Fish and Wildlife Management

Merit Badge Workbook

This workbook can help you but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet.

This Workbook can help you organize your thoughts as you prepare to meet with your merit badge counselor.
You still must satisfy your counselor that you can demonstrate each skill and have learned the information.
You should use the work space provided for each requirement to keep track of which requirements have been completed,
and to make notes for discussing the item with your counselor, not for providing full and complete answers.
If a requirement says that you must take an action using words such as "discuss", "show",
"tell", "explain", "demonstrate", "identify", etc, that is what you must do.

Merit Badge Counselors may not require the use of this or any similar workbooks.

No one may add or subtract from the official requirements found in Boy Scout Requirements (Pub. 33216 – SKU 637685).

The requirements were last issued or revised in 2017 • This workbook was updated in June 2017.

Scout's Name:_____ Unit: _____

Counselor's Name: _____ Counselor's Phone No.: _____

http://www.USScouts.Org • http://www.MeritBadge.Org

Please submit errors, omissions, comments or suggestions about this **workbook** to: Workbooks@USScouts.Org
Comments or suggestions for changes to the **requirements** for the **merit badge** should be sent to: Merit.Badge@Scouting.Org

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

2. List and discuss at least three major problems that continue to threaten your state's fish and wildlife resources.

   1.

   2.

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3.

3. Describe some practical ways in which everyone can help with the fish and wildlife conservation effort.

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

1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

5. Do ONE of the following:
   - ☐ 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.
   - ☐ b. Construct, erect, and check regularly bird feeders and keep written records of the kinds of birds visiting the feeders.

   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____

   - ☐ c. Develop and implement a fishery improvement project or a backyard wildlife habitat improvement project. Share the results with your counselor

   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____

   - ☐ 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.
6. Do ONE of the following:
   - ☐ 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.

	Species	When seen	Where seen:
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.:			

☐ b. List the wildlife species in your state that are classified as endangered, threatened, exotic, non-native, game species, furbearers, or migratory game birds.

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

Discuss with your counselor management practices in place or being developed for at least three of these species.

☐ c. Start a scrapbook of North American 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.

7. Do ONE of the following:

☐ 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.

☐ Determine the age of five species of fish from scale samples

☐ Fish Species 1:		Age:	
☐ Fish Species 2:		Age:	
☐ Fish Species 3:		Age:	
☐ Fish Species 4:		Age:	
☐ Fish Species 5:		Age:	

☐ Identify various age classes of one species in a lake and report the results.

☐ b. Conduct a creel census on a small lake to estimate catch per unit effort.

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

Fish Species 1:	
Stomach contents:	
Fish Species 2	
Stomach contents:	

Fish Species 3	
Stomach contents:	

☐ 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.

Plants

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	

Animal life

1	
2.	
3.	
4.	

After 60 days of observation, discuss with your counselor the life cycles, food chains, and management needs you have recognized

life cycles	
food chains	
management needs	

☐ After completing requirement 7d to your counselor's satisfaction, with your counselor's assistance, check local laws to determine what you should do with the specimens you have collected.

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..

1.		
2.		
3.		

When working on merit badges, Scouts and Scouters should be aware of some vital information in the current edition of the *Guide to Advancement* (BSA publication 33088). Important excerpts from that publication can be downloaded from http://usscouts.org/advance/docs/GTA-Excerpts-meritbadges.pdf.
You can download a complete copy of the *Guide to Advancement* from http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf.