

NATURAL RESOURCES TECHNICIAN - FISHERIES

KIND OF WORK

Technical, para-professional conservation work.

NATURE AND PURPOSE

An employee in this class assists professional Natural Resource Specialists Fisheries and Natural Resource Specialist Fisheries Research Biologists in the completion of field fisheries management and hatchery operations. These employees also perform difficult work assignments independently and may be responsible for supervising lower level employees. Employees in this class may be responsible for certain phases of operations, but usually work under the general direction of a supervisor who assigns and inspects work, progress, and upon completion of work assignments. The employee has considerable latitude for use of independent judgment in routine operations or in emergency situations. Difficult technical decisions are the responsibility of the professional. Work is reviewed through field inspections and review of records, reports and actual work accomplishments.

EXAMPLES OF WORK (A position may not include all the work examples given, nor does the list include all that may be assigned.)

Identify inventories of aquatic resources and assess aquatic habitat, and complete lake and stream surveys so that data is collected and available for development of sound management plans by the area management team.

Collaborate on special surveys, displays, technical projects, lake and stream reclamations, aerial fish house counts and other miscellaneous non-recurring projects to fulfill management objectives.

Implement various phases of egg take, hatchery, and production operations for walleye, sucker, sturgeon, salmonids or other species to maintain the optimum quality and quantity of eggs, fry, and fingerlings to meet area and statewide stocking.

Implement various phases of walleye pond operations to maintain the optimum quality and quantity of fingerlings to meet area and statewide stocking needs.

Transport walleyes, salmonids, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, channel catfish, flathead catfish, muskellunge or other fish species from fish hatcheries, rearing ponds, or other bodies of water to designated receiving waters to meet area and statewide goals.

Implement various phases of muskellunge and northern pike propagation, distribution, and strain evaluation activities to maintain the optimum quality and quantity of muskellunge and northern pike to meet area and statewide stocking needs.

Implement various phases of northern pike rescue and distribution activities to maintain the optimum quality and quantity of northern pike to meet area and statewide resource needs.

Collaborate in the maintenance and repair of field equipment, fleet vehicles, area headquarters physical facility and fisheries owned/operated structures and properties to effectively and efficiently carry out management objectives.

Apprise clientele of current operations, management practices, and DNR policy issues so that the public is well informed, public cooperation and support are achieved, and good public relations are maintained.

Monitor dissolved oxygen levels in lakes threatened with oxygen depletion, monitor the effectiveness of aeration systems and permit compliance of area lake aeration devices so that area fish resources will be protected or enhanced, and maximum public safety is maintained.

Collaborate in the administration and supervision of commercial aquatic resource harvest and aquaculture operations so that such licensees operate in a manner consistent with sound environmental and fisheries management practices.

Evaluate proposed aquatic plant management permits and monitor pesticide/herbicide applicators and the use of mechanical vegetation control devices, so that the resource is protected and enhanced through control of nuisance organisms.

Implement various phases of lake and stream habitat development and habitat maintenance projects so that stream resources will be maintained or improved statewide.

Performs related work as required.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

Knowledge of:

Working knowledge of the principles and practices of aquatic biology, limnology, fish and plant taxonomy.

Applied knowledge of fish propagation, fish collection and transportation, fish identification, and identification of indigenous and exotic plant species (aquatic and terrestrial).

Working knowledge of Fisheries Management laws, rules, regulations, policies, procedures, and planning practices.

Working knowledge of the organization functions and objectives of the Fisheries Section.

Some knowledge of the organization of the Department of Natural Resources and functions of the major organizational units.

Some knowledge of natural history and natural science.

Ability to:

Work independently without direct supervision.

Use of various equipment and tools: fish distribution equipment, nets and netting equipment, computers and data records, global positioning equipment, pumping equipment, chemical reclamation application equipment, oxygen and ph meters, conductivity meters, chainsaws, hand tools, and power tools.

Operate common types of mechanical and vehicular equipment and perform routine servicing.

Understand and carry out oral and written directions.

Direct the work of others.

Keep records and write reports.

Good physical condition.

Read and draw field maps and figure map scales.

Perform various grounds maintenance tasks.

Est.: 06/80

Rev.:

Ckd.:

T.C.: 04/06/88

Former Title(s): Natural Resources
Technician (Fisheries Technician)