

## **USGS Mendenhall Fellowship Opportunity: Understanding geomorphic processes of the Upper Mississippi River to support natural resource decision-making**

We are seeking a fluvial geomorphologist through the USGS Mendenhall Research Fellowship program to improve our understanding of how and where the geomorphology of the Upper Mississippi and Illinois rivers are changing; and to evaluate the implications of these changes for ongoing habitat restoration. We anticipate that work will incorporate existing data and previous research; strategically collect and analyze additional data; and/or apply appropriate modelling approaches to address these questions. Details regarding this research opportunity can be found here:

[S70. Understanding geomorphic processes of the Upper Mississippi and Illinois rivers to support natural resource decision-making | U.S. Geological Survey \(usgs.gov\)](#)

Application instructions can be found at the [USGS Mendenhall Fellowship main website](#). **Application deadline is November 19, 2024.**

This position will be located at USGS' Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center ([UMESC](#)) in La Crosse, Wisconsin. The research will be conducted as part of the [Long Term Resource Monitoring element \(LTRM\)](#) of the US Army Corps of Engineers' [Upper Mississippi River Restoration program \(UMRR\)](#). The UMRR program functions as a partnership among several federal and five state agencies; UMESC provides the scientific leadership for LTRM and the Mendenhall Fellow will have the opportunity to collaborate with a diverse group of scientists, natural resource managers and habitat restoration practitioners. We anticipate that the research questions pursued will be co-produced with these program partners.

In addition to the scientist and staff that are part of LTRM, UMESC has a multidisciplinary scientific staff with specialists in ecology (amphibian, avian, fish, invertebrate, landscape, plant, river, and wildlife, etc.), animal physiology, analytical chemistry, zoology, ecotoxicology, pharmacology, statistics, geographic information systems, computer science, and information transfer. Research at UMESC involves diverse approaches, including manipulative experiments, descriptive studies, long-term studies, and modeling. Experimental work is conducted at several spatial scales, including whole ecosystems, field enclosures, experimental ponds, laboratory microcosm, and the organism and cellular levels.

[La Crosse, Wisconsin](#), provides an excellent small city quality of life in a scenic area rich in culture, history, and outdoor recreation opportunities. The area offers outdoor recreation activities during all seasons of the year. Those activities include hiking, downhill and cross-country skiing, road and trail bicycling, fishing, and paddling. La Crosse is located adjacent to the [Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge](#) which spans 261 river miles from Wabasha, Minnesota to Rock Island, Illinois. Education (including two universities and a technical college), health care (two major hospitals), and other employment opportunities are excellent. Urban and rural real estate are affordable. For larger city amenities, Minneapolis, Minnesota and Madison, Wisconsin are both within a two and half hour drive of La Crosse.

### **Additional information about the La Crosse area:**

[Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge](#)

[University of Wisconsin—La Crosse](#)

[Viterbo University](#)

[Western Technical College](#)

[Outdoor Recreation Alliance](#)

[Hiking, biking and skiing trails](#)

