

State of Washington
Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
invites applications for the position of:



Career Seasonal Scientific Technician 2

*11853-14

SALARY: \$2,426.00 - \$3,135.00 Monthly

OPENING DATE: 12/17/14

CLOSING DATE: 12/28/14 05:00 PM

DESCRIPTION:



Our Mission
To preserve, protect and perpetuate fish, wildlife and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities.

Vision
Conservation of Washington's fish and wildlife resources and ecosystems.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is dedicated to protecting native fish and wildlife, and providing sustainable fishing, hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities for millions of residents and visitors. Working throughout the state, WDFW's employees—field biologists, enforcement officers, land stewards, lab technicians, customer service representatives and others—manage hundreds of fish and wildlife species, maintain nearly a million acres of public wildlife lands, provide opportunities for recreational and commercial fishing, wildlife viewing and hunting, protect and restore habitat and enforce laws that protect fish and wildlife resources. Find out more about us and the important work we are a part of at www.wdfw.wa.gov

This recruitment is to fill one (1) 11-month full-time Career Seasonal Scientific Technician 2 position in the Fish Program, Science/ WSPEU and Fish Management/District 11 and 15, Region 6. January 1-August 15 - 14024 Yelm Hwy. Yelm, WA, September 16-December 31 - 3939 B Cleveland Ave. Tumwater, WA.

This position is part of the Nisqually River juvenile Chinook and steelhead production evaluation project within the Wild Salmon Production Evaluation Unit. This position operates a juvenile salmon screw trap on the Nisqually River from January 1 thru July 31. The juvenile salmon trap captures, identifies, and enumerates juvenile salmonids migrating from the Nisqually River.

This position assists the Region 6 / Districts 11 and 15 fish biologists collecting data necessary for the management of the fish resources in the watersheds of South Puget Sound and lower Hood Canal. The technician provides the area biologist with data necessary to work with tribal, federal, and private organizations to facilitate cooperative and effective collection and exchange of fishery data. This information is needed to assess stock status, build fishery models, and to forecast salmon returns which is required for the North of Falcon meetings. This position is important for monitoring and evaluating recovery goals for ESA listed Chinook. This work is conducted from September 16 – December 31.

DUTIES:

Operate juvenile salmon Screw Trap.

Tasks include: Operate juvenile salmon trap continuously from January thru July as conditions permit, sampling entire catch from trap a minimum of once a day. Identify juvenile salmonids to species and enumerate by age, origin, mark type and species. Externally mark a portion of the catch for release above the trapping location to estimate trapping efficiency. Collect biological data and samples from a portion of the catch of each species (length and scales samples). Record and verify field data for accuracy; enter data into computer spreadsheets/ databases. Provide weekly summaries to project lead biologist via phone or in person.

Install maintain and repair all the equipment associated with the Nisqually River trapping project, as well as other WSPEU trapping projects as needed.

Tasks include: Maintain agency travel trailers used for office and employee housing, inventory gear and equipment and maintain work sites to promote project efficiency and provide a professional appearance.

Conduct salmon spawner surveys in Region 6 / Districts 11 and 15. The information collected is critical in developing harvest management plans with the tribes during the North of Falcon meetings, evaluating recovery efforts for ESA listed Chinook in the Nisqually and monitoring the status of salmonid stocks of South Puget Sound.

Tasks include: Conduct surveys by foot or raft during all weather conditions and over difficult terrain. Uses established procedures to conduct salmonid redd count surveys within selected stream reaches. Fieldwork requires recording live and dead fish counts, sampling carcasses for scales, DNA tissue samples, otoliths, coded wire tags, and other biological samples if needed. Maintaining accurate field records for this position is very important.

Develop and maintain effective relationships with biologists from the tribes along the Strait and from other public and private agencies and organizations to promote cooperative work and exchange of information. Tribes include the Squaxin, Nisqually and Puyallup.

Other duties as assigned

Tasks include: Assist in data verification and analysis; assist in related work projects in agency work unit.

Operation and routine maintenance of assigned field gear, vehicles, and equipment.

Working Conditions

Work hours are non-scheduled; ie, candidate will typically work 40 hrs/ wk, but be expected to work rotating shifts, including nights and weekends to accommodate operation of traps that fish 24/7. Flexible work schedules are required to address changing conditions, related to weather, stream flow & fish numbers. Minimal overnight travel may be required.

