



NAFWS Fisheries & Invasive Species Certified Tribal Technician Program

Objectives & Curriculum Outline

Emphasis: Fisheries and Invasive Species Certified Tribal Technician Programs

Mission Statement: To assist Native American and Alaska Native Tribes with the conservation, protection, and enhancement of their fish and wildlife resources.

Vision Statement: Offer professional certification training for tribal staff with the equivalency as a Fisheries Technician or an Invasive Species Certified Tribal Technician to assist building tribal capacity.

To achieve this vision, we will:

- Promote tribal programs and help build tribal capacity by offering professional training opportunities.
- Provide training skills that expand or enhance knowledge for professional fish and wildlife/natural resources staff.
- Focus on concepts related to Fishery and/or Invasive Species Management to build tribal capacities to implement in comprehensive Fish and Wildlife/Natural Resources Management Programs.

History

Through engagement with NAFWS membership and Tribes, the realization of limitation in program capacity, specifically, staff and training building, creates a burden for fish, wildlife, natural resources, and environmental programs to recruit and retain qualified staff that results in the cyclic rotation of hiring, training, and recruiting. Often, tribal personnel are hired and trained, but due to funding loss or competitive hiring, they are lost and the investment for the program is lapsed, only to shift into the same rotation again. It has been identified that staff technicians are often retained due to their “tie” to Tribal communities as they are often tribal citizens that have entered the field of conservation work as youth workers or internships.

Purpose and Overview

The Native American Fish and Wildlife Society (NAFWS) is a nonprofit geared towards assisting Native American and Alaska Native Tribes with the conservation, protection and enhancement of their fish and wildlife resources. The goal of the training program is to increase awareness, knowledge, and implementation of best management practices related to invasive species prevention, management, and monitoring by tribal professionals and field staff.

Objectives

- To build and motivate well rounded and experienced fish, wildlife, natural resources, and environmental tribal staff that are valued and revered by their respective programs, while expanding their certification credentials.
- To guide tribal professional and technical staff in defining minimum standards of curriculum and practical skills for fish, wildlife, and natural resources staff in the field of invasive species management and encouraging all practicing field technician staff to meet such standards.
- To provide training in the safe and effective use of tools and techniques important to the management of invasive species and other wildlife conservation concepts, as well as the leadership and communication skills necessary to navigate the NAFWS’ complex values about wildlife conservation.

- To implement best management practices to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species.
- To retain tribal staff in the management of invasive species.

Program Designations

Certified Tribal Technicians are a NAFWS members-only program designed to assist Tribes in the building of tribal capacity in Natural Resources, Environmental, or Wildlife Programs. Individuals must maintain membership with NAFWS for certification to remain valid. Applicants must be currently employed with a federally recognized Tribe at the time of certification and must be supported by nomination from Director, or equivalent Supervisor, of the tribal agency. Completion of certification training standard requirement must be done within 18 months from application selection and must have the validation from the NAFWS Executive Director upon completion of the certification requirements.

To receive certification, the Fisheries or Invasive Species Technician must complete all required course lessons and modules OR have documentation supporting completion of said, or equivalent, course lessons or experience.

Professional experience must demonstrate the use and application of current knowledge in each identified area as a significant portion of the applicant's job responsibilities. Credit will be based on the following:

- A. Applicant's estimate of percentage of time devoted to specific tasks as identified in the accompanying coursework. Similar to federal "Time in Grade" requirements, credit for 'prior experience' in position will be counted, with documentation provided by technician and signed off on by Supervisor that identifies how many hours the particular skill has been learned/performed, on the job.
- B. Description of specific duties, responsibilities, and accomplishment in the coursework. A "general job description" is not acceptable.

Documentation of completion of course work must be submitted to meet all requirements. Certification is issued to an individual that has fulfilled the identified Technician program's requirements.

This certification and curriculum are intended for emerging Fisheries or Invasive Species Technicians, or equivalent staff employed by Tribes. Through the focus of fisheries and invasive species principles, this certification pilot allows for the building of tribal capacity, professional development, and potential advancement in employment and higher education.

