

# **SNOHOMISH COUNTY JOB DESCRIPTION**

## **HABITAT SPECIALIST, SENIOR**

Spec No. 3244

### **BASIC FUNCTION**

To conduct field and office evaluations and provide technical assistance related to freshwater and estuarine salmonid populations and habitat as part of a county wide fish habitat protection and restoration program.

### **STATEMENT OF ESSENTIAL JOB DUTIES**

1. Participates in the following county wide fish habitat protection and restoration program elements: habitat acquisition and restoration, incentives and voluntary programs, public involvement and education, regulations implementing county comprehensive plan policies, inter jurisdictional coordination, and monitoring program effectiveness.
2. Conducts analysis and evaluation of freshwater and estuarine habitat, supporting ecosystem, and population levels of priority fish species; participates in drafting annual report on fish habitat conditions and population levels in the county.
3. Coordinates and provides technical assistance to county staff, such as engineers and planners, and cooperators, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, conservation districts or Indian tribes, in the design and implementation of habitat restoration projects; conducts on site inspections to help resolve disputes or conflicts; contributes to preparation of environmental assessments and impact statements.
4. Prepares and presents oral, written, and multimedia presentations (e.g., graphic and data displays, brochures, leaflets, slide/tap shows) for public and interagency meetings, hearings, planning commission briefings and county council work sessions.
5. Presents technical, regulatory, and policy options for habitat protection and improvement to surface water management division, the county , public works dept. management team.
6. Participates in the development of various environmental standards, regulations, and policies, interprets federal, state, and local laws, regulations and policies as necessary.
7. Contributes to the preparation of the annual work plan, goals and objectives, and budget for assigned functions; monitors and evaluates related work for compliance with grant/project requirements and budget constraints.
8. Plans and supervises the work of technicians performing natural resource inventories; provides training in inventory methods, equipment use, safety, data collection and basic data analysis.

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### STATEMENT OF ESSENTIAL JOB DUTIES (Continued)

9. May represent the county in court cases dealing with land use, aquatic resources, habitat damage, or other issues.
10. Conducts habitat related special projects as assigned.
11. Performs related duties as assigned.

### MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

A Bachelor's degree in fish/wildlife biology/management, natural resource management, environmental science, ecology, geology, hydrology, fisheries/civil engineering or closely related field; AND three (3) years of professional experience closely related to the responsibilities listed above; a Master's degree can substitute for up to two (2) years of the required experience; OR, any equivalent combination of education and/or experience that provides the required knowledge and abilities. Must pass job related tests.

### SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

A valid Washington State Driver's License is required for employment.

### KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES

Knowledge of:

- habitats and life cycles of Puget Sound salmonid species
- Pacific Northwest/Puget Sound fisheries management issues
- land use and watershed management issues affecting aquatic habitat
- habitat restoration science and technologies
- federal, state, and local laws and regulations regarding fish habitat protection
- groups and agencies involved in fish habitat protection and restoration

Ability to:

- establish and maintain effective work relationships with county management and staff, and the groups, agencies and governments involved in fish habitat protection and restoration
- work effectively with individuals and groups from varied cultural backgrounds
- evaluate plans, designs, and specific practices and methods for their effects on fish habitat
- analyze and propose solutions for a wide variety of habitat management problems
- develop reports and formulate policy recommendations based on field and literature review

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### KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES (Continued)

- clearly present information to county management, elected officials, technical staff, and the general public
- plan, supervise the work of technical staff

### SUPERVISION

This position reports to the Salmon Recovery Coordinator and receives direction from the Principal Habitat Specialist.

### WORKING CONDITIONS

The work is performed in the usual office environment or in the field in varying weather conditions.

Snohomish County is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) employer.  
Accommodations for individuals with disabilities are provided upon request.

[EEO policy and ADA notice](#)

Class Established: December 1998  
Revised: February 1999, June 2000  
EEO Category: 2 - Professionals  
Pay Grade: 242 – Classified Pay Plan  
Workers Comp: 1501 Hazardous