

# WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT 2016 GAME WARDEN COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION



Updated: 3/21/2016

Historically, the Wyoming Game Warden Competitive Examination has been conducted at several locations in Wyoming and surrounding states; however, an online game warden exam is now being offered. Please review the below details to ensure you meet the minimum qualifications and deadlines.

**Purpose of Exam:** Wyoming statute requires law enforcement positions (game warden, senior game warden and regional access coordinator) be selected based on competitive examination. Exams are typically scheduled once a year, depending on vacancies. Passing the examination does not guarantee the applicant will be offered an interview. Candidates will be selected for interviews based on a combination of factors including overall test scores, writing ability, number of credit hours in hands-on wildlife courses, grades/transcripts, job suitability profiling, and a Life History Questionnaire. No single factor will be used to select interview candidates; however, there are some factors that could lead to automatic disqualification. This could include, but may not be limited to, conviction of a felony, conviction of a misdemeanor for domestic violence, the use of marijuana within the last year, the use of other illegal drugs (such as cocaine, methamphetamine, LSD, etc.) within the last 5 years, or major wildlife violations. Additionally, the online examination is a closed book exam and testing integrity will be verified through additional means including, but not limited to, polygraph examination. Any deceitful act identified will be grounds for disqualification of a potential job offer.

## **Minimum Exam Qualifications:**

- A Bachelor's degree in wildlife management, range management, biology, zoology, ichthyology or other closely related field. Degrees such as criminal justice, education, outdoor recreation, etc. do not qualify.
- Must have a valid driver's license.
- Must be a citizen of the United States prior to attendance at WLEA (see below).
- If you have not currently completed college coursework at the baccalaureate level in wildlife management, biology, zoology or other closely related field, you must submit a letter from your college authority stating you are expected to receive your degree by August 31, 2016.

**Law Enforcement Requirements:** Upon employment, individuals must complete a 13-week Peace Officer Basic Training Course at the Wyoming State Law Enforcement Academy (WLEA) in early January 2017. Please review the WLEA's physical fitness assessment standards (available at <http://wleacademy.com> "Basic Programs-Physical Fitness Assessment") to assure *with or without reasonable accommodation*, you are able to meet the requirements.

**Principal Duties/Responsibilities:** Primary responsibilities include wildlife management, data collection and analysis, enforcement of game and fish laws and regulations, evaluation of damage to crops and livestock by wildlife, and acting as local liaison between the department and the public. A substantial amount of training and all equipment is provided. Please view a short video from Chief Game Warden Brian Nesvik regarding Wyoming game wardens at [wgfd.wyo.gov/game-warden-exam](http://wgfd.wyo.gov/game-warden-exam).

**Salary:** Monthly salary varies depending upon duty assignment, ranging from:

- Game Warden - \$3,454 - \$5,182
- Senior Game Warden and Regional Access Coordinator - \$4,506 - \$6,758

## **REGISTRATION, EXAM AND INTERVIEW PROCESS:**

### **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MAY 17, 2016**

1.	Apply	Submit your <i>Request to Take the 2016 Game Warden Exam</i> online at the Wyoming Game and Fish Department website at <a href="http://wgfd.wyo.gov/game-warden-exam">wgfd.wyo.gov/game-warden-exam</a>  <b><i>Deadline for exam registration is May 17, 2016; however, early registration and exam completion is recommended to avoid delay in receiving exam results.</i></b>
2.	Submit transcripts	Transcripts showing completion of appropriate coursework must be submitted for review to determine if candidate meets Minimum Exam Qualifications (see above).  Options for submitting transcripts: 1) Email to <a href="mailto:WGF.wildlife@wyo.gov">WGF.wildlife@wyo.gov</a> 2) Fax to 307-777-4650 3) Mail to: Wyoming Game and Fish Department Attn: Wildlife Division – Game Warden Exam 5400 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82006 4) If you have submitted transcripts for a previous exam and wish to reuse them, contact the Wildlife Division office (307-777-4585) to determine if your transcripts are still on file.
3.	Wait for notification	Once your documents have been reviewed, you will be notified via email whether you qualify to take the exam. If so, you will receive instructions on how to proceed with taking your online Wyoming Game Warden Examination.
4.	Prepare for exam	Suggested study materials and sample test questions are attached to this document.
5.	Take exam	Take the exam online as instructed in your letter. Exams will be graded and applicant notified via email of results and further instructions.

