

Wildlife Monitor Training

These 3 courses are a comprehensive program for a new wildlife monitor to be able to operate in the field at an industry standard level. The goal is to train students to safely protect field crews from encounters with dangerous wildlife.

Course Scope

The objective of the Wildlife Monitor Training Course is to ensure that participants understand their role and can demonstrate advanced knowledge and proficiency in taking appropriate action while following policies and procedures.

Course Objectives

In order to achieve the course scope outlined, students will be presented with information on:

- 1) Regulation and legislative requirements that apply to wildlife monitors
- 2) Conducting safety orientations for crew members
- 3) Understanding safe work procedures in the handling of firearms and ammunition
- 4) Characteristics and classifications of dangerous wildlife
- 5) Hazard analysis, including the identification of control and diversionary methods
- 6) Emergency planning and procedures
- 7) The escalation of procedures when confronted with a dangerous wildlife encounter

MODULE 1: Wildlife Monitor Basic Training

Day 1 – Classroom 8am to 5pm

- Defining the role of the wildlife monitor
- The equipment needed to do the job
- Crew relations, confidence building and problem identification
- The principles of safety
- Effective communications in emergency situations

Day 2 – Understanding field operations (Classroom) - 8am to 5pm

- Conducting safety orientations
- Safe work practices
- Safe job procedures

- Hazard assessments and analysis, recognizing wildlife signs and habitat
- Regulation and legislation awareness

MODULE 2: Wildlife Monitor Advanced Training

Day 3 –Field operations Part 2 (Classroom) - 8am to 5pm

- Identification of dangerous wildlife and preventative measures
- Emergency preparedness
- Escalation of procedures – understanding the 4 levels
- Determining what measures to use

Day 4 – Understanding field operations (Classroom) - 8am to 12pm

- Understanding wildlife behavior
- Using lethal force as a last resort
- Reporting procedures and investigations
- Records and statistics

Teaching method: This course uses a combination of lecture, power point, class discussion, group and individual assignments.

Examination: 50 question written multiple choice test. 80% required to pass with one opportunity to re-write. Students not completing the classroom section will not be allowed to attend the range training.

MODULE 3: Firearms Range Training Course

Day 4 – 1pm to 5pm - Classroom

- Shotgun inspection, field stripping
- Loading / unloading training and practice with dummy ammunition
- Firearms act review
- Pepper spray training - Outside

Day 5 - 8am to 4:30pm - Field

- Injury Prevention
- Non lethal diversionary methods (air horns, bear spray, use of bangers)
- Range procedures, loading, unloading and speed loading (3 point method)
- Safe handling and storage of firearms
- Judging distances – shoot / don't shoot analysis
- Lethal and non lethal shooting practice

- Maintenance and cleaning of firearms
- Increasing confidence and proficiency with firearms

Examination: A live fire shooting test is conducted to ensure proficiency. The student must achieve 80% in order to pass the test. The examiner must be satisfied that the student understands the safe operation of a firearm and the deadly consequences from misuse.

Certification

- Wildlife Monitor Training certification is valid for 3 years upon successful completion.
- Firearms proficiency certification is valid for 1 year.
- Student successfully completing each course will receive an 8.5" X 11" certificate and wallet sized laminated card

Course Pre-requisites

Students wishing to attend the course must meet the following criteria:

- 1) A valid Canadian Firearms Licence
- 2) A valid BC drivers licence or provincial equivalent
- 3) Complete a drug and alcohol screening test
- 4) Complete a criminal record and police check

The cost for the pre-requisites is the responsibility of the student.

Required equipment

The student must bring the following equipment to class.

- 12 gauge shotgun with a recent "Firearms Inspection Report" completed
- Proper clothing for outdoor work
- Rain gear
- 1 can of bear spray
- Ear plugs
- Safety glasses
- 50 rounds of 12 gauge ammunition

The instructors will supply the following for each student:

- A workbook is provided to students for future reference.

- Food and lodging will be provided at a remote hunting camp near Houston, BC.
- Students to bring sleeping bag, pillow, towels and all personal items.

Cost

\$995 per student for Module 1 - Wildlife Monitor Basic Training

\$995 per student for Module 2 – Wildlife Monitor Advanced Training

\$995 per student for Module 3 - Firearms Range Training Course

- Maximum 15 students, minimum 10 per course
- Payment in advance is required
- Remedial training and retesting is \$250 per student for each half day.

Proposed Advanced Wildlife Monitor Training Courses for 2015

The Certified Wildlife Monitor Training Course is the next level of advanced training that enhances the skills and knowledge of the student. Successful completion of the course is recognized as the pre-requisite for the **Certified Wildlife Monitor** designation which is the bronze standard of wildlife monitors and shows commitment to the industry by the applicant completing a minimum of 500 hours of documented work in the field. The course examination consists of 100 multiple choice questions and the applicant must achieve 80% or higher to pass.

The silver standard of the industry is the **Accredited Wildlife Monitor** and the gold standard is the **Master Wildlife Monitor**. Active membership in the association is required to maintain these designations.

Instructors



Mark Werner is recognized as one of the foremost experts on dangerous wildlife dispatching as a leading guide outfitter in BC. With over 35 years of hunting and guiding experience, Mark is uniquely qualified to train students. Mark has worked as an industry educator in loss prevention, private investigations, hunter education and martial arts. As President of the Guide Outfitters Association of BC, he was instrumental in bringing in minimum standards in education for guides and sat on the education committee responsible for the design of the program. Mark is an international speaker on wildlife conservation and has lectured on dangerous wildlife behavior, in particular, wolves, grizzly bears and black bears. Mark co-founded the Canadian Wounded Game Trackers Association of Canada and has over 10 years experience in tracking dangerous, wounded game.



Warren Vignal, HSA™ is a certified Health and Safety Administrator, former Peace Officer and Investigator. With a keen knowledge of policies and procedures, Warren is able to impart his years of experience in legislation and regulation to assist students in understanding and deciphering the various laws and codes which wildlife monitors operate under. With a focus on safety, he will train students on the industry practices that are used on a daily basis. Warren is committed to ensuring his students succeed in the field.

Contact information

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Location: Prince George, BC with mobile training available in BC and Alberta.

About PGIT

Mission Statement:

- The Prince George Institute of Technology will provide quality and relevant training and education to workers in Northern BC and Alberta.
- Our commitment is to deliver programming that meets or exceeds industry standards.
- We will identify and develop new courses that will create opportunities for both workers and industry.

By committing to developing and delivering programming that meets and exceeds industry standards, PGIT is able to provide relevant, high quality training and education to workers in Northern BC and Alberta. With an eye to the future PGIT will look to create new courses and learning opportunities for workers and industry.

Motto:

“Training tomorrows workers, today”

Prince George Institute of Technology is a division of Backcountry Wildlife Monitoring Ltd.