

NATURAL RESOURCES SPECIALIST - FISHERIES

KIND OF WORK

Professional fisheries management work.

NATURE AND PURPOSE

Under general supervision, positions perform professional fisheries management work, acting as a project leadworker for technicians and laborers involved in the implementation of a variety of professional and technical field management projects and activities; or may function as project specialist on efforts devoted to fisheries management operations on a single major lake; or function as a technical specialist within a region; or functions as primary assistant in medium-sized hatchery; perform related work as required.

At entry level, focus of work is on applying standard methods to collection and analysis of data to contribute to major reports or for clearly defined projects/programs. These positions differ from the technician positions in requiring application of abstract scientific principles to specific resource problems. Incumbents also have a greater level of discretion in prioritizing and following through on tasks. Their duties include design, implementation, and supervision of projects rather than solely implementation. At the Intermediate level, incumbents function as the primary assistant to the area supervisor and have independent responsibility for programs or projects and leadwork of other professional as well as non-professional staff.

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

Coordinate and complete scheduled lake and stream surveys and population assessments so data is available for management planning by advising the area supervisor on scope of survey, scheduling surveys, collecting and entering data, analyzing and interpreting results, formulating conclusions and writing stream management plans.

Coordinate production and distribution of species to maintain harvest of all populations so that objectives are met in a biologically sound and efficient manner by assisting area supervisor in determining stocking program parameters, implementing egg taking and hatchery programs, assessing and acquiring fish rearing ponds, stocking fry, harvesting, and distributing fingerlings, and daily record keeping of fish removal, production, and distribution.

Develop and promote a public relations program so that clients are informed of fisheries management programs, informed and educated about aquatic resource issues, and involved in decision making by encouraging cooperation with projects, providing information on project parameters, consulting on problems, making community presentations, and writing explanatory material.

Maintain or oversee maintenance of assigned equipment and facilities so that it is safe for operation and used efficiently to accomplish fish management projects by inspecting, constructing, or repairing equipment, recommending needed equipment and materials, and ensuring that equipment use records are updated.

Design, integrate, and implement fisheries and aquatic habitat concerns into plans and actions of private parties, governmental agencies, and other interest groups to provide for preservation or enhancement of fish environments by informing other disciplines and agencies of activities, reviewing permit applications and making recommendations, evaluating existing habitat, writing proposals for experimental regulations, designing methods for improving habitat and supervising crews working on these projects.

Review and make recommendations on permit applications affecting aquatic habitats so that fish populations are protected and aquatic resources are fully considered by investigating and evaluating permit requests and environmental review documents, supervising pesticide application and investigate violations of laws regarding pesticide use, and establish protected flows and operational plans on regulated warm water streams.

Protect critical habitat in area waters so that degradation of aquatic resources is minimized by investigating fish kills and pollution concerns, developing to monitor effects over time, and preparing related reports.

Direct the work of laborers, technicians, clerks to ensure efficient and orderly field operations by determining priorities, assigning work, evaluating work completion, purchasing materials, informing staff of developments and recommending training.

Monitor fish production in a hatchery so that objectives are met by supervising staff and/or feeding fish, cleaning raceways, recognizing and treating stress and disease, conducting spawn-taking operations, providing information for periodic production reports, training new employees and overseeing their work.

KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

Knowledge of:

Fisheries science, aquatic biology, limnology, ecology, and statistics sufficient to conduct surveys and design and implement habitat improvement projects, including collecting data, analyzing results and making conclusions.

Fish propagation, hatchery management, handling techniques, feed and growth projection, disease recognition and treatment sufficient to implement management policies and meet production goals.

Ability to:

Present technical information effectively orally and in writing.

Conduct field research sufficient to collect pertinent data.

Interpret biological and other aquatic data sufficient to draw reasonable conclusions.

Lead work of others.

Work in adverse weather and environmental conditions.

Maintain hatchery mechanical and construction equipment.

Transport and handle fish to avoid shock and loss.

Operate and maintain motorized equipment (e.g., boats, motors, trailers) and tools used in field operations.

Est.: 08/30/00

Rev.:

Ckd.:

T.C.:

Former Title(s):