

State of Washington
Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
invites applications for the position of:

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Working for Washington State

Project Permanent Scientific Technician 2 *06399-13E

SALARY: \$2,426.00 - \$3,041.00 Monthly

OPENING DATE: 07/24/13

CLOSING DATE: 08/02/13 05:00 PM

DESCRIPTION:



Our Mission
To preserve, protect and perpetuate fish, wildlife and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities.

Vision
Conservation of Washington's fish and wildlife resources and ecosystems.

Additional Salary Information
The salary range reflects a 3% salary reduction for state employees over the 2011-13 biennium, which was passed by the Legislature effective July 1, 2011 through June 29, 2013.

THE DEPARTMENT

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is dedicated to protecting native fish and wildlife, and providing sustainable fishing, hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities for millions of residents and visitors. Working throughout the state, WDFW's employees—field biologists, enforcement officers, land stewards, lab technicians, customer service representatives and others—manage hundreds of fish and wildlife species, maintain nearly a million acres of public wildlife lands, provide opportunities for recreational and commercial fishing, wildlife viewing and hunting, protect and restore habitat and enforce laws that protect fish and wildlife resources. Find out more about us and the important work we are a part of at www.wdfw.wa.gov

This recruitment is for a full-time project permanent Scientific Technician 2 position in the Fish Program, Fish Management, Region 5. The duty station is the Region 5 office located at 2108 Grand Blvd, Vancouver, WA. This position is funded through September 30, 2014.

This position reports to Todd Hillson (F&W Bio 3) and is responsible for conducting chum salmon enhancement programs, Viable Salmonid Parameters (VSP) and fishery monitoring in the Lower Columbia River. This includes: chum salmonid aquaculture, assisting in the installation, operation, maintenance, and removal of adult fish weirs and traps, juvenile outmigrant monitoring and juvenile distribution sampling to collect data needed to generate accurate and precise estimates of adult and juvenile salmonid abundance and measure other VSP parameters, assisting with sampling of sport and commercial fisheries, assisting with commercial fishery observation programs, assisting with data entry into established spreadsheets and databases, and assisting in the proofing of field datasheets, scale cards, databases, and spreadsheets. This position will assist with the monitoring of the health and diversity of Chinook, coho, chum, and steelhead populations throughout the Lower Columbia River (LCR) and provides information needed to assess stock status and maintain sustainable recreational opportunities, which includes working in conjunction with field technicians, biologists, hatchery staff & complex managers, IT staff, and program managers in Region 5, within the agency, with other agencies, and with the public.

DUTIES:

The primary objective of this position is to assist with chum salmon enhancement programs and monitoring VSP parameters for Chinook, coho, and chum salmon and summer/winter steelhead throughout the LCR. This position conducts fieldwork to collect data needed to estimate escapement, hatchery/wild proportions and document spatial distribution. This position is also responsible for entry and proofing of biological data and VSP survey data into standardized spreadsheets and databases.

Broodstock collection/fish culture

Tasks include:

- Coordinates and assists in the collection of viable chum from the Ives Island and I-205 populations for reintroduction efforts in Duncan Creek and the Lewis River basin.
- Uses beach seines to collect, mark/tag, sample, and transport live chum salmon.
- Assists in spawning, incubation and rearing of chum salmon in a hatchery environment.
- Assists in other fish culture tasks as needed.

