

WILDLIFE 451
MANAGEMENT OF WILDLIFE HABITAT
SPRING SEMESTER 2020, 4 CREDITS

Contact Info

Instructor: Dr. Marie Perkins
Office: TNR 344
Office Hours: By appointment
Phone: 715-346-2755
Email: mperkins@uwsp.edu
Classroom: Lecture-TNR 320, Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 - 12:15
Lab Section 1 - TNR 359*, Wednesday 9:00 - 10:50
Lab Section 2 - TNR 359*, Wednesday 1:00 - 2:50
*Some labs will be in the computer lab, see schedule below

Course Goal: This course will introduce students to the fundamental principles of wildlife habitat management. Broadly, this will include topics related to specific habitat types common to North America, habitat manipulation procedures, species-specific responses to habitat management, and quantification of habitat selection metrics. Ultimately, students in this course will be expected to integrate these topics in the form of a written wildlife habitat management plan.

Learning Objectives:

1. Identify unique structural characteristics and ecological functioning of common North American habitat types.
2. Understand the reasoning behind the application of, and predict the effects of, specific habitat management techniques to meet specified management objectives.
3. Integrate multiple topics related to wildlife management in the form of a structured habitat management plan to meet specified objectives.
4. Improve written and oral communication skills.

Canvas: Course materials including copies lecture slides, assigned and recommended readings, and other related materials will be posted to Canvas. Examples of management plans will also be posted to Canvas.

Course Structure: There are two 75-minute lectures each week and a single 2-hour lab. Lecture periods will be a combination of formal lectures, activities, and class discussions. Readings and short assignments may be required before lecture. The lab period will be a combination of additional lecture content, writing activities, demonstrations of analytical approaches for assessing wildlife habitat selection, and collaborative development of wildlife management plans.

Participation/Exams/Management Plans:

You will be graded on your participation in both lecture and lab. Your participation grade will be a combination of my perception of your engagement in class discussions and activities, your preparedness, the completion of class assignments, and your attendance. You will receive a midterm participation grade to help you evaluate your participation and make improvements if needed.

Two exams will be given during the semester (a midterm and a final), each of which must be taken at the scheduled time or a score of zero will be assigned. Both exams will be worth 100 points and will

be closed-book and closed-note. The structure of the exams will be varied with a combination of multiple choices, short-answer, and long-answer questions.

You will be required to develop a wildlife habitat management plan as part of a small group. The draft version of the management plan will be worth 50 points. The final presentation of the management plan will be worth 50 points and the final version of the management plan will be worth 75 points. There will also be a total of 25 points based on peer-reviews of your efforts in developing and presenting your management plan.

Grading:

Evaluation:		Grades:	
	<u>points</u>		
Participation	100	93% and above	A
Midterm	100	90-92%	A-
Final	100	87-89%	B+
Management Plan		83-86%	B
Draft Plan	50	80-82%	B-
Presentation	50	77-79%	C+
Final Plan	75	73-76%	C
Peer Evaluation	25	70-72%	C-
		67-69%	D+
		64-66%	D
TOTAL	500	62 and below	F

Attendance: Regular attendance will be part of your participation grade. I will keep track of your attendance in both lecture and lab. Additionally, performance on exams will be enhanced by regular class attendance. There is a very direct correlation between attendance and final grades. Simply put, if you do not regularly attend lectures then you will do poorly in the class. Similarly, the quality of your educational experience in this course will be directly related to the amount of time you invest in classroom preparation and the extent to which you become involved in classroom discussions.

Getting Help: Please do not be shy about asking for help. You are welcome to email me to schedule a time to meet with me in my office. If you are having any trouble understanding something in class, then do not hesitate to come by, as those problems will likely only get worse as the material becomes more complex and builds on itself.

Academic Dishonesty and Late Work Policy:

Trust between students and the instructor is of paramount importance in academic settings. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in the classroom (e.g., cheating on exams) or in research efforts (e.g., plagiarism). Academic dishonesty will be punished to the fullest extent that University policy permits. **All late work will lose a letter grade for every 24 hours after the designated deadline.**

In the event of an emergency:

In the event of a medical emergency, call 911 or use red emergency phone located outside TNR 355. Offer assistance if trained and willing to do so. Guide emergency responders to victim. In the event of a tornado warning, proceed to the lowest level interior room without window

exposure along the **hallway outside of the elevators on the first floor**, or in **TNR rooms 153 or 157**. See www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/procedures/other/floor-plans for floor plans showing severe weather shelters on campus. Avoid wide-span rooms and buildings. In the event of a fire alarm, evacuate the building in a calm manner. **Meet in front of the mural on the TNR building**. Notify an instructor or emergency command personnel of any missing individuals. Active Shooter – Run/Escape, Hide, Fight. If trapped hide, lock doors, turn off lights, spread out and remain quiet. Follow instructions of emergency responders. See UW-Stevens Point Emergency Management Plan at www.uwsp.edu/rmgt for details on all emergency response at UW-Stevens Point.

