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# STETSON UNIVERSITY

## MEDIA ALERT

### **Dr. Kirsten Work to Present Research on Variation in Freshwater Fish Assemblages Between Springs Nationwide**

**DELAND, Florida**, Sept. 25, 2018 – Conserving natural resources is essential for future generations' accessibility and should be used judiciously to avoid depletion. Kirsten Work, Ph.D., professor of biology at Stetson University, will be presenting research on spring water discharges nationwide and her observations about spring health and persistence, and whether these discharges vary across the country during a Faculty Spotlight on Friday, Sept. 28.

Springs are situated in areas where the aquifer is close to the surface and can be susceptible to contamination. The water coming out of the springs is the same water that we drink from the Floridan aquifer, which is the underground supply for most of Florida's drinking water. If the springs disintegrate, then our drinking water supply disintegrates, too.

She also will be discussing the variation of freshwater fish assemblages between springs and in different areas in the southwest, northwest and northeast United States.

Work's research on aquatic ecology and conservation began in the University of Wisconsin's limnology laboratory, working as a lab technician on fish predation studies. This training led to master's research on sockeye salmon fry predation on zooplankton in southwest Alaska and dissertation research on exotic zooplankton in southern Oklahoma. At Stetson, she has conducted research on spring ecology, primarily at the Blue Spring State Park in Orange City, Florida, with algae, snails and fish ecology projects along with studying the effects of invasive snails and fish on ecosystem function.

For more information about Work's presentation and research, visit: <http://bit.ly/2xDBTPf>

The Faculty Spotlight Series at Stetson University is a showcase of faculty research, creative inquiry and other scholarly engagement to the campus community.

**WHO:** Kirsten Work, Ph.D., professor of biology at Stetson University

**WHEN:** Friday, Sept. 28  
1:30-2:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Stetson University, Lynn Business Center, room 124  
345 N. Woodland Blvd., DeLand, FL 32724

**WHAT:** Faculty Spotlight Series, featuring research on spring water discharges nationwide and observations about spring health and persistence, and whether these discharges vary across the country. The presentation will also discuss the variation of freshwater fish assemblages between springs and in different areas in the southwest, northwest and northeast United States.

About Stetson University

*Founded in 1883, [Stetson University](#) is the oldest private university in Central Florida, providing a transforming education in the liberal arts tradition. Stetson stresses academic excellence and community-engaged learning, and consistently earns high marks in national rankings. Stetson encourages its students to go beyond success to significance in their lives, the lives of others and their communities. [Stay connected](#) with Stetson on social media.*

**Contact:** Sandra Carr  
Media Relations,  
**P:** 407-256-5090  
scarr3@stetson.edu