Fisheries Research Technician

Salary
$37,148.80 - $54,392.00 Annually
Location
Manchester - 52057 - Delaware County, IA
Job Type
Full-time
Agency
542 Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Job Number
21-02299
Closing
4/5/2021 11:59 PM Central
LinkedIn Tag
#LI-POST
Point of Contact
George Scholten, George.Scholten@dnr.iowa.gov, 515-371-6915

- Description
- Benefits
- Questions

Job Description

Only applicants who meet the Minimum Qualification Requirements and meet all selective requirements (listed below) will be placed on the eligible list.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has a vacancy for Fisheries Research Technician (Natural Resources Technician 1) within the Fisheries Bureau, located in Manchester, IA.

This Fisheries Research Technician is an integral part of the Stream Fisheries Research Team. This research team works with fisheries managers to identify problems affecting stream fisheries resources, designs and conducts research projects to solve problems, assists fisheries managers to implement research findings, and provides the public with information about research and management of stream fisheries.

The Research Technician’s role on this team requires them to collect data appropriately according to objectives and methods of ongoing research projects. Fish are collected using boat, barge, and backpack electrofishing, and other gear as needed. The Research Technician identifies common and endangered/threatened species in the field and uncommon species in the lab (when field identification is not possible); therefore, the Research Technician needs the ability to identify fishes and use dichotomous keys. Stream habitat and water quality data are collected in a scientific manner and the Research Technician collects, stores, and processes a variety of fish structures for age-growth analysis. They are also responsible for conducting age determinations and back-calculation measurements of growth using age and growth techniques and computer software.
When necessary to meet project objectives the Research Technician implements and oversees creel surveys to obtain information about fish and anglers. On occasion, the Research Technician oversees the work of seasonal staff to the extent necessary to accomplish work in a safe and efficient manner. This requires organizational, supervisory, and quality control responsibilities. The Research Technician also helps ensure that data collection conducted by seasonal employees is done in a proper and timely manner to meet the requirements of the project objectives.

The Research Technician organizes and manages field data for multiple research projects and objectives. They input data, conduct quality assurance/quality control procedures for data, manipulate databases, and summarize findings using computers and software including word processing, spreadsheets, and databases. This includes designing and constructing figures, graphs, and visual aids for research reports, articles for scientific journals, professional meetings, and statewide meetings using computer graphics and presentation software.

The Research Technician is responsible for cleaning and performing daily and seasonal maintenance on the research team's vehicles, boats, outboard motors, electrofishing equipment, and other survey equipment. They fabricate specialized equipment for research projects as needed. Another important aspect of equipment maintenance is field troubleshooting. Since an extensive amount of travel time is usually encountered during river sampling, the Research Technician must be able to carry out most routine repairs and modifications to sampling equipment in the field. They are also responsible for keeping facilities in neat, clean, and safe condition and reporting all safety issues to their supervisor.

The Research Technician also assists other research, management, and culture personnel with programs and projects as directed by their supervisor. This includes assisting culture section with broodstock collection and egg taking operations each spring.

All Fisheries Bureau employees serve a role in the Department's recruitment, retention and reactivation efforts. This requires them to maintain knowledge of DNR programs, projects, and issues and communicate information to general public or refer questions to proper DNR personnel. The Research Technician will regularly assist other fisheries personnel with outdoor classrooms, fishing clinics, or other programs. They also prepare and deliver oral presentations to angler groups, sport shows, radio and/or TV programs, school programs, and professional meetings. Periodically, the Technician will prepare information for news releases, newspaper articles, and social media posts.

**Essential Functions**

Samples fish populations in interior streams using a variety of standard and specialized fish sampling gears and does so in a scientifically acceptable, efficient, and effective manner consistent with statistical study designs.

Accurately collects and records data per established protocols and study designs.

Identifies and solves problems in the field and lab using basic knowledge of fish sampling, statistical methods, and study design.

Communicates results of research effectively both in written and oral communications.
Safely operates motor vehicles, outboard motors, boats, trailers, and other fisheries equipment.

Maintains fisheries equipment, outboard motors, boats, and trailers

**Critical Job Competencies**
High Productivity, Communication Skills, Team Player, Interpersonal Skills, Common Sense, Customer Focus, Accountability, Integrity, Technical Skills – Fisheries Biology

Normal hours are 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday with some travel with overnight lodging required.

The *DNR* seeks to hire individuals who wish to support our mission, which is to conserve and enhance our natural resources in cooperation with individuals and organization, to improve the quality of life in Iowa and ensure a legacy for future generations.

For more information about DNR Employment Opportunities and position specific notices, please visit the [DNR Employment website](#).

The starting salary for new state (Executive Branch) employees will be at the base of the pay range. This position offers a competitive salary schedule and benefit package. The State of Iowa is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

**Selectives**
900 Fisheries Biology
6 months’ experience, 12 semester hours, or a combination of both.

**Minimum Qualification Requirements**
The equivalent of two years of full time experience involving facilities maintenance in plumbing, electrical, and/or heating and cooling, or semi-skilled or technical work in a biological, horticultural, conservation, or natural resources program;

OR

an equivalent combination of education and experience substituting 30 semester hours of college level course work in a biological or natural resources program for the required experience.

For additional information, please click on this [link to view the job description](#).

**Additional Qualification Requirements**

- Certain designated positions in this job class require applicants to obtain: a Commercial Drivers License and endorsements; and/or certification as a water and wastewater system operator within a period of time as determined by the appointing authority at the time of hire.

- Certain designated positions require the employee to be certified by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship as a Pesticide Applicator within a period of time as determined by the appointing authority at the time of hire.
Join Us!
Whether it's caring for those in need, making highways safer, or improving agriculture production, the work that we do matters to the people of Iowa.

We take our responsibilities and the public trust very seriously. We are committed to delivering the services that matter most to the people of Iowa. If you have the skills, the commitment and the desire to make a difference, then we invite you to explore the career opportunities available with the State of Iowa.

Career Choices
State government is one of the largest employers in Iowa, and also one of the most diverse. From state trooper to nurse to engineer, the state offers a wide variety of career opportunities.

Benefits
The state offers paid vacation, sick time and holidays, a defined benefit retirement plan, health, dental, vision, and long-term disability insurance along with flexible spending accounts. For more information, please visit the executive branch employee benefits website.

The State of Iowa is committed to providing an outstanding employment experience. Check out this Benefits Beyond the Paycheck brochure.(Download PDF reader).

01
Do you understand that the answers to all of the following questions must be truthful, honest, and accurate to the best of your ability?
Please read all questions and answers thoroughly and make sure you understand them completely. Ensure the answers to your questions match the information filled out on your application and the attachments you have uploaded. If the answers to your questions are inconsistent with your application information or uploaded attachments, you will be given zero points for the question. Knowingly misrepresenting the facts when submitting any information related to an application, examination, certification, appeal, or any other facet of the selection process will result in your disqualification from this application and future employment with the state of Iowa.

- Yes - I understand and agree.
- No

02
PLEASE READ CAREFULLY
Have you filed a registration statement pursuant to the federal Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. §611 et seq?

- No - I have NOT filed a registration statement pursuant to the federal Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. §611 et seq
- Yes - I HAVE filed a registration statement pursuant to the federal Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. §611 et seq

03
How many years do you have of full-time experience involving facilities maintenance in plumbing, electrical, and/or heating and cooling, or semi-skilled or technical work in a biological, horticultural, conservation, or natural resources program?
- I do not have the required experience
- Less than two years of full-time experience involving facilities maintenance in plumbing, electrical, and/or heating and cooling, or semi-skilled or technical work in a biological, horticultural, conservation, or natural resources program
- Two years or more of full-time experience involving facilities maintenance in plumbing, electrical, and/or heating and cooling, or semi-skilled or technical work in a biological, horticultural, conservation, or natural resources program

04
How many years do you have of a combination of post high school education in a biological or natural resources program AND/OR full time experience involving facilities maintenance in plumbing, electrical, and/or heating and cooling, or semi-skilled or technical work in a biological, horticultural, conservation, or natural resources program? 30 semester hours equals one year of experience.

- I do not have any of the combined required education and/or experience
- Less than two years of the combined required education and/or experience
- Two years or more of the combined required education and/or experience

05
Does your application demonstrate that you have 6 months' experience, 12 semester hours, or a combination of both in Fisheries Biology?

- Yes
- No

Required Question

Agency
State of Iowa

Agency
542 Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Address
Wallace State Office Building
502 E 9th St, 4th Floor
Des Moines, Iowa, 50319