PROGRAM DURATION

The program duration is approximately 18 months. In the initial 2025 cohort, the selectees will be notified by end of January 2025 and begin the 1st module by March 1st. The 2nd module will be completed at the 2025 NAFWS National Conference. The third module will be scheduled with each team (Invasive or Fisheries) and the program will be completed at the 2026 NAFWS National Conference. The timeline to completion is approximately 18 months from the application period to the final conference shown in *Figure 1*.

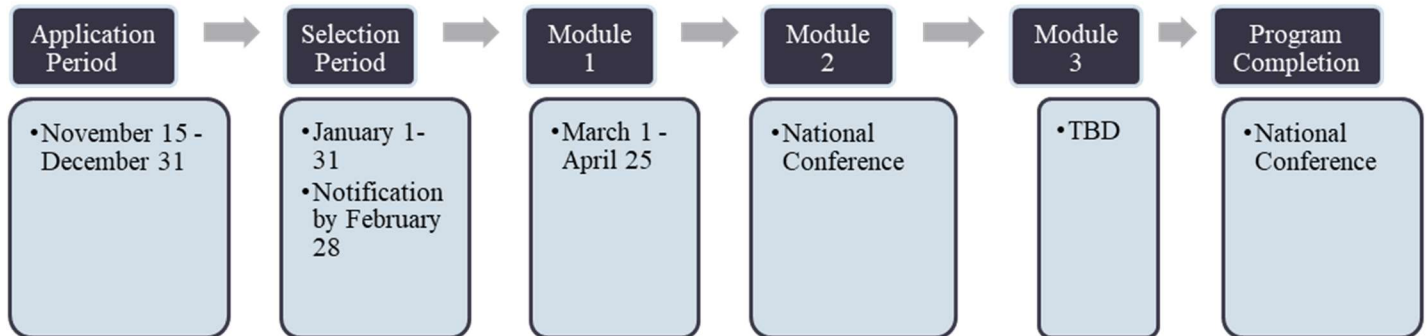


Figure 1 Certified Technician Training, Program Duration

A. OPERATION OF THE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

The Native American Fish and Wildlife Society's Executive Director oversees administration of the Certification Programs through the NAFWS Review Board. Designated NAFWS Staff is designated to provide support to the NAFWS Review Board maintain oversight of the program, recommend approvals, and coordinates appeals for applicants while conducting duties associated with the program.

1. COMPOSITION

Composition of the NAFWS Review Board shall be comprised of five (5) NAFWS staff members and consists of the Deputy Executive Director, Director of Programs, Fisheries Biologist, Invasive Species Coordinator and Education Coordinator.

2. TERMS

NAFWS staff members are part of the certification board while employed with NAFWS. Unexpected vacancies should be filled as quickly as possible by appointment by the Executive Director; however, the NAFWS Review Board will continue to function with any vacant position.

3. APPOINTMENT PROCESS & SCHEDULE

Individuals appointed to the NAFWS Review Board must exemplify high standards of professional judgment, competence, and integrity. Individuals should have experience in the field of fisheries or invasive species. If there is no staff member in these disciplines, that seat will remain vacant until a nominee can be identified and appointed to fill the remainder of the term.

Any outgoing staff member is to transfer all necessary files, materials, and information to the NAFWS. All incoming members will receive a copy of this document and are required to attend the Review Board Meeting at the National Conference for orientation and training on Certification Review procedures and processes.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES & AUTHORITIES

The NAFWS Review Board shall determine eligibility of certification applicants by majority vote and shall have the authority to confer certification as a Fisheries or an Invasive Species Technician. The NAFWS Executive Director has the

authority to make the final decision on any tied votes. Certification Review Board members shall correspond as necessary to ensure equitable and timely evaluation of each applicant. No member of the shall discuss at any time a particular application with any person other than a member of the Review Board, except to clarify or verify the contents of an application.

