**MISSION STATEMENT:** The Biology and Wildlife Department educates students from diverse backgrounds worldwide about living systems with an emphasis on the circumpolar North by fostering intellectual inquiry, problem solving, and creativity through coursework and research.

**GOAL STATEMENT:** The Biology and Wildlife Department aims to provide its students a strong foundation in biological knowledge; to empower them through course experiences, research and inquiry to think creatively, flexibly, and critically; and to prepare them to achieve their future educational and professional goals.

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<th>Intended Objectives/Outcomes</th>
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| Knowledge                   | 1. Students entering the program without an MS degree will pass the PhD Qualifying Exam to demonstrate competence in biology.  
Established students will demonstrate mastery of broad biological concepts and the state of knowledge in their chosen field of study. | 1. Comprehensive Exam Committee and Graduate Advisory Committee members will administer the PhD Qualifying Exam during the first semester.  
2. The Graduate Student Advisory Committee will administer the comprehensive exam, typically within the first 2 years of study. |
| Communication of Science    | 1. Students will write a dissertation, publically present the work, and defend their thesis in an exam setting.  
2. Students will publish papers make presentations at professional meetings, and write successful grant proposals. | 1. Graduate Student Advisory Committee will evaluate the student's work; Department Chair and office staff will monitor student progress.  
2. Students report annually information about papers published, presentations given, and grant proposals submitted to the Department Chair. Office staff will compile information annually and the Chair will review. |
| Occupation                  | Professional activities of former graduate students will be tracked. | Department Chair and office staff will compile and review information bi-annually. |