

DESCRIPTION: Under general supervision, performs semi-skilled mechanical and technical work as an assistant to a supervisor or Biologist in the development or research of wildlife management and recreation areas or fish production facility; duties are performed independently and questions are referred to an immediate supervisor; performs related work as assigned.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS: (A position is assigned to this class based on the scope and level of work performed as outlined below.)

This is the first classification level of two in the Conservation Technician class series. Positions allocated to the Conservation Technician II class serve as lead workers. This class is differentiated from the Conservation Aide class by the complexity of work performed (semi-skilled work assignments vs. manual labor tasks).

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

Provides assistance in collecting biological data including fish cultures, fish population and harvest results; wildlife counts, population manipulations and trapping/marketing operations for studies.

Assists in collecting habitat data through personal interviews, surveys and sampling methods; compiles and tabulates field and laboratory data, enters and organizes data into a computer database for reporting purposes.

Performs basic analysis of data collected, develops study data summaries; present descriptions and comparisons to a supervisor and/or Biologist.

Records fish or wildlife population data by counting species and observing habits.

Assists with depredation management.

Assists in selecting trapping sites and setting nets, traps and other equipment.

Performs work associated in the raising of fish such as feeding, caring, pond cleaning, sorting, seining, propagating and transporting fish at a hatchery.

Mixes and applies chemicals and herbicides as directed to preserve specimen or perform weed control.

Under direct supervision, provides basic outreach to the general public concerning conservation topics.

Operates wildlife check stations or fish creel censuses.

Operates light to heavy agriculture equipment in the construction of wildlife and recreation area roads and trails; assists with basic habitat management practices on conservation land areas.

Performs maintenance and repair operations on wildlife, fishery and recreation areas, vehicles and equipment.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED: (These are needed to perform the work assigned.)

Knowledge of: fisheries or wildlife management; the operation, care and repair of fisheries, wildlife management and recreation areas, vehicles and equipment; various types of habitat common to Nebraska; species identification methods; basic chemical mixtures and reactions; basic mathematical computations; basic statistical analysis methods; safety standards required in the use of electric and power equipment and heavy equipment including tractors, boats and trucks; computer systems and programs.

Ability to: operate agricultural equipment including power hand tools; follow instructions; maintain records; enter data or documentation into a computer; work with and properly handle fish and wildlife specimen; communicate in person to conduct interviews to obtain necessary data; work outside under any type of weather conditions; operate a computer.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: (Applicants will be screened for possession of these qualifications. Applicants who need accommodation in the selection process should request this in advance.)

12 semester hours or the equivalent of post high school coursework/training in fisheries management, natural resources and/or biology OR 6 months experience in wildlife/recreation or fisheries management.

SPECIAL NOTES:

Specific positions in this class may require an employee to possess a valid driver's license or the ability to provide independent authorized transportation in order to perform work-related travel.

It may be necessary to adjust regular work hours to adequately complete sampling and survey functions.

State agencies are responsible to evaluate each of their positions to determine their individual overtime eligibility status as required by the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA).