The COVID-19 pandemic is bringing enormous policy changes in the U.S. and world-wide that will directly influence how people interact with wildlife. We will learn how the current pandemic is tied to illegal trade in wildlife. Fish and wildlife management policy is as relevant as ever for protecting fish and wildlife and human health, and policies are changing in response to the current pandemic as you read this flyer.

Do you want to understand more about fish and wildlife management policy, in both their ‘normal’ and ‘pandemic’ contexts?

Are you changing your priorities for protecting fish & wildlife and their habitat as you endure isolation?

Do you wonder about the implications of our present- and post-pandemic reality on management policies for fish and wildlife?

We wonder about these questions too and so much more! Let’s explore them, and others, together this summer!

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of fish and wildlife conservation policy, primarily in the U.S. This includes public policy, which is the study of why and how policies are made and their impacts, and public administration, which is how policies are implemented. Students will better understand the context for why policies are made by political institutions, and the policy formation and amendment processes driven by social, economic, and political contexts.

This course emphasizes “problem/solution-based learning” so students can explore and find a solution to a fish and wildlife policy of interest to them. Students work individually on a semester-long project to find feasible solutions to those issues, and document and share their findings through a report and presentation on their project.