Salmonid VSP and fishery monitoring

Tasks include:

- Adult salmonid spawning ground surveys on Lower Columbia River tributaries to collect data needed to measure VSP parameters and generate accurate and precise adult salmonid abundance estimates.
 - Identifies and enumerates adult salmonids (live and dead) and redds.
 - Collects biological data from live adult fish and carcasses.
- Installation/removal, maintenance and operation of adult and juvenile monitoring weirs, traps and equipment.
 - Captures, identifies, enumerates, handles, and tags/marks salmonids (live adults and juveniles)
 - Collects biological data from live adult fish and carcasses.
- Sport fishery creel & Commercial fishery sampling and observing.
 - Interviews sport anglers, records species, catch, effort and biological data.
 - Collects biological samples from sport and commercial catch including; CWT, PIT, DNA, Visual Stock Identification (VSI) using established protocols.
- Fishery data collection on commercial fishery vessels and at the adult fish facility, Bonneville Dam.
 - Observer on-board privately owned commercial fishing vessels that are contracted out by WDFW to collect data from alternative gear types in the lower Columbia River. Identifies, enumerates, samples, marks, and tags adult salmonids captured in beach or purse seines. Uses handheld GPS units to document fishing locations.

Data collection, entry and management

Tasks include:

- Field data collection
 - Accurately records and/or proofs data collected during field activities.
 - Uses various handheld data collection devices: data loggers, GPS's, PIT tag readers and CWT detectors.
- Data entry/proofing
 - Uses a computer to enter and proof data that has been collected into established spreadsheets and/or databases (e.g. Traps, Weirs & Surveys (TWS)).
- Data management
 - Ensure scale cards, CWT snouts, DNA and otolith sample collections are submitted in a timely manner. Download, proof, and submit finalized GPS data.

General administration and other duties as assigned

Tasks include:

- Administrative tasks

Completion of Total Time

Completion of vehicle/boat logs

Completion of travel expense vouchers when appropriate

- Training

Attend required training and Agency meetings

- Other duties

Other tasks as directed by supervisor, which may include but not limited to: assisting with snorkels, environmental parameter data collection, and assisting with non-salmonid fish and wildlife monitoring.

Working Conditions

Approximately 90% of the time is fieldwork or in a hatchery setting and the work schedule is 24/7. Operating, sampling, and tagging salmonids at traps and/or weirs. Installing and removing fish monitoring equipment (weirs and traps). Monitoring, observing, and/or sampling fisheries (commercial and/or sport).

Working outdoors and exposed to hot (day time temperatures >100 degrees at times) and cold (air temps in low 30's combined with wind speeds >25 mph) conditions and often with wet slippery footing. Must be able to lift (with or without assistance, as needed) large, live fish (typically up to 30 lbs). Repetitively carry loads up to 70 pounds short distances over rough terrain. Walking up to 6 miles per day over rough terrain under adverse weather conditions. Climbing in and out of boats. Must accurately record repetitive data under adverse environmental conditions for long work hours. Sampling spawned out salmon carcasses with very strong odors.

This position is also responsible for: Towing vehicles, normal hand and carpentry tools, winches, pulleys and blocks, cataracts, 4x4 vehicles, 200' beach seines, PIT tag injector, PIT tag reader, CWT detector, handheld data loggers and GPS units, scales, computer and possibly a palmtop computer, powerboats, and electrofishers. Valid driver's license (driving record abstract may be requested at time of interview).

QUALIFICATIONS:

Graduation from high school or GED, including one year of high school science and two years of experience as a Scientific Technician 1. OR Graduation from high school or GED including one year of high school science and two years of laboratory or field experience as an assistant to a biologist, chemist, or zoologist.

Preferred candidate will have work experience in the following areas:

Ability to identify salmonids, both adult and juvenile forms.

Ability to identify salmonid redds.

Knowledge of adult trapping techniques including resistance board and fixed panel type adult fish weirs.

Knowledge of juvenile trapping techniques including operation of rotary screw and fence-panel with live box juvenile traps.

Knowledge of electrofishing techniques.

Knowledge of fish marking/tagging techniques and protocols.

Knowledge of fishery monitoring and sampling.

Knowledge of commercial fishing gear types and methods.

Ability to operate oar-powered vessels such as drift boats, cataracts, pontoon boats in white water conditions through class 1 – 3 rapids.

Ability to do basic functions in MS Excel and Access.

