

HATCHERY TECHNICIAN

Nature of Work

Under general supervision, performs skilled work in hatching, growing and distributing fish and general maintenance of fish hatchery buildings, grounds, and equipment. Work can be physically demanding and performed in varying climatic conditions. Incumbent may be required to supervise small groups on specific projects or act as assistant to the Hatchery Manager. Performs related work as required.

Distinguishing Characteristics

Applies knowledge of fish cultural techniques directly to the handling, spawning, growing, and distribution of fish. May supervise other workers. Reports to Hatchery Manager or assistant. In the Manager's absence may be temporarily assigned to manage the facility.

Examples of Work

Spawns fish in season and monitors progress of hatching operation from egg incubation through all life stages until stocking.

Weighs, counts and grades fish or fingerlings; loads them into holding tanks on trucks for transportation to stocking site.

Transports fingerling and stocking-sized fish and releases them into specified waters.

Schedules feeding and rearing activities.

Monitors hatchery water quality by making various chemical tests, adjusts water supply to desired quality.

Monitors fish health by observation and laboratory work.

Treats fish diseases and abnormalities by adding medication to food and water.

Feeds pre-determined rations to fish on an established schedule.

Writes reports detailing hatchery projects, activities and inventory.

Constructs and repairs screens, gates, traps, nets, seines, and other equipment used in holding and caring for fish.

Cleans rearing units, ponds, raceways, and other hatchery equipment with brushes, chemicals and water; makes routine repairs on all hatchery equipment.

Removes and disposes of mortalities from stock.

Conducts tours of the hatchery and answers visitors' questions.

May perform finished carpentry, electrical, plumbing, and masonry work.

May work on acid stream neutralization projects.

HATCHERY TECHNICIAN (CONT'D)

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Knowledge of fish culture and management.
- Knowledge of native fish species and their habitat requirements.
- Knowledge of hatchery operations and procedures.
- Knowledge of procedures followed in identification of fish diseases, dietary disorders, parasitic infestations, and other problems involved in fish culture.
- Knowledge of basic building maintenance trades.
- Knowledge of basic safety regulations and precautionary measures.
- Skill in the operation of hatchery tools and equipment.
- Skill in basic first aid procedures.
- Skill in operation of simple machines, motors, and tools.
- Ability to make minor repairs on equipment used, such as: farm tractor and attachments, chainsaw, two-ton truck, lawn mower, water pump, generator, and small hand tools.
- Ability to properly monitor hatchery water to assure quality control.
- Ability to construct and repair hatchery equipment.
- Ability to perform some arduous manual tasks for long hours under varying climatic conditions.
- Ability to lead the work of others and maintain effective working relationships with the general public, supervisors, and co-workers.
- Ability to meet the public and maintain control courteously.
- Ability to follow oral and written instructions with limited supervision.

Minimum Qualifications

TRAINING An associate degree in fish or wildlife technology or fishery management.

SUBSTITUTION Two years of college training in a natural science area may be substituted for the associate degree OR two years of full-time or equivalent part-time paid experience in fish or wildlife management, fish culture, or agriculture may be substituted for the associate degree.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT For employment at a state fish hatchery applicants must obtain a valid Commercial driver's license within six months of original appointment or transfer or be dismissed.

Established: 9/17/92

Revised: 5/2/95

Effective: 5/2/95