

WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST

A wildlife biologist, or a fisheries biologist, studies and oversees the protection and management of an assigned population of one or several species of animals.

WHAT RESPONSIBILITIES WILL I HAVE?

- Design and implement wildlife data collection programs
- Monitor wildlife movement and activities
- Plan and design research projects to study the ecology of the wildlife assigned
- Prepare management plans for wildlife programs in assigned region
- Collect data through ground and aerial surveys, animal capture and handling, and radio-telemetry work to understand behavioral patterns, population, habitat usage, and breeding
- Assess and improve wildlife habitats
- Produce quality successional wildlife habitat for species to adapt to over time
- Manage predator and invasive plant control and removal
- Review environmental assessment reports and impact statements affecting area wildlife populations
- Analyze wildlife population data
- Provide public hunting access when appropriate and permitted for select species
- Provide advice to local private land owners experiencing crop or livestock issues associated with wildlife
- Develop funding and grant proposals for habitat acquisition, enhancement, and management
- Prepare budgets for research projects
- Assist with range/park management when appropriate
- Perform outreach and education activities for the public
- Maintain accurate, up-to-date records



WHAT EDUCATION & TRAINING IS REQUIRED?

Bachelor's or Master's degree in wildlife biology, biology, ecology, environmental science, natural resources, wildlife management, wildlife sciences, or related area

THE FOLLOWING HIGH SCHOOL COURSES ARE RECOMMENDED...

Agricultural education, natural resources, biology, animal science, computer courses, and mathematics

TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

Government agencies, conservation groups, environmental organizations, preserves, state and national parks, and zoos

FUTURE JOB MARKET/OUTLOOK



SUGGESTED PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS & ASSOCIATIONS

- The Wildlife Society
- Society for Conservation Biology
- National Military Fish & Wildlife Association

AVERAGE ANNUAL FULL-TIME SALARY

\$56,000