

# WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES SCIENCE, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

## Program Description

The Wildlife and Fisheries Science minor provides non-majors with an introduction to the principles and practices of wildlife and fisheries conservation, research, and management. Although the minor includes both wildlife and fisheries course offerings, courses may be selected to provide a focus in one area or the other.

## What is Wildlife and Fisheries Science?

Wildlife and Fisheries Science includes study of the conservation, management, ecology, behavior, and identification of wildlife and fish species; the terrestrial and aquatic habitats where they live; and application of that knowledge to conserve and manage biodiversity and ecosystems.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES SCIENCE (<https://agsci.psu.edu/academics/undergraduate/majors/wildlife-and-fisheries-science/>)

## You Might Like this Program If...

- You are concerned about society's impact on biodiversity and ecosystems.
- You are interested in conservation and management of wildlife and fish species.

## Program Requirements

Requirement	Credits
Requirements for the Minor	22

## Requirements for the Minor

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10>). In addition, at least six credits of the minor must be unique from the prescribed courses required by a student's major(s).

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Prescribed Courses</b>		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
BIOL 110	Biology: Basic Concepts and Biodiversity	4
WFS 209N	Wildlife and Fisheries Conservation	3
WFS 430	Conservation Biology	3
<b>Additional Courses</b>		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
Select 12 credits of the following:		12
WFS 300	The Vertebrates	
WFS 407	Ornithology	
WFS 408	Mammalogy	
WFS 410	General Fishery Science	

WFS 422	Ecology of Fishes
WFS/ERM 435	Limnology
WFS 447W	Wildlife Management
WFS 450	Wetland Science and Sustainability
WFS 452	Ichthyology
WFS 460	Wildlife Behavior
WFS 462	Amphibians and Reptiles
WFS 463W	Fishery Management

## Academic Advising

The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/>)

## University Park

### Ellen A. Rom

Coordinator of Undergraduate Programs and Alumni Relations  
114 Forest Resources Building  
University Park, PA 16802  
814-863-0362  
[exr2@psu.edu](mailto:exr2@psu.edu)

## Career Paths

The Department of Ecosystem Science and Management career development (<https://ecosystems.psu.edu/undergraduate/resources/career-development/>) and employment opportunities (<https://ecosystems.psu.edu/undergraduate/resources/employment/>) websites offer a variety of resources to assist you in exploring professional pursuits related to natural resources and environmental science.

## Careers

Employment in the wildlife and fisheries professions is highly competitive. Related work experience is often required for postgraduation employment. Students get that experience from summer jobs, internships, or independent study projects. Flexibility in job location and willingness to accept seasonal or part-time work can increase employment prospects.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY (<https://fisheries.org>)

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY (<https://wildlife.org>)

## Opportunities for Graduate Studies

The Wildlife and Fisheries Science minor can help prepare students for graduate-level study in wildlife, fisheries, and related disciplines.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES  
(<https://ecosystems.psu.edu/graduate/wfs/>)

## **Contact**

### **University Park**

DEPARTMENT OF ECOSYSTEM SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT

117 Forest Resources Building

University Park, PA 16802

814-865-7521

<https://ecosystems.psu.edu>