Upon passing the exam, you will be instructed to complete a State of Wyoming application, a Life History Questionnaire and job suitability assessment. The Wyoming Game and Fish Department will review all documents to determine which candidates will be offered an online Google+ Hangouts interview the last week in June 2016. Passing the examination does not guarantee the applicant will be offered an interview. Your testing documents will remain valid until the next examination announcement is published.

Subsequently, candidates who are selected to continue with the hiring process after the online interview will be required to attend an oral board interview in person in late August 2016 at the Wyoming Game and Fish Department Headquarters in Cheyenne, Wyoming. This will also include a mandatory polygraph test, psychological evaluation, fingerprinting, and signing background investigation release forms. All testing results are valid for the current testing cycle only.

Preference will be given to applicants with at least 20 hours of coursework towards a wildlife-related degree as evidenced on required transcripts.

**Additional Information:** [wgfd.wyo.gov/game-warden-exam](http://wgfd.wyo.gov/game-warden-exam)

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department, State of Wyoming is an EEO/ADA employer. As an EEO/ADA employer, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department actively supports the ADA and reasonably accommodates qualified applicants with disabilities.

# WYOMING GAME WARDEN EXAMINATION - SUGGESTED STUDY MATERIALS

## Subject Matter

1. WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT (especially big game, upland game, migratory birds, western wildlife species)
  - a. General knowledge—all species—wildlife habitats, food habits, life histories, management techniques, etc.
  - b. Data collection methods and data analysis
  - c. Current wildlife diseases affecting western wildlife resources
  - d. Species identification - western wildlife
2. FISH
  - a. General knowledge – cold and warm water species, distribution, identification, etc.
  - b. Limnology
3. LAW
  - a. Legal terminology
  - b. General knowledge of federal and state wildlife laws (i.e. Wyoming Statutes Titles 23 and 41)
  - c. Wyoming Hunting/ Fishing/ Trapping Regulations
4. OTHER
  - a. Federal aid programs (Pittman-Robertson, Dingle-Johnson)
  - b. Western protected, threatened or endangered species of wildlife
  - c. Map reading – section, range, township, acreages, UTM's, land status, etc.
  - d. Boating safety and terminology
  - e. General hunting, fishing, and trapping knowledge
  - f. Communication skills (written and verbal) and public relations
  - g. General firearms, archery equipment knowledge

## Suggested Reading

- U.S. Coast Guard regulations/basic boating information - This information can be obtained from several locations including:
  - [www.boatingbasicsonline.com](http://www.boatingbasicsonline.com) (start the Course-Choose Wyoming state. Course information is free; however, there is a fee to obtain a course certificate, if desired.)
  - Boating Basics course booklet is available from the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, 5400 Bishop Blvd, Cheyenne, WY 82006 or 307-777-4686.
- Any current wildlife management text book
- State-approved basic hunter safety course
- Various animal identification field guides (i.e. Peterson or Audubon)
- Wyoming Statutes Titles 23 and 41
- Wyoming Game and Fish website – [wgfd.wyo.gov](http://wgfd.wyo.gov) including:
  - Wildlife/fish diseases, current wildlife issues, WY hunting/fishing/trapping regulations

## Sample Test Questions

Types of questions: Multiple Choice, True/False, Animal ID, etc.

Examples:

1. In Wyoming, which one of the following animals is listed as a small game animal:  
A. Bobcat    B. Pheasant    C. Cottontail Rabbit    D. Raccoon
2. You may experience a map question requiring you to determine the number of acres within a particular section of a township, and other map-related questions.
3. Two big game animals that are primarily grazers include: (Answer options will be provided)  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

This information is general and is only meant to assist you in preparing for the examination. Answers to many questions will depend upon your **general overall knowledge** of western wildlife species, wildlife management, wildlife law enforcement, and watercraft safety.