

Game Wardens Integrity and Respect

Game wardens have a tough job, but few professions can boast as much job satisfaction as 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 (all too often alone) to protect Nevada's wide open spaces, record-setting big game, other game 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 34 field wardens patrol the state totalling 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.

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 and 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, 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 of 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

Pay and Benefits

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 - Comparable to other states 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 or on your way to 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.

This pamphlet is a product of the Nevada Department of Wildlife, Division of Law Enforcement. For questions, comments or additional copies, contact Edwin Lyngar, division of public affairs at elyngar@ndow.org or call 775.688.1548.



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Job Requirements

The job of a Nevada State Game Warden is both physically and mentally challenging, so prospective candidates must meet strict requirements. Below are a few of the hurdles you have to cross to join our team.

College Degree - You must have a four-year college degree in wildlife biology, criminal justice or a related field, and you can substitute law enforcement experience in lieu of a degree.

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 (we gladly accept it), making it a great place to start a 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.



Become A Nevada Game Warden



Join our team!

