

METRO

Classification Description

Title: Senior Natural Resource Scientist

Bargaining Unit: AFSCME 3580

Job Code: 6028

Established: 2007

Pay Range: 21

Revised:

FLSA Status: Exempt – Professional, Learned

Classification Summary:

Perform complex planning and research directly related to the conservation, management, protection, utilization, or restoration of natural resources for which Metro may not have established procedures, guidelines, and policies. Participate as a project or program team leader frequently and may routinely lead the work of other professionals.

Supervision Received:

Supervision is provided by a Supervisor or Manager.

Supervision Exercised:

Supervises the work of contractors and may lead the work of lower level scientists, temporary staff, interns, volunteers and others.

Distinguishing Features:

This class is the third level of a three-level series. It is distinguished by independent responsibility for major or complex projects, day-to-day program responsibility, or frequently leading other staff. Major or complex projects/programs have significant potential impact or require complex analyses, evaluation, or measurement techniques. Positions are frequently regarded as an expert resource for supervisors, peers and subordinates in the program area.

Essential Functions:

An employee in this classification may perform any of the following duties. However, these examples do not include all the specific tasks an employee in this classification may be expected to perform.

1. Serves in a (program expert) staff role to Metro Council and advisory committees. Communicates complex technical or policy information, and prepares special reports and responses to inquiries.
2. Leads teams of lower level professional and technical staff. Assists in their orientation and training. Serves as technical advisor to them. Reviews their work for accuracy and completeness.
3. Assists program manager in developing and carrying out short- and long-range goals and objectives.
4. Develops plans that promote the best use of natural resources and mitigate project-related adverse environmental effects.

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5. Plans, develops methodology, designs, and conducts specific research or natural resources assessment in one or more specialized fields to evaluate project or program options, recommends resource utilization, and assesses environmental impacts.
6. Conducts studies on complex issues and their effects on program. Proposes research, scope, content, schedules, and budgets for studies.
7. Analyzes data to identify resources and their significance and evaluates potential effects of proposed projects using a variety of methods, including statistical analysis.
8. Writes documentation of the findings of the research and analyses and oversees graphics preparation and document publication. Develops data displays including graphs, charts, maps, and tabulation of data records.
9. Develops or maintains computer systems for manipulating technical program data.
10. Develops and oversees complex projects and administers project contracts.
11. Describes project scope, purpose and alternatives, and mitigation activities. Writes environmental impact statements, environmental assessments, research reports, and related documents.
12. Develops project work plans that identify resources and regulatory and administrative steps needed for project completion, and coordinates project schedule and budgets.
13. Determines the consultant is providing work items specified in the contract. Reviews and approves invoices.
14. Informs stakeholders about project. Participates in gathering and assessing public views and interests through committees, informal meetings, hearings, and surveys.
15. Assists in development of program policies and procedures.
16. Writes staff or technical reports including analysis, conclusions and recommendations in specific program areas.
17. Represents the agency at meetings to give information about specific projects or natural resource concerns. As authorized, may make commitments for a specific program. Serves as a member and may chair project technical advisory committees.
18. Coordinates/participates in meetings to gather input.
19. May conduct or assist with training sessions, technical workshops, and seminars.
20. Evaluates and responds to public or media questions, comments, and concerns. Answers correspondence from other agencies and the public.
21. May provide informational programs for various groups, such as Metro staff, local jurisdictions, schools, associations, and civic groups.

Secondary Functions:

1. Performs other related duties as assigned.

Job Specifications:

Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science, Biology, Botany, Zoology, or a related field and three years of directly related professional experience; or any combination of

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education and experience that would provide the applicant with the desired skills, knowledge and ability required to perform the job. Other requirements include, but are not limited to:

1. Advanced knowledge of the theories, practices, and principals of a natural resource discipline or program
2. General knowledge of mathematics including statistics and quantitative and qualitative analyses
3. General knowledge of project management tools and techniques
4. General knowledge of research methods used in a specific natural resource program, planning, or scientific field
5. Advanced knowledge of trends, technological changes and developments in natural resource conservation and restoration
6. Basic knowledge of relevant equipment, instruments, tools, and vehicles
7. Basic knowledge of computer programs used to map, and analyze physical or biological information
8. Skill using computer programs to manipulate, enter, or retrieve information
9. Skill writing clear and concise status, summary, technical, or narrative reports
10. Skill in designing and conducting natural resource restoration and research projects
11. Ability to participate effectively as a team member or leader
12. Ability to gather and analyze technical or scientific information and draw conclusions or make recommendations
13. Ability to communicate verbally and in writing with a variety of people to answer questions and explain information
14. Ability to monitor, inspect and review a natural resource program or project
15. Ability to develop computer applications to a specific natural resource program or scientific field

Working Conditions:

This position requires the ability to perform those activities necessary to complete the essential functions of the job, either with or without reasonable accommodation. Duties are performed in an office environment and in the field. This position often requires walking on uneven or rough terrain in all weather conditions. This position requires talking (both in person and over the phone), sitting, repetitive motions of the hands/wrists and good general vision and hearing ability. It may also require the ability to lift or carry up to 40 pounds. Incumbents in this position are required to attend offsite meetings during and after normal work hours.