Knowledge of CWT and PIT tag detector operation

Ability to operate handheld GPS and data logger devices

Ability to attain basic CPR/First Aid certification.

Ability to work a shifting schedule.

Ability to work alone and/or with others.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

To apply for this position you MUST complete your profile at www.careers.wa.gov and attach the following to your profile before completing the online application:

Three professional references (personal references do not count as professional)

Please note: Failure to follow the above application instructions will lead to disqualification. E-mailed documents will not be accepted in lieu of attaching your documents to the online profile.

Upon submission of your online application, you will immediately receive a confirming e-mail. You will then be notified via e-mail of your status during the process. In addition to the e-mail notifications, you can check the status of your application at any time by visiting your online profile at www.careers.wa.gov. Due to the high volume of applications that we receive, we ask your understanding and encourage you to use the online process and avoid calling for information.

Please note that initial screening will be solely based on the completeness of application materials submitted and the contents and completeness of the **“work experience”** section of your application in NeoGov. A resume will not substitute for the “work experience” section of the application. The information provided in your application must support your selected answers in the supplemental questions. Responses not supported in your application may disqualify you from consideration for employment in this position. All information will be verified and documentation may be required.

The Department of Fish and Wildlife is an equal opportunity employer. We strive to create a working environment that includes and respects cultural, racial, ethnic, sexual orientation and gender identity diversity. Women, racial and ethnic minorities, persons of disability, persons over 40 years of age, disabled and Vietnam era veterans and people of all sexual orientations and gender identities are encouraged to apply. Persons needing accommodation in the application process or this announcement in an alternative format may call (360) 902-2276 or the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (800) 833-6388.

Project Permanent Scientific Technician 2 *06399-13E Supplemental Questionnaire

- * 1. Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony within the last ten (10) years?
 Yes No

- * 2. Do you have a valid Washington State, or other state, driver's license? (If selected for an interview, you may be asked to furnish your license and driving record.)
 Yes No

- * 3. (DFW F ST2) Which best describes your work experience identifying salmonids, both adult and juvenile forms?
 None
 1-6 months
 6-12 months
 12-18 months
 24 months or more

- * 4. (DFW F ST2) Which best describes your experience identifying salmonid redds?
 None
 1-6 months
 6-12 months
 12-18 months
 24 months or more

- * 5. Which best describes your work experience with adult trapping techniques such as resistance board and fixed panel type adult fish weirs/traps?
 None
 1-6 months
 6-12 months
 12-18 months
 24 months or more

- * 6. (DFW F ST2) Which best describes your work experience with juvenile trapping techniques such as fixed panel weirs and screw traps?
 - None
 - 1-6 months
 - 6-12 months
 - 12-18 months
 - 24 months or more
- * 7. (DFW F ST2) Which best describes your work experience with adult fish marking/tagging techniques and protocols?
 - None
 - 1-6 months
 - 6-12 months
 - 12-18 months
 - 24 months or more
- * 8. (DFW F ST2) Which best describes your work experience with adult trapping techniques such as resistance board and fixed panel type adult fish weirs/traps?
 - None
 - 1-6 months
 - 6-12 months
 - 12-18 months
 - 24 months or more
- * 9. (DFW ST2) Which best describes your work experience with juvenile fish marking/tagging techniques and protocols?
 - None
 - 1-6 months
 - 6-12 months
 - 12-18 months
 - 24 months or more
- * 10. (DFW F ST2) Which best describes your work experience with chum salmon aquaculture (brood stock collection, spawning, incubation, marking and rearing)?
 - None
 - 1-6 months
 - 6-12 months
 - 12-18 months
 - 24 months or more
- * 11. Are you able to work a shifting schedule?
 - Yes No
- * 12. Are you able to work alone and/or with others?
 - Yes No
- * 13. Are you able to pass a background check to attain security clearance at Bonneville Dam?
 - Yes No

* Required Question