Roughly 90% of work will be conducted in the field. During periods of high stream flows or fish migrations, work in excess of 40/hr week will be required, including nights & weekends & Holidays. Potentially dangerous conditions may exist including work in high and swift water. Trapping & survey activities involve exposure to inclement weather conditions (hot, cold, wet, windy, humid), insect bites/stings, thorny/spiny vegetation, and pollen. Surveyor must walk long distances, (up to 5 mi/day), over uneven, rugged terrain & through thick stands of riparian vegetation. Frequent bending, kneeling, crawling, climbing and lifting is required. Working in a rural setting, position may on occasion encounter hostility or verbal threats from landowners and their pets, and possible wildlife encounters.

Trap operation requires the ability to handle and lift buckets with live fish in excess of 50 lbs., and prolonged exposure of hands and fingers to cold water (temperatures 40-50 degrees). Surveys require the ability to stand, kneel, and walk for long periods of time. The employee must be able to swim, and able to work in chest waders and raingear for extended periods of time.

Union

This position is covered by a collective bargaining agreement between the State of Washington, Department of Fish & Wildlife, and the Washington Association of Fish and Wildlife Professionals (WAFWP). As a condition of employment you must either join the union and pay union dues, or pay the union a representational or other fee within 30 days of the date you are put into pay status.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Graduation from high school or GED, including one year of high school science and two years of experience as a Scientific Technician 1. OR Graduation from high school or GED including one year of high school science and two years of laboratory or field experience as an assistant to a biologist, chemist, or zoologist.

College course work involving major study in biology, zoology, fisheries, chemistry, natural sciences, or closely

allied field will substitute, year for year, for experience, provided the course work includes at least six semester or nine quarter hours of natural science classes.

Experience is based on full time equivalency (i.e., 40 or more hours/week). Part time work is prorated (e.g., 20 hours/week for 6 years = 3 years of experience). Do not count experience that was a part of your educational requirements.

Preferred candidate will have work experience in the following:

1. Knowledge of salmon and trout life histories and behavioral characteristics.
2. Knowledge of safe live fish handling techniques.
3. Ability to identify juvenile and adult salmonids and lampreys live & dead, and other incidental catch.
4. Experience identifying and monitoring salmonids, and lamprey spawning activity by species. Experience operating a juvenile salmon screw trap preferably in large rivers like the Nisqually.
5. Stream survey experience preferably in Region 6/ District 11 and 15 watersheds.
6. Ability to collect high quality biological data and complete data entry/summarization into program spreadsheets and databases.
7. Comfortable in the use of a variety of hand tools, power tools and small engine machinery.
8. Experience using a jet powered skiff.
9. Motorboat safety certification
10. Experience communicating with the public, co-workers and supervisor in a professional manner.
11. Basic computer data entry skills with experience with Microsoft word and excel.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

To apply for this position you **MUST** complete your profile at www.careers.wa.gov and attach the following to your profile before completing the online application:

A cover letter describing how you meet the qualifications of this position (generic cover letter will not be accepted)

A current resume (please make it succinct)

Three professional references (personal references do not count as professional)

Please note: Failure to follow the above application instructions will lead to disqualification. E-mailed documents will not be accepted in lieu of attaching your documents to the online profile.

Upon submission of your online application, you will immediately receive a confirming e-mail. You will then be notified via e-mail of your status during the process. In addition to the e-mail notifications, you can check the status of your application at any time by visiting your online profile at www.careers.wa.gov. Due to the high volume of applications that we receive, we ask your understanding and encourage you to use the online process and avoid calling for information.

The Department of Fish and Wildlife is an equal opportunity employer. We strive to create a working environment that includes and respects cultural, racial, ethnic, sexual orientation and gender identity diversity. Women, racial and ethnic minorities, persons of disability, persons over 40 years of age, disabled and Vietnam era veterans and people of all sexual orientations and gender identities are encouraged to apply. Persons needing accommodation in the application process or this announcement in an alternative format may call (360) 902-2276 or the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (800) 833-6388.

Career Seasonal Scientific Technician 2 *11853-14 Supplemental Questionnaire

- * 1. Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony within the last ten (10) years?

☐ Yes ☐ No

- * 2. Do you have a valid Washington State, or other state, driver's license? (If selected for an interview, you may be asked to furnish your license and driving record.)

☐ Yes ☐ No

- * 3. Do you have stream survey experience in South Puget Sound or South Hood Canal or both? If so, please describe the streams and species surveyed.

- * 4. Do you have experience operating and maintaining a rotary screw trap in large rivers, like the Nisqually? If so, please describe your experience making sure to include trap size and rivers trapped.

- * 5. Do you have experience identifying juvenile and adult salmonids? If so, please describe the species, and life stage(s) you feel comfortable identifying and how you gained this experience.

- * Required Question