



**STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
BUREAU OF LAW
ENFORCEMENT**



**THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE IS CURRENTLY
RECRUITING FOR GAME WARDENS**

The Department of Wildlife, Bureau of Law Enforcements mission is to protect and manage the wildlife resources and provide for public safety and protection of life and property of residents and visitors of the State of Nevada through enforcement of wildlife and boating safety laws.

We are highly trained, dedicated to service and education, technologically advanced and respond rapidly to change. We strive every day to exceed expectations as we accomplish our mission through enabling qualified, motivated, committed, and professional game wardens to patrol the mountains, deserts and waterways of Nevada, consistently earning the public's trust as we protect and manage their wildlife resources and enforce the boating safety laws.

It's not just a job ... it's a way of life

We consider ourselves the very best of the best in the field of law enforcement, so of course we have tough standards. Below are a few of the hurdles you have to cross to join us. They may look tough, but if you can cut it, you'll be one of the best-- and you'll never look back.

College Degree - You must have a four-year college degree in wildlife management, criminal justice or closely related fields. A combination of education and experience in related fields may be considered.

Police Background Check - If you want to enforce the law, you have to follow it. We require a very extensive background investigation, including drug, polygraph and psychological screening for every new hire.

No experience necessary - Though our requirements are tough, we don't require previous experience in the field, making it a great place to start your law enforcement career.

The most important thing - Be excited about being a game warden. It's a serious career for serious people who want to make a difference.

It's not just a job ... it's a way of life.

No one works for free, no matter how great the job, and we believe in rewarding our game wardens with a competitive salary and benefits package.

Salary - From \$37,813 to \$69,843 with opportunity for growth and promotions.

Benefits - State of Nevada medical benefits, heart/lung coverage and workplace injury.

Retirement - It's hard to spend 30 years in law enforcement, that is why we offer 25-year retirement to our wardens.

Equipment - If you are in uniform, you are on duty. We offer a vehicle for you to use anytime you are at work. When you are in uniform, you are always representing the department.

Respect - It's not pay, but it's a benefit. Game wardens in Nevada and beyond are some of the most respected law enforcement officers in the nation. Be proud, you've earned it.

A day in the life ... Below is a sample of some of the jobs Nevada game wardens do on a daily basis.

Wildlife Protection

- Fish & Wildlife patrol
- Conduct Investigations
- Apprehend poachers
- Administer Operation Game Thief program
- Investigate and prosecute tag fraud
- Investigate and prosecute residency fraud
- Over-limits, illegal take, hunt, fish or trap without licenses and many more
- Participate in Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact Program

Public Safety

- Boat patrol and accident investigations
- Hunting accident investigations
- Enforce outstanding warrants
- Provide backup to other law enforcement
- Search and rescue
- OUI/DUI enforcement
- Respond to human-wildlife conflicts
- Motorist assists/enforcement
- Homeland security
- Maintain navigational aids
- Importation illegal/dangerous wildlife
- Serve as the only law enforcement in remote areas
- Community Stewardship
- Serve as a source of information to the public regarding outdoor activities
- Attend activities such as bighorn sheep indoctrination, County Advisory Board meetings, hunter safety and many more
- Assist with disease issues, trapping/ relocation, fish stocking, habitat restoration, surveys and much more

Game wardens have a tough job, but few professions can boast as much job satisfaction with protecting wildlife, stopping criminals and protecting the public and the public's resources.

Respect is no joke, and when we talk integrity we mean it. Our wardens are self-starters. Once initial training and qualifications are complete, wardens are often sent far and wide (frequently patrolling alone) to protect Nevada's wide open spaces, record-setting big game, other wildlife and copious waterways and the boaters that use them.

Wardens often start in the south and most populous part of the state, working boat patrol, issuing fishing and big game violations, and protecting Nevada's wildlife including the state animal, the bighorn sheep. The challenging environmental conditions and multiple job requirements prove to be quick teachers.

Throughout their careers, wardens move across the state. Often a warden may work alone in an isolated area, spanning 10,000 square miles (the average area is 3,567 square miles). As a Nevada game warden, you are definitely one of the few. Only 31 field wardens patrol the state totaling 110,567 square miles.

While game wardens often work in isolation, they must work as a team. Complex investigations require collaboration with fellow Nevada wardens, as well as, game wardens from other states, federal agents, other law enforcement agencies, crime labs, prosecutors, expert witnesses and informants. Being part of "the team" provides unforgettable and rewarding experiences.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application:

To apply to join the Nevada Department of Wildlife as a game warden you must submit an application. The initial application must be made on a [State of Nevada Application](#). Nevada game wardens are certified peace officers and enforce all laws of the state of Nevada.

CRITERIA FOR BECOMING A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

- Must be 21 years of age at the time of appointment
- Must be a U.S. citizen

Oral Interview and Physical Testing:

Selected applicants for game warden must successfully pass an oral examination and physical fitness test. Upon acceptance of your application you will be informed of the next testing date.

