo: Janeal Hedman, U.S. Forest Service

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