The Review Board shall meet in-person at least once annually at NAFWS National Conference. Conference calls shall be held monthly, and as needed, to discuss pending applications. The need for additional calls will be determined by the appropriate NAFWS Staff. The NAFWS Executive Director, in coordination with NAFWS Staff, is responsible for notifying incoming and current NAFWS Review Board members of the dates and location of upcoming meetings. The NAFWS Executive Director shall facilitate meetings and coordinate the application voting and approval process. The NAFWS Review Board shall report on progress and identified challenges annually to NAFWS Board of Directors and necessary NAFWS Staff as needed.

5. NAFWS STAFF ENGAGEMENT

NAFWS Staff are responsible for monitoring application submissions. The NAFWS Staff review all applications for completeness, process the applications in appropriate databases and files, facilitate application of appropriate fees, and ensure all applications are transmitted to the Review Board. The appointed NAFWS Staff will work together to facilitate conference calls and review applications. The NAFWS Staff will also communicate with prospective applicants and send letters and certificates to applicants. Appointed NAFWS Staff are also conferred the authority to review and approve/deny Certificate applications.

6. APPLICATION PROCEDURE & GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Application forms are available on the NAFWS website and may be submitted at any time. Forms shall be completed and submitted electronically to SCross@nafws.org. The NAFWS Review Board will ensure to the greatest degree possible the application form is consistent with the certification requirements and guidelines in the Manual. Upon receipt of a complete application and verification by NAFWS Staff that the applicant is an eligible NAFWS member, the applicant will be emailed an online payment form if not a current member. The application will be processed once payment is received. Should applicants encounter any questions, they are encouraged to contact NAFWS Staff.

The NAFWS reserves the right to make changes to the certification program at any time.

7. UPDATING AND REVIEW OF APPLICATION FORMS

Application forms are maintained by NAFWS Staff, and the specific format may be periodically updated, based on recommendations from the NAFWS Board of Directors, NAFWS Staff, applicants, or NAFWS members. When the format and style of forms are updated, NAFWS Staff may designate a specific deadline at which point the previous version of an application will no longer be accepted. The NAFWS Review Board may periodically review and update requirements for certification. The NAFWS Staff shall facilitate such program changes in the application and issue new applications via www.nafws.org.

8. APPLICATION PROCESSING AND REVIEW

a. Timeline

Certification normally will be confirmed or denied within six (6) months from the date a complete application and payment is received unless the NAFWS Review Board advises the applicant that additional time is needed for review.

b. Review and Voting

Each assigned staff member independently conducts an initial review of each application and sends their votes and comments to the NAFWS Executive Director. Each staff member is responsible for ensuring that comments and any “discussion” points are transmitted and stored in a confidential manner. All reviews are kept strictly confidential.

The NAFWS Executive Director will determine when a final vote is due on an application and will conduct a conference call to discuss applications. The fate of an application is determined by a majority vote.

- If the staff members indicate unanimous approval of an application, and no individual on the NAFWS Review Board indicates a desire to discuss an applicant, then the applicant is approved.
- If any staff member votes no on an application, or states that they would like to discuss the application further, then the NAFWS Review Board can discuss the application at the discretion of the NAFWS Executive Director. NAFWS Review Board members can change their votes on an applicant at any time during the discussion.
 - If during the discussion the Review Board determines that more information is needed from an applicant to make an informed decision on certification approval or denial, the Review Board can decide to contact the applicant via NAFWS Staff to clarify the nature of the applicant's education or experience. The application will be considered “pending” until clarification is received from the applicant. The Review Board can also decide to contact the applicant’s references if any aspect of the application is under question.
 - If most of the Review Board votes no on an application, the Review Board facilitates discussion with the NAFWS Executive Director to determine the reasons for the denial. The Review Board then provides guidance to be included in a letter to the applicant to enable them to submit another application in the future addressing the Review Board’s concerns.

c. Process for Approved Applications

An applicant approved for certification is mailed 1) an approval letter sent under signature of the NAFWS Executive Director, and 2) a NAFWS-branded certificate indicating the level of certification granted. No academic, honorary, other titles or nicknames will be included with the applicant's name on the certificate. The NAFWS Staff will facilitate mailing of the letter and certificate. The NAFWS Staff will also update the records in the membership database and certification database to indicate that certification was approved, and the date certification materials were mailed. The date of approval is logged as the first day of the month in which the application was approved.

d. Process for Denied Applications

An applicant denied certification is mailed a letter sent under signature of the NAFWS Executive Director. The denial letter shall state the specific reasons for denial and the steps the applicant needs to take to meet certification standards. The applicant will also be notified of their right to appeal against the decision (see below).

Unsuccessful applicants may reapply six (6) months after the filing date of their previous application; standard application fees will apply to the reapplication.

The NAFWS Staff will facilitate drafting and mailing of the letter. The NAFWS Staff will also update the records in the membership database and certification database to indicate that certification was denied and the date a letter was mailed.

9. APPEALS

An appeals process is available to any applicant who feels a denial by the NAFWS Review Board was discriminatory or arbitrary and capricious; an applicant is notified of their right to appeal in the letter of denial sent by the NAFWS Executive Director. An applicant's right to appeal expires 1 year from the date of denial letter.

Only information on required certifications previously submitted to the NAFWS Review Board will be subject to review, and new or additional documentation may invalidate an appeal.

A copy of the appeal document, the denial letter from the Executive Director, and the applicant's original application are reviewed in its entirety as the NAFWS Review Board as a whole. The NAFWS Executive Director dependently review the appeal before discussing the matter.

The NAFWS Review Board will review the entire appeals packet and advise the Executive Director how they would have voted if they had access to the appeal information when originally reviewing the application. The Executive Director is to determine if the NAFWS Review Board's original decision was appropriate.

If the Review Board and Executive Director independently come to the same resolution, the Executive Director may then issue a final decision to the applicant. If the Executive Director and the Review Board remain in disagreement after discussing the application, the appropriate program staff will be presented the information, including the Review Board's recommendations to recommend the final determination. The NAFWS Staff coordinates all appeals. Staff acknowledges each appeal, outlines the appeal process, and establishes an approximate date for a decision. Staff facilitates final notification from the TWS President on the results of the appeal to the applicant.

10. RENEWALS & LAPSES IN CERTIFICATION

As long as membership remains in good standing with NAFWS, members shall maintain certification unless they are found to be in violation of the Code of Ethics (see above). Should membership with NAFWS lapse, individuals need only to renew their membership to maintain continuity of certification status.

11. CURRICULUM REVIEWS

NAFWS Staff may submit current or proposed curriculum to the Review Board and the Executive Director to determine if available curricula meet the minimum education requirements for certification. Appropriate staff approval is needed to change any curriculum.

12. ADMINSTRATVE RECORD KEEPING & DATABASE

The NAFWS Review Board reports to the Board of Directors annually on progress, problems encountered, and trend with applications as needed or requested by the Executive Director.

Once an applicant has been approved or denied, the original application, final vote, and any correspondence are stored by NAFWS. Any correspondence or material related to the application will be destroyed (shredded or deleted) by each Review Board member. NAFWS Review Board members are to keep denied applications confidential. Should an applicant wish to see a previously denied application or reasons for denial, they must contact the NAFWS staff for a copy.

MODULE #1

BASIC TECHNICIAN PRACTICAL SKILLS

This module is broken down into four (4) elements that include in-person and virtual opportunities geared to provide information and knowledge on basic practical skills for Fisheries and Invasive Species Technicians. This program will begin with a virtual orientation course that provides the basics that introduces the entire program and then will focus on Module #1.

ELEMENT 1: Introduction to *Wildlife Stewardship on Tribal Lands*

This element incorporates the NAFWS Textbook “Wildlife Stewardship on Tribal Lands.” This book is a comprehensive guide focusing on the management of wildlife and natural resources on Native American tribal lands. The book covers the intersection of traditional ecological knowledge, legal frameworks, and resource stewardship, highlighting the unique approach taken by Indigenous communities in preserving their environments. Overall, the book emphasizes the importance of respecting tribal sovereignty, incorporating traditional knowledge into management practices and understanding the legal complexities of managing resources on tribal lands.

