

NATURAL RESOURCES SPECIALIST SENIOR - ECOLOGICAL SERVICES

KIND OF WORK

Professional ecological work.

NATURE AND PURPOSE

Under administrative direction, design and conduct statewide or regional assessments of complex aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems; analyze and communicate assessment results; make habitat management recommendations; consult on policy issues and make recommendations for policy changes; plan, coordinate, implement habitat management and development activities on ecosystems; and implement the development of interpretive and educational facilities; perform related work as required.

Differs from higher levels (NR Supervisors) in that they do not have formal supervisory responsibility. The senior level is distinguished from lower levels by responsibility for long range planning processes, strategic planning, consultation on policy matters, and projects/programs with statewide or regional impact.

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

Direct and design research studies, surveys, and special investigations to obtain information about aquatic and terrestrial communities (i.e., plants, animals, and their habitats), both native and exotic, by determining the scope of study or survey, identifying material needs and scheduling field work.

Lead and conduct field studies or surveys by: securing permission from landowners to conduct surveys; preparing forms; planning and coordinating field schedules; implementing field sampling procedures based on site-specific conditions; obtaining field data (e.g., identify aquatic and terrestrial exotic threats, lake mapping, inventory rare plant species, etc.); recording/ verifying/editing field data; reviewing data results; collecting and processing voucher specimens; and acquiring and maintaining equipment.

Plan and initiate the compilation, analysis, summary, and interpretation necessary to transform research data (e.g., effects of prescribed burns) and field reports into useful formats and evaluate their significance and impact so that data is evaluated within an ecological context and made available to enhance education, facilitate environmental review, and direct conservation actions.

Serve as a technical expert by providing technical guidance on regional project proposals, reviewing proposals, and recommending alterations based on scientific/technical expertise, available resources and priorities, within and outside of the DNR; author and disseminate reports, scientific journal articles, and presentations to other divisions, agencies, the scientific community, and the general public.

Direct, implement, monitor, and evaluate the success of habitat management actions by evaluating existing habitat conditions; identifying habitat management needs; and developing specific habitat improvement recommendations.

Oversee administrative tasks by assisting in recruiting, interviewing, training, directing, and evaluating technicians/interns; tracking and compiling management activities and expenses; establishing contracts with outside researchers or vendors; and assisting in budget management.

Perform related work as required.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

Knowledge of:

Aquatic biology/ecology, biology, botany, conservation biology, geology, landscape ecology, community ecology, limnology, fisheries, ecology, wildlife management, or zoology sufficient to interpret data and apply knowledge to project activities.

Writing skills sufficient to develop project proposals, accomplishment reports, survey results, and correspondence.

Census and survey techniques, trapping and banding techniques and radio telemetry sufficient to carry out projects requiring use of these techniques.

Questionnaires and surveys sufficient to design, implement, compile, and analyze results.

Statistics and computers sufficient to properly apply to the analysis of data.

DNR and state practices regarding procurement, contract administration and budgets sufficient to control the bid solicitation process, prepare budget requests, and authorize expenditures and payments.

Ability to:

Compile, write and edit clear and accurate reports sufficient to communicate technical information with professionals and the general public.

Read and interpret aerial photographs and maps.

Work cooperatively as a team member sufficient to accomplish agency goals.

Write and speak effectively sufficient to communicate with professionals and the general public.

Apply accepted techniques in the investigation of projects sufficient to collect information.

Lead work of others sufficient to accomplish projects.

Fly in small aircraft at low altitudes as an observer in aerial surveys.

Work in adverse weather and environmental conditions.

Maintain mechanical and construction equipment.

Operate and maintain motorized equipment and tools used in managing habitats.

Plan a survey schedule sufficient to obtain relevant data in a timely and efficient manner.

Delegate assignments, authority and responsibilities to interns, student workers, sufficient to accomplish program objectives.

Est.: 08/30/00

Rev.:

Ckd.:

T.C.:

Former Title(s):