

CPW DISTRICT WILDLIFE MANAGER (DWM) PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



**SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE
WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS**

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 – 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

Questions

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- 1. Which species is a duck with a crest, listed among the species?**
 - A. Wilson's Snipe
 - B. Sora Rail
 - C. Pheasant
 - D. Hooded Merganser

- 2. Which fish is described as a scavenger omnivore with a spring spawn?**
 - A. Bluegill
 - B. Rainbow Trout
 - C. Common Carp
 - D. Zebra Mussel

- 3. What is the listed pronghorn lifespan?**
 - A. 1-3 years
 - B. 3-5 years
 - C. 5-7 years
 - D. 7-10 years

- 4. Fall turkey bag limit: How many beardless turkeys are allowed?**
 - A. 1 bearded turkey
 - B. 2 bearded turkeys
 - C. 3 beardless turkeys
 - D. 2 beardless turkeys

- 5. What is the mule deer habitat?**
 - A. Riparian areas on the eastern plains
 - B. Grasslands in the western foothills
 - C. Statewide shrubland
 - D. Urban parks

- 6. The bighorn sheep hunting season primarily occurs during which months?**
 - A. June-July
 - B. August-September
 - C. September-October (some into November and December)
 - D. November-December

7. Pronghorn hunting season occurs in which months?

- A. August-October
- B. September-October
- C. October-December
- D. May-June

8. Which fin is located on the back of a fish?

- A. Caudal fin
- B. Pectoral fin
- C. Dorsal fin
- D. Pelvic fin

9. Which species has two separate dorsal fins and large vertical dark stripes on yellowish sides?

- A. Walleye
- B. Yellow Perch
- C. Saugeye
- D. Northern Pike

10. Which of the following birds has a name that includes 'Meadow'?

- A. Western Meadowlark
- B. Pintail
- C. Canvasback
- D. Blue-winged Teal

Answers

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1. D
2. C
3. D
4. D
5. C
6. C
7. B
8. C
9. B
10. A

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Explanations

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1. Which species is a duck with a crest, listed among the species?

- A. Wilson's Snipe
- B. Sora Rail
- C. Pheasant
- D. Hooded Merganser**

Head crests are a handy clue for identifying certain waterfowl. Among these species, the duck with a distinctive head crest is the Hooded Merganser. This small diving duck sports a bold crest that, in males, forms a white hood, giving it a very recognizable silhouette on lakes and streams. Females have a smaller, subtler crest. The other options are not ducks or lack the crest: Wilson's Snipe is a wading bird with a long bill, the Sora Rail is a rail, and pheasants are ground-dwelling birds without the characteristic merganser crest. So the Hooded Merganser is the correct choice.

2. Which fish is described as a scavenger omnivore with a spring spawn?

- A. Bluegill
- B. Rainbow Trout
- C. Common Carp**
- D. Zebra Mussel

A fish described as a scavenger omnivore that spawns in spring points to the common carp. Carp are classic bottom feeders that eat a broad mix of material—detritus, algae, plant matter, and small invertebrates—making them true scavenger omnivores. Their spring spawning is triggered as water warms, with eggs that cling to vegetation or submerged objects, leading to a rapid, highly prolific reproductive cycle. The other options don't fit as well. Rainbow trout are primarily carnivores, feeding on insects, crustaceans, and small fish, not detritus or plant matter. Bluegill are omnivores and do spawn in spring to early summer, but the lack of the strong scavenger feeding behavior makes them a less precise match. Zebra mussel isn't even a fish, so it doesn't describe a fish's feeding habits or spawning.

3. What is the listed pronghorn lifespan?

- A. 1-3 years
- B. 3-5 years
- C. 5-7 years
- D. 7-10 years**

Pronghorns can live for several years in the wild, and wildlife management resources commonly list their lifespans in the seven- to ten-year range. This reflects the upper end of the typical longevity observed in unmanaged populations, even though many individuals do not reach that age due to factors like predation, disease, and environmental stress. The seven-to-ten-year span best fits the standard reference data used in field practice for planning population dynamics, harvest schedules, and habitat assessments. Shorter ranges such as one to three, three to five, or five to seven years would underestimate how long pronghorns can persist, especially when considering the longer-lived individuals that influence population structure. Therefore, seven to ten years is the most appropriate listed lifespan.

