Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology (BS): Fisheries Science Concentration

Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation Biology (FWCB) major prepares students to manage and conserve populations of fish and wildlife in their natural habitats. This STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) major gives students the skills they need to observe, research, monitor and assess the impact of environmental change, human behavior and public policy on wild populations of animals. Using a combination of lab work, technology and field study, students develop conservation strategies that ensure the long-term health of fish and wildlife populations.

After sophomore year, students spend six weeks in summer field courses. During “summer camp” experience, students learn hands-on fish and wildlife management techniques in locations across the state. From plant and animal identification and bird mist netting to camera-trapping and radio telemetry, students gain experiences that prepare them for careers after graduation. FWCB students have the option to substitute the summer field course with approved internships or study abroad courses.

The Fisheries concentration meets the qualifications for certification by the American Fisheries Society. The fisheries concentration includes required courses in chemistry, aquatic ecology, and biology of fish that are not required in the other FWCB concentrations.

Contact

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FWCB Undergraduate Coordinator

Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources
Box 8008
North Carolina State University
Raleigh, North Carolina 27695-8008

Plan Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Year</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>ENV 100 Student Success in Environmental First Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENV 101 Exploring the Environment</td>
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<td>MA 131 Calculus for Life and Management Sciences A</td>
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<td>BIO 181 Introductory Biology: Ecology, Evolution, and Biodiversity</td>
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<td>BIO 183 Introductory Biology: Cellular and Molecular Biology</td>
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<td>CH 101 &amp; CH 102 Chemistry - A Molecular Science and General Chemistry Laboratory</td>
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<tr>
<td>COM 110 or COM 112 Public Speaking or Interpersonal Communication</td>
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Acad Writing Research (p. 2) 1

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<tr>
<td>FOR 172 Forest System Mapping and Mensuration I</td>
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<td>FW 221 Conservation of Natural Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>PY 131 Conceptual Physics</td>
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<tr>
<td>CH 201 &amp; CH 202 Chemistry - A Quantitative Science and Quantitative Chemistry Laboratory</td>
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<td>CH 222 Organic Chemistry I Lab</td>
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<tr>
<td>AEC 360 Ecology</td>
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<tr>
<td>or PB 360 Ecology</td>
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<td>ARE 201 Introduction to Agricultural &amp; Resource Economics</td>
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<td>EC 201 Principles of Microeconomics</td>
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<td>EC 205 Fundamentals of Economics</td>
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<td>FW 313 Mountain Wildlife Ecology and Management</td>
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<td>FW 314 Coastal Ecology and Management</td>
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<td>FW 373 Vertebrate Natural History</td>
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<td>FW 411 Human Dimensions of Wildlife and Fisheries</td>
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<td>AEC 420 Introduction to Fisheries Science</td>
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<td>GN 301 or GN 311 Genetics in Human Affairs or Principles of Genetics</td>
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<td>ST 311 Introduction to Statistics</td>
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<td>ENG 333 Communication for Science and Research</td>
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<td>GIS 280 Introduction to GIS</td>
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<td>ENT 201 Insects and People</td>
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<td>AEC 441 Biology of Fishes</td>
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<td>Policy Elective (p. 2)</td>
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<td>Aquatic Elective (p. 2)</td>
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Technical Elective (p. 3)  
Technical Elective (p. 3)  

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<td>GEP Courses</td>
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<td>(<a href="http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/gep-usdiv/">http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/gep-usdiv/</a>)</td>
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<td>GEP Global Knowledge</td>
<td>(<a href="http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/gep-global-knowledge/">http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/gep-global-knowledge/</a>) (Verify Requirements)</td>
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Total Hours 11

**Acad Writing Research**

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<td>FLE 101</td>
<td>Academic Writing and Research</td>
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<td>ENG 202</td>
<td>Disciplinary Perspectives in Writing</td>
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<td>Transfer Sequence</td>
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<td>ENG 1GEP</td>
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**Communication Electives**

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<td>COM 201</td>
<td>Introduction to Persuasion Theory</td>
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<td>COM 211</td>
<td>Argumentation and Advocacy</td>
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<td>COM 226</td>
<td>Introduction to Public Relations</td>
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**Quantitative Electives**

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<td>CSC 200</td>
<td>Calculus for Life and Management Sciences B</td>
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<td>MA 231</td>
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<td>Introduction to Statistics II</td>
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**Policy Electives**

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<td>FOR 472</td>
<td>Forest Soils</td>
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<td>NR 460</td>
<td>Renewable Natural Resource Management and Policy</td>
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<td>NR 560</td>
<td>Renewable Natural Resource Management and Policy</td>
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<td>PS 320</td>
<td>U.S. Environmental Law and Politics</td>
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<td>PS 336</td>
<td>Global Environmental Politics</td>
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**Aquatic Electives**

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<td>Water Resources: Global Issues in Ecology, Policy, Management, and Advocacy</td>
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<td>AEC 419</td>
<td>Freshwater Ecology</td>
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<tr>
<td>AEC 519</td>
<td>Freshwater Ecology</td>
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<tr>
<td>MEA 200</td>
<td>Introduction to Oceanography</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MEA 220</td>
<td>Marine Biology</td>
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1. A grade of C- or better is required.
### Physical Science Electives

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<tr>
<td>CH 201</td>
<td>Chemistry - A Quantitative Science</td>
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<td>CH 202</td>
<td>Quantitative Chemistry Laboratory</td>
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<td>CH 223</td>
<td>Organic Chemistry II</td>
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<td>MEA 100</td>
<td>Earth System Science: Exploring the Connections</td>
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<td>MEA 130</td>
<td>Introduction to Weather and Climate</td>
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<td>MEA 200</td>
<td>Introduction to Oceanography</td>
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<td>MEA 210</td>
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<td>MEA 220</td>
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<td>MEA 250</td>
<td>Introduction to Coastal Environments</td>
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<td>MEA 323</td>
<td>Geochemistry of Natural Waters</td>
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<tr>
<td>PY 212</td>
<td>College Physics II</td>
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### Biology Electives

