



# WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

## Davis College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Consumer Sciences

Students in the Davis College are offered fields of study that complement a wide variety of careers. Programs are constantly being updated to reflect industry trends, and student initiative is strongly encouraged. Advising is conducted by faculty members, promoting mentorship. Many current students and alumni comment on the small-school feel of the Davis College, citing the individual attention from faculty, substantial extracurricular opportunities, and hands-on learning that enhance our academic experience.

The Davis College has 22 undergraduate major fields of study and a growing number of minors in the academic divisions of animal and nutritional sciences, design and merchandising, forestry and natural resources, plant and soil sciences, and resource management. Our programs allow for considerable flexibility, as several offer individual academic tracks depending on student interests and goals.

Instructional facilities and unique settings offer varied learning opportunities for students. The majority of classrooms, laboratories, design studios and offices are located on WVU's Evansdale Campus. The College also maintains eight farms, a campus greenhouse, and more than 8,000 acres of forest land for teaching and research. Hands-on experiences, service learning, undergraduate research and study abroad are strongly encouraged for students in every program.

The Wildlife and Fisheries Resources Program (WFR) prepares students for careers as wildlife and fisheries biologists, toxicologists, fish hatchery personnel, conservation officers and planners, and animal damage control specialists, as well as a wide variety of natural resources communication specialists and managers. Courses in the major are lab-based with ample opportunity to gain valuable field experiences.

### Program Admission and Curriculum

Students who meet University admission requirements may be accepted directly into the Davis College as Wildlife and Fisheries Resources majors. To earn a bachelor's degree, all students must complete 128 credit hours, including the General Education Curriculum required by the University. Students can focus their course of study through the selection of classes within the restricted electives category. In consultation with their academic advisor, students can choose an area of emphasis in either wildlife or fisheries that will prepare them for their intended career paths.

As a science-based program of study emphasizing the integration of ecology and societal values, the WFR curriculum prepares students for a wide array of opportunities in this field. Our faculty are dedicated to developing the next generation of young fisheries and wildlife professionals while recognizing the differing needs of our student body. Students gain the qualities, skills, and experiences needed by and expected of professionals in this field in a hands-on environment that takes advantage of the abundant "natural classrooms" in the area.

Core courses within the major include, but are not limited to, introduction to wildlife and fisheries management, conservation ecology, forest limnology, renewable resources policy, fish management, forest management, soil science, and dendrology. Complete course requirements and descriptions can be found in the current *WVU Undergraduate Catalog*.

### Employment Opportunities

Graduates from this program typically follow one of two career tracks—employment with state or federal resource agencies, non-government organizations, or private consultant firms, or they continue their education in graduate school. Earnings in these fields range widely with the size and scope of positions. Entry-level positions reported starting salaries of \$30,000 to \$61,000 per year.



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### Majors in the Davis College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Consumer Sciences

Agribusiness Management & Rural Development:	B
Agricultural & Extension Education:	B, M
Agricultural & Resource Economics:	M
Agriculture, Forestry, & Consumer Sciences:	M
Agroecology:	B
Agronomy:	B, M
Animal & Food Science:	D
Animal & Nutritional Sciences:	B, M
Applied & Environmental Microbiology:	B
Biochemistry:	B
Design Studies:	B
Entomology:	M
Environmental & Natural Resource Economics:	B
Environmental Microbiology:	M
Environmental Protection:	B
Family & Consumer Sciences:	M
Fashion Design & Merchandising:	B
Forest Resources Management:	B
Forest Resources Science:	D
Forestry:	M
Genetics & Developmental Biology:	M, D
Horticulture:	B, M
Human and Community Development:	D
Human Nutrition & Foods:	B
Interior Design:	B
Landscape Architecture:	B
Multidisciplinary Studies:	B
Natural Resource Economics:	D
Plant & Soil Sciences:	D
Plant Pathology:	M
Recreation, Parks, & Tourism Resources:	B, M
Reproductive Physiology:	M, D
Resource Management:	D
Soil Science:	B
Wildlife & Fisheries Resources:	B, M
Wood Science & Technology:	B

B = Bachelor's; M = Master's; D = Doctorate

For more information, visit  
[www.davis.wvu.edu](http://www.davis.wvu.edu)

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