

CLASS TITLE: SENIOR FOREST RANGER

Class Code: 02217300

Pay Grade: 18A

EO Code: H

CLASS DEFINITION:

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES: To engage in the performance of forest fire prevention, pre-suppression and suppression duties; to assist in the enforcement of a variety of state conservation laws and regulations; to implement plans, training and work schedules as directed by a superior; and to do related work as required.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED: Receives general instructions from a superior concerning work assignments with considerable latitude for the exercise of initiative and technical judgement; work is reviewed for conformance to application of law, rules and regulations and policies.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED: May supervise the work of civilian firefighters and divisional personnel assigned to assist.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED:

To engage in the performance of the following:

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 fires; 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; 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 wildfire prevention education in local schools, to train local volunteer firepersons 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, wildfire behavior, fire size-up, suppression methods and wildfire organization; participation in advanced first aid and cardio pulmonary resuscitation courses on a continuing basis 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 participate in the maintenance of an inventory of forest fighting equipment that is on loan, by law, to volunteer fire companies and to periodically inspect the same for use, maintenance or wear.

To assist in the enforcement of a variety of state laws and regulation 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 prepare detailed reports of activities as required.

To assist at and participate in conservation meetings and exhibits.

To receive specialized training through the Northeast Forest Fire Protection Compact Commission, and to participate in fighting wild land fires in other states during declared emergencies involving the cooperating states.

To locate, clear and identify forest boundaries in state management areas using maps and surveying instruments; to have a knowledge of, and to apply, herbicide to the side of access roads in management areas to reduce fire hazards; to operate chain saws, brush cutters, and other mechanical equipment to keep fire access roads open on a routine or emergency basis.

To watch from an observation tower to detect smokes and/or fire; to obtain a bearing on same in conjunction with another tower and to dispatch equipment; to cooperate with local fire companies and other officials in reporting fires and related activities.

To assist foresters in carrying out the provisions of the Forest Land Classification Law by assisting in mapping, title searching, and boundary survey work.

To do related work as required.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT:

KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS AND CAPACITIES: A working knowledge of the principles, practices, methods and skills involving forest fire prevention, pre-suppression and suppression, and conservation enforcement; a familiarity with the general methods and equipment used in forest conservation programs; the ability to investigate and make reports as to the causes of and responsibility for conservation violations; the ability to detect, locate and orient forest fires on maps; the ability to meet and establish effective working relationships with the general public and cooperating fire-fighting organizations; the ability to supervise and review the work of a staff engaged in performing duties related to such functions; the ability to prepare and make written and oral reports regarding activities; the ability to engage in continuous active field work under extreme weather conditions requiring physical stamina; and related capacities and abilities.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Education: Such as may have been gained through: graduation from a senior high school; and

Experience: Such as may have been gained through: employment as a municipal fire fighter or member of a volunteer fire company; or employment involving the performance of general tasks in the field of forestry or conservation.

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

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: At the time of appointment must be physically qualified to perform assigned duties as 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 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

Editorial Review: 3/15/03