



FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Merit Badge Requirements

- 1) Describe the meaning and purposes of fish and wildlife conservation and management.
- 2) List and discuss at least three major problems that continue to threaten your state's fish and wildlife resources.
- 3) Describe some practical ways in which everyone can help with the fish and wildlife conservation effort.
- 4) List and describe five major fish and wildlife management practices used by managers in your state.
- 5) Do ONE of the following:
 - A) Construct, erect, and check regularly at least two artificial nest boxes (wood duck, bluebird, squirrel, etc.) and keep written records for one nesting season.
 - B) Construct, erect, and check regularly bird feeders and keep written records of the kinds of birds visiting the feeders in the winter.
 - C) Design and implement a backyard wildlife habitat improvement project and report the results
 - D) Design and construct a wildlife blind near a game trail, water hole, salt lick, bird feeder, or birdbath and take good photographs or make sketches from the blind of any combination of 10 wild birds, mammals, reptiles, or amphibians.
- 6) Do ONE of the following:
 - A) Observe and record 25 species of wildlife. Your list may include mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish. Write down when and where each animal was seen.
 - B) List the wildlife species in your state that are classified as endangered, threatened, exotic, game species, furbearers, or migratory game birds.
 - C) Start a scrapbook of North American wildlife. Insert markers to divide the book into separate parts for mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish. Collect articles on such subjects as life histories, habitat, behavior, and feeding habits on all of the five categories and place them in your notebook accordingly. Articles and pictures may be taken from newspapers, or science, nature, and outdoor magazines; or from other sources including the Internet (with your parent's permission). Enter at least five articles on mammals, five on birds, five on reptiles, five on amphibians, and five on fish. Put each animal on a separate sheet in alphabetical order. Include pictures whenever possible.
- 7) Do ONE of the following:
 - A) Determine the age of five species of fish from scale samples or identify various age classes of one species in a lake and report the results.
 - B) Conduct a creel census on a small lake to estimate catch per unit effort.
 - C) Examine the stomach contents of three species of fish and record the findings. It is not necessary to catch any fish for this option. You may visit a cleaning station set up for fishermen or find another, similar alternative.
 - D) Make a freshwater aquarium. Include at least four species of native plants and four species of animal life, such as whirligig beetles, freshwater shrimp, tadpoles, water snails, and golden shiners. After 60 days of observation, discuss with your counselor the life cycles, food chains, and management needs you have recognized. After completing requirement 7d to your counselor's satisfaction, with your counselor's assistance, check local laws to determine what you should do with the specimens you have collected.
- 8) Using resources found at the library and in periodicals, books, and the Internet (with your parent's permission), learn about three different kinds of work done by fish and wildlife managers. Find out the education and training requirements for each position.

Requirement 4

List and describe 5 major fish and wildlife management practices use by managers in your state:

- 1) _____

- 2) _____

- 3) _____

- 4) _____

- 5) _____

Requirement 5

You have been given four options for this requirement. Select and complete one of them.

If you selected *Option A*:

Construct, erect, and check regularly at least two artificial nest boxes (wood duck, bluebird, squirrel, etc.) and keep written records for one nesting season.

Briefly describe the two boxes you built and where you placed them: _____

After keeping records for one nesting season, show your records to your counselor: Give a brief summary of your records: _____

If you selected *Option B*:

Scout Name: _____ Unit #: _____ Date: _____

Construct, erect, and check regularly bird feeders and keep written records of the kinds of birds visiting the feeders in the winter.

Give a brief description of the feeders you built and where you put them: _____

List the names of the birds you witnessed using your feeders during the wintertime:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

If you selected **Option C**:

Design and implement a backyard wildlife habitat improvement project.

Describe your project: _____

What were the results of your project? _____

If you selected **Option D**:

Design and construct a wildlife blind near a game trail, water hole, salt lick, bird feeder, or birdbath and take good photographs or make sketches from the blind of any combination of 10 wild birds, mammals, reptiles, or amphibians.

