

# Benjamin Cehelsky

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## Education

### **Master of Science**

Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI. Jan. 2022 – Present  
Advisor: Dr. Kelly Robinson

### **Bachelor of Science in Biology, Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies**

Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH. Sept. 2016-May 2020  
Cumulative GPA: 3.6 | GRE: Verbal - 158 Quantitative - 160 Writing - 4.0

### **Study Abroad Student**

James Cook University, Queensland, Australia. July-Nov. 2018 | Abroad GPA: 3.25

## Experience

### **Creel Clerk, Natural Resources Technician**

May - Nov. 2021

Fairport Fisheries Research Station, Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources Fairport Harbor, OH

- Conduct boat, trailer and shore angler counts along the Lake Erie shoreline in the Greater Cleveland area
- Interview boaters about the location and duration of their trip, fishing technique used, and species caught; Record fish lengths when available
- Record and maintain data in accordance with established protocols; data are used directly for lakewide quota management of Walleye and Yellow Perch
- Work independently without any on-site supervision
- Produce a weekly report on fishing conditions, which is published online
- Assisted with multiple trawl and gillnet surveys on Lake Erie

### **Assistant Biologist**

Oct. - Nov. 2020

Lakeland Biologists, Waukesha, WI

- Assisted staff biologists with the identification and removal of non-native aquatic plant species on both public and private ponds/wetlands throughout southern Wisconsin
  - Facilitated improvement of pond plant ecosystems and community access by removing nuisance and invasive plants
- Prepared algae-controlled ponds for winter season
- Worked in a team environment, provided input on identifying optimal job and team solutions

### **Aquatic Research and Management Technician**

May - Oct. 2019

Cleveland Metroparks, Cleveland, OH

- Aided with surveys including: HMFEI (Headwater Macroinvertebrate Field Evaluation Index) and BEHI (Bank Erosion Hazard Index) on various park streams, IBI (Index of Biotic Integrity) for restored streams, fish community assessments, and processed brown bullhead samples in a USFWS BUI (Beneficial Use Impairment) study
- Utilized electrofishing equipment (boat and long line) for fish stock assessments and invasive species removal from ponds, lakes and rivers
- Identified and treated ponds when threatened with algae overgrowth
- Stocked channel catfish in multiple park ponds
- Worked at 5 public outreach events providing education on the fish and aquatic reptiles of the Metroparks to children and adults (50-200+ attendees)

**Chemistry Laboratory Assistant (Volunteer)**

Feb. -May 2018

Case Western Reserve University, Chemistry Department, Cleveland, OH

- Demonstrated good laboratory notebook and safety practices in a team environment
- Assisted in investigating the interaction of oxidized lipids with proteins and cells in relation to Alzheimer's and Age-Related Macular Degeneration
- Laboratory techniques included: conducting gel electrophoresis, polymerase chain reaction (PCR), creation of complimentary DNA (cDNA), plating sample cells, purifying proteins, and x-ray imaging

**Additional Skills**

- Knowledge in R, MATLAB, Microsoft Office (Excel, Word, PowerPoint)