

MARINE FISHERIES TECHNICIAN I

This is technical work in performing surveys of commercial fish houses or recreational fishers for the Division of Marine Fisheries.

Employees gather statistical information from all aspects of the commercial fishing industry in North Carolina to be used by marine biologists and managers in developing resource management strategies. Work involves the identification of fish species and types and the gathering of data such as weight, length, and age of the sample. Employees in this class have a significant public role in gathering data from volunteers in the fishing industry and recreational fisheries, and in explaining programs and regulations. Work is performed under the general supervision of a supervising Marine Fisheries Biologist or higher level technician. Work may include other duties as assigned.

I. DIFFICULTY OF WORK:

Complexity - Employees perform a limited variety of tasks which are closely related. Work involves contacting commercial fishing dealers or recreational fishers to gather data such as species and fish, amount caught, what gear was used, and the price paid by the fish dealer. All data is recorded in a confidential manner since the involvement of members of the commercial fishing industry is voluntary. Employees visit new dealers to encourage their involvement in the program and complete detailed monthly reports of data collected, totals, trends, landing summaries vessels used, where fish are caught, the type of gear and methods used to catch fish. Employees maintain good working relationships with members of the commercial and recreational fishing industries, and explain the program policies and procedures.

Guidelines - Tasks are well-defined by the project and the supervising marine fisheries biologist. The technician confers with the supervisor on all unusual circumstances.

II. RESPONSIBILITY:

Accountability - Employees represent the Division of Marine Fisheries in communicating with members of the commercial and recreational fishing industries and encourage their involvement in the sampling program.

Consequence of Action - Employees collect fisheries catch information which is used by biologists and supervisors in making management decisions or recommendations.

Review - Work is usually reviewed upon completion by the supervising marine fisheries biologist for the completeness and timeliness of data collected, and through conference regarding any unusual findings.

III. INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Subject Matter - Marine Fisheries sampling policies and procedures are detailed and straightforward; however, they are not always accepted by members of the commercial and recreational fishing industries.

Purpose - Employees work to maintain good public relations in gathering fish catch information and in explaining program policies and regulations.

IV. WORK ENVIRONMENT:

Nature of Working Conditions - Most work is performed outdoors on the beach or landing dock. Employees may be exposed to inclement weather, glare, mud, water and occasionally irate commercial or recreational fishers.

Nature and Potential of Personal Hazards - Not applicable.

V. RECRUITMENT STANDARDS:

Knowledges, Skills, and Abilities –

General knowledge of marine fish species; working knowledge of the principles, methods, and procedures of fisheries management; ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with members of the commercial and recreational fishing industry, with Division personnel, and the general public; ability to prepare and maintain accurate reports and records.

Minimum Education and Experience Requirements –

Associate's degree in fisheries management from an appropriately accredited institution; or high school or General Educational Development diploma and two years of experience in the fisheries industry; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

Special Note –

This is a generalized representation of positions in this class and is not intended to identify essential functions per ADA. Examples of work are primarily essential functions of the majority of positions in this class, but may not be applicable to all positions.