

CLASS TITLE: RESEARCH VESSEL FIRST MATE (ASSOCIATE CAPTAIN) (DEM)

Class Code: 02373200

Pay Grade: 24A

EO: B

CLASS DEFINITION:

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES: To serve as first mate and to have full responsibility during the absence of the Research Vessel Captain, for the operation of research vessels used in various fishery research and transplanting of shellfish projects; to be responsible for the maintenance and running repairs of boats and equipment; and to do related work as required.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED: Receives general instructions from the Research Vessel Captain or Supervising Biologist with wide latitude for the exercise of initiative and independent judgement; work is reviewed for results obtained and conformance to policies, rules, regulations and/or instructions.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED: Exercises direct supervision over the work of crew members in the operation of boats and equipment utilized in the performance of assigned duties.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED:

To serve as first mate and to have full responsibility, during the absence of the Research Vessel Captain, for the operation of research vessels used in various fishery research and transplanting of shellfish projects; to be responsible for the maintenance and running repairs of boats and equipment.

To assume full responsibility, during the absence of the Captain, for the operation of a large research vessel or other vessels used in various research and transplanting of shellfish projects using fishing gear including trawls, dredges, fish and lobster traps.

To pilot a large research vessel using charts, channel markers, compasses, GPS, radar, piloting software and similar navigational aids and instruments.

To supervise crew members engaged in various research and transplanting of shellfish operations such as: insuring that a quahog or scallop dredge is correctly rigged and operated; insuring that lobster pots are properly weighed and placed; insuring that otter trawls are properly rigged and spread and that all other marine gear utilized is properly rigged and spread and that all other marine gear utilized is properly handled.

To be responsible for the maintenance and running repairs of diesel engines, pumps, generators, fuel lines, winches, navigational gear, boat hull superstructure, trawl cables and related marine gear.

To be responsible for the physical activity associated with marine research projects such as: tagging, measuring, and releasing egg-bearing lobsters, tagging and releasing finfish and shellfish, setting and hauling all types of traps and pots used to catch marine species and tending SCUBA divers while in the water.

To repair or construct dredges, chain bags, otter trawls, lobster pots, conch traps and other gear as necessary.

To conduct tours aboard the vessel for state and federal officials or school groups and assist fishermen with gear and vessel problems and fishing techniques.

To collect research data on fish and other marine species, process research samples and input data.

In the absence of or at the direction of the Research Vessel Captain, to serve as safety officer responsible for the safety of the crew, passengers and the vessel.

To maintain the Division's fleet of research vessels and state vehicles, maintaining vehicle logs and scheduling repairs.

To prepare purchase orders.

To have a basic understanding of a seawater wetlab, pumps and plumbing and the ability to schedule repairs and the maintenance of buildings and grounds.

To do related work as required.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT:

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND CAPACITIES: A thorough working knowledge of the operation of a large research vessel; a thorough knowledge of mechanical shellfish dredging techniques, shellfish transplanting techniques, and commercial fishing; a thorough working knowledge of seamanship and boat handling; a thorough working knowledge of physical activities associated with marine research projects; a thorough working knowledge of marine diesel engines, pumps, generators, winches, navigational equipment and related gear and the ability to maintain and make running repairs to same; the ability to read charts, follow compass courses, utilize GPS navigation and recognize visual and whistle signals and designated channels; the ability to repair or construct dredges, chain bags, otter trawls, lobster pots, conch traps, and other gear as necessary; the ability to supervise a small crew; the ability to deal with school groups, fishermen, state and federal officials, and the general public in an informative and courteous manner; and related capacities and abilities.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Education: Such as may have been gained through: possession of a high school diploma or GED; and

Experience: Such as may have gained through: employment as a commercial dredge boat, trawler captain, or first mate for a minimum of at least two years.

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 as evidenced by a physician's certificate. As a condition of employment, must possess and maintain a valid license issued by the United States Coast Guard to operate or navigate passenger carrying vessels of 100 gross tons or less for all the waters of the United States and its protectorates and be subject to random drug testing as required by USDOT Coast Guard 46 CFR 16.101; subject to five-year renewal and must maintain the aforementioned licensure as a condition of employment.

Class Created: December 19, 1999

Class Revised: September 16, 2018