

CLASS TITLE: CHIEF OF MARINE FISHERIES (DEM)

Class Code: 02514900

Pay Grade: 40

EO Code: A

CLASS DEFINITION:

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES: Within the Department of Environmental Management, to plan, direct and administer a statewide program of marine fishery resources management to promote stewardship and safeguard state marine fisheries resources; to plan, organize and supervise various technical programs, projects, and scientific research activities involving marine fisheries, for the protection, development, and effective utilization of the state's marine resources; to direct research coordination efforts and promote sustainable harvests in support of economically viable seafood products; to promote the development of effective and efficient commercial fishing equipment to reduce habitat degradation and reduce bycatch; and to do related work as required.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED: Works under the administrative direction of the Deputy Director, Department of Environmental Management with wide latitude for the exercise of independent judgment and initiative; work is reviewed through conferences and submitted reports for conformance to laws, policies, rules and regulations.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED: Plans, coordinates, supervises and reviews the work of professional, technical, and clerical staff.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED:

Within the Department of Environmental Management, to plan, direct and administer a statewide program of marine fishery resources management and to promote stewardship and safeguard state marine fisheries resources.

To plan, organize and supervise various technical programs, projects and scientific research activities involving marine fisheries for the protection, development and effective utilization of the state's marine resources.

To direct research coordination efforts between local universities, federal and quasi federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, and industry that promote sustainable harvests of economically viable seafood products.

To develop and promote technical analyses and marine species stock assessments which advance sustainability in marine resource populations.

To represent the Director of DEM on federal and quasi-federal marine fisheries agencies, including, but not limited to the New England Fishery Management Council, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, and the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council.

To promote habitat restoration efforts for the sustainability of marine resources.

To serve as an expert witness regarding marine fisheries issues for the DEM.

To promote the development of effective and efficient commercial fishing equipment to reduce habitat degradation and reduce bycatch.

To serve on marine fisheries management boards for federal and quasi-federal agencies, provide comment, and vote on behalf of the Director of DEM and the DEM Marine Fisheries program.

To advise, offer programmatic technical expertise, and vote on marine fisheries topics through the Interstate and Federal Fisheries Management System, including, but not limited to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC), the New England Fisheries Management Council, and the Mid-Atlantic Marine Fisheries Council.

To serve as the lead delegate to the ASMFC on behalf of the department.

To oversee and participate in developing the research goals and strategic plans of the department, and to facilitate improvements in the management of Rhode Island's Marine Resources.

To coordinate, participate in, and/or develop crisis management/consequence management response plans in collaboration with other state and federal entities pertaining to marine resources and assets of the marine fisheries program.

To supervise and mentor all unit staff and subordinates in the performance of complex statistical and mathematical analysis and scientific field work.

To secure and oversee multiple federal, state and private grants to conduct critical marine fisheries research, and to manage state restricted receipt accounts that are designated to the program.

To draft departmental policies, rules, regulations and assist in implementation of the same.

To advise departmental superiors, the Governor and members of the General Assembly on matters concerning the environment and assist in the preparation of legislation affecting marine fisheries management and resources.

To collaborate with federal and state officials, organizations and agencies in the field of marine fisheries and conservation in developing state and interstate regional plans for the general conservation and management of marine fisheries resources.

To attend meetings and represent the state at regional and national meetings which involve marine fisheries resources, commercial, and recreational fishing subjects.

To research, recommend and draft various project proposals which may be eligible for grants from appropriate federal agencies and other sources.

To make periodic field inspections and evaluate the results and effectiveness of such grant-in-aid projects.

To plan and direct educational public relations programs to promote public awareness concerning the importance of conserving the state's marine resources.

To oversee the collection, interpretation and evaluation of scientific data and information obtained from surveys and make recommendations to superiors based upon the results of such surveys.

To oversee permit applications, licensing and vessel declaration programs, technical reports and environmental impact statements for accuracy, conformance to federal and state laws, regulations and departmental policies as well as to recommend improvements.

To oversee marine fisheries operational assets, such as large marine research vessels and research facilities.

To testify as an expert witness on behalf of the Department.

To oversee the preparation, administration and operation of the divisional operating budget and other reports as needed.

To serve as a management representative in various labor relations forums and settings as needed.

To do related work as required.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT:

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND CAPACITIES: A thorough knowledge of the principles, practices and methods utilized in marine science, oceanography, shellfish, crustacean, and finfish resource management and conservation; a thorough knowledge of current scientific and statistical research techniques used in marine fisheries; a thorough knowledge of the federal and state laws and regulations which regulate marine fisheries, shellfish, crustacean, and finfish resource activities; a thorough knowledge of the technology and equipment used in the commercial and recreational fishing industries; a working knowledge of the processes and requirements that must be met in securing state and federal scientific research grants; the ability to apply knowledge of marine fisheries science in planning, directing and administering a statewide environmental management and conservation program; the ability to plan, organize and supervise staff involved in marine fisheries programs, projects and research activities; the ability to provide consultation services to a wide variety of officials and organizations on matters involving marine resources; the ability to recommend and draft project proposals; the ability to draft and implement divisional policies, rules and regulations; the ability to develop

public relations and information programs; the ability to prepare an annual budget, handle fiscal matters and prepare regular and special reports; the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships; and related capacities and abilities.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Education: Such as may have been gained through: graduation from a college of recognized standing, with a Master's degree Fisheries Biology, Marine Sciences, Marine Fisheries Management, Oceanography or a closely related field; and

Experience: Such as may have been gained through: considerable experience in a responsible supervisory and/or administrative position involving the management and conservation of marine fisheries management and resources.

Class Created: November 2, 2014

Class Revised: September 16, 2018