

# DEPARTMENT OF RANGELAND, WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

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**Head:** Roel Lopez

**Associate Head:** Gerard Kyle

**Graduate Advisors:** LeAnn Hague and Taylor Atkinson

The Department of Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management (RWF) offers an interdisciplinary, applied graduate program, in both masters (thesis and non-thesis) and doctoral degrees, preparing students for advanced careers in natural resources research and management that can be applied in industry, agency and academia career fields. Ranked among the best in the country, students can expect to work in problem-focused field and lab research, with the goal of learning to confidently conduct, analyze and interpret scientific studies coupled with the applied application to address real-world problems. Graduate programs are tailored to the background and educational goals of each degree candidate in consultation with his or her Graduate Advisory Committee and can focus on studies that set a student up for success in career fields oriented around research, education and outreach, or management.

Current research activities in the department involve work in a broad array of contexts that addresses issues confronting the management of rangelands, wildlife and fisheries, aquaculture, and the human dimensions of natural resources. Research in these fields are supported by our disciplinary expertise in natural resource management, wildlife nutrition, wildlife and fisheries diseases, systems analyses and modeling, human dimensions and behavior, community development, rangeland management, fisheries and aquaculture, and natural resource economics and policy. The department also executes collaborative research efforts that span other Texas A&M departments and entities. Many RWF faculty have joint appointments with research centers and institutes affiliated with the department, and graduate students are encouraged to take advantage of faculty specialized expertise.

Department and University-run properties and facilities, both on and off campus, are available for graduate research coursework. Local sites include the Aquacultural Research and Teaching Facility, the Biodiversity Research and Teaching Collections, and the Ecological and Natural Resources Teaching Area. Off-site locations include the La Copita Demonstration Ranch and Research Area (Jim Wells County) and the Chocolate Bayou Research and Demonstration Farm (Brazoria County).

## Faculty

Barboza, Peregrine, Professor  
Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management  
PHD, University of New England, 1991

Hansley, Elizabeth, Instructional Assistant Professor  
Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management  
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2019

Hegde, Shraddha, Assistant Professor  
Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management  
PHD, Mississippi State University, 2022

Kyle, Gerard, Professor  
Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management  
PHD, Pennsylvania State University, 2001

Lopez, Roel, Professor  
Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management  
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2001

Lucero, Jacob, Assistant Professor  
Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management  
PHD, University of Montana, 2017

Matarrita Cascante, David, Associate Professor  
Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management  
PHD, Pennsylvania State University, 2008

Mohammed, Haitham, Assistant Professor  
Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management  
DVM, Assiut University, Assiut, Egypt, 2003  
PHD, Auburn University, 2015

Muhl, Rika, Lecturer  
Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management  
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2018

Perotto, Humberto, Associate Professor  
Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management  
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2005

Schuett, Michael, Instructional Professor  
Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management  
PHD, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1991

Shehane, Melissa, Instructional Assistant Professor  
Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management  
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2014

Stronza, Amanda, Professor  
Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management  
PHD, University of Florida, 2000

Werdel, Ty, Assistant Professor  
Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management  
PHD, Kansas State University, 2022

## Masters

- Master of Natural Resources in Natural Resources (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/colleges-schools-interdisciplinary/agriculture-life-sciences/rangeland-wildlife-and-fisheries-management/mna/>)
- Master of Science in Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/colleges-schools-interdisciplinary/agriculture-life-sciences/rangeland-wildlife-and-fisheries-management/ms/>)

## Doctoral

- Doctor of Philosophy in Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/colleges-schools-interdisciplinary/agriculture-life-sciences/rangeland-wildlife-and-fisheries-management/phd/>)

## Certificates

- Military Land Sustainability Certificate (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/colleges-schools-interdisciplinary/agriculture-life-sciences/rangeland-wildlife-and-fisheries-management/military-land-sustainability-certificate/>)