

DESCRIPTION: Under general supervision, assists with planning, developing and implementing management and maintenance of public and private fish, wildlife and land resources through field surveys and sampling activities; performs related duties 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 three in the Game and Parks Fish and Wildlife Biologist class series. Positions in this class are responsible to execute established field surveys and sampling activities to be used in the management and maintenance of public and private fish, wildlife and land resources and to assist in the development of environmental improvement plans. Positions allocated to the Game and Parks Fish and Wildlife Biologist II class are responsible to independently design, implement and evaluate field studies and develop and implement environmental improvement plans. Positions allocated to the Game and Parks Fish and Wildlife Biologist District Manager class have full supervisory responsibility for resources and/or permanent staff within an assigned District. This class is distinguished from the Game and Parks Conservation Technician class series based on the complexity of work assigned in performing field studies and sampling resources and analysis performed on collected data. Positions in this classification may lead the work of Game and Parks Conservation Technicians.

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.)

Collects and analyzes data pertaining to fish, wildlife, and waterfowl populations.

Conducts prescribed fish, wildlife and habitat field surveys and inventories to determine type, number, abundance and quality of species, environmental parameters, disease and related information.

Performs maintenance and development activities on assigned wildlife management areas.

Compiles information collected during field surveys/samples and creates tables to comparatively display data; performs basic analysis on data collected and presents conclusions to a supervisor or other agency management.

Participates in marking, tagging and banding of species.

Assists in operating check stations; collects samples and performs aging and identification of species.

Assists in the environmental improvement of habitat in regard to vegetation control, quality of environment, food availability and the construction or renovation of facilities.

Provides technical and manual assistance to private wildlife land owners and owners of private bodies of water.

Assists with habitat management planning including negotiations of fish and wildlife conservation and lease agreements for grazing and prescribed burns; monitors effectiveness of plans.

Assists in designing, building and maintaining various types of field equipment.

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Maintains records and prepares technical reports; prepares and presents information to members of the public and other interested parties.

Mixes and applies chemicals, herbicides and pesticides to preserve specimen or perform weed control.

Leads the work of Game and Parks Conservation Technicians and Aides.

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

Knowledge of: principles and practices of fish and wildlife biology; biological laboratory and field work; fisheries and wildlife management techniques; ecology, habitat and life history of fish or wildlife species; plant and animal organisms, tissues, cells and their interactions with the environment; principles and practices of land and water management; various types of habitat common to Nebraska; chemical mixtures and reactions; mathematical computations; statistical analysis methods; computer systems and programs.

Skill in: listening to and understanding information received to perform work assignments; communicating with individuals and groups with varying technical backgrounds to collect and relay information; public speaking or creating and providing presentations.

Ability to: conduct laboratory and field research work; properly handle and work with fish and wildlife specimens; organize, assemble and analyze data to interpret results; describe land features including physical characteristics and distribution of plant and animal habitat; make independent decisions; operate and maintain technical and specialized power equipment, farm equipment and boating equipment; accurately maintain records; work outside under any type of weather conditions; operate a computer; lead others in performing work assignments.

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

Bachelor's degree in biology, ecology, fish or wildlife management or closely related field of biological science or equivalent experience.

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.

Specific positions in this class may require possession of a Commercial Pesticide Applicators License.

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).