NATURAL RESOURCES FISHERIES CENSUS CLERK

KIND OF WORK

Clerical fisheries census interviewing work.

NATURE AND PURPOSE

Under general supervision, counts and interviews anglers, spearers and other recreational users of surface waters at selected survey sites so that estimates of fishing pressure, catch-rates and species composition may be accurately calculated; performs related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK (A position may not include all the work examples given, nor does the list include all that may be assigned.)

Contact land owners and resort operators to gain water access for boat launching and/or permission to conduct interviews and gather samples by using polite, friendly conversation and explaining the reason for the intrusion.

Collect data on anglers' fishing experience and catch to produce a data base for others' use by contacting selected anglers as predetermined by census design; interviewing them with the aid of questionnaire forms; identifying, weighing and measuring fish; collecting scales, fin spines or other fish parts; and collecting and documenting weather and water temperatures.

Count angling/boating activity to document usage through observation and the use of a mechanical counter.

Answer or properly refer questions by interviewees about fishing and DNR fisheries work in general so that good public relations are maintained by using basic DNR program and fishing knowledge.

Operate truck/car with boat trailer, boat with outboard motor, snowmobile, all terrain vehicle (ATV) and snowshoes to gain access to survey areas for interviews.

Perform routine maintenance work (change oil, etc.) on truck/car, boat/motor, trailer, snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle (ATV), snowshoes and limnological equipment to avoid time-consuming breakdowns and ensure well-maintained equipment.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

Knowledge of:

Fish species common to Minnesota, basic fish anatomy and terminology sufficient to identify and sample fish for data collection.
Basic arithmetic and units of measure sufficient to document the weights and lengths of sampled fish, count boat and angler numbers accurately, and read various measuring indicators.

Basic fishing and DNR fisheries management sufficient to answer general questions and know where to refer others.

Water and outdoor safety skills sufficient to understand weather and other effects on water and ice, effectively operate boats and other vehicles under various weather conditions, and related.

Ability to:

Communicate effectively, orally and in writing.

Understand and follow oral and written instructions.

Interpret anglers' responses and record information to accurately complete routine reports and standard questionnaires.

Read and comprehend written materials such as fishing synopses, boating guides, stocking reports, scientific keys to fish species, vehicle operation and maintenance manuals, and various maps.

Operate and perform minor maintenance on manual and/or automatic transmission truck/car with trailer, boat with outboard motor, snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle (ATV), snowshoes and a variety of measuring devices (limnological equipment, observation thermometer, secchi disk, dissolved oxygen and temperature profile meter, mechanical counter, scales, measuring boards).

**LEGAL OR LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS** (These must be met by all employees prior to attaining permanent status in the class.)

Possession of a valid class C Minnesota Driver's License or equivalent.

**SPECIAL WORK CONDITIONS**

Incumbents in this class primarily work outdoors alone in boats under various weather conditions. Work requires travel to assigned lakes and the ability to independently load/unload own boat at each site. Most positions are seasonal.