

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS
Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan
Wildlife Biology and Conservation, BS
 College of Natural Science and Mathematics
 November 2022

Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose	Intended Objectives/Outcomes	Assessment Criteria and Procedures	Implementation (what, when, who)
MISSION STATEMENT: The Wildlife Biology and Conservation BS degree program provides the fundamental education and training required to understand and apply the principles, methods, and tools of wildlife research, management, and conservation. The program is designed for students interested wildlife ecology that seek careers in the wildlife profession (private, state, and federal, tribal, and NGO organizations). The Program provides graduates with the qualifications necessary for certification as a wildlife biologist by The Wildlife Society . The curriculum also lays a solid foundation for	Knowledge Graduates should demonstrate a breadth and depth of knowledge of wildlife ecology that includes an understanding of the structure, function, and interactions of wildlife organisms, communities, populations, and ecosystems. They also will be able to apply their knowledge to research and manage wildlife and the diverse interactions among wildlife, people, and the environment.	• Pass courses required for the major and take the capstone course WLF 470 (Human Dimensions of Wildlife Management). • Score adequate or better on a wildlife professional field test. • Eligibility to apply to become a Certified Wildlife Biologist under the TWS certification program.	• WLF 470 (Human Dimensions of Wildlife Management) will administer a field test specifically designed for wildlife professionals. The field test also will be administered in entry-level courses (WLF101 and WLF104) to serve as the baseline for comparison and to assess learning. • The Program curriculum will maintain course options that meet the TWS certification requirements.
	Communication Graduates in wildlife biology should be able to effectively communicate their knowledge on application of the fundamentals of wildlife ecology including the principles and techniques of wildlife research and management.	• In communication intensive and capstone courses (WLF322, WLF470), student communication projects (written, oral, visual, audio) will be evaluated using a standard rubric and will score “adequate” or better.	• Students will take ≥ 2 wildlife courses that are communication intensive • Students may also present or publish independent undergraduate research (e.g., URSA) that they are involved in.

advanced graduate study. GOAL STATEMENT: Graduates of the wildlife program will have received the education and training in the art and science of applying the principles of ecology to the conservation and management of wildlife and its habitats. Graduates will be judged able to represent the profession as an ethical practitioner. Graduates will be prepared to achieve their future educational and professional goals.	They should be able to make cogent scientific arguments for specialist audiences in the sciences but should also be able to present their arguments and evidence to general audiences.	• Undergraduate student research communication products will be recorded and archived	
	Technical Skills (quantitative, methodological) Graduates should be able to apply modern methods and quantitative approaches to examine questions pertaining to wildlife ecology and the monitoring and managing of wildlife populations. They should be able to recognize an appropriate method or a particular task and have the competence to recognize bias in data collection. They should be able to summarize and analyze data using a variety of statistical approaches and create visual displays of information that effectively interpret and convey data.	•Wildlife students that take the GREs will place above the 50th percentile in the analytical portion of the exam •Wildlife students will score adequate or better on the analytical portion of the wildlife field test •Students will demonstrate ability to analyze, visualize, and interpret data in their capstone research project by scoring adequate or better on all quantitative aspects of the capstone evaluation.	Faculty teaching quantitative (WLF301, WLF421), methodological (WLF322, WLF469), and capstone courses (WLF470) will mentor students and implement evaluations. For example, WLF322 implements two practicums during the semester that requires students to demonstrate expertise in the application of methods they have learned.