

**CLASS TITLE: PRINCIPAL FOREST RANGER**

**Class Code: 02217400**

**Pay Grade: 21A**

**EO Code: H**

**CLASS DEFINITION:**

**GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES:** To supervise the work of Forest Ranger personnel in the performance of forest fire prevention, pre-suppression and suppression duties, the enforcement of a variety of state conservation laws and regulations, and various forest and conservation activities; and to do related work as required.

**SUPERVISION RECEIVED:** Works under the general direction of a superior from whom instructions are received with considerable latitude for the exercise of independent judgement; work is reviewed for results obtained.

**SUPERVISION EXERCISED:** Supervises and reviews the work of a staff of Forest Rangers and other subordinates as assigned.

**ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED:**

To supervise the work of a group of Forest Rangers engaged in: patrolling in a fully equipped and specialized forest fire patrol truck, the forest areas of the state, investigating smokes reported by fire tower observers, and detecting fire hazards and forest fires, and providing initial attack on going fires; operate forest fire suppression units such as patrol trucks, fire trucks and tankers; transport, by backpack, portable pumps and to set up and operate the same; to investigate causes of forest fires, make written reports as to the causes of fire; to cooperate in the detection and apprehension of persons responsible for starting or causing forest fires and to testify in court as an expert witness for the state; and operating divisional radio equipment, according to established procedures and at times performing emergency minor repairs to keep radio equipment functioning during emergencies; and participating in programs of wild fire prevention education in local schools, to train local volunteer fire persons in the techniques of fire prevention education; and to develop necessary training aids; and taking of forest fire weather readings utilizing sophisticated equipment such as wet and dry bulb thermometers, clinometers, precipitation gauges and wind gauges; and participating in continuous in-service training programs including, but not limited to, wild fire behavior, fire size-up, suppression methods and wild fire organization; participation in advanced first aid and cardio pulmonary resuscitation courses on a continuing basis and to remain current in the techniques of emergency first aid and rescue purposes for the benefit of public and fellow workers; and participating in the construction, repair and/or maintenance of buildings including fire towers, and do simple maintenance tasks relating to the same; and constructing, inspecting and repairing specialized fire fighting equipment.

To assist in the enforcement of a variety of state laws and regulations pertaining to the protection and conservation of the natural resources of the state.

To issue warnings and summonses on viewing any person found violating the laws, rules or regulations of the state, and to investigate complaints, serve subpoenas, and to give evidence in courts of law.

To participate in the maintenance of an inventory of forest fire fighting equipment that is on loan, by law, to volunteer fire companies and to periodically inspect the same for use, maintenance or wear.

To prepare detailed reports of activities as required.

To assist at and participate in conservation meetings and exhibits.

To review and evaluate findings of investigations, and reports thereon, submitted by subordinates; as required, to assist subordinates in the prosecution of persons summoned for violations.

To cooperate with state and local police in the enforcement of laws.

To assist in the development and training of subordinates in the performance of their duties.

To keep records relating to work assignments, attendance, absences, and such other matters as are reported in the performance of duties.

To do related work as required.

## **REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT:**

**KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS AND CAPACITIES:** A thorough knowledge of methods, techniques and materials used in forest fire-fighting; a working knowledge of the basic techniques for conservation management; a working knowledge of forestry, soil and water management as related to wildlife habitat; the ability to supervise subordinates; the ability to prepare progress reports; the ability to establish and maintain good public relations; a working knowledge of the methods and equipment employed in the maintenance of a forest and of a conservation program; and related capacities and abilities.

## **EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:**

Education: Such as may have been gained through: graduation from a community college of recognized standing with an Associate's Degree.

Experience: Such as may have been gained through: employment in a position which involved supervising the work of subordinates engaged in a forest or conservation program, preferably with experience in directing forest fire fighting operations.

Or, any combination of education and experience that shall be substantially equivalent to the above education and experience.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:** At the time of appointment must be physically qualified to perform assigned duties evidenced by a physician's certificate. In accordance with RIGL 42.28.3-1 no person shall be appointed temporary, probationary or permanent until they shall have been evaluated and tested by a certified psychologist specified by the Director of the Department of Environmental Management and receive a satisfactory rating. The psychologist shall provide a report in writing of his/her evaluation together with pertinent recommendations for the guidance of the appointing authority. Must possess and maintain a proper motor vehicle operator's license issued by the State of Rhode Island to operate fire trucks. Must meet qualification requirements for commission with special enforcement powers as may be prescribed and delegated by the Director of the Department of Environmental Management.

Class Revised: October 7, 1990

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