Through lecture courses, labs, hands-on field experience and internships, the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Ecology will prepare you for a career in a variety of natural resource fields related to the conservation and management of wild animal populations and the natural systems they perpetuate. Award-winning professors will guide students in the study of how to manage fish and wildlife populations, their habitats, how their populations grow and contract, how different species influence the biotic community in which they live and how natural systems are affected by human activities.

Quick Facts

• Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Ecology excels in undergraduate research opportunities.
• Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Ecology requires an internship resulting in job opportunities for more than 50% of students.
• NMSU was recognized as a top-tier university by U.S. News & World Report in 2017.
• NMSU College of ACES was ranked the #1 agricultural university in New Mexico by Agriculture-Schools in 2017.
• The Brookings Institution listed NMSU as a leader in research and social mobility.

Why Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Ecology?

Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Ecology Major
With the continuous growth of human populations and the ever dwindling of natural resources, natural resource professionals are needed now more than ever. Learn how to sustainably manage fish and wildlife populations and the habitats they utilize to ensure their long-term successful conservation.

Wildlife Ecology and Management Concentration
This concentration focuses on the ecology, conservation and management of wildlife (including mammals, birds, amphibians, and reptiles) in their natural habitats.

Aquatic Ecology and Management Concentration
This concentration focuses on the ecology, conservation and management of aquatic resources and the animals and plants found in them.

Did you know?
New Mexico has one of the most diverse wildlife populations in the country. Managing wildlife and aquatic habitat is crucial for maintaining wildlife species.

Conservation Ecology Major
The continued pressure that human development places on wildlife requires careful study of wildlife and their habitats. This major prepares you to take an active role in conservation efforts focused on relieving the pressure of human development to successfully conserve wildlife species and their habitats for future generations. This major can also be used as a pre-veterinarian option.

Careers
• Wildlife or Fisheries Biologist
• Game Warden
• Conservation Ecologist
• Natural Resource Specialist
• Zoo Biologist
• Aquarium Biologist
• Park Ranger
• Habitat Restoration Specialist
• Endangered Species Biologist

Ranked a top 10 AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE IN THE NATION
– College Values Online, 2015
Meredith Campbell is a graduate student in the department of NMSU Fish Wildlife and Conservation Ecology. She spent 11 days at the bottom of the Grand Canyon conducting research that focused on the humpback chub. Following her sample collecting, Campbell hit the research lab at the Southwestern Native Aquatic Resources & Recovery Center in Dexter, New Mexico. SNARRC is part of the United States Fish & Wildlife Service, and it contains the Southwestern Fish Health Unit, which monitors aquatic species’ health issues for the southwest region.

“Living in the Grand Canyon for 11 days was wonderful,” Campbell said. “I would go back in a heartbeat.”

For a complete list, visit: aces.nmsu.edu/academics/clubs.html