Imagine a career conserving, protecting, regulating and managing our nation’s fish and wildlife resources. This major prepares graduates to address complex environmental issues and to interact professionally with a multitude of natural resources disciplines to develop solutions to problems.

Make an appointment with one of our faculty or recruiter to learn more about options in our fisheries and wildlife major.

Contact Information

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Career Path

Fisheries Researcher, Wildlife Biologist, Refuge Manager, Conservation Law Officer, Marine Biologist, Endangered Species Manager, Private Lands Habitat Manager, Water Quality Specialist, Park Ranger, Environmental Educator, Zoo Animal Keeper

Special Emphasis Courses


Internships Available

Our students have enjoyed internships with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wyoming Game and Fish, U.S. Geological Survey, Omaha’s Henry Doorly Zoo & Aquarium, and many other state and federal agencies, non-government organizations, and non-profits.
Options in the Fisheries and Wildlife Major
The Fisheries and Wildlife major offers seven different options that allow students to develop an individualized area of study with their career goal in mind as well as providing excellent preparation for graduate study.

Conservation Biology
Think working with threatened or endangered species around the globe and helping people preserve habitat while improving economic opportunities is the right fit for you? This option is designed for students considering careers in conservation, biodiversity, restoration ecology and policy.

Fisheries Ecology and Management
As a Fisheries Biologist, you could spend your time investigating aquatic habitats, managing fish populations, setting angler regulations or conducting research on ocean fishes! This option is designed for students considering careers in fisheries biology, aquatic ecology, limnology, and fisheries management. Students completing the Fisheries Ecology and Management option qualify for professional certification in the American Fisheries Society (AFS).

Habitat Management
Imagine a career managing wetland, forest, or grassland habitats on public or private lands! This option is designed for students considering careers in habitat management, private lands management or public lands (e.g., National Wildlife Refuge) management.

Law Enforcement
Do you want to work with the public to protect wildlife resources by enforcing hunting and fishing regulations or to stop the smuggling of protected animals? This option is designed for students considering careers in wildlife law enforcement. Completion of this program also provides excellent preparation for entry into law enforcement academies.

Nature-Based Entrepreneurship
Ever think about a career in industry or self-employment as land or resource managers, ecotourism operators, hunting guides, or nature-based artists? Completion of this program provides a 12-credit minor in the Engler Entrepreneurship program in CASNR and prepares students to run their own nature-based business.

Wildlife Ecology and Management
Does managing songbird or elk populations, setting waterfowl harvest regulations, or conducting research on endangered species sound like something you’d like to do? This option is designed for students considering careers in wildlife biology, wildlife ecology, and wildlife research or wildlife management. Students completing the Wildlife Ecology and Management option qualify for professional certification through The Wildlife Society as an Associate Wildlife Biologist.

Zoo Animal Care
Imagine a career caring for animals, rehabilitating sick or injured wildlife, or running the tiger exhibit at a zoo! This option is designed for students considering careers in zoo keeping, zoo animal care, animal rehabilitation, and animal training.