

# **SNOHOMISH COUNTY JOB DESCRIPTION**

## **WATER QUALITY SPECIALIST III**

Spec No. 3268

### **BASIC FUNCTION**

To plan, develop and administer water quality programs and projects. Acts as the division liaison; with other governmental agencies on projects. Coordinates field and laboratory analyses and ensures the validity of data. Acts as project coordinator; managing consultant contracts.

### **STATEMENT OF ESSENTIAL JOB DUTIES**

1. Assumes lead role in supervising water quality technicians and water quality specialists in planning, developing and implementing water quality monitoring and restoration programs.
2. Conducts water quality studies by identifying needs and problems, and monitoring the collection of field data.
3. Manages the selection and administration of consultants and laboratories performing work.
4. Develops and administers the program's budget, work plan and schedules for each water quality project.
5. Prepares and submits grant and loan proposals; leads assigned team in implementing grant tasks; drafts and negotiates subcontracts.
6. Advises Executive and Council on water quality issues, including legal compliance, policy and budgetary issues; acts as technical resource in area of specialization and provides technical assistance to engineers, planners and other professionals in the county water quality issues.
7. Serves as liaison to various technical advisory committees and citizen interest groups; acts as liaison to various state and local agencies.
8. Insures that county's water quality program complies with federal, state and local laws.
9. Performs related duties as required.

### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

A Bachelor's degree in aquatic biology, fisheries biology, chemistry, microbiology, environmental engineering, limnology, toxicology or related scientific field, AND, four (4) years work experience in water quality programs or research or a related field, or a Master's degree in any of the referenced fields and two (2) years of qualifying work experience; OR, any equivalent combination of education and/or experience which provides the required knowledge and ability necessary to perform the work. Must pass job related tests.

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### **SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

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

### **KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES**

Knowledge of:

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

Ability to:

- analyze and evaluate field and laboratory work and take effective action to correct deficiencies and resolve problems.
- read, interpret and apply federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations.
- independently organize tasks, delegate responsibility and coordinate water quality monitoring under project deadlines.
- direct statistical analysis, interpret and evaluate field data.
- ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
- establish and maintain effective working relationships with other agencies, co-workers, and the general public.

### **PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS**

Walking along stream banks, in undeveloped areas. Seeing is required for getting around in off-trail locations. Occasional crawling through bush may be required. Moving or carrying objects over 20 pounds occasionally handling hazardous materials.

### **SUPERVISION**

Employees in this class receive direction from a administrative superior. The work is performed with considerable independence and is reviewed through meetings, periodic status reports and results obtained.

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#### WORKING CONDITIONS

The work is performed in the usual office environment with frequent field trips to locations throughout the county to make site visits, required to attend evening or weekend meetings or activities, weekly standing for prolonged periods, daily focusing on computer screen for 2 plus hours, occasional dealing with distraught or difficult individuals, weekly operating a motor vehicle on public roads.

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: August 1999  
EEO Category: 2 – Professionals  
Pay Grade: 243 – Classified  
Workers Comp: 1501 - Hazardous