

SNOHOMISH COUNTY JOB DESCRIPTION

WATER QUALITY SPECIALIST II

Spec No. 3171

BASIC FUNCTION

Develop project approach and methodology for water quality studies in Snohomish County. Coordinate field and laboratory analyses and ensure the validity of data. Interpret water quality information and write related reports and summaries.

STATEMENT OF ESSENTIAL JOB DUTIES

1. Identifies water quality problem areas and develops study proposals to quantify these problems and their sources; prepares proposals which include project approach and methodology for sampling design and data analyses.
2. Directs and participates in the analysis of project data; prepares reports or directs preparation of project findings and conclusions; summarizes for wider distribution.
3. Acts as project manager for water quality projects; estimates and prepares the budget, personnel requirements and time schedules for assigned projects; supervises the performance of various consultants.
4. Supervises the work of technicians responsible for collecting water quality samples; coordinates the work of field and laboratory personnel to ensure field operation and laboratory analysis are being completed in a timely manner and data gathered is valid; reviews laboratory results to ensure that appropriate quality assurance/ quality control standards are being met.
5. Serves as staff representative on various technical advisory committees, prepares and presents scientific findings at public and professional meetings.
6. Reviews technical literature and acts as internal and external resource on selected subject matters.
7. Acquires, reviews, and evaluates water quality data pertaining to county water bodies and assess the severity of observed and suspected problems; determines water quality monitoring needs; acts as staff contact for citizen reports of water quality problems.
8. Directs or participates in the preparation of an annual report on the water quality status of county surface waters.

STATEMENT OF OTHER JOB DUTIES

9. Performs related duties as required.

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MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

A Bachelor's degree in aquatic biology, fisheries biology, chemistry, microbiology, environmental engineering, limnology, toxicology or related scientific field is required; AND, two (2) years work experience in water quality programs; OR, a Master's degree in any of the referenced fields. Work related experience may be substituted for the required education or training on the basis of one (1) year of related experience equals two (2) years of education. Must pass job related tests.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

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

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES

Knowledge of:

- investigative techniques, scientific data interpretation, sampling design, and statistical analysis;
- literature, trends, and developments in the area of specialty; federal, state, and local standards and regulations relating to water quality issues;
- the principles, practices and procedures associated with project management, budget preparation, and supervision.

Ability to:

- analyze and evaluate field and laboratory work and take effective action to correct deficiencies and resolve problems;
- communicate effectively, both orally and in written reports;
- independently prepare a variety of reports and documents;
- read, interpret, and apply federal, state and local laws, rules, and regulations relating to water quality;
- independently organize tasks, delegate responsibility and coordinate water quality monitoring under project deadlines;
- direct statistical analysis, interpret and evaluate field data;
- synthesize the research results and use these results as a basis for recommendations;
- establish and maintain effective work relationships with all levels of county management and staff, representatives of other agencies and the general public.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENT

Manual dexterity is required to operate a personal computer or hand write notes and reports. Walking along stream banks in undeveloped areas. Seeing is required for reading laws, ordinances and reports as well as to get around in off-trail locations. Occasional crawling through brush may be required.

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SUPERVISION

The employee reports to a Senior Water Quality specialist or an administrative superior as assigned. The work is performed with considerable independence and is reviewed through meetings, periodic status reports and by evaluation of results obtained.

WORKING CONDITIONS

The work is performed in the usual office environment with frequent field trips to locations throughout the county to make site visits, attend meetings, or coordinate work activities.

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: May 1993

Previous Spec No. 420436

Revised: June 1999, May 2010

EEO Category: 2 – Professionals

Pay Grade: 241 – Classified Pay Plan

Workers Comp: 1501 - Hazardous