Describe your blind: _____

List the ten animals you sketched or photographed. Attach your sketches or photos to the worksheet for your counselor to view:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Requirement 6

Scout Name: _____ Unit #: _____ Date: _____

You have been given three options for this requirement. Select and complete one of them.

If you selected **Option A**:

Observe and record 25 species of wildlife. Your list may include mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish. Write down when and where each animal was seen.

Animal: _____ Date Seen: _____ Where Seen: _____

Animal: _____ Date Seen: _____ Where Seen: _____

Animal: _____ Date Seen: _____ Where Seen: _____

Animal: _____ Date Seen: _____ Where Seen: _____

Animal: _____ Date Seen: _____ Where Seen: _____

Animal: _____ Date Seen: _____ Where Seen: _____

Animal: _____ Date Seen: _____ Where Seen: _____

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Animal: _____ Date Seen: _____ Where Seen: _____

Animal: _____ Date Seen: _____ Where Seen: _____

Animal: _____ Date Seen: _____ Where Seen: _____

If you selected **Option B**:

Scout Name: _____ Unit #: _____ Date: _____

List the wildlife species in your state that are classified as endangered, threatened, exotic, game species, furbearers, or migratory game birds.

Species: _____ Classification: _____

Species: _____ Classification: _____

Species: _____ Classification: _____

Species: _____ Classification: _____

Species: _____ Classification: _____

Species: _____ Classification: _____

Species: _____ Classification: _____

Species: _____ Classification: _____

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Species: _____ Classification: _____

Species: _____ Classification: _____

Species: _____ Classification: _____

Species: _____ Classification: _____

Species: _____ Classification: _____

If you selected *Option C*:

Scout Name: _____ Unit #: _____ Date: _____

Start a scrapbook of North American wildlife. Insert markers to divide the book into separate parts for mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish. Collect articles on such subjects as life histories, habitat, behavior, and feeding habits on all of the five categories and place them in your notebook accordingly. Articles and pictures may be taken from newspapers, or science, nature, and outdoor magazines; or from other sources including the Internet (with your parents permission). Enter at least five articles on mammals, five on birds, five on reptiles, five on amphibians, and five on fish. Put each animal on a separate sheet in alphabetical order. Include pictures whenever possible.

__ When your scrapbook is complete show it to your merit badge counselor.

Requirement 7

You have been given four options for this requirement. Select and complete one of them.

If you selected *Option A*:

Determine the age of five species of fish from scale samples or identify various age classes of one species in a lake and report the results.

Results: _____

If you selected *Option B*:

Conduct a creel census on a small lake to estimate catch per unit effort.

Give a brief description of how you did the creel census: _____

What were the results of your census? _____

If you selected *Option C*:

Examine the stomach contents of three species of fish and recording the findings:

Scout Name: _____ Unit #: _____ Date: _____

Fish Species: _____ Stomach Contents: _____

Fish Species: _____ Stomach Contents: _____

Fish Species: _____ Stomach Contents: _____

**It is not necessary to catch any fish for this option. You may visit a cleaning station set up for fishermen or find another, similar alternative.*

If you selected **Option D**:

Make a freshwater aquarium. Include at least four species of native plants and four species of animal life, such as whirligig beetles, freshwater shrimp, tadpoles, water snails, and golden shiners. After 60 days of observation, discuss with your counselor the life cycles, food chains, and management needs you have recognized.

Give a brief description of your aquarium: _____

What are the four native plants you included in your aquarium?

What are the four species of animal life you included in your aquarium?

___ If possible, show your aquarium to your counselor.

**After completing requirement 7d to your counselor's satisfaction, with your counselor's assistance, check local laws to determine what you should do with the specimens you have collected.*

Requirement 8

Using resources found at the library and in periodicals, books, and the Internet (with your parent's permission), learn about three different kinds of work done by fish and wildlife managers. Find out the education and training requirements for each position.

Kind of work: _____

Education Requirement: _____ Training Requirement: _____

Kind of work: _____

Education Requirement: _____ Training Requirement: _____

Kind of work: _____

Education Requirement: _____ Training Requirement: _____