

GAME AND PARKS FISH AND WILDLIFE SPECIALIST

DESCRIPTION: Under administrative direction, plans and consults with Program Managers and Division Administrators for development of statewide research in fish and wildlife resource management. Plans, directs, conducts, analyzes and interprets statewide field studies, surveys and research pertaining to fish, wildlife and natural resources management. Functions as staff specialist in specific areas of fish or wildlife research or biometrics. Recommends and supports introduction of legislative changes, regulation and policy changes, and harvest seasons effecting statewide fish and game populations. Performs other related duties as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (A position may not be assigned all the duties listed, nor do the listed examples include all the duties that may be assigned.)

Plans and designs statewide fish and wildlife surveys in conjunction with the Division Administrator; determines methods to be used in obtaining, analyzing and interpreting data.

Coordinates planning and implementation of statewide field surveys including coordination of the field force in data collection, analyzing and interpreting survey data, formulating detailed reports and management plans, recommending best management practices for given resources, presenting results obtaining from the study, and recommending regulation changes based on findings.

Provides research design, statistical and computer support to Fisheries and/or Wildlife Program Managers and staff including: experimental design; computer data recording and summary; computer data analysis; and interpretation of results.

Prepares documentation and reports to keep administration and other agencies advised of progress of projects.

Formulate recommendations for species harvest seasons, method of take, and introduction of statutes related to species management.

Presents technical papers at meetings and workshops; prepares scientific papers for publication in professional journals and make professional presentations describing survey methods, computer systems, and project results.

Directs and coordinates mainframe and/or personal computer system support; writes and maintains programs used to compile results of statewide surveys relating to harvest and observation of fish and wildlife.

Reviews, recommends and consults on the use of fisheries and wildlife simulations and models, and performs computer simulations dealing with fish and wildlife harvest regulations, stocking rates, and mortality rates.

Provides support for fish and wildlife tagging studies by providing current techniques and computer systems, experimental design, consultation on the use of tag return models, computer analysis, and interpretation of results.

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Provides computer support for habitat evaluation methods and habitat suitability models.

Supervises special research projects including project proposals, equipment and supplies, work scheduling, field work supervision, data analysis, Federal Aid Reporting, and publication of results in scientific journals.

Testifies as an expert witness to present results of laboratory determinations and methodologies of fish and wildlife simulations and models.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, ABILITIES, AND SKILLS REQUIRED: (These may be acquired on the job and are needed to perform the work assigned.)

Knowledge of: State and Federal laws and regulations pertaining to conservation enforcement; agency rules, regulations and policies; agency budget, accounting and records keeping practices; mainframe and microcomputer systems, analysis, programming, networking and communications.

Ability to: formulate goals and objectives for management and research programs; plan work schedules for extensive periods with little guidance; organize and supervise lake rehabilitation and habitat enhancement; recognize existing and potential fish and wildlife culture problems; provide and enhance outdoor recreation with opportunities for successful fishing and hunting experiences; supervise and direct the work of others; communicate effectively.

ENTRY KNOWLEDGES, ABILITIES, AND SKILLS REQUIRED: (Applicants will be screened for possession of these through written, oral, performance, and/or other evaluations.)

Knowledge of: principles and practices of fish and wildlife biology and biological research methods; fish and wildlife species and conservation management principles and programs; life history of fish and wildlife species and their habitat requirements; intraspecies relationships, population dynamics and habitat needs; ecological systems; laboratory methods and techniques; fish and wildlife sampling methods and equipment; data collection and analysis techniques; computer methods for storing and analyzing data.

Ability to: identify, age, and sex fish and wildlife samples; organize and assemble data; present plans for specific projects, direct projects, and supervise the work of others; obtain, organize and present scientific data with clarity and accuracy; write and understand technical papers; to communicate effectively with the public, government agencies, and scientific peers to present principles of fish and wildlife ecology, results of studies and implications for management practices.

Skill in: performing difficult laboratory procedures and operations of scientific instruments; operation of computers for storage, analysis and interpretation of scientific data.

JOB PREPARATION GUIDELINES: (Entry knowledge, abilities, and/or skills may be acquired through, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, the following coursework/training and/or experience.

Any combination of training and/or experience that will enable the incumbent to possess the required knowledge, abilities and skills. A general qualification guideline for positions in this class is post high school coursework/training with major coursework in fish or wildlife management or a closely related field of biological science plus four years experience in fish or wildlife resource management or master's degree plus two years experience; or Ph.D. plus one year of experience.