

FISHERIES & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT LAB

Goals: The main goal in this class is to familiarize you with fish and wildlife management techniques, and to give you some practical, “hands-on” experience in the field. To accomplish this we will spend as much time as possible in the field. Be prepared to tromp field, forest and stream and have a fun learning experience while doing so!

Course Requirements:

Habitat Management Plan:	100 pts	Due: Nov. 22
Final Exam	100 pts	Dec. 13
Track Project:	50 pts	Due: Nov. 8
Notebook:	50 pts	Due. Dec. 6
Habitat Plan Presentations:	50 pts	6 Dec.

Total 350 pts

Requirement Explanation:

Habitat Management Plan: Due 22 Nov. 100 pts.

I will hand out a sheet describing this project. The written and illustrated plan will be turned in on the above date, and a short presentation will be given in class. The written plan is worth 100 pts, and the presentation 50 pts.

Habitat Management Plan Presentation: On 6 December

You will give a presentation before our class on your habitat management plan. This will allow us all to learn from your project, and allow us to interact and ask questions regarding the habitat plan you have developed. Presentations will be 20 minutes long, including a 5-minute question and answer period.

Final Exam: 13 Dec. 100 pts.

The final exam will cover all our experiences of the semester. It will be both practical and written. A review will be held on 6 Dec. Anything we see or talk about will be considered for the final.

Track Project: 8 Nov. 50 pts.

In order to get you into the field and investigating wildlife actions, movements, habitats, etc, I would like for you to make plaster casts of animal tracks. Make at least 5 tracks of different wildlife species, correctly identified, indicating where the tracks were taken and other pertinent information regarding the tracks and the species that made them. We will discuss how to make the tracks in class, and perhaps have opportunity to demonstrate during a field trip.

Notebook: Due 6 Dec. 50 pts

I would like for you to keep notes of our field trips this year. Enter any thing you consider important to your learning experience. Habitat types, plants we identified and their importance as food types or habitat, management techniques, animals or birds seen, animal sign or presence, philosophy of management, and any thoughts, and conclusions you come up with. Please type them, have them in sequence and in a folder. Make this a personal project, in other words, we all may look at things differently. I want to know what we did or saw during that particular field trip, but also what **you** learned and what importance you placed on the activity.

Class Participation:

Over the course of the semester we will have many impromptu discussions. These will be interesting and informative and any of this material may again be confronted on the final exam! If you do not attend class, it will be

your loss, but not only will we miss you, we will also be without your comments, experiences and ideas concerning the subject. Please try and show up at all labs. If you anticipate being absent in advance, please try and let me know ahead of time so we do not wait for you.

Field Trips:

Some of our trips may be subject to poor weather. Come prepared with rain gear, boots, bug spray, snacks, etc. Field guides, binoculars, and of course note-taking equipment would also help. We will have to do some traveling so I will need help with drivers. I appreciate your willingness to help with gathering equipment and driving. Although we will have some “down” time driving, I believe we will see some places which you will enjoy but that will also have an impact on your learning. I am a field biologist and enjoy being out. I think you will too!!

We will leave the parking lot by the dumpsters behind SPEA promptly at 8:00 am. Please be ready to go by then, and don't make us make the decision as to whether you are late or sleeping in! We will try to get back by 12:00 noon sharp on most days. At times we get caught in football traffic, but I will try to keep that at a minimum. If you have to be back earlier, you might consider driving, the choice is yours.

Reading Material:

You will enjoy having “**Landscaping for Wildlife**” and it will help you with the management plan. I use it frequently in my job and recommend many people I deal with buy it. I will refer to some additional field guides and sources throughout the semester. It will be a good idea for you to keep a list of those references for future use.

Availability: I do not have an office at SPEA. I do have a secretary, Jennifer Mitchner at SPEA 341, phone number: 855-7980. She is a big help so if you have problems let her know. Although I do not have an on campus office, I am always available to you at home. **If you have need of contacting me, call me at home! If we do not answer, leave a message with your phone number and I will call you back.**

Home: (812) 849-9114

E-Mail: fwdist7@hotmail.com

If you have questions or problems, do not hesitate to call me anytime!