

TITLE OF GROUP OF CLASSES: PRINCIPAL BIOLOGIST

TITLE OF CLASSES IN GROUP:

Class Code:

PRINCIPAL BIOLOGIST (FRESHWATER FISHERIES)	02747801
PRINCIPAL BIOLOGIST (MARINE FISHERIES)	02747802
PRINCIPAL BIOLOGIST (WILDLIFE)	02747803
PRINCIPAL BIOLOGIST (BIOMETRICIAN)	02747804

Pay Grade: 32A
EO: B

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES: To perform the most advanced and complex biological field and/or laboratory work in the area of specialization; to plan, review, supervise and evaluate a comprehensive environmental program; to perform advanced administrative and technical work in an assigned biological discipline; to train and coach Biologist and/or Senior Biologist staff; and to do related work as required.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED: Works under administrative direction of a superior with considerable latitude for exercising technical and administrative judgement; work is reviewed through conferences and submitted reports.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED: As assigned, plans, coordinates, and reviews the work of one or more Biologists, Senior Biologists and/or other employee(s) within a comprehensive environmental program.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED:

To perform the most advanced and complex biological field and/or laboratory work in the area of specialization.

To plan, review, supervise and evaluate a comprehensive environmental program.

To perform advanced administrative and technical work in an assigned biological discipline.

To train and coach lower-level Biologist staff.

To plan and supervise difficult scientific research on various species and their habitats, including the collection and statistical analysis of biological data.

To be responsible for the research activities of assigned professional-level employees.

To coordinate research and management programs with staff in other sections and programs.

To assist the Deputy(s) and Supervisor(s) in planning programs, preparing budgets, seeking external funding opportunities, writing grants and contracts, purchasing, management of staff, records maintenance and inventory control.

To be responsible for developing work procedures in the use and care of scientific equipment.

To provide technical assistance to resource user groups relative to the conservation and management of the state's fish, wildlife, and natural resources.

To conduct special resource planning studies as assigned.

Periodically, to reinvestigate assignments reported by lower-level staff to determine the effectiveness of work methods, techniques and recommendations.

To participate in in-service training programs, and as assigned, to conduct and administer such training programs.

To prepare correspondence and detailed reports concerning program activities.

To prepare scientific presentations, reports and/or peer-reviewed publications.

On a project basis, to plan, assign, supervise and review the work of employees engaged in a comprehensive biological program.

To submit recommendations to the Division Chief and Deputy Chief relative to research and management programs, including proposals for changes in laws and regulations.

To serve as a divisional liaison with various federal, state, and local agencies relative to program activities.

To prepare comprehensive analyses of development proposals relative to their environmental impact.

To give testimony in court as an expert witness for the state.
To assist in planning for the acquisition and development of new management areas.
To do related work as required.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT:

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND CAPACITIES: A thorough knowledge of the principles, practices, methods and techniques of field and laboratory biological research pertaining to fish, wildlife and natural resource conservation and management; on a project basis. the ability to plan, assign, supervise and review the work of subordinates engaged in the program; the ability to train staff to perform assigned duties effectively; the ability to prepare detailed and complex scientific reports relating to the program containing findings, analyses, conclusions and corrective recommendations; the ability to establish and maintain good working relationships with superiors, subordinates, and the general public; the ability to establish and maintain effective working relations with federal and state officials; and related capacities and abilities.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Education: Possession of a master's degree from a college of recognized standing in the area of specialization as indicated by the job title as follows:

1. Biologist (Freshwater Fisheries): Biology (including substantial coursework focusing on freshwater species), Freshwater Fisheries, Freshwater Ecology, Limnology or a closely related science field.
2. Biologist (Marine Fisheries): Biology (including substantial coursework focusing on marine species), Marine Biology, Marine Fisheries, Marine Ecology, Oceanography, Conservation Biology or a closely related science field. Must have experience operating or working aboard small vessels.
3. Biologist (Wildlife): Biology (including substantial coursework focusing on wildlife species), Wildlife Biology, Wildlife Ecology, Wildlife Management, or a closely related science field.
4. Biologist (Biometrician): Natural Resource Statistics, Quantitative Biology, Wildlife Biology, Freshwater Biology, Marine Biology, Wildlife Ecology, Freshwater Ecology, Marine Ecology, Oceanography, Marine Science, Conservation Biology or a closely related science field.

And,

Experience: At least three (3) years of employment in a project or grant management capacity responsible for independently designing, managing, conducting and evaluating the performance of advanced professional biological work in the designated area of specialization such as: freshwater finfish, shellfish, crustaceans and/or other freshwater species and their habitat; marine finfish, shellfish, crustaceans and/or other marine species and their habitat; wildlife populations and their habitats; and/or statistical and mathematical analysis and/or population models for marine, freshwater or wildlife species and/or their habitat, or work conducting a marine or freshwater species stock assessment, or wildlife population and harvest assessment using mathematical and statistical models.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Must be physically qualified to perform assigned duties as evidenced by a physician's certificate.
2. At the time of appointment and continually thereafter, must possess and maintain a valid Motor Vehicle Operator's License.

Class Created: August 26, 1979

Editorial Review: March 15, 2003

Class Revised: August 18, 2019