NATURAL RESOURCES SPECIALIST SENIOR - FISH RESEARCH

KIND OF WORK

Professional fisheries research work.

NATURE AND PURPOSE

Under administrative direction, plan, coordinate and lead other staff in conducting scientific investigations to solve fisheries management problems, make specific recommendations to guide the management and protection of Minnesota's aquatic resources, evaluate new techniques, and provide technical expertise and instruction to Department of Natural Resources fisheries staff and the public; perform related work as required.

The senior level is distinguished from lower levels by responsibility for long range planning processes, strategic planning and projects/programs with statewide impact. These positions differ from the NR Supervisor positions in the research unit because their lack of administrative duties and responsibility for determining which research projects will be done.

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

Plan original, independent research projects with Research Scientist 2 concerning the conservation and management of fisheries and other aquatic resources in order to meet the needs for increased scientific knowledge, improved technology, and improved management of fisheries resources.

Plan, implement, and direct advanced, independent fisheries research using appropriate research techniques so study objectives are met and findings are statistically and scientifically valid.

Analyze and evaluate research findings to reach valid conclusions by preparing collected material, identifying, quantifying, analyzing, summarizing and interpreting data.

Prepare progress reports and final reports by analyzing data, organizing material, and putting it into report format.

Disseminate research results so that research findings can be utilized by research scientists, research managers, administrators, and the public within Minnesota and internationally.

Plan investigations with Senior Researchers to support Fisheries Management projects by consulting with management to determine needs, conducting literature search, designing investigations, identifying equipment, personnel, time and budget needs, sampling techniques and analytical methodology.
KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

Knowledge of:

Fisheries management, Ecology, Ichthyology, Entomology, Aquatic Energetics, Population Dynamics and Statistics sufficient to conduct research investigations, interpret and analyze data, and prepare final reports.

Computer proficiency, including knowledge of databases, spreadsheets, and statistical programs sufficient to efficiently analyze data.

Ability to:

Communicate orally and in written form with diverse audiences, including both lay and peer groups, sufficient to document and disseminate completed research results.

Conduct field research sufficient to collect pertinent data.

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

Perform laboratory functions.

Maintain and operate equipment, such as boats, motors, trailers, etc.

Lead work of others.

Work in adverse weather and environmental conditions.