Overview
Colorado State University’s online Master of Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology (FWCB) focuses on ecology and management of wild animals, for their benefit and the benefit of humans. With direct and indirect human impacts on the environment increasing, lands that are inhabited by wildlife species are being changed or lost at unprecedented rates. Managing for wildlife in these times includes activities such as study design, data collection and interpretation, and communication to constituencies so policies can be selected that have positive outcomes for wildlife and humans.

Study design and analysis is often the job of wildlife biologists, who have a deep respect and passion for the natural world, the wildlife that inhabits it, and how humans interact with and impact them both. This online master’s degree provides the training and credentials natural resource professionals need to effectively guide studies, decisions, and policies related to fish and wildlife management.

This intensive, coursework-only online master’s degree is designed for professionals in the natural resources area, with a focus on the skills and tools needed to analyze, communicate, and make decisions about conservation issues. Students will broaden their critical thinking on current issues and receive the training to be successful and advance in careers at natural resources agencies, firms, and non-government organizations.

Curriculum
Coursework will provide students with an advanced knowledge in ecology and conservation of fish and wildlife and develop competencies such as:

- Population ecology, sampling, and advanced quantitative/statistical methods.
- Wildlife habitat management strategies.
- Current issues in fish, wildlife, and conservation biology such as maintaining biodiversity, endangered species management, and potential impacts of climate change on species management.
- Effective strategies for conservation decision making including stakeholder identification, communication, and conflict resolution.
- Understanding human/wildlife interactions from animal damage and zoonotic diseases such as avian influenza and West Nile virus.

Contact
(970) 492-4898
online.colostate.edu/contact

Delivery
Online

Credits
30 credits

Tuition
$665 per credit
- Includes Student Services
- Fees assessed separately
- Financial aid is available; eligibility determined on an individual basis

Time Frame
Can be completed in 3 years

Completion Requirements
- Completion of 30 credits, including 21 credits of required core coursework and 9 credits of electives.
- Up to nine credits may be taken before formal admission to the program.
- 24 credits must be earned from Colorado State University, 21 of which must be earned after formal admission.

More Info
online.colostate.edu/degrees/fish-wildlife-conservation-biology
How to Apply
Master of Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology (M.F.W.C.B.)

Application Deadlines
Fall semester: July 1
Spring semester: November 15

1 Review Minimum Admission Requirements
☐ A B.A. or B.S. degree in fish, wildlife, and conservation biology or a closely related discipline.
☐ A minimum of 2 years full-time professional employment beyond the bachelor’s degree, preferably with a focus in FWCB, natural resources conservation, or a related field.
☐ A 3.0 GPA on all undergraduate coursework. Exceptions to this are made on a case-by-case basis.
No specific coursework is required. Coursework in ecology, introductory calculus, and statistics is highly recommended. Applications are reviewed holistically.

2 Prepare Application Materials
☐ Statement of purpose
This focused statement should include an outline of past work experience specifically related to FWCB and the natural resources, along with including educational and long term professional goals, and addressing how the FWCB program will contribute to both.

☐ Resume
Outline your professional employment, collegiate work, and any publications, exhibitions, service activities, prizes, awards and other recognitions.

☐ Transcripts
One official transcript from every institution you have attended, including institutions where coursework was brief and/or seemingly unrelated to the programs you wish to pursue. Transcripts from coursework completed at Colorado State University do not need to be submitted.

☐ Three letters of recommendation from at least two of the following:
  • Previous or current college/university instructors
  • Previous or current immediate professional supervisors
  • Observers other than supervisors who can verify the professional or intellectual expertise of the applicant.
Letters from friends, relatives or character witnesses are considered only supplemental to the three required reference letters

Sending Application Materials
For documents that cannot be submitted online, send paper copies to Graduate Admissions.
Graduate Admissions
Colorado State University – Office of Admissions
1062 Campus Delivery
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1062
How to Apply (Continued)

3 Apply Online

Complete the online graduate application and pay the nonrefundable application processing fee (payable online).

- Select "Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology (M.F.W.C.) – Distance"

Check Your Application Status

View your application status at any time to ensure your application checklist is complete or to check on updates.

Information for International Students

Official transcript translation

Ensure official copies include a certified translation into English (only one set of transcripts is required).

Official test scores

Colorado State University requires that proficiency in English language be demonstrated either by the TOEFL, IELTS, or PTE academic tests prior to admission. Please submit one of the official scores from the list below. Scores must be taken within two years prior to admission and submitted directly from the Educational Testing Service (select institution code: 4075).

- The minimum TOEFL score for admission without condition is 550 (paper-based), or 80 (internet-based).
- The minimum IELTS score for admission without condition is 6.5.
- The minimum PTE Academic score for admission without condition is 58.

In general, all applicants from countries in which English is not the official language, and who do not have an undergraduate degree from a country in which the official language is English (Canada, U.K., Australia, USA, New Zealand, etc.), must submit one of the official test scores from the list above.

Questions? Contact a Student Success Coach for help with your application. Call (970) 492-4898.