**J.A Williams High School**

**Wildlife Class**



**Teacher: Mr. Wainman**

**School Phone: 780 623-4271**

**Teacher E-mail:** **mitch.wainman@nlsd.ab.ca**

**Course Summary/Expectations:**

Wildlife is a modular based course where the student will have an opportunity to obtain five (5) credits through a multitude of WLD options. This course requires high attendance, great work ethic, a willingness to learn, a sense of adventure, an open mind, and respect for yourself as well as others. There are modules that are led by the teacher and there are some modules that the student must take a high amount of responsibility to ensure successful completion.

It is expected that when learning through the modules, that the student be willing and prepared to go outside (yes, into nature, yes, in all sorts of weather), to help aide in the outcomes set forth by the curriculum. Participation in the practical hands-on portions of the credit (outside, skinning techniques, cooking, etc.) is mandatory. Failure to take part in the hands-on techniques will require the student to create a video, PowerPoint or other document demonstrating that they have learned the skill.

I am an avid outdoorsman and believe that many of our youth today are becoming out of touch with nature and the natural world. My hobbies are anything to do with the outdoors mainly; they are hunting, fishing, boating, camping, and hiking. I am certified through the *Alberta Hunter Education Instructor’s Association* for the Hunter Education, Bow Hunting Education, Fishing Education, and Pleasure Craft Operator (boating safety and licence) courses. With all that being said there are two things that greatly restrict us from going out in the field as much as I would like:

1**) Attendance**, if class attendance is low and **YOUR** attendance is low, I cannot take you on the outdoor sections of the course.

 2**) The 3 R’s. Respect. Responsibility. Readiness**. If **YOU** are unable to demonstrate these key three components, I will not risk having you come out with the class.

On occasion, I will attempt to have several different speakers come and speak with the class about the information that we will be learning in class. These guests will be treated with utmost respect and be given your full attention. Guests you can hope to learn from will be Fish and Wildlife Officers, Wildfire Rangers, Alberta Trapper Association members, Outfitters and local community members. Being able to have these professionals come into our classroom will greatly depend on the two points mentioned above.

If given the opportunity, I will do my very best to have you properly skin and board a furbearing animal and/or skin and butcher animal with the purpose of making jerky.

In closing, this class can be one of the most enjoyable classes offered in our school; it is what you make it. If you come with the right mindset and are dedicated to the course it will be a blast!

**Modules for 1st Semester of Enrolment:**

1. **WLD 1010: Introduction to Wildlife**- Students will develop attitudes, skills and knowledge related to wildlife and ecosystems and an understanding for the need to manage wildlife. **Must complete this credit before moving on to any other credits.**
2. **WLD 1070: Hunter Education and Conservation Course**- This unit will introduce students to the role of regulated hunting and game management. Students will identify Alberta’s game animals and will demonstrate knowledge and skills that ensure safe and comfortable experiences in the outdoors. **Final Exam: 50% or higher for the credit, 80% or higher for certification.**
3. **WLD 1080: Fishing Education and Conservation**- Students will explain the role of recreational fishing in the management and conservation of fish resources. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the responsible practices required for fishing and related outdoor activities. **Final Exam: 50% or higher to obtain credit.**
4. **WLD 1090: Boating Safety**- Will introduce students to the importance and practice of proper boating safety and procedures. Students will demonstrate acceptable knowledge or responsible practices required of safe boating. Students will be lead through the boating course and will have to write a **federal competency exam**. **50% or higher for credit, 80% or higher for boating licence certification.**
5. **WLD 1100: Outdoor Cooking Theory**- Students will develop and demonstrate and safe and sanitary food handling procedures, equipment care, recipes and understanding of the importance of efficient work habits in outdoor cooking environments. Students will demonstrate and apply the attitudes. Skills and knowledge necessary for cooking in a variety of outdoor situations.

