

What can I do with a major in “Fisheries and Wildlife (Pre-Vet Option)”?

The University of Georgia Career Center

Clark Howell Hall, 706-542-3375, www.career.uga.edu

Warnell School of Forestry & Natural Resources 706-542-2686, www.warnell.uga.edu



This information describes typical occupations and employment settings associated with this major. Understand some of these options may require additional training. Moreover, you are not limited to these options when choosing a possible career path.

Description of Fisheries and Wildlife

The Fisheries and Wildlife major equips students to become fisheries and/or wildlife biologists. There are three areas of emphasis for this major. Students can choose an area of emphasis in: Fisheries, Wildlife, or Pre-Vet Wildlife. Courses in biology and ecology provide a basic understanding of fish and wildlife populations while courses in botany and forestry are required because of their importance in managing habitats. The course work is broad-based, furnishing an understanding of the interrelationships among the physical and biological elements of the natural environment, an appreciation of the social, political, and economics forces that influence fish and wildlife management, and the ability to analyze natural resource problems to forge realistic solutions. The Fisheries and Wildlife program is recognized as one of the premier programs in the country.

Students choosing the Wildlife area of emphasis will fulfill the educational requirements to become Certified Wildlife Biologists, as stipulated by The Wildlife Society. Wildlife Biologists determine the biological and ecological conditions required for maintenance of healthy populations of game and non-game species, tend these species, and manage their environments to meet wildlife conservation objectives.

The Fisheries and Aquaculture area of emphasis meets the Professional Certification requirements recommended by the American Fisheries Society. This includes "...a broad understanding of the aquatic environment, the functioning of individual animals and their populations, the role of users of aquatic resources...", as well as "... competence in oral and written communication, an ability to work well with others, and an understanding of natural resource conservation in the context of other human activities." The curriculum is field oriented and offers opportunities to participate in faculty research projects and agency internships. Courses such as fisheries management, limnology, ichthyology, ecology, aquaculture, water quality, and fish physiology provide students with the information needed to appreciate, understand, and manage aquatic systems.

Students who select the Pre-Vet option will fulfill all requirements for entrance into Veterinary School. Students on this track often take courses in Animal Behavior, Wildlife Physiology and Nutrition, and Wildlife Disease, in addition to many of the organismal biology (Mammalogy, Herpetology, Ornithology Etc.) courses taken by all wildlife students.

Research Careers

Careers in Forestry and Natural Resources <http://www.forestrycareers.org/>

O*NET <http://online.onetcenter.org> (click on Find Occupations)

Occupational Outlook Handbook <http://www.bls.gov/oco> (type in general term for career of interest)

Alberta Occupational Profiles <http://www.alis.gov.ab.ca/occinfo/frameset.asp> (click on Occupational Title Search)

***Please visit the Career Center Library or your Career Consultant if you need additional information or assistance.**

Possible Job Titles of Fisheries and Wildlife Graduates

Animal Caretaker	Environmental Consultant	Naturalist
Animal Control Officer	Environmental Educator	Park Ranger
Animal Damage Specialist	Environmental Scientist	Refuge Manager
Aquarium Director	Fisheries Biologist	Research Technician
Aquarium/Museum Curator	Fish Culturist	Veterinarian Technician
Biological Technician	GIS Technician	Veterinarian
Biologist	Hatchery Manager	Wildlife Biologist
Conservation Ecologist	Hunting Guide	Wildlife Consultant
Conservation Ranger	Lake/Pond Manager	Wildlife Rehabilitator
Ecologist	Marine Biologist	Wildlife Research Technician
Endangered Species Biologist	Marine Scientist	Zoo Personnel

Possible Employers of Fisheries and Wildlife Graduates

Aquascope Environmental	GA Dept. of Natural Resources	Public Land Management
Aquaculture Companies	Game Plantations	Regulatory Agencies
Aquariums	Georgia Wildlife Federation	State Agencies
Bear Hollow Wildlife Trail	Environmental Consulting Firms	SE Coop Wildlife Disease Study
Bureau of Land Management	Jones Ecological Research Center	TRU Tech Inc.
Conservation Organizations	Nature Centers	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
US Geological Services
USDA Forest Service

USDA Wildlife Services
Veterinary Practices
Wetland & Ecological Consult.

Wildlife Habitat Council
Wilson Outdoor Center
Zoo Atlanta

Career Center Library Resources

2004 Federal Employment from A to Z by Federal Research Service
Working with Wildlife by Maynard, Thane
Outdoor Careers: 2nd Edition by Shenk, Ellen

Campus Resources

Warnell School Student Organizations: <http://www.warnell.uga.edu/h/campuslife/h/campuslife/organizations>

American Fisheries Society – UGA Student Chapter
American Water Resources Association
Society of American Foresters -- Forestry Club
Natural Resources Recreation & Tourism Society

Society of American Foresters
The Wildlife Society – Student Chapter
Soil and Water Conservation Society
University of Georgia Herpetological Society

Employment Websites

UGA DAWGlink (career.uga.edu)

<https://uga-csm.symplicity.com/students/index.php>

Warnell School of Forestry & Natural Resources Job Site

<http://jobs.forestry.uga.edu/>

Environmental Jobs and Careers

<http://www.ejobs.org/>

The Wildlife Society Jobs

<http://joomla.wildlife.org/jobs/>

Association of Zoos & Aquariums job listings

<http://www.aza.org/JobListings/>

USA Jobs

<http://www.usajobs.com/>

Making the Difference (Federal Jobs & Internships)

<http://www.makingthedifference.org>

Texas A&M Wildlife and Fisheries Job Board

<http://wfsc.tamu.edu/jobboard/index.htm>

Additional Resources

American Fisheries Society

<http://www.fisheries.org>

The Wildlife Society

<http://joomla.wildlife.org/>

US Fish and Wildlife Service

<http://www.fws.gov/>

National Wildlife Federation

<http://www.nwf.org/>

Partners for Amphibian and Reptile Conservation

<http://www.parcplace.org>

Wildlife Conservation Society

<http://www.wcs.org/>

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

<http://www.nfwf.org/>

Georgia DNR, Wildlife Resources Division

<http://georgiawildlife.dnr.state.ga.us/>

Georgia Wildlife Federation

<http://www.gwf.org/>

Advancing the Science of Limnology & Oceanography

<http://aslo.org/career.html/>

National Fisheries Institute

<http://www.aboutseafood.com>

Aquaculture Magazine Online

<http://www.aquaculturenorthamerica.com/>