

FISH BIOLOGIST

DEFINITION: Under general direction, performs professional and scientific work involving the conservation, preservation and management of fish species and their habitat; contributes to the overall effort in the propagation and recovery of federally and tribally protected fish species on Navajo Nation lakes; performs related work as assigned.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS: This list is ILLUSTRATIVE ONLY and is not a comprehensive listing of all functions and tasks performed by incumbents of this class.

TASKS:

Develops fishery management plans; designs and implements restoration and recovery plans; independently conducts investigations on threatened and endangered native fish species; conducts population surveys; determines life history characteristics, population size, exploitation rate, distribution, migration and habitat requirements necessary for survival; collects and analyzes fish inventory data; makes recommendations regarding impact on fishery resources and improvement of study procedures; compiles fishery information, writes progress and completion reports, and assists with formal reports of findings and recommendations.

Collects, compiles and analyzes physical, chemical and biological data that is essential for the management of fish populations, lakes and streams or any natural bodies of water; develops reports on results of investigations; recommends solutions for identified problems; maintains liaison with and assists federal, state and local land users affected by fishery management practices; supervises and trains assigned staff in performance of duties and safety associated with field and laboratory projects; assists federal agencies and non-federal government agencies to ensure propagation and stocking recommendations are technically sound and feasible; performs administrative functions related to purchasing and equipment inventory.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND OTHER CHARACTERISTICS:

Knowledge of fishery biology principles, theories and established methodology to apply standard techniques.

Knowledge of aquatic botany, principles, theories and practices.

Knowledge of native fish culture and habitat.

Knowledge of conducting biological research and investigations.

Knowledge of fish monitoring practices.

Skill in conducting multiple fishery investigations involving field sampling techniques.

Skill in conducting fish investigations involving tagging or marking of fish.

Skill in analyzing data and drawing valid conclusions.

Skill in communicating clearly and effectively.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS AND WORK ENVIRONMENT: Work is done in an office environment which is largely sedentary and field work which is often physically demanding and arduous, including exposure to inclement weather conditions.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- A Bachelor's degree in Biological Science, Fishery Science, Aquaculture or closely related field; and four (4) years of fishery biology and hatchery work experience.

THE NAVAJO NATION

Class Code: 3251
Natural Resources and Parks Series
Biological Science Group
Overtime Code: Exempt
Pay Grade: 65

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PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- A Master's degree in Biological Science, Fishery Science, Aquaculture or closely related field.

Depending upon the needs of the Nation, some incumbents may be required to demonstrate fluency in both the Navajo and English languages as a condition of employment.