The physical agility requirements to continue the application process for game warden are as follows (you must pass these tests before you can continue):

- 100 yard swim in 5 minutes or less
- Simulated deer drag/lift, must drag a 75 pound sandbag for a distance of 50 feet and lift the bag into a standard 4X4 ¾ ton pickup truck
- Tire change, jack up a standard ¾ ton pickup truck, remove and replace a tire/wheel and torque lug nuts to manufacturers specifications
- Simulated patrol vehicle control, sit in standard ¾ ton pickup truck, with seat harness attached and operate each of the vehicle's emergency knobs and switches while maintaining control to the vehicle, including steering, feet, and vision
- Handgun stability, demonstrate the ability to hold a standard issue handgun at arm's length with both the strong and weak hand, hold for 5 seconds, then dry fire 6 times in 5 seconds without the barrel touching the side of a 4 inch circle
- 1.5 mile run in 17':17" or less

The physical agility requirements to enter the peace officer academy are as follows (you should be able to pass these but failure will not disqualify you from continuing the application process):

- 14" vertical jump
- 15 sit-ups in 1 minute or less
- 18 pushups, no time limit
- 300 meter run in 77 seconds or less

Background Investigation

An extensive background investigation will be conducted. This is a very important step in the process. The information provided will be used to conduct a complete background investigation. The background includes a complete criminal history check, the inspection of the applicant's driving record and a credit report. Applicants must completely fill out the background application packet

If the background information packet is not complete as directed in the instructions, with all attachments, it will be returned.

PHASE II OF THE BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION

Applicants, who successfully complete the initial background phase, may receive a conditional job offer. Subsequent phases in the selection process for game warden include medical, visual and audio examinations, a psychological evaluation, drug screening and polygraph.

BACKGROUND

The Department of Wildlife has a moral and ethical obligation to select only the most qualified applicants for our law enforcement positions. Background investigations ensure that we select only those individuals of impeccable moral character and uncompromising integrity. You may not be appointed if any of the following applies to you:

- Conviction of a felony in the State of Nevada or a conviction in another state which would be a felony if committed in this State
- Conviction of any offense involving illegal sale or manufacture of controlled substances
- Conviction of a D.U.I. within the last five years, or two D.U.I. convictions in a lifetime
- Domestic violence conviction
- Any illegal use of a controlled substance within one year of the date of application
- Intentional falsification, deception or omission of information during the application and background investigation process.

LICENSES

You must be able to obtain a valid Nevada Class C driver's license.

SALARY AND BENEFITS

SALARY

Salaries for classified positions are determined by the grades and steps of the employees. A new employee's salary generally falls within the minimum range set for the grade. There are circumstances when employees' salaries may be accelerated, depending on their education, experience and the nature of the position applied for. See retirement plans below for an explanation on why pay scales may vary due to the retirement option you select.

Please refer to the job announcement for the pay grade of the position that you are applying for and compare to the [salaries by grade schedule](#)

BENEFITS

The following benefits are available to the State of Nevada employees: (These benefits will be fully explained during the orientation to State Employment.)

- Eleven paid holidays per year
- Three weeks of annual leave (vacation time)
- Three weeks of sick leave
- Health insurance
- Dental plan
- Vision plan
- Basic life insurance
- Accidental death and dismemberment insurance
- Business accidental insurance
- Long-term disability insurance
- Employee assistance program
- Deferred compensation
- Savings bonds
- Longevity pay after eight years of employment

Depending on the position, sworn officers may be entitled to the following additional benefits:

- Take home vehicles
- Uniform allowance (initial uniforms provided by the Department)
- Firearms provided

RETIREMENT PLANS

- Employer Paid Contribution
- Employee/Employer Contribution

State of Nevada employees voluntarily choose to participate in either of the two plans mentioned above. Under the Employer Paid Contribution (EPC) plan, the employer pays the total PERS contribution on your behalf. However, these contributions are not deposited to your individual member account and are not available for refund upon termination of employment. The EPC contribution rate for regular members is 20.25% of gross salary, and the rate for police/fire members is 28.5% of gross salary. Under the Employee/Employer Paid contribution plan, the employee and the employer share equally in the contribution to PERS, which is currently 10.5% of gross salary each for regular members. The contribution rate for Police/fire members is 14.75% of gross salary. The employee's after-tax contribution is refundable upon termination of employment if you do not elect to receive a monthly retirement benefit.

RETIREMENT ELIGIBILITY

After five years of service, employees become vested and are therefore eligible to receive a retirement allowance. Eligibility for Monthly Unreduced Retirement Benefit (Police & Fire Members)

Years of Service	Age at Retirement
5 yrs	65
10 yrs	55
20 yrs	50
25 yrs	Any age

Eligibility for Monthly Unreduced Retirement Benefit (Regular Members)

Years of Service	Age at Retirement
5 yrs	65
10 yrs	60
30 yrs	Any age

ACADEMY

The basic law enforcement training lasts approximately five months and is based on a 40-hour week. Time at the Academy is paid. The Academy is held in Las Vegas or Carson City, Nevada.

CONTACT US

If you are interested in becoming a game warden, please follow the instructions listed on the job announcement in submitting the application.

For a complete list of all State of Nevada position openings, please visit their website at <http://dop.nv.gov>