

# Career Outlook: Wildlife Biology

## Wildlife Biology Programs Available at Bemidji State University:

**Major:** Wildlife Biology (B.S.)

**Minor:** Wildlife Biology

**Department Website:** <https://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/departments/biology/>

### **EMPLOYMENT AREAS AND PROJECTED DEMAND:**

According to the Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH), zoologists and wildlife biologists held about 17,100 jobs in 2021. Depending on their position, zoologists and wildlife biologists may spend considerable time in the field gathering data and studying animals in their natural habitats. Federal and state governments employed about 67% of all zoologists and wildlife biologists, excluding education, hospitals, and postal services; 6% worked in management, scientific, and technical consulting services research; 4% worked for colleges, universities, and professional schools; and 5% worked for research and development in the physical, engineering, and life sciences. Many zoologists and wildlife biologists have advanced degrees.

OOH reports the nationwide demand for zoologists and wildlife biologists is projected to grow 1%, through 2031, with people established in their career generally earning between \$42,420 and \$103,900 per year. The 2021 median pay was \$64,650 per year including those workers with advanced degrees.

### **PLACEMENT INFORMATION FOR WILDLIFE BIOLOGY GRADUATES:**

Of the 27 Wildlife Biology B.S. graduates in 2020-2021, 56.3% reported obtaining related employment within one year of graduation. This does not include students who were not seeking employment, continuing education, unavailable, or had unknown status.

### **PARTIAL LIST OF EMPLOYERS WHO HAVE REPORTED HIRING BSU WILDLIFE BIOLOGY GRADUATES\*:**

**(This list only includes employment within one year of graduation.)**

Americorps National Service Trust/CNS	Corps Member	Grand Rapids, MN
Bureau of Reclamation	Biological Science Technician	Socorro, NM
Dakota Water Conditioning	Water Systems Technician	Fargo, ND
Ed's Buckthorn Control, LLC	Field Assistant	Minnetonka, MN
MN Department of Natural Resources	Parks and Trails Associate	Isle, MN
Native Resource Preservation LLC	Ecological Restoration Technician	West St. Paul, MN
Tacoma Power	Technician	Tacoma, WA
Voyageurs National Park	Fisheries Biologist Technician	International Falls, MN

### **COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WHERE BSU WILDLIFE BIOLOGY GRADUATES HAVE GONE TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION:**

- Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO

\*Degrees alone do not get students jobs. Internships, summer jobs, volunteer work, part-time jobs, work-study positions, and active participation in student organizations on campus are all ways to become more competitive in a tight job market.

#### **Bibliography:**

Annual Graduate Follow-Up Study 2020-2021. Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN (2023)

Bemidji State University Undergraduate Catalog 2022-2023. Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN (2023)

Occupational Outlook Handbook. U.S. Dept. of Labor, JIST Publishing Inc., Indianapolis, IN (2022)

**For more information, contact Career Services; Decker Hall/218-755-2038/career@bemidjistate.edu**

**For more job listings please visit:**

## ***Handshake***

<https://www.bemidjistate.edu/services/career/events-guides-resources/job-listings/>



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