Emporia State University
Department of Biological Sciences
Major in Biology
Fisheries & Wildlife Track

Emporia State University offers outstanding opportunities for students to specialize in fisheries & wildlife, natural resource management, and wildlife law enforcement. ESU’s Department of Biological Sciences has a long history of excellence in fisheries & wildlife biology, natural history, ecology, and organismal biology, including the study of fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals, as well as plants and invertebrates.

ESU Fisheries & Wildlife students conduct research in fisheries and wildlife topics, and are encouraged to disseminate their research results through presentations at professional meetings and publications in scientific journals. ESU’s Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society is active in promoting professionalism, networking, and conservation awareness and education in fisheries & wildlife management, and is involved in many hands-on research and management activities in the region, as well as fund-raisers and social events.

Emporia is located on the eastern edge of Kansas’ Flint Hills, within easy reach of many diverse field sites. Eight ESU Natural Areas encompass more than 500 acres of tallgrass prairie, wetlands, and eastern deciduous forest providing opportunities for field research and class field trips. ESU’s on-campus Schmidt Museum of Natural History includes an exceptional collection of birds and mammals.

ESU Fisheries & Wildlife students also have access to the nearby 18,500-acre Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge and the 10,894-acre Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve. The Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism research office is located on campus and provides another excellent opportunity for training and professional development.

ESU Fisheries and Wildlife Track students follow the B.S. Biological Sciences’ Ecology and Biodiversity curriculum, including the biology core, concentration courses, and physical sciences and statistics requirements. Students should choose Natural History of Vertebrates (ZO 556-557) as their upper division animal survey course.

Fisheries Track students are encouraged to choose the following electives:
- EB 474-475 Fisheries Management and Lab
- EB 536-537 Wildlife Management and Lab
- GB 510-511 Aquatic Biology and Lab
- EB 496 Stream Ecology and Lab
- ZO 472-473 Ichthyology and Lab
- EB 538 Natural Resource Policies
- EB 710 Conservation Biology

Additionally, students can become certified as Associate Fisheries Professionals by the American Fisheries Society by supplementing required coursework with the necessary electives; details at www.fisheries.org

Wildlife Track students are encouraged to choose the following electives:
- EB 536-537 Wildlife Management and Lab
- EB 474-475 Fisheries Management and Lab
- ZO 480-481 Ornithology and Lab
- ZO 490-491 Mammalogy and Lab
- EB 538 Natural Resource Policies
- EB 710 Conservation Biology
- ES 551 Computer Mapping Systems

Students can become certified as Associate Wildlife Biologists by The Wildlife Society by supplementing required coursework with the necessary electives; see details at www.wildlife.org

Wildlife Law Enforcement Track students are encouraged to choose the following electives, recommended by the Law Enforcement Division of Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism:
- EB 536-537 Wildlife Management and Lab
- EB 474-475 Fisheries Management and Lab
- ZO 459 Herpetology
- ZO 472-473 Ichthyology and Lab
- ZO 480-481 Ornithology and Lab
- ZO 490-491 Mammalogy and Lab
- EB 538 Natural Resource Policies
- EB 710 Conservation Biology
- SO 353 Criminology, or
- PO 444 Constitutional Law I, or
- PO 445 Constitutional Law II

(Updated May 2010) For more information on our programs, see biology.emporia.edu