

**NRM 4308**  
**BIG GAME MANAGEMENT**  
**FALL 2020**

**Lecture times:** 2-2:50 TR

**Lab times:** T 3-4:50 (Lecture and lab times may interchange depending on subject matter).

**Instructor:** Dr. Ryan Luna  
Phone: 432-837-8615  
Email: [rluna@sulross.edu](mailto:rluna@sulross.edu)  
Office: Everett E. Turner Range Animal Science Center, Room 111A  
Office hours: Monday 10– 11, Wednesday 10– 11

**Text:** Optional:

Demarais, S. and P.R. Krausman. 2000. Ecology and management of large mammals in North America. Prentice-Hall, Inc., Upper Saddle River, New Jersey.

Fryxell, Sinclair, and Caughley. 2014. Wildlife ecology, conservation, and management. Third Edition, Blackwell Publishing, Malden, Massachusetts. (Recommended)—can also use 2<sup>nd</sup> edition

**Catalog description:** Application of the principles of wildlife management to big games species; habitat management, production, population characteristics and management strategy for each big game species will be stressed.

**Course objective:** To provide a general overview of: (1) the ecology and conservation strategies of large mammals of North America; (2) the practices commonly used to manage big game species in North America.

**Grading:** Exam 1 – 15%  
Exam 2 – 15%  
Exam 3 – 15%  
Exam 4 – 15% (maybe substituted for practical experience?)  
Species profiles – 15%  
Reports – 15% (3 page summations of guest speaker presentations and/or field trips)  
Active participation in classes and labs – 10%

**Scale:** 90 -100% = A  
80 – 89% = B  
70 – 79% = C  
60 – 69% = D  
< 60% = F

**Attendance:** No make-up quizzes, assignments, or exams will be given for unexcused absences. An excused absence is one where you notify the instructor PRIOR to being absent.

**Species profiles:** Each student will select one big game species that occurs in the Southwestern United States to profile. Once a species has been selected, the student will

conduct a literature review of the species as it pertains to the Chihuahuan Desert. A bibliography (15 citation minimum) is due on the **6th of October**. Actual paper copies of the articles must be attached to the bibliography. Using their respective bibliographies, each student will write an 8-10 page paper on the life history of the species as it relates to the Southwest. The final draft is due on the **30<sup>th</sup> of November**.

**Reports:** Throughout the semester we will have a variety of guest speakers or field trips. A 3 page report (12 pt, double spaced) of the presenters material is due ONE week following the presentation.

**Labs:** A variety of field trips, guest presenters, and lab practical's have been scheduled throughout the semester. Not all lab activities will occur during the regularly scheduled lab time - therefore, labs may not meet every week. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements to participate in all lab activities, as you are responsible for any content delivered during labs.

**Active participation:** Students who show an active interest in classes and labs, and who actively participate in class discussions and practicals will gain extra credit.

**Accommodations:** It is up to Sul Ross State University to provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities. If you would like to request such accommodations because of physical, mental, or learning disabilities please contact the ADA coordinator for Program Accessibility located in Room 206 of the Briscoe Administration Building, or call 432-837-8203.

#### **Program learning objectives:**

##### **Program Learning Outcomes for the B.S. in Natural Resource Management**

The graduating student will demonstrate that he/she is able to:

1. Identify species of wildland plants and wildlife common to the western United States and describe their natural history.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the elements of an ecosystem.
3. Communicate about natural resources and conservation both verbally and in writing.
4. Conduct range and wildlife inventories in a team setting.
5. Apply knowledge about elements of an ecosystem into an appropriate conservation management plan.

##### **Program Learning Outcomes for the M.Agr. in Range and Wildlife Management**

The graduating student will demonstrate that he/she is able to:

1. Apply statistical concepts and procedures to natural resource data
2. Evaluate literature and references as they apply to the natural resource field
3. Demonstrate their knowledge of the fundamentals and advanced concepts of range and wildlife management.

##### **Program Learning Outcomes for the M.S. in Range and Wildlife Management**

The graduating student will demonstrate that he/she is able to:

1. Apply statistical concepts and procedures to natural resource data
2. Evaluate literature and references to substantiate an applied research project.
3. Examine, select, and utilize appropriate resources, materials, and data collection instruments to implement research projects.
4. Justify and defend the research questions and design.

**SRSU Disability Services.** Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Rebecca Greathouse Wren, LPC-S, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203 (please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can during working hours), or email [rebecca.wren@sulross.edu](mailto:rebecca.wren@sulross.edu). Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall (Suite 112), and our mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas, 79832.

**SRSU Distance Education Statement.** Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as Smarthinking, library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

**Technical Support.** SRSU 24/7 Blackboard Technical Support: Toll Free: 888.837.6055.

Email: [blackboardsupport@sulross.edu](mailto:blackboardsupport@sulross.edu)

**SRSU Library Services.** The Sul Ross Library offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, [library.sulross.edu](http://library.sulross.edu). Off-campus access requires your LoboID and password. Check out materials using your photo ID. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email ([srsulibrary@sulross.edu](mailto:srsulibrary@sulross.edu)), or phone (432-837-8123).

As a partner in each campus community, the faculty, staff, and students agree to the following statements in relation to the COVID-19 virus:

- ▶ I will wear a face covering, wash my hands, and disinfect my workspaces to protect others from the potential spread of this virus.
- ▶ I promise to follow social distancing guidelines as a way to mitigate the risk of transmission to others both professionally and personally.
- ▶ I will monitor my health and report any potential agree to follow the guidelines set forth in this document or as described by Sul Ross State University to protect the public health.
- ▶ I understand that my actions may impact the larger community and could affect my academic progress or professional attainment at Sul Ross State University.

Failing to meet these expectations may be subject to corrective action under university disciplinary policies. Changes or recommendations to the guidelines based on evolving guidance from federal, state, or local agencies will be communicated to the university community.

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**Tentative class and lab schedule for NRM 4308 – Big Game Management – Fall 2020**

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<b>Dates</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Subject</b>
8/24-8/28	1	Introductions, Syllabus, Taxonomy and Biodiversity, Hybridization
8/31-9/4	2	Human values, Population parameters
9/7-9/11	3	Modeling population dynamics, Nutritional ecology
9/14-9/18	4	<b>Exam 1 (9/15)</b> , Carrying capacity
9/21-9/25	5	Population regulation, Behavioral ecology
9/28-10/2	6	Harvest management, TPWD management
10/5-10/9	7	<b>Bibliography (10/6)</b> , H-D and Conflict resolution, Genetic applications, <b>Exam 2 (10/8)</b>
10/12-10/16	8	Big game ranching, Big game management on Tribal land, History of big game management
10/19-10/23	9	Pronghorn
10/26-10/30	10	Desert Bighorn
11/2-11/6	11	Non-game species - Black bears and mountain lions
11/9-11/13	12	<b>Exam 3 (11/12)</b> , exotics – hog, elk, and aoudad
11/16-11/20	13	Mule Deer, white-tailed deer, Scoring big game
11/23-11/27	14	Thanksgiving week
11/30-12/3	15	<b>Final draft (11/30)</b> , Semester review, Exam 4

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