Inclusivity Statement: It is my intent that students from all diverse backgrounds and perspectives be well-served by this course, that students' learning needs be addressed both in and out of class, and that the diversity that the students bring to this class be viewed as a resource, strength and benefit. It is my intent to present materials and activities that are respectful of diversity: gender identity, sexuality, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, nationality, religion, and culture. Your suggestions are encouraged and appreciated. Please let me know ways to improve the effectiveness of the course for you personally, or for other students or student groups. If you have experienced a bias incident (an act of conduct, speech, or expression to which a bias motive is evident as a contributing factor regardless of whether the act is criminal) at UWSP, you have the right to report it using this [link](#). You may also contact the Dean of Students office directly at dos@uwsp.edu.

Equal Access for Students with Disabilities: UW-Stevens Point will modify academic program requirements as necessary to ensure that they do not discriminate against qualified applicants or students with disabilities. The modifications should not affect the substance of educational programs or compromise academic standards; nor should they intrude upon academic freedom. Examinations or other procedures used for evaluating students' academic achievements may be adapted. The results of such evaluation must demonstrate the student's achievement in the academic activity, rather than describe his/her disability.

If modifications are required due to a disability, please inform the instructor and contact the [Disability and Assistive Technology Center](#) to complete an Accommodations Request form. Phone: 346-3365 or Room 609 Albertson Hall.

Below is a tentative course schedule that is subject to change. Any changes to the schedule will be announced in class and on Canvas.

Date		Lecture Topic
January	21	Course introduction
	23	Defining habitat and management
	28	Current land use practices
	30	Succession and disturbance
February	4	Invasive species
	6	Climate change
	11	Home range and resource selection
	13	Agriculture
	18	Grasslands
	20	Forest
	25	No Class
	27	Wetlands
March	3	Wetlands
	5	Urban systems
	10	Guest Lecture, Brad Strobel
	12	Midterm Exam
	17	Spring Break
	19	Spring Break
	24	Monitoring
	26	Monitoring
	31	Policies and programs
April	2	Agriculture in management
	7	Corridors and buffers
	9	Physical manipulations
	14	Harvest and planting
	16	Fire
	21	Fire
	23	Fire
	28	Water control and management
	30	Water control and management
May	5	Presentations
	7	Presentations
Final Exam: Monday, May 11, 12:30 - 2:30, TNR 320		

Below is a tentative lab schedule that is subject to change. Any changes to the schedule will be announced in class and on Canvas.

Lab 1 – Wed. 9:00 – 11:50 AM				
Date		Location		Lecture Topic
January	29	TNR 359	Classroom	Introduction to Management Plans
February	5	TNR 359	Classroom	Monitoring
	12	TNR 359	Classroom	Writing exercise
	19	TNR 356	Computer lab	GIS
	26	TNR 356	Computer lab	Group work on Management Plans
March	4	TNR 359	Classroom	Writing exercise
	11	TNR 356	Computer lab	GIS
	18	No Lab - Spring Break		
	25	TNR 356	Computer lab	Group work on Management Plans
April	1			Field - Schmeeckle
	8	TNR 356	Computer lab	Group work on Management Plans
	15	Science B228 East	Outside or Computer lab	Field – Schmeeckle / Group work on Management Plans
	22	Science B228 East	Computer lab	Putting together a presentation
	29	TNR 356	Computer lab	Group work on Management Plans
May	6	No Lab		

Lab 2 – Wed. 1:00 – 2:50 PM				
Date		Location		Lecture Topic
January	29	TNR 359	Classroom	Introduction to Management Plans
February	5	TNR 359	Classroom	Monitoring
	12	TNR 359	Classroom	Writing exercise
	19	Fine Arts 215	Computer lab	GIS
	26	Fine Arts 215	Computer lab	Group work on Management Plans
March	4	TNR 359	Classroom	Writing exercise
	11	Fine Arts 215	Computer lab	GIS
	18	No Lab - Spring Break		
	25	Fine Arts 215	Computer lab	Group work on Management Plans
April	1		Outside	Field - Schmeeckle
	8	Fine Arts 215	Computer lab	Group work on Management Plans
	15	Fine Arts 215	Outside or Computer lab	Field – Schmeeckle / Group work on Management Plans
	22	Fine Arts 215	Computer lab	Putting together a presentation
	29	Fine Arts 215	Computer lab	Group work on Management Plans
May	6	No Lab		