

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

careers.wa.gov
Working for Washington State

Permanent Scientific Technician 2 * 12806-13

SALARY: \$2,426.00 - \$3,135.00 Monthly

OPENING DATE: 12/12/13

CLOSING DATE: 12/22/13 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.

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 is a permanent Scientific Technician 2 position in the Fish Program, Fish Management/Marine Resources. The duty station is the Region 6 Office, Montesano, WA.

This position contributes to the collection of critical scientific information used to assess and manage marine fish species that support valuable ocean fisheries. The position assists with field work and data related activities to support coastal marine fish research; recreational and commercial port sampling, age structure preparation, and fishery surveys and data entry.

DUTIES:

Marine fishery sampling at coastal Washington ports.

Tasks include:

Process fish to recover tags (CWT and PIT) from the recreational charter fleet; sample commercial marine fish fisheries; collect biological data from fish; weigh, measure, determine sex, stage of maturity, and obtain age structures, conduct data QA/QC following unit protocols, data entry.

Operate agency research vessel.

Coordinate sampling efforts with Ocean Sampling staff and/or Commercial Ground fish port Sampling Unit

Communicate with charter skippers re: daily schedules and logistics, coordinate with commercial dealers and

fishers.

Participate in at-sea research surveys or studies on agency research vessels, chartered research vessels or commercial fishery vessels ranging from multiple single day trips to extended trips of up to 5 or 6 days.

Tasks include:

Assist with daily project operations, including but not limited to: angle fish, tag fish, identify species, collect biological data (weight, length structures, genetic), collect catch composition data, record data using complex electronic equipment, gear preparation , deployment and maintenance, data QA?QC, data entry.

Equipment Maintenance

Tasks include:

Maintain and clean sampling equipment per unit protocols and schedules
Direct or assist with unit vehicle and vessel maintenance and clean following unit protocols and schedules
Direct or assist with vehicle mileage reports and/or vessel operations logs

Processing samples in laboratory

Tasks include:

Dissect fish specimens for biological data collection, or tag retrieval, and/or preservation
Process sediment or other samples from fish surveys or studies
Process fins, otoliths or other structures for aging

Other duties as assigned

Tasks include:

Lead temporary ST1 position (dependent on project)
Assist with volunteer recruitment, coordination and orientation activities
Assist other projects

Working Conditions

The work schedule to this position is highly variable and very demanding depending on the activity, schedule flexibility crucial as work dictated by ocean/weather conditions. Office-lab based work is typically 8-5; M-F and field work 24/7, up to 80 hours per week. It may require extended travel up to 10 days to accomplish at-sea surveys. This position interacts extensively with volunteer anglers and with the public at the dock stations.

Must be physically capable of: climbing ladders, climbing on-board a vessel, walking and balancing on docks and vessels that are wet/slippery/steep/moving, repetitive lifting up to 50lbs over a 8-10 hour work shift, working in inclement weather, hearing and communicating over loud motors and other vessel equipment, communicating on a CB or VHF radio, reading computer monitors, average fine motor skills.

At-sea: Onboard agency owned vessels or chartered vessel or commercial fishing vessels, extended trips require living onboard vessel with limited or reduced accommodations (i.e. bunking in shared space, water restrictions for bathing, basic cooking facilities).

Hazards include: Rough seas, exposure to severe to inclement weather, vessel mechanical failure, wet, slippery decks and docks, exposure to specimen preservative chemicals, risk of puncture wounds and infection from tagging equipment or fish spines, repetitive stress injury from tagging and computer data entry.

Union

This position is covered by a collective bargaining agreement between the State of Washington, Department of Fish & Wildlife, and the Washington Association of Fish and Wildlife Professionals (WAFWP). As a condition of employment you must either join the union and pay union dues, or pay the union a representational or other fee within 30 days of the date you are put into pay status.

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.

College course work involving major study in biology, zoology, fisheries, chemistry, natural sciences, or closely

allied field will substitute, year for year, for experience, provided the course work includes at least six semesters or nine quarter hours of natural or environmental science classes.

Preferred candidate will have work experience in the following areas:

- Strong marine fish identification skills
- Familiar with recreational fishing gears and methods.
- Ability to collect data systematically with a high degree of accuracy, precision and completeness.
- Understanding of sampling concepts such as randomness and bias.
- Skilled at procedures for collecting biological ageing structures (otoliths, fins) from a variety of marine fish species.
- Know how to use electronic sampling and tagging equipment (CTW and PIT); know how to troubleshoot malfunctioning equipment and make minor repairs.
- Basic skills using Excel, and e-mail software.
- Ability to work at sea without getting seasick, must be able to tolerate being at sea for up to 5 days per trip.
- Must be physically capable of: climbing ladders, climbing on-board a vessel, walking and balancing on docks and vessels that are wet/slippery/steep/moving, repetitive lifting up to 50lbs over a 8-10 hour work shift, working in inclement weather, hearing and communicating over loud motors and other vessel equipment, communicating on a CB or VHF radio, reading computer monitors, average fine motor skills.

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:

A cover letter describing how you meet the qualifications of this position (generic cover letter will not be accepted)

A current resume (please make it succinct)

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.

Permanent Scientific Technician 2 *12806-13 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. This position requires strong marine fish identification skills. Are you able to identify all marine fish species?
 Yes No

- * 4. Are you familiar with recreational fishing gears and methods?
 Yes No

- * 5. Do you have work experience collecting data systematically with a high degree of accuracy, precision and completeness?
 Yes No

- * 6. Do you understand the sampling concepts such as randomness and bias?
 Yes No

- * 7. Do you have work experience collecting biological ageing structures (otoliths, fins) from a variety of marine fish species?
 Yes No

- * 8. Do you know how to use electronic sampling and tagging equipment (CTW and PIT)?
 Yes No

- * 9. Do you know how to troubleshoot malfunctioning electronic equipment (CTW and PIT) and make minor repairs?
 Yes No

- * 10. Are you able to work at sea without getting seasick?
 Yes No

- * 11. Are you able to tolerate being at sea for up to 5 days per trip?
 Yes No

- * Required Question