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<tr>
<td>ENT 425</td>
<td>General Entomology</td>
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<td>ZO 250</td>
<td>Animal Anatomy and Physiology</td>
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<td>ZO 402</td>
<td>Invertebrate Biology</td>
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<td>ZO 410</td>
<td>Introduction to Animal Behavior</td>
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### Technical Electives

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<td>AEC 515</td>
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<td>AEC 586</td>
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<td>AEC 587</td>
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<td>FOR 252</td>
<td>Introduction to Forest Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOR 304</td>
<td>Theory of Silviculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOR 420</td>
<td>Watershed and Wetlands Hydrology</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOR 520</td>
<td>Watershed and Wetlands Hydrology</td>
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### FW 404 Wildlife Habitat Management | 3
FW 453 Principles of Wildlife Science | 4
FW 515 Fish Physiology | 3
FW 586 | 3
FW 587 | 1
MEA 200 Introduction to Oceanography | 3
MEA 210 Oceanography Lab | 1
MEA 220 Marine Biology | 3
MEA 250 Introduction to Coastal Environments | 3
MEA 251 Introduction to Coastal Environments Laboratory | 1
MEA 449 Principles of Biological Oceanography | 3
MEA 549 Principles of Biological Oceanography | 3
NR 420 Watershed and Wetlands Hydrology | 4
NR 520 Watershed and Wetlands Hydrology | 4
PB 200 Plant Life | 4

### Semester Sequence

This is a sample.

#### First Year

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<td>MA 131</td>
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<td>BIO 181</td>
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<tr>
<td>CH 101</td>
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<td>CH 102</td>
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<td>BIO 183</td>
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### Second Year

#### Fall Semester
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<td>Organic Chemistry I</td>
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<td>&amp; CH 222</td>
<td>and Organic Chemistry I Lab</td>
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<td>FW 221</td>
<td>Conservation of Natural Resources (CP)</td>
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<td>FOR 172</td>
<td>Forest System Mapping and Mensuration I</td>
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#### Spring Semester

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<td>or PB 360</td>
<td>Ecology (CP) or Ecology</td>
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<td>PY 131</td>
<td>Conceptual Physics</td>
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<tr>
<td>CH 201</td>
<td>Chemistry - A Quantitative Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>&amp; CH 202</td>
<td>and Quantitative Chemistry Laboratory</td>
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#### Summer
Summer Camp courses may be substituted by a combination of two approved FWCB internships or FWCB study abroad experiences.

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<td>FW 311</td>
<td>Piedmont Wildlife Ecology and Management</td>
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<td>FW 312</td>
<td>Fisheries Techniques and Management</td>
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<td>FW 313</td>
<td>Mountain Wildlife Ecology and Management</td>
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### Third Year

#### Fall Semester

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<td>FW 353</td>
<td>Wildlife Management (CP)</td>
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<td>GN 301</td>
<td>Genetics in Human Affairs or Principles of Genetics (3-4)</td>
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<td>or GN 311</td>
<td>or Principles of Genetics</td>
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<td>ST 311</td>
<td>Introduction to Statistics</td>
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<td>ENG 333</td>
<td>Communication for Science and Research (CP)</td>
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#### Spring Semester

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<td>Vertebrate Natural History (CP)</td>
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<td>Human Dimensions of Wildlife and Fisheries</td>
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### Fourth Year

#### Fall Semester

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<td>GEP Interdisciplinary Perspectives (<a href="http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/gep-interdisciplinary-perspectives/">http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/gep-interdisciplinary-perspectives/</a>)</td>
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<td>Aquatic Elective (CP) (p. 2)</td>
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<td>FW 415</td>
<td>Professional Development in Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology</td>
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#### Spring Semester

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AEC 441</td>
<td>Biology of Fishes (CP)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO Elective (p. 3)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Science Elective (p. 3)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Elective (CP) (p. 3)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEP US Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (<a href="http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/gep-usdei/">http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/gep-usdei/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total Hours
120

1 A grade of C- or better is required.
2 FW 492 External Learning Experience

### Career Opportunities

Graduates are prepared for graduate school and entry-level professional positions in state and federal government agencies, non-profit organizations and private industry. Upon graduation, students are qualified to seek certification from The Wildlife Society or the American Fisheries Society.

### Career Titles

#### Learn More About Careers

NCCareers.org (https://nccareers.org/)
Explore North Carolina’s central online resource for students, parents, educators, job seekers and career counselors looking for high quality job and career information.

Occupational Outlook Handbook (https://www.bls.gov/ooh/)
Browse the Occupational Outlook Handbook published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to view state and area employment and wage statistics. You can also identify and compare similar occupations based on your interests.

Career One Stop Videos (https://www.careeronestop.org/)
View videos that provide career details and information on wages, employment trends, skills needed, and more for any occupation. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Focus 2 Career Assessment (https://careers.dasa.ncsu.edu/explore-careers/career-assessments/) (NC State student email address required)
This career, major, and education planning system is available to current NC State students to learn about how your values, interests, competencies, and personality fit into the NC State majors and your future career. An NC State email address is required to create an account. Make an appointment with your career counselor (https://careers.dasa.ncsu.edu/about/hours-appointments/) to discuss the results.

North Carolina Chapter of the Wildlife Society (http://nctws.org/wordpress/)
North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (https://nc.fisheries.org/)