

# A.S. Wildlife & Fisheries Biology Emphasis

This two-year (67 credit) emphasis prepares students to further their education in a Biology of Wildlife and Fisheries Biology major. This degree is designed with potential transfer to Montana State University, the University of Montana, the University of Wyoming, the University of Idaho, or North Dakota State University. Graduates from a four-year program or with an advanced degree may find positions in resource management and conservation biology. A student graduating in this field with a four-year degree may become a wildlife disease specialist; law enforcement agent for the fish and game; wildlife refuge manager; waterfowl biologist; fisheries biologist; or naturalist in a national, state or municipal park; hatchery manager; or environmental consultant for the energy industry.

Most fish and wildlife biologists find employment with federal or state agencies. Competition for these jobs is intense and most professional-level positions require an advanced degree. Other career opportunities exist with private resource groups and private industry such as environmental consulting firms, and oil, coal, mineral, or chemical companies.

Upon completion of this program, graduates will be able to:

- Transfer into a four-year program in Biology, Zoology, Natural Resources, or Wildlife and Fisheries Biology and complete upper-division work.
- Communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
- Complete upper-level science courses in Biology, Ecology, Zoology, and Chemistry.
- Calculate and complete statistical analysis of migrating patterns and animal census for a population.

Program course requirements are presented in sequence. Part-time students and others who cannot follow this sequence should check [Course Descriptions](#) to determine pre-requisites and should consult their advisor regarding the order in which to take courses. Students should consult the catalog of the institution to which they expect to transfer and should select appropriate core requirement and elective courses in consultation with their advisor: [General Education Core Requirements Courses](#).

NOTE: 3 credits of either Humanities & Fine Arts or History & Social Sciences must meet the Cultural Diversity requirement.

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|---|-------------------|
| <b>First Year Fall Semester</b>   |                   |
| NRSM 101 Natural Resource Conservation  | 3 credits         |
| NRSM 102 Montana Range Plants   | 1 credit          |
| WRIT 101 College Writing I  | 3 credits         |
| BIOB 160/161 Principles of Living Systems & Lab                                       | 3 and 1 credits   |
| AGSC 101 Intro To Ag & Environmental Resources  | 1 credit          |
| Humanities & Fine Arts Core Requirement   | 3 credits         |
| CAPP 131 Basic MS Office  | 3 credits         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>18 credits</b> |
|   |                   |
| <b>First Year Spring Semester</b>   |                   |
| COMX 111 Intro to Public Speaking, or AGED 140 Leadership Development for Agriculture | 3 credits         |
| BIOB 170/171 Principles Of Biological Diversity & Lab                                 | 3 and 1 credits   |
| WRIT 121 Intro to Technical Writing, or WRIT 201 College Writing II                   | 3 credits         |
| WILD 180 Careers In Wildlife Biology  | 2 credits         |

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|--|-------------------|
| M 121 College Algebra (if student completed an equivalent or placed into M 161, completing M 121 is not required to complete this program) | 4 credits         |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>16 credits</b> |
| <b>Second Year Fall Semester</b>   |                   |
| CHMY 121/122 Intro To General Chemistry & Lab  | 3 and 1 credits   |
| ECNS 201 Principles Of Microeconomics  | 3 credits         |
| M 161 Survey of Calculus   | 4 credits         |
| NRSM 240 Natural Resource Ecology  | 3 credits         |
| ENSC 245 Soils   | 3 credits         |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>17 credits</b> |
| <b>Second Year Spring Semester</b>   |                   |
| CHMY 123/124 Intro To Organic & Biochemistry & Lab   | 3 and 1 credits   |
| GPHY 284 Intro To GIS Science  | 3 credits         |
| STAT 216 Intro To Statistics   | 3 credits         |
| Humanities & Fine Arts Core Requirement  | 3 credits         |
| History & Social Sciences Core Requirement   | 3 credits         |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>16 credits</b> |
| <b>Program Total</b>   | <b>67 credits</b> |