



Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore (IN)

Mari Patis was raised in the Puget Sound area of Washington State and recently moved from Seattle to Chesterton, IN, for her position at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. In high school she maintained a connection to the environment through cross country where her team would run by the base of Mount Si, near the Cascades. She attended the University of Washington and received a B.S. in Biology with a focus in Ecology. As an undergrad she worked at a research lab to find effective municipal wastewater treatments, as well as interned at the Sierra Club for an environmental campaign. Her interest in the National Parks was first sparked by a field trip to Mt. Rainier, WA, for an ecology class during her last quarter of college. After graduating, she furthered her outreach skills by working for 3Degrees where she promoted renewable energy. Eager to utilize her degree in Biology, she applied to various

forestry positions and accepted the position to be a CVA at Indiana Dunes. Mari is a strong believer in environmental awareness and is excited to educate the public on what the Dunes has to offer. She continues her hobby of running, as well as enjoys hiking, reading, and discovering new music.