

Explore a Career as a Wildlife Biologist

Summary: *Wildlife biologists can perform a wide variety of jobs, some of which aren't the most glamorous, but with hard work, finding a dream position is possible.*



Images of tracking rare birds in the jungle or scaling mountains to study mountain goats in their natural habitat cloud the minds of those imagining a **career as a wildlife biologist**. While you will need to enjoy the outdoors and not mind getting your hands dirty, not all wildlife biologists spend their days outside. Many spend time inside an office or laboratory all day.

The education requirements for this career have changed due to the increased demand in available jobs and the type of work they now perform. You have to have the minimum of a bachelor's degree, but many agencies won't look at candidates unless they have a master's degree. Pick programs that are rich in research and internship opportunities.

Your field experience needs to involve a wide variety of experience or great in-depth experiences in just a few areas. **Taking classes** in writing, education, and journalism will help you be able to



effectively write reports and communicate with the public for awareness and educational needs.

Wildlife biologists don't make a ton of money. Most entry levels are minimum wage. Working for a state agency tends to pay the highest, while government agencies pay the least. You will be doing this job because of your passion for the subject and not the amount on the paycheck.

You can find jobs with government, state, and **nonprofit agencies**. There are also companies that will hire consultants for specific projects.

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