

Revised release date for *W stands for Wildlife*

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Have you ever come in contact with a bear? What about stared into the eyes of a massive deer? Have you ever seen a bright green snake slithering off to find some mice? If anything I just mentioned peaked your interests, you might be more adventurous than you think.

According to the [Defenders of Wildlife](#), there are over 5,600 species of wildlife in the United States. Now I don't know about you, but I think it would be pretty sweet to see as many possible before they are gone for good. Some of the best ways to see wildlife is to go out exploring. Taking your family along is a great way to bond and experience nature together. Many places like wildlife reservations work hard to preserve as much wildlife as possible. Click the [link](#) to see all of the wildlife refuges in the U.S.

If you are planning on going out to explore wildlife, it is very important that you know how to handle wildlife and deal with certain situations, a website called [Survivopedia](#) can help you prepare for many things that could happen in the wild.



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Many species are in danger and it is up to us to keep them safe. One species that is in danger of extinction is one that is very close to us on the east coast. The Red Fox which is a native to North Carolina is now a days very rare and neglected. [Helping to save this species could in turn help our local environment.](#) Foxes and deer are the most common wildlife species in West Virginia. These animals come in many different breeds and are beautiful to discover in nature.

There are many places to explore wildlife around the area of Morgantown, West Virginia. You could go on a walk on the Rail Trail or take a short trip to [Coopers Rock](#). There are also many state parks around the area that are great for exploring wildlife. [Tygart Lake State Park](#) in Grafton, West Virginia has great trails and wildlife sites including a nature center.

My family and I always take an annual trip to the [Catoclin Zoo](#) where we watch animals that were saved become healthy again and live happy lives. It's always a fun time with my family to go back and see the animals we have come to love grow up.

Wildlife is an interesting thing that often many people do not have the chance to explore. Take pictures, notes, or even samples of wildlife today. The best way for humans to learn about other species is through exploration.

So I challenge you to be the adventurer you always wanted to be and who knows, maybe you'll even become an animal scientist!

About me: My name is Megan Ohlis and I am a Junior at West Virginia University. I am from Harper's Ferry, West Virginia. I am a navy baby so traveling and adventure is in my blood! I love animals and the outdoors. My future plans are to have a career in strategic social media.