

DESCRIPTION: Under general supervision, performs professional work in the management and maintenance of public and private fish, wildlife and land resources within the state and serves as a lead worker to ensure completion of such tasks. Positions in this class are responsible for the activities and projects pertaining to certain regions or species of fish or wildlife. Duties are performed independently and decisions are made at this level; 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 second classification level of three in the Game and Parks Fish and Wildlife Biologist class series. Positions in this class are responsible to develop and oversee completion of various field surveys, sampling and other related activities for use in monitoring fish, wildlife and land resources; to develop management and environmental improvement plans; and to serve as a lead worker for Fish and Wildlife Biologist I's and Conservation Technicians. Positions allocated to the Game and Parks Fish and Wildlife Biologist I class perform technical work to execute established field surveys, sampling and other related activities pertaining to fish, wildlife and land resources. 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 to design, implement and oversee field studies and sampling activities. Conservation Technicians work under close supervision to perform a variety of maintenance tasks in a fish hatchery, wildlife management area or other assigned location/agency facility.

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; analyzes data in accordance with established scientific methods and principles.

Designs, implements and oversees the development of research and habitat improvement projects and other fish or wildlife management projects; monitors performance of projects and implements changes and/or updates as necessary.

Designs, implements and evaluates and oversees completion of field studies, sampling activities and investigation surveys.

Collects, compiles, analyzes and interprets survey data collected to determine future management activities or make alterations to current management projects and plans; documents conclusions in reports to be provided to a supervisor and other agency management.

Assists in the development and implementation of management plans and programs.

Monitors and performs maintenance and development activities on assigned wildlife management areas.

Oversees the completion of population surveys and harvest inventories of wildlife; oversees marking, tagging and banding of species and checking operations; prepares recommendations for setting proper hunting and trapping seasons each year.

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Manages the operations of a fish hatchery to maintain or enhance fisheries resources.

Promotes and participates in public relations programs, lectures, discussions and correspondence with the public and other agencies to increase understanding of conservation activities and agency goals and programs pertaining to fish, wildlife and land resources; responds to all inquiries and complaints.

Maintains accurate records and prepares technical reports for agency management and federal governing agencies, including annual project reports, to inform on project status, document work accomplished and provide a basis for long-range planning.

Assists in budget preparation.

Negotiates, writes, monitors and maintains conservation lease agreements including grazing and prescribed burning.

Responsible for equipment designed, built, used and maintained for conservation and management activities.

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

Knowledge of: principles and practices of fish or wildlife biology; biological laboratory and field work; fisheries and wildlife management techniques; ecology, habitat and history of fish or wildlife species and of fish and wildlife conservation programs; plant and animal organisms, tissues, cells and their interactions with the environment; fish hatchery operations and fish culture; 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; research methods and techniques used in the field.

Skill in: listening to and understanding information received; communicating with individuals and groups with varying technical backgrounds to collect and relay information; public speaking, creating and providing presentations; analyzing data and formulating conclusions.

Abilities to: organize and assemble data; present plans for specific projects; lead and monitor the work of others; evaluate situations and make decisions; operate and maintain technical and specialized power equipment, farm equipment and boating equipment; describe land features including physical characteristics and distribution of plant and animal habitat; identify and investigate fisheries or wildlife resource problems; make budget plans and financial determinations for areas of responsibility; learn and understand legal documents such as deeds, lease agreements and contracts; work outside under any type of weather conditions.

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 fish or wildlife management or closely related field or equivalent experience in the field of biological science AND three years experience in fish or wildlife management or a closely related field;

OR

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Master's degree in fish or wildlife management or closely related field or equivalent experience in the field of biological science AND one year experience in fish and wildlife management or a closely related field.

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).