Students who currently have certification in WLD 1070 and WLD 1090 will be required to complete two modules from the list below:

1. **WLD 1075: Bowhunting Education**- Students explain the role of regulated bowhunting in game management, identify Alberta’s game animals and develop and demonstrate the attitudes, skills, and knowledge for safe and comfortable experiences in the outdoors.
2. **WLD 2070: Hunting and Game Management Practice**- Students demonstrate and apply the skills and knowledge necessary for safe handling of bows, arrows, crossbows, and firearms and explain the legal responsibilities of a sportsperson.
3. **WLD 2080: Angling and Fish Management Practice**- Students demonstrate and apply the attitudes, skills, and knowledge required for recreational fishing and in the management and conservations of fish resources.
4. **WLD 1020: Wildlife Diversity**- Students investigate the diversity of Canadian wildlife in terms of structure, behaviour, and habitat, and compare Alberta wildlife with wildlife in other parts of the world.
5. **WLD 1130: Outdoor Survival Skills**- Students develop and demonstrate the attitudes, skills and knowledge required for responsible participation in a range of outdoor activities.

If this is your second or third time in the course, we will need to have a meeting to determine which credits are the best options for you, which ones require prerequisites and which ones you may be interested in. There are also special project credits which can be attained upon approval of the school, if you think you have a project that may fit into the criteria of a special project; we can look at that as an option as well.

In wildlife there will be opportunities where we will be using equipment that has the potential to cause harm to yourself or others. When we are using things such as; knives, fish hook, sharp sticks, snare wire, bows, arrows, etc. Should you choose to use the equipment improperly, in an unsafe manner, or direct it towards another individual, there will be consequences that may lead to your removal from the class, in-school suspension, or an out-of-school suspension, learning is at its best when students are being safe and responsible.

An expectation for this course is to acquire five (5) credits; if you have attendance issues it will be impossible to obtain five (5) credits as most of these credits require the participation in class, for assessment and evaluation purposes. If you do not have a passion for nature, wildlife and the outdoors, this may not be the best option for you. Please speak with me as soon as possible so we can evaluate other possible CTS strands for options.

***J. A. Williams High School Wildlife Risk Assessment***

Students in Wildlife have a unique opportunity to take part in a variety of scheduled indoor/outdoor activities. Any injuries will be dealt with according to severity and could range from minor cuts, scrapes and bruises to torn ligaments, broken bones or more life threatening injuries. Staff will apply first aid for minor injuries but will seek the proper medical attention for more severe injuries. Every effort will be made to ensure parents/guardians are contacted in the case of any serious concerns.

Students will have the opportunity to earn credit in WLD 1100/2100- Outdoor Cooking. There is the potential for cuts, burns, etc, associated with cooking.

Students will take part in and may have the opportunity to earn credit in **WLD 1080–** **Angling & Fishing Management Theory**.

Fishing, where there is potential risk of hooks getting caught, cuts, bites etc, and drowning, will primarily take place from shore but students may have the opportunity to ice fish at either Mile 7 Trout Pond or in Lac La Biche Lake near the Causeway (time and weather permitting).

With any off-campus activities, students will be transported by a school bus with a qualified driver. Students are expected to wear seatbelts at all times. Parents need to reinforce this with their children. The students are aware of safety rules while being transported by busses and are required to adhere to any expectations of drivers and staff. These will be strictly enforced. The risks with highway transportation are obvious (vehicle trouble, highway driving, severe weather, accidents etc), along with accompanying medically emergent situations.

Ultimately, the Parent/Guardian has final say. If you have any questions comments or concerns regarding our tentatively scheduled list of activities please do not hesitate to call.

Thank you,

Mr.Wainman

(780) 623-4271

mitch.wainman@nlsd.ab.ca

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**Parent/Guardian Approval Form**

I give my permission for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (student name) to take part and attend the scheduled activities in Wildlife.

Parent/Guardian signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Contact Number\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_