For this technician training program, we will provide you with a free copy of this textbook. When you receive the textbook, the trainee will select one chapter pertaining to resource management, that is of interest to you then; you will complete a summary of the chapter that will be due within the first month and a half, at the completion of the technician orientation (minimum by 1,000 words, single spaced, 12 pt. font = ~ 2 pages):

1. Identify one of the following objectives in your chosen chapter:
 - a. Tribal sovereignty
 - b. Traditional knowledge
 - c. Resource management
 - d. Legal complexities of managing a resource.
2. List the species or resources discussed
3. Prepare a summary of an alternative response or discussion of how similar resources and issues on tribal lands where you are either employed or enrolled as a tribal citizen, could be handled in the future.

ELEMENT 2: Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED Training (Local scheduling by Trainee)

The 2021 Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED blended learning course equips students to recognize and care for a variety of first aid breathing and cardiac emergencies involving adults, children, and infants. It is designed for students who need a certification that satisfies OSHA workplace or other regulatory requirements. This class is taught in a blended learning format and the online portion (accessed via mobile desktop or tablet) must be completed prior to attending the instructor-led skills session. Upon successful completion a valid 2-year digital certificate for Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED is issued.

ELEMENT 3: ATV Safety Training (Online)

ATVs have become a common place vehicle to conduct natural resource projects, the ability access hard to reach locations while hauling a load of equipment has made them a great asset. The dangers associated with their operation are very serious and a combination of training, experience and situational awareness are needed to protect operators.

Must complete an ATV safety course that provides training in safe riding strategies, pre-ride inspection, and demonstrations of proper riding posture. Many courses are offered by vehicle manufacturers, the ATV Safety Institute, Federal Agencies, and Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association and others.

Note: The field portion of the ATV Safety Training will be completed as part of Module 2, at the National Conference or at a later date, to be determined.

ELEMENT 4: Defensive Driver Training (Online)

Defensive driving is a set of valuable skills that give you the ability to defend yourself while on the road. This includes avoiding collisions caused by oblivious drivers, intoxicated drivers, or inclement weather.

MODULE #2

INTRODUCTION TO PRACTICAL SKILLS FOR TECHNICIANS

ELEMENT 1: Practical Equipment Maneuvering Skills

Basic skills and techniques are necessary for a technician. The proper use of attaching and maneuvering of trailers, as well as the security of the contents that are being hauled ensure that equipment arrives safely and without damage to the vehicle or contents being transported. This class is taught in a hands-on activity format to ensure proper use of all equipment and straps. Topics should include but are not limited to:

- How to Be a Responsible Operator
- Safety Gear such as helmets, gloves, boots, long legged pants, and long-sleeved shirts
- How to Conduct Pre-ride and Post-ride Inspections
- Common Operating Hazards
- Hazard Controls
- Driving on Hills, Slippery Surfaces, Soft Ground, Sand, and Other Conditions
- Starting and stopping, quick turns, hill riding, emergency stopping and swerving, and riding over obstacles safely
- How to Safely Load the Vehicle for Transport
- Proper Storage Procedures
- Annual Maintenance Procedures

MODULE # 3 for FISHERIES TECHNICIAN CURRICULUM

The curriculum is broken down into four (4) elements that include both in-person and virtual opportunities geared to providing information and knowledge from basic fishery principles and techniques to basic management considerations in fisheries programming.

Applicants must have completed the identified courses work supported by certificate OR have a verified documentation supporting experience equivalent to the coursework listed. Verified documentation must be submitted on an agency letterhead with the Director, or equivalent Supervisor, signature confirming competency of experience in the areas of coursework.

Specialized experience must be related to the work of the position that address the module and/or element(s) description. Examples of qualifying specialized experience include:

- More than 20 hours of fisheries related activities per week, per element.
- Proper identification of species.
- Certificates or documentation that supports training related to each element.

