



University of Idaho

Department of Fish
and Wildlife Sciences

Fishery Sciences

Recommended 4-Year Plan

Training the Next Generation of Fisheries Professionals

The Bachelor of Science in Fisheries Sciences focuses on the ecology, conservation, and management of fish species and aquatic ecosystems. In this degree offered through the Department of Fish and Wildlife Sciences, our students learn to apply the principles of biology and ecology to understand how fish populations interact with each other and with their environment and how to address management challenges associated with a growing human population. Our degree emphasizes critical thinking through coursework and hands-on field and laboratory experiences, and our graduates are equipped to be successful natural resource managers, conservation officers and scientists in a rapidly changing world. Our graduates pursue careers with state, federal, tribal and private organizations involved with: managing recreationally and commercially important fish populations, conservation law enforcement, biological monitoring, environmental impact assessment, conservation of endangered fish and ecosystems, aquaculture and hatchery operation, control and prevention of fish diseases, and management of stream or lake ecosystems.

FRESHMAN

FALL

COURSE	CREDITS
NR 1010-Exploring Natural Resources	2
COMM 1101-Fundamentals of Oral Communication	3
ENGL 1101*-Writing & Rhetoric I (sufficient test score)	Writ Comm 3
MATH 1143-College Algebra (MATH 1080)	Math 3
BIOL 1140-Organisms & Environments	Science 4

TOTAL 15

SPRING

COURSE	CREDITS
FISH/WLF 1020-The Fish & Wildlife Professions	1
CHEM 1101/1101L -Intro to Chemistry & Lab OR CHEM 1111/1111L -Principles of Chemistry & Lab (CHEM 1101, MATH 1143, 1160, or 1170, sufficient test score)	Science 4
ENGL 1102*-Writing & Rhetoric II (ENGL 1101)	Writ Comm 3
Emphasis Area Requirement or Physical Science Requirement (if emphasis area B or C)	3
Emphasis Area Requirement	3

TOTAL 14

SOPHOMORE

FALL

COURSE	CREDITS
WLF 2010-Fish & Wildlife Applications I (NR 1010)	2
WLF 2200 OR FOR 2210-Principles of Ecology OR NR 3210 -Ecology (BIOL 1020/1020L, 1140, 1150, or PLSC 2050) (Spring Only)	3
FOR 2350-Society & Natural Resources	Social Sci 3
BIOL 1150/1150L -Cells & the Evolution of Life & Lab (CHEM 1101 or 1111)	4
Emphasis Area Requirement	3

TOTAL 15

SPRING

COURSE	CREDITS
BIOL 2130-Structure and Function Across the Tree of Life (BIOL 1150)	4
WLF 3700-Management & Communication of Scientific Data	3
STAT 2510*-Statistical Methods (MATH 1080, 1143, 1160, or 1170; or sufficient score)	3
CHEM 2750 Carbon Compounds OR CHEM 2770 Organic Chemistry I	3
Emphasis Area Requirement or Physical Science Requirement (if emphasis area A)	3
Emphasis Area Requirement	3

TOTAL 16

FISHERY SCIENCES

Recommended 4-Year Plan

JUNIOR

FALL

COURSE	CREDITS
FISH 3140 -Fish Ecology (WLF 2200, FOR 2210, BIOL 3140, or NR 3210)	3
FISH 3150 -Fish Ecology Field Techniques & Methods	2
FISH/WLF 3980 -Renewable Natural Resources Internship OR FISH 4980 -Internship	1
Except Option C, See Emphasis Requirement: See Department Internship Guidelines	
Humanistic & Artistic Ways of Knowing Course	3
Except Option A, See Emphasis Requirement	
Emphasis Area Course	
Emphasis Area Course	

TOTAL 15-16

SPRING

COURSE	CREDITS
FISH/WLF 3980-Renewable Natural Resources Internship OR FISH 4980 Internship	1
FISH 4810 -Ichthyology (BIOL 1140, 1150 & 2130)	4
Emphasis Area Requirement	3
International Course	4
Elective Course	
See Emphasis Requirements for Option A	

TOTAL 13-16

INTERNSHIP

CREDITS

FISH/WLF 3980 -Renewable Natural Resources Internship (Fall, Spring, or Summer) See Department Internship Guidelines	2
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SENIOR

