

# STUDENT *Engagement Program*



2024 Cohort

## JOIN THE OPPORTUNITY

### *What is WAFWA?*

Western Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) is a non-profit organization that works at the State and Provincial leadership level to advance collaborative, proactive, science-based fish and wildlife conservation and management across the West.

### *The Student Engagement Mission*

The mission of the Student Engagement Program is to provide deserving students from the Western States and Provinces an opportunity to attend WAFWA's Summer Conference where they gain leadership skills and engage with fish and wildlife professionals. While attending structured sessions, they are exposed to policy development and jurisdictional administration. Students gain insights into career opportunities and the needs of state and federal fish and wildlife agencies.

### *Welcome 2026 Applicants*

Our 2026 WAFWA Summer Conference will be held in Boise, ID on June 1-5, 2026. Applications are due March 2, 2026. WAFWA will sponsor at least 6 applicants based on the following criteria:

- Must be living in a member state, either as a current college student or a recent graduate
- Must be pursuing a degree in a natural resources or conservation-related field or have a career interest in conservation and natural resources;
- Must be at least 18 years of age;
- Have a 2.4 (recommended) cumulative Grade Point Average.

See website for more information <https://wafwa.org/studentengagement>

### *Testimonial*

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This experience was unparalleled to other conferences and workshops I have attended. It gave me the opportunity to connect with high-level industry professionals that I would not have otherwise met in the academic world. Observing the nitty gritty of organizational decision-making in action is something that many people never get to see, let alone while you are still a student. Having this experience early on in my career helped me see where I can see myself in this field and how I can get there.



LILY OLMO,  
2024 STUDENT

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