



## ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGIST 1

**Department: Multiple**

**Job Code: 913100**

**Pay Range: Engineering/Technical 07**

**FLSA: Non-exempt**

**Represented: Yes**

Classification descriptions are intended to present a descriptive list of the range of duties performed by employees and are not intended to reflect all duties performed within the job.

**GENERAL FUNCTION:** This is technical and professional support work related to environmental issues with emphasis on wetland management for Pierce County. An employee in this class performs both office and field work.

**SERIES CONCEPT:** The Environmental Biologist 1 is the first level of the job series. The series consists of three levels. The other positions in the series are the Environmental Biologist 2 and Environmental Biologist 3.

### **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:**

- Conduct site visits to determine or verify the presence of wetlands and identify the wetland categories.
- Prepare, review, and analyze wetland delineation reports, including problem or disturbed area wetlands.
- Verify and conduct wetland delineations, including delineations conducted on problem or disturbed area sites.
- Analyze the proposed development activity in relation to its impact on the wetlands.
- Prepare and review proposed non-compensatory mitigation plans in relation to their ability to protect wetlands from development.
- Provide input and direction to consultants on preparation of wetland delineations, wetland delineation reports or non-compensatory wetland mitigation reports.
- Review development plans and monitor projects to ensure compliance with applicable regulations.
- Assist in the enforcement of violations of County ordinances relating to federal, state, and local guidelines and procedures.
- Coordinate project activities with other section members, other County departments, other agencies, and applicants.
- Participate in technical review meetings.
- Prepare written reports, summarize findings, and write a variety of memos and letters.
- Prepare environmental checklists and prepare, submit, and obtain permits from state and federal agencies.
- Make presentations on environmental issues, especially less complex wetlands issues, at public hearings.
- Respond to questions and inquiries from the general public about wetlands and wetland regulations.
- Maintain regular, predictable and punctual attendance during regularly scheduled work hours at assigned worksite.
- Meet travel requirements of the position.
- Perform the physical requirements of the position; work within the established working conditions of the position.
- Work a flexible schedule, which may include evenings, weekends, holidays and overtime.

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#### **OTHER JOB FUNCTIONS:**

- Perform other related job functions as assigned.

**SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED:** The Environmental Biologist 1 does not supervise. General direction, guidance, and assistance are provided by an Environmental Biologist 2. Incumbents are required to use considerable independent judgment and initiative. Work is performed under the general direction of an administrative superior who reviews work periodically through conferences, reports, and results achieved.

**WORK ENVIRONMENT:** The work environment characteristics described herein are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions. Work is performed in an office and field environment with exposure to inclement weather.

**PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:** The physical demands described herein are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions. The use of eye sight in order to view, inspect, and interpret wetland conditions. The ability to walk, climb, bend, and stoop on uneven terrain. The ability to read and interpret environmental rules and regulations. Work in all types of weather and hazardous conditions including working in or around water. Drive in all types of weather conditions. Finger dexterity to use and operate a personal computer and related office equipment. Lift items or materials weighing twenty pounds on a routine basis. Communicate effectively using both verbal and written communication skills.

#### **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:**

##### **Knowledge of:**

- Planning process, particularly in the areas environmental and wetland management.
- Wetland ecology, hydrology, plants and soils, and wetland classification systems.
- Currently accepted wetland delineation methods.
- Principles, practices, and techniques of natural resource management.
- Effects of development and proposed developments on wetlands.
- Federal, state, and local regulations protecting and regulating the use of wetlands.

##### **Skill in:**

- Wetland delineations and plant identification.
- Use and operation of a personal computer and related office equipment.

##### **Ability to:**

- Identify plant and soil classification or habitat.
- Delineate wetlands using the Unified Federal Method.
- Read, understand, prepare and interpret technical reports and data, environmental documents, permits and related materials.
- Understand, interpret, and apply applicable federal and local laws, rules, regulations, and policies governing management of natural resources.
- Conduct field research, collect, and analyze biological and physical data using standard research methodology.
- Provide advice and recommend solutions to problems.

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**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:** (continued)

Ability to: (continued)

- Use and operate a personal computer, spreadsheet and other related software.
- Understand and follow written and verbal instructions.
- Read a variety of maps, plans and charts, and use a compass.
- Work effectively and productively with others.
- Communicate effectively verbally and in writing to audiences of various social, cultural, ethnic, educational and economic backgrounds.
- Effectively coordinate, perform and complete multiple duties and assignments concurrently and in a timely manner.
- Meet the travel requirements of the position, if any.
- Physically perform the essential job functions of the classification.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY:** Graduation from a four-year college or university with a degree in botany, biology, environmental studies, fisheries, soil science, wildlife biology or related field and two years of related work experience, including a minimum of one year experience delineating wetlands using the Unified Federal Manual, preparing wetland reports, and mitigation plans is required. Additional education or related experience may substitute for the recruiting requirements.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS AND/OR QUALIFICATIONS:** Possession of or the ability to obtain a valid Washington State Driver's license within 30 days of appointment.