An individual who has completed the required training standards will be designated a Certified Fisheries Technician upon verification of all submitted documentation by the NAFWS Review Board.

ELEMENT 1: Fish Identification

Proper identification is an absolute must in fisheries sampling and management. Technicians should understand the overall system for identifying fish, including collection labeling and preservation, sample processing, use of distribution maps, use of dichotomous keys, and taxonomic procedures (e.g., counting scales and rays and extracting and counting pharyngeal teeth). Course location will determine regional freshwater fish that are emphasized (e.g., cyprinids percids, and salmonids, etc. however, understanding how to identify all North American freshwater fish families should be pursued as available. Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to:

Topics should include but are not limited to:

- Correctly identify unknown fish by following the methods described in the course.
- Use proper fish-collection labeling and preservation techniques.
- Discuss the benefits of using a combination of reference sources for fish identification.
- Use distributional maps as an aid to fish identification.
- Employ dichotomous keys.
- Discuss identification tricks of the trade.
- Correctly obtain morphometric information needed for fish identification.

ELEMENT 2: Fish Capture & Sampling

The usefulness of data for informing population or trend assessment is dependent on the choice of gear and deployment strategies. The ability to integrate gear design, materials, and operation, fish species behavior, and habitat conditions for effective sampling requires a substantial level of expertise. Making informed purchasing decisions and modifying a gear for specific species is a first order capability. Understanding the fish populations and communities that need to be managed, as well as the connections between the populations, communities, and their environments, is essential for the effective management of fisheries resources. Details regarding fish populations and communities are typically obtained by means of fish "sampling." Fish must typically be captured for this sample to take place; it is also essential to handle fish with proper procedures to ensure a low mortality rate.

Topics should include but are not limited to:

- Select gear types for different habitat types, target species and size ranges.

- Gain basic knowledge of how gear fishes within different aquatic environments.
- Apply knowledge of important criteria, design, materials, and terms to purchase gear from a net or electrofishing vendor.
- Distinguish between designs of effective and suboptimal gear: fyke nets, gill nets, trammel nets, purse, beach, and blocking seines, etc.
- Evaluate gear for quality of materials and construction.
- Customize gear for improved fishability.
- Conduct basic set-up on boats for seining, trawling, and electrofishing: what to do and not to do.
- Properly deploy or operate various gear types in different habitat types and assess performance.
- Remove fish from entanglement gear and properly collect fish during electrofishing.
- Follow safe boat operation while sampling, particularly in flowing water.
- Identify and fix problems (troubleshooting).
- Properly mend, splice, tie knots, and repair net and trap gear.
- Properly maintain and store gear.
- Implement electrofishing standardization protocols
- Trap nets
- Hook and Line
- Seine nets
- Trammel
- Drift nets
- Landing nets

ELEMENT 3: Electrofishing

Electrofishing: Initial and continual training is an essential element to all safe and effective electrofishing operations. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (training.fws.gov) and electrofishing equipment manufacturers (such as www.smith-root.com) provide training on safe electrofishing practices and techniques. The NAFWS works with both the USFWS and Smith-Root to conduct courses for tribal fisheries staff in various locations across the United States. Technicians must take an officially certified electrofishing training course AND must have accredited and up to date CPR/First Aid training.

Electrofishing course topics:

- Basic principles of electricity and the generation of electric fields in water
- Basic concept and design guidelines for electrofishing equipment
- Types of electrofishing equipment and capabilities, limitations, safety features, and maintenance (boat, bank, skiff, raft, and backpack)
- Safety precautions and personal protective equipment to employ while using electrofishing equipment
- Awareness of and methods to reduce fish trauma due to electrofishing
- Principles of sampling standardization and efficiency
- Basic principles of electricity and the generation of electric fields in water
- Basic concept and design guidelines for electrofishing equipment
- Types of electrofishing equipment and capabilities, limitations, safety features, and maintenance (boat, bank, skiff, raft, and backpack)
- Safety precautions and personal protective equipment to employ while using electrofishing equipment
- Awareness of and methods to reduce fish trauma due to electrofishing
- Principles of sampling standardization and efficiency

