

How to Become a Fishery Biologist



If you like working outside, enjoy wild places and want to see Alaska's remote areas, like math and science, have initiative and can work independently you might want to be a Fishery Biologist.

Take as many science and math classes as possible. Also look for summer camps and volunteer opportunities to get experience in the field.

Professional level biologist experience specific to fishery resource management or research activities

Examples:

- Fishery Biologist
- Wildlife Biologist
- Habitat Biologist
- Fishery Observer

Masters and/or PhD

Other advancements or career choices (professor, researcher, etc)

Higher level biologist

Fishery Biologist 1

College

Bachelor's degree in Fisheries, Biology, or other related fields

Look for internships and technician jobs for summer experience

High School

Middle School

Attend science camps and other outdoor opportunities



* Different organizations may have more or less requirements for fishery biologist jobs. This is a generalized example to get you started on the right path.

Fishery Biologist Job Description:

Fisheries biologists study fish and their habitats. A fish biologist might study a specific lake or fish and investigate population numbers, migration patterns, breeding statistics, or ecological impacts. They generally spend most of their time in the field, on boats, on shore or riverbanks observing conditions and gathering samples of fish specimen. They also spend time in labs analyzing samples, lead crews, and prepare papers and/or reports. A fisheries biologist might work for a government agency, private research institution, nonprofit environmental group, or a fish hatchery.

Pay Range:

\$35,000 - \$70,000 starting

Location:

Throughout Alaska

Schools in Alaska that offer degrees for fisheries careers:

- University Alaska Fairbanks
- University of Anchorage
- University of Alaska Southeast
- Alaska Pacific University
- Prince William Sound Community College



A few organizations that hire Fishery Biologists:

- Alaska Department of Fish and Game
- US Fish and Wildlife
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- U.S. Geological Survey
- CDQ groups or Native non-profits
- Environmental groups



Places to find more information:

- Organizations websites
- Future Alaskans Website - summer opportunities, internships, camps, jobs, etc. (<http://www.sfos.uaf.edu/future>)
- Job boards (some examples):
 - <http://www.jobs.state.ak.us>

