



JOB DESCRIPTION

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| Title | Biologist | Created | July 2008 |
| Department | Public Works – Fisheries | Revised | |
| Job Class | A 14 | Safety Sensitive | Yes |
| Labor Union | AFSCME Local 2746 Courthouse/Roads | FLSA | Non-exempt |

Purpose

Responsible for the collection, data analysis, and DEQ required technical report preparation of the benthic (bottom dwelling) invertebrate study adjacent to its salmon net-pen rearing sites conducted bi-annually by the Clatsop County Fisheries Project. Responsible for monitoring of fish health, diagnosing disease and recommending treatment. Also feeds and generally maintains salmon fry to release smolt size in net pens at three different sites, and the artificial propagation of salmon from egg to smolt size at a fish hatchery.

Essential Functions

- Construct net pens, place nets and fish into the pens at the proper densities, feed fish to release size. Maintain pens, changing, repairing and cleaning nets with pressure washer.
- Monitor mortality of fish in the net pens and at the hatchery site and diagnose diseases and recommend treatment as needed.
- Supervise seasonal fin-clipping and coded-wire tagging operations and be responsible for vaccination of fingerlings.
- Communicate with the public, media and researchers regarding net-pen operations.
- Coordinate project involvement with local high school aquatic science programs.
- Conduct bi-annual benthic invertebrate and sediment sample collection at Youngs Bay net-pen site. Using a bottom sampler at several net-pen sampling stations, collect, rinse, preserve and prepare samples for shipping to a private contractor for counting, identification and chemical analysis. Analyze results and summarize in technical report for DEQ.
- At the hatchery site clean screens at large and small intakes, feed fish, spawn adult salmon, take tissue and fluid samples from adult female salmon for disease purposes, general care of eggs in hatching incubators, ponding of salmon fry, fin-clipping and coded-wire tagging of fingerlings. Responsible for periodic water sampling for water quality requirements. Responsible for general maintenance and cleaning.
- Check water levels at small and large intakes at the hatchery site. Remove or insert dam boards at intakes as needed and clean silt from incubators.
- Follow all safety rules and procedures established for work areas.

Mandatory Qualifications

Bachelor's degree or equivalent in fishery biology or biology is needed to learn the pathological processes, staining procedures, bacteria identification, disease diagnosis and treatment, and physiological effects of various treatments. Three years' biological experience performing studies or research in a fish and/or wildlife program. Knowledge of



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fish physiology, internal and external anatomy, technical report writing, taxonomic classification of invertebrates, salmonid diseases, college algebra and fish hatchery practices. Advanced microbiological knowledge and microscope knowledge to apply to specific procedures in determination of diseases and appropriate treatments. Possession of, or ability to obtain an Oregon Driver's License.

Desired Qualifications

Forklift operator certification, lifesaving certification, First Aid/CPR certification.

Physical Demands

Approximately 75% of time, manual dexterity is required in driving a pickup truck or forklift, using calculators, electronic scales, fish measuring devices, egg picking machine and hand-held power tools (chainsaw, weed eater, skill saw, drill). Also drives outboard motorized barge, all-terrain vehicles, operates valves, chain hoist, core sampler, hemostats, razor knives, knives, and egg pickers. Uses sockets, wrenches, hammers, pliers, feed scoops, buckets, pencils and does net mending and handling, and rods incubators. Frequently lifts up to 60 pounds (to 25 pounds 20% of the time, and to 60 pounds up to 5%); lifts over 60 pounds 3% of the time and a maximum of 120 pounds 30 times a year.

Working Conditions

Involves operating watercraft on potentially rough water in high winds and strong tidal currents. In maintaining hatchery flows, in close proximity to or contact with rain-swollen rivers outdoors at night. In feeding fish, work on exposed pens, sometimes on rough water in high winds and rain. Most duties are performed outdoors without nearby shelter. Carry heavy objects on narrow walkways. Walk in mud and on uneven ground. Exposed to formalin, alcohol, gas and diesel fumes. Exposed to fish food dust; exposed to the smell of dead fish; exposed to fish food with added antibiotics, work with anesthetic and fish vaccines. Sometimes work on hands and knees in seagull and heron excrement. (Work outdoors 75%; exposed to chemicals 2%).

Supervisory Responsibility

Supervision of other employees is not a typical responsibility of this position. May provide work direction to new employee, volunteers, high school work experience students and fin-clipping crews.

THE ABOVE DESCRIPTION COVERS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT DUTIES PERFORMED BUT DOES NOT INCLUDE OTHER OCCASIONAL WORK, THE INCLUSION OF WHICH WOULD BE IN CONFORMITY WITH THE FACTOR DEGREES ASSIGNED TO THIS JOB.

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