



# FISH & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

APRIL HAC - MERIT BADGE FOR SCOUTS BSA

## MERIT BADGE TRACKING



The tracking tool below is simply for your own tracking of completion of requirements.

Scouts are encouraged to find a local merit badge counselor to meet, discuss, and sign off on completion of the merit badge, however the HomeScouting Adventure Club will offer limited counseling sessions for Scouts needing a counselor.

Requirement	Completed?
1. Describe the meaning and purposes of fish and wildlife conservation and management.	
2. List and describe at least three major problems that continue to threaten your state's fish and wildlife resources.	
3. Describe some ways in which everyone can help with fish and wildlife conservation.	
4. List and describe five major fish and wildlife management practices used by managers in your state.	
5. Do <b>ONE</b> of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> a. Construct, erect, and check regularly at least two artificial nest boxes (wood duck, bluebird, squirrel, etc.) and keep written records for one nesting season.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> b. Construct, erect, and check regularly bird feeders and keep written records of the kinds of birds visiting the feeders.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> c. Develop and implement a fishery improvement project or a backyard wildlife habitat improvement project. Share the results with your counselor.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> d. Design and construct a wildlife blind near a game trail, water hole, salt lick, bird feeder, or birdbath and take good photographs or make sketches from the blind of any combination of 10 wild birds, mammals, reptiles, or amphibians.</li> </ul>	
6. Do <b>ONE</b> of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> a. Observe and record 25 species of wildlife. Your list may include mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish. Write down when and where each animal was seen.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> b. List the wildlife species in your state that are classified as endangered, threatened, exotic, non-native, game species, furbearers, or migratory game birds. Discuss with your counselor management practices in place or being developed for at least three of these species.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> c. Start a scrapbook of North American fish and wildlife. Insert markers to divide the book into separate parts for mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish. Collect articles on such subjects as life histories, habitat, behavior, and feeding habits on all of the five categories and place them in your notebook accordingly. Articles and pictures may be taken from newspapers or science, nature, and outdoor magazines, or from other sources including the internet (with your parent's permission). Enter at least five articles on mammals, five on birds, five on reptiles, five on amphibians, and five on fish. Put each animal on a separate sheet in alphabetical order. Include pictures whenever possible.</li> </ul>	

# MERIT BADGE TRACKING

Requirement	Completed?
<p>7. Do <b>ONE</b> of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> a. Determine the age of five species of fish from scale samples or identify various age classes of one species in a lake and report the results.</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> b. Conduct a creel census on a small lake to estimate catch per unit effort.</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> c. Examine the stomach contents of three fish and record the findings. It is not necessary to catch any fish for this option. You may visit a cleaning station set up for fishermen or find another, similar alternative.</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> d. Make a freshwater aquarium. Include at least four species of native plants and four species of animal life, such as whirligig beetles, freshwater shrimp, tadpoles, water snails, and golden shiners. After 60 days of observation, take note of the life cycles, food chains, and management needs you have recognized. After completing requirement 7d, check local laws to determine what you should do with the specimens you have collected.</li></ul>	
<p>8. Using resources found at the library and in periodicals, books, and the internet (with your parent's permission), learn about three different positions held by fisheries and/or wildlife professionals. Find out the education and training requirements for each position.</p>	



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## MERIT BADGE WORKSHEET



Through exploring The Trail inside the ClubHouse for the HomeScouting Adventure Club, complete this worksheet to demonstrate your knowledge of Fish and Wildlife Management. This worksheet will not be turned in and for your own use to demonstrate knowledge.

**Describe the meaning and purposes of fish and wildlife conservation and management.**

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**List three major problems that continue to threaten your state's fish and wildlife resources. Why do they threaten these resources?**

Problem #1

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Problem #2

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Problem #3

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# FISH & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT WORKSHEET

**Describe some ways in which everyone can help with fish and wildlife conservation.**

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**List and describe five major fish and wildlife management practices used by managers in your state.**

Practice #1

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Practice #2

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Practice #3

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Practice #4

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Practice #5

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# FISH & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT WORKSHEET

Do **ONE** of the following (this continues on the next page)

- 6a.** Observe and record 25 species of wildlife. Your list may include mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish. Write down when and where each animal was seen.

	<u>Species</u>	<u>When Seen</u>	<u>Where Seen</u>
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____	_____
9.	_____	_____	_____
10.	_____	_____	_____
11.	_____	_____	_____
12.	_____	_____	_____
13.	_____	_____	_____
14.	_____	_____	_____
15.	_____	_____	_____
16.	_____	_____	_____
17.	_____	_____	_____
18.	_____	_____	_____
19.	_____	_____	_____
20.	_____	_____	_____
21.	_____	_____	_____
22.	_____	_____	_____
23.	_____	_____	_____
24.	_____	_____	_____
25.	_____	_____	_____

# FISH & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT WORKSHEET

- 6b.** List the wildlife species in your state that are classified as endangered, threatened, exotic, non-native, game species, furbearers, or migratory game birds. Discuss with your counselor management practices in place or being developed for at least three of these species.

Species	Endangered	Threatened	Exotic	Non-Native	Game Species	Furbearer	Migratory Game Bird

Circle three of the species above and list a management practice in place or being developed for these species.

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- 6c.** Start a scrapbook of North American fish and wildlife. Insert markers to divide the book into separate parts for mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish. Collect articles on such subjects as life histories, habitat, behavior, and feeding habits on all of the five categories and place them in your notebook accordingly. Enter at least five articles on mammals, five on birds, five on reptiles, five on amphibians, and five on fish.

# FISH & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT WORKSHEET

Do **ONE** of the following:

- 7a.** Determine the age of five species of fish from scale samples or identify various age classes of one species in a lake and report the results.

Fish Species #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Fish Species #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Fish Species #3: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Fish Species #4: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Fish Species #5: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

- 7b.** Conduct a creel census on a small lake to estimate catch per unit effort.

- 7c.** Examine the stomach contents of three fish and record the findings. It is not necessary to catch any fish for this option. You may visit a cleaning station set up for fishermen or find another, similar alternative.

**Fish Species #1:** \_\_\_\_\_

Stomach Contents

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**Fish Species #2:** \_\_\_\_\_

Stomach Contents

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# FISH & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT WORKSHEET

**Fish Species #3:** \_\_\_\_\_

Stomach Contents

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**7d.** Make a freshwater aquarium. Include at least four species of native plants and four species of animal life, such as whirligig beetles, freshwater shrimp, tadpoles, water snails, and golden shiners. After 60 days of observation, take note of the life cycles, food chains, and management needs you have recognized.

**Plants**

**Animal Life**

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**Take note of the life cycles, food chains, and management needs you have recognized over the 60 days, below. Use additional paper if needed.**

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# FISH & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT WORKSHEET

Learn about three different positions held by fisheries and/or wildlife professionals. Find out the education and training requirements for each position.

**Position #1:** \_\_\_\_\_

Training and Education Needed

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**Position #2:** \_\_\_\_\_

Training and Education Needed

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**Position #3:** \_\_\_\_\_

Training and Education Needed

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