ELEMENT 4: Introduction to Fish Marking and Tagging

These methods have been long utilized to gather information to answer questions about fish migration patterns, habitat preferences, diet, mortality, abundance, distribution, and harvest. Stock assessments usually require three primary

categories of information: abundance, biological, and catch data. Proper handling, tag selection, equipment and data recording is key in conducting quality fisheries management and is the foundation of a fisheries program.

Topics should include but are not limited to:

- Types and uses of fisheries and aquatics marking and tagging techniques, marking and tagging
- Types and locations of fin clips for mark recapture surveys
- Varieties and uses of physical and chemical tags and marking (Peterson Disc, Spaghetti, DART, T-bar, PIT, Coded Wire, Jaw, Carlin, Atkins, Body Cavity, Archival, PSAT, SPOT, IPD, Calcein, Opercle, etc.)
- Field exercise in placing and applying tagging and marking methods to fish and other aquatic animals.

MODULE # 3 for INVASIVE SPECIES TECHNICIAN CURRICULUM

This certification and curriculum are intended for emerging Invasive Species Technician employed by Tribes. Through the focus of invasive species principles, this certification pilot allows for the building of tribal capacity, professional development, and potential advancement in employment and higher education.

The curriculum is broken into three (3) elements that include both in-person and virtual opportunities geared to providing information and knowledge from basic invasive species principles to basic management considerations in invasive species programming.

Applicants must have completed course work supported by certificate OR have a verified documentation supporting experience equivalent to the coursework listed. Verified documentation must be submitted on an agency letterhead with the Director, or equivalent Supervisor, signature confirming competency of experience in the areas of coursework.

Specialized experience must be related to the work of the position that address the module description. Examples of qualifying specialized experience include:

- More than 20 hours of invasive species control activities per week.
- Monitoring for early detection observations.
- Proper identification of impacting invasive species.
- Certificates or documentation that supports training related to each element.

An individual who has completed the required training standards will be designated a Certified Invasive Species Technician upon verification of all submitted documentation to the NAFWS Review Board.

ELEMENT 1: Introduction to Invasive Species

This element is designated to provide opportunities to gain knowledge on basic invasive species topics. Technicians should understand the overall system of invasive species management to include familiarity to invasive species related agencies and organizations, familiarity with invasive species identification, early detection and rapid response, invasive species outreach campaigns, risk assessments, methodology for invasive species control and removals, and climate change considerations.

Upon completion, participants will be able to:

- Correctly identify invasive species.
- Use of proper data collection for early detection.
- Understand principles of rapid response processes and consideration.
- Be familiar with invasive species outreach campaigns.
- Understand risk assessments and methodology for invasive species control and removals.
- Be familiar with how invasive species movement and impacts can be increased with climate change.

ELEMENT 2: Field Techniques for Invasive Species Management

This element is designated to provide opportunities to develop and practice field technique skills in the implementation of controls and removals of invasive species infestation once proper identification is confirmed. Upon completion, the technician will be:

- Familiar with the fundamentals of identification and control techniques used for both terrestrial and aquatic invasive species.
- Understand and effectively manage safety risks.
- Properly prescribe the correct chemical and apply it safely.
- Troubleshoot simple equipment faults.
- Understand how Tribes are implementing invasive species controls and programming.

ELEMENT 3: Practical Applications

Technicians should understand the practical applications of all control methods like chemical, physical, manual, and mechanical techniques necessary to manage, contain, and eradicate invasive species. Upon completion, participants will be able to:

- Safely discharge a firearm and be proficient in basic marksmanship.
- Properly conduct physical, manual, and mechanical controls safely.
- Apply chemical controls safely and lawfully.
- Properly sample and monitor invasive species.
- Understand how to use tools and equipment safely and conduct maintenance of them.