

## **WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES SCIENCE**

### **What will I do "on the job"?**

*To give you an idea of what different **entry-level** jobs might entail, here is a sample of actual **job titles and responsibilities** written by our Wildlife and Fisheries Science alumni in response to our department's alumni employment surveys, **one to two years after graduation**.*

**agriculture and environmental science teacher** (Central PA Institute of Science and Technology) – teach high school students about agriculture and environmental science

**agriculture conservation technician** (Lancaster Co. Conservation District) – work with farmers and landowners on nutrient management, conservation planning, developing and implementing conservation practices, public education

**animal keeper** (Elmwood Park Zoo) – perform tasks associated with the husbandry and maintenance of native and exotic animals

**assistant avian rehabilitator, seasonal** (The Raptor Trust) – medicinal treatment of sick or injured birds; clean bird aviaries; educate visitors and volunteers on birds and their habitat

**biologist aide, seasonal** (PA Game Commission) – black bear capture and handling; radio telemetry

**bird trainer** (Natural Encounters, Inc.) – animal management and husbandry; animal training and behavior modification; show presentations; train new staff

**county park ranger** (NJ) – enforce park regulations, interact with public to mediate concerns, lock and unlock parks, make presentations on wildlife

**ecologist** (Ecocene Environmental Consultants) – wetland delineations, Phase 1 assessment, environmental permitting, mitigation design/monitoring, stream assessments

**educator/naturalist** (Hawks Aloft) – conduct education programs at schools using permanently injured raptors; conduct field research as needed in the summer

**environmental education specialist, seasonal** (PA Bureau of State Parks) – create and implement school and public environmental education program; facilitate teacher workshops; maintain trails

**environmental health and safety technician** (Universal Well Services) – provide health and safety advice to crews on Marcellus and Utica shale pads and enforce OSHA standards

**environmental scientist** (EMC Engineering Services, Inc.) – wetland delineation, mitigation, and permitting; threatened and endangered species surveys

**environmental specialist** (GAI Consultants, Inc.) – conduct stream and wetland delineations and permits for clients such as Chesapeake, Williams, EQT, Dominion, etc.

**erosion and sedimentation control technician** (Crawford Co. Conservation District) – review erosion and sedimentation plans; review and process water obstruction and encroachment permits and NDPES storm water permits; investigate wetland, water obstruction, and earth disturbance complaints

**fisheries biologist** (PA Fish and Boat Commission) – obtain funding to advance habitat projects for threatened and endangered fish, amphibians, and reptiles; monitor the ecological response of populations through sampling and disseminate findings to the public and other interested parties

**fish culturist** (PA Fish and Boat Commission) – propagate, care for, and stock trout

**harbor seal research technician** (Alaska Sea Life Center) – operating remote video system, manage database, summarize data, relate research to public, guide high school student independent projects, capture and handle seals, operate skiffs, assist as field surgical technician

**mortality technician** (Sanders Environmental, Inc.)- perform searches for bat and bird carcasses under wind turbines

**lake habitat manager** (PA Fish and Boat Commission) – supervise volunteers and state agency staff in construction of fish habitat enhancement structures, operate specialized habitat enhancement boats, process habitat enhancement plan packages

**natural resource technician** (Letterkenny Army Depot) – mainly run the hunting program but also wildlife surveys and studies, habitat management, and forestry

**outreach and development assistant** (Americorps, Willow Bend Environmental Center, AZ) –lead classroom programs and field trips for K – 12 students, write grant reports

**preservation compliance coordinator** (County of Chester) – monitor farms with agricultural easements; GIS mapping; database management

**research technician** (Penn State) – research and describe impacts of Marcellus shale development on wildlife resources

**water pollution biologist** (PA DEP) – inspect underground storage tank facilities and emergency clean-up programs

**water pollution biologist** (PA DEP) – collect mosquitoes and ticks for the West Nile Virus program

**watershed specialist** (Columbia, Montour, and Northumberland Conservation Districts) – provide technical assistance to watershed groups through grant writing, meeting facilitation, education and outreach, chemical and biological monitoring; maintain communication among groups and other agencies

**wildlife biologist aide** (PA Game Commission) – assist elk biologist in all aspects of managing Pennsylvania elk herd; use radio telemetry to monitor movements of radio-collared elk, conduct population survey, assist at elk check station

**wildlife biologist aide** (PA Game Commission) – deer trapping; radio-collaring; locating collared white-tailed deer

**wildlife biologist/environmental scientist** (Skelly and Loy) – wetland delineations, water quality sampling, threatened and endangered species

**wildlife habitat biologist** (USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service) – complete habitat management plans for private landowners and provide technical assistance for getting the work completed

**wildlife technician, seasonal** (North Dakota Game and Fish Dept.) – manage public lands to benefit wildlife and hunting opportunities; handle wildlife depredation calls and complaints; noxious weed control; public outreach programs

**wildlife technician** (North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission) – food plot and habitat management; wildlife surveys; hunter check stations

**wildlife technician** (USDA APHIS Wildlife Services) – work to alleviate human/wildlife conflicts

**zookeeper** (Maryland Zoo) – animal husbandry; animal training; some medical care and procedures

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View alumni profiles online at <https://ecosystems.psu.edu/majors/wfs/careers>.

Questions? Please contact:

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