4. Fall turkey bag limit: How many beardless turkeys are allowed?

- A. 1 bearded turkey
- B. 2 bearded turkeys
- C. 3 beardless turkeys
- D. 2 beardless turkeys**

Beardless turkeys are the hens in fall hunting, the birds without a beard. The fall bag limit is set to protect the breeding stock while still allowing some hunting opportunities. Two beardless turkeys per fall season is the standard limit, meaning you can harvest up to two hens during the fall, under the season's other rules. A lower limit would unnecessarily reduce hunting opportunities, while a higher limit could threaten hen numbers and population recovery. Note that bearded turkeys (males with beards) are governed by different rules and aren't counted toward this limit.

5. What is the mule deer habitat?

- A. Riparian areas on the eastern plains
- B. Grasslands in the western foothills
- C. Statewide shrubland**
- D. Urban parks

Mule deer depend on shrubland environments because they need woody browse for food and dense cover to stay safe from predators. Across the state, shrubland—think sagebrush, mountain shrub, and related woody vegetation—provides reliable winter forage and escape cover, forming the core habitat they rely on over large areas. They may use riparian zones or grasslands seasonally or as part of migration, but shrubland represents the broad, pervasive habitat type that supports them most consistently across different landscapes and seasons. Urban parks can't supply the stable resources mule deer require, so they aren't their primary habitat. That's why statewide shrubland is the best answer.

6. The bighorn sheep hunting season primarily occurs during which months?

- A. June-July
- B. August-September
- C. September-October (some into November and December)**
- D. November-December

Fall is when bighorn sheep hunting is most commonly scheduled, because this timing aligns with the animals' behavior and population management goals. In September and October, rams are more visible and active around the rut, horns are fully developed, and sheep gather in accessible areas, making them easier to locate and harvest under established rules. This period also helps protect ewes and lambs, as the hunting window avoids the spring and early summer when lambs are newborn and more vulnerable, and it generally avoids the harsh mid-winter period. Some units extend the season into November and December to accommodate local conditions and provide additional hunting opportunities, which is why the primary window is listed as September-October with some into November and December. The other options—June-July, August-September, or November-December—don't match the typical pattern for bighorn sheep, either because they fall outside the main activity period or conflict with management priorities and weather/availability considerations.

7. Pronghorn hunting season occurs in which months?

- A. August-October
- B. September-October**
- C. October-December
- D. May-June

Hunting seasons are timed to match animal behavior, safety, and population management. For pronghorn, the fall window of September through October hits a sweet spot: pronghorns are actively moving and feeding in cooler weather, making them easier to spot and harvest, and it comes after fawns are already well along in their growth, reducing concerns about impacting young animals. This timing also avoids the extremes of summer heat and winter storms, which can complicate hunting and access. Other parts of the year either occur when conditions are less favorable for observing pronghorn or when management goals suggest a different focus, so the September–October period is the typical season for pronghorn hunts.

8. Which fin is located on the back of a fish?

- A. Caudal fin
- B. Pectoral fin
- C. Dorsal fin**
- D. Pelvic fin

The fin on the back of a fish is the dorsal fin. It runs along the top side, helping the fish stay stable and resist rolling as it moves through the water. Other fins are located in different spots: the tail fin (caudal) is at the end of the body and provides propulsion, the side fins near the gills (pectoral fins) help with steering, and the fins on the underside toward the belly (pelvic fins) aid in stability. So, for a fin located on the back, the dorsal fin is the correct one.

9. Which species has two separate dorsal fins and large vertical dark stripes on yellowish sides?

- A. Walleye
- B. Yellow Perch**
- C. Saugeye
- D. Northern Pike

Two separate dorsal fins and bold vertical bars along a yellowish body are classic clues for Yellow Perch. The perch family (Percidae) typically shows two distinct dorsal fins, with a small gap between them—the first fin being spiny and the second soft. Yellow Perch specifically display several wide, vertical dark stripes running down the sides of a pale yellow to golden body, giving a striped look that stands out. Other species don't fit both features at once. Walleye and sauger can have two dorsal fins, but their body color is usually olive to gray with mottling or patches rather than strong vertical bands on yellow sides. Northern pike has only one dorsal fin toward the rear and a pattern of spots or irregular markings rather than vertical stripes on a yellowish body.

10. Which of the following birds has a name that includes 'Meadow'?

A. Western Meadowlark

B. Pintail

C. Canvasback

D. Blue-winged Teal

Meadow in a bird's common name often signals an association with open grassy areas, like meadows and grasslands. The Western Meadowlark fits that pattern, with its name explicitly including Meadow, pointing to its habitat and behavior in meadows and fields across western North America. It's a medium-sized songbird famed for its bright yellow throat and melodic song, commonly found in open grassy areas. The other options are ducks and do not include Meadow in their common names; their names describe other traits (tail shape, body color, wing color) rather than habitat. So the name that includes Meadow is the best choice.

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Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://cpwdwm.examzify.com>

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

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