FALL

COURSE	CREDITS
FISH 4150* -Limnology (STAT 2510 & FOR/REM 2210 or BIOL 3140)	4
FISH 4180 -Fisheries Management (STAT 2510 & WLF 2220, FOR 2210, BIOL 3140, or NR 3210)	4
FOR 3700-Intro to Spatial Analysis for NR Mgmt (College algebra)	3
OR GEOG 3850-Foundations of GIS	
Humanistic & Artistic Ways of Knowing	3
Except Option A, See Emphasis Requirement	

TOTAL 14

SPRING

COURSE	CREDITS
FISH 4950 -Seminar (sr. standing)	1
WLF 4480 -Fish and Wildlife Population Ecology (STAT 2510 & MATH 1160 or 1170)	4
Emphasis Area Requirement	3
Emphasis Area Requirement	3
Emphasis Area Requirement	3

TOTAL 13-14

EMPHASIS AREAS:

A. CONSERVATION LAW ENFORCEMENT

CRIM 1010-Introduction to Criminology
PHIL 1103-Introduction to Ethics
PSYC 1101-Introduction to Psychology
SOC 1101-Introduction to Sociology
WLF 2050-Wildlife Law Enforcement
Select one of the following:
MATH 1143 or MATH 1160 or MATH 1170
Select one of the following:
BIOL 2500 or BIOL 3100 or GENE 3140
Select two (minimum of 6 credits) of the following:
FISH 4110 or FISH 4220 or FISH 4240 or FISH 4300 or FISH 4500 or FISH 4510 or WLF 3140 or WLF 3150 or WLF 4110 or WLF 4400
Select one of the following:
COMM 2330 or COMM 3350 or COMM 4100 or NRS 3870 or NRS 3110 or NRS 3640 or NRS 3830 or NRS 4620
Select one of the following:
CRIM 3010 or CRIM 3390 or CRIM 3340 or CRIM 4150 or CRIM 4390 or PSYC 3190 or PSYC 3200 or SOC 2010 or SOC 4430 or SOC 4200

B. FISHERIES SCIENCE & MANAGEMENT

BIOL 2500/2550-General Microbiology & Lab
BIOL 3100 or GENE 3140
FISH 4110 -Fish Physiology
FISH 4220 or FISH 4240
MATH 1160 or MATH 1170
Select one of the following: (minimum of 3 credits) of the following
FISH 4300 or FISH 4500 or FISH 4510 or FISH 4970 or FISH 4990
Select one of the following:
COMM 4100 or FOR4310/NRS 4840 or NRS 3860 or NRS 3870 or NRS 3110 or NRS 3640 or NRS 4620 or NRS 3830 or NRS 4880 or WLF 2050 or WLF 4400

C. AQUACULTURE & HATCHERY MANAGEMENT EMPHASIS

FISH 4110-Fish Physiology
FISH 4220-Concepts in Aquaculture
FISH 4240-Fish Health Management
Select one of the following:
ECON 2201 or ECON 2202 or ECON 2720 or NRS 3830
Select two (minimum of 6 credits) of the following:
BIOL 2500 or (BIOL 3100 or GENE 3140) or AVS 3050 or FISH 4970 or FISH 4990
Select two (minimum of 6 credits) of the following:
AGEC 2780 or ASM 1070 or BUS 1900 or COMM 4100 or ENTR 4140 or MKTG 3210 or NRS 3110 or NRS 3860 or NRS 3870 or NRS 4620 or NRS 4880

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

GEOG 1000/1000L -Introduction to Planet Earth OR
GEOL 1101/1101L -Physical Geology OR
PHYS 1000/1000L -Fundamentals of Physics OR
PHYS 1111/1111L -General Physics I OR
SOIL 2060 -The Soil Ecosystem
SOIL 2060 -The Soil Ecosystem Lab

Ready to Get Started?

Email cnradvising@uidaho.edu



Students pursuing a B.S. Degree in Fisheries Science must have recieved a grade of 'C' or better in the following four indicator courses to register for FISH or WLF upper-division courses and to graduate with a B.S. : BIOL 1140, BIOL 2130, WLF 2200 or FOR 2210, or NR 3210, and STAT 2510.

To graduate, students must achieve a grade of 'C' or better in each FISH or WLF upper-division course listed in the requirements for the B.S. degree.

- This academic plan is intended as a guideline only and does not replace academic advising.
- 120 credits minimum are required for a B.S. in Fishery Sciences.
- Minimum of 36 upper-division credits required to graduate.
- See course catalog and department website for complete degree requirements and additional information.
- *-Both Online & In-Person options are offered
- + -Offered only Online

2025/2026