Job Class: Natural Resources Specialist Fisheries

Working Title: Fisheries Specialist

Job ID: 34751
Location: Detroit Lakes
Full/Part Time: Full-Time
Regular/Temporary: Unlimited
Who May Apply: Open to all qualified job seekers
Date Posted: 10/29/2019
Closing Date: 11/18/2019
Hiring Agency/Seniority Unit: Department of Natural Resources
Division/Unit: Fish and Wildlife
Work Shift/Work Hours: Day Shift
Days of Work: Monday - Friday
Travel Required: Yes
Salary Range: $20.12 - $29.18/hourly; $42,010 - $60,927/annually
Classified Status: Classified
Bargaining Unit/Union: 214 - MN Assoc of Professional Empl/MAPE
FLSA Status: Exempt - Professional

Connect 700 Program Eligible: Yes

Job Summary

The Natural Resource Fisheries Specialist will perform professional level work in managing fisheries resources in the Detroit Lakes Fisheries management area. Responsibilities will include completion of resource inventories, information compilation and documentation of survey findings; development and administration of unique management planning evaluations designed to address information deficiencies or gain outcome-based measures of management programming; and development of lake and stream-specific management plans detailing or prescribing direct and indirect management strategies such as fish stocking, habitat enhancements, harvest regulations, and removal of barriers to fish movements necessary to sustain robust fisheries and quality fishing experiences.

NR Specialist Fisheries positions perform professional fisheries management work; implement a variety of professional and technical field management projects and activities; may function as project specialists on efforts devoted to fisheries management operations on a single major lake or river; or function as a technical specialist within a region.

Job responsibilities include design, implementation and supervision of projects as well as:

- Assist with planning, implementation, and reporting of lake and stream investigations so scientific data is available for management purposes, to detect significant changes in the aquatic environment, and to evaluate management
issues.
- Assist with planning and coordinating angler creel and recreational use surveys, compile and analyze results, and present data in written reports so that management decisions can be based on sound angler use and fish harvest data.
- Assist with fish propagation and distribution programs so that individual lake stocking objectives are met and healthy sport fisheries are maintained in public waters.
- Protect and improve fish and aquatic habitat in public waters so that aquatic resources are maintained or improved.
- Assist with special fish management projects so that angling opportunities are improved.
- Maintain and promote public relations so that various clienteles are informed of fisheries management programs and educated in aquatic resources issues.
- Assist with the maintenance of equipment and facilities, ensure that proper record keeping procedures are followed, and perform project and personal administrative duties so that work can be accomplished with maximum efficiency.
- To be safe and accountable for safe performance of all tasks by following established safety procedures and training so injuries and equipment damage are reduced or minimized.

**Minimum Qualifications:**

Bachelor's Degree in biology, fisheries, fish and wildlife, or closely associated area required. See the "How to Apply" section below for coursework requirements.

Ability to maintain and safely operate equipment, such as boats, motors, trailers, etc.

A thorough knowledge of fish sampling equipment, techniques, and principles of Fisheries Management and Ecology.

Writing skills sufficient to draft professional lake management plans, technical reports, letters, correspondence, etc.

Oral communication skills sufficient to inform the public and provide general information on fishing seasons and regulations.

Ability to work outdoors in adverse weather and environmental conditions on a frequent basis.

Computer literacy, including knowledge of databases, spreadsheets, and word processing.

**Preferred Qualifications:**

One year directed field fisheries experience conducting resource surveys using standard sampling gear and methodology (gill nets, trap nets, electrofishing etc.) or fish habitat assessments.

Communications, public relations and presentation skills sufficient to effectively present fisheries information including experience giving oral presentations to diverse groups of stakeholders, peers and youth groups.

Knowledge and technical experience with fish culture, handling, transport, and stocking to sustain recreational fisheries. Walleye and Muskellunge spawning, hatchery and pond production experience is highly desirable.

Experience with angler creel surveys.

Experience conducting stream surveys, documenting habitat attributes, and identifying habitat enhancement opportunities.

Knowledge and experience in remote sensing applications, GPS equipment, and GIS applications.

Technical experience in fish management and/or fish propagation.

Experience in developing and managing large databases, statistical analyses, data compilation and summarization, and report development.

Lead work experience.

Successful participation of the State of Minnesota Star of the North Fellowship program.
Physical Requirements

Requires occasionally lifting articles of 50-pounds maximum and frequently lifting and/or carrying objects such as heavy tools and file boxes. This job may require walking or standing to a significant degree on rough terrain or may involve sitting most of the time.

Additional Requirements

This position requires completion of specific coursework. See the "How to Apply" section below for instructions on required transcript submission.

This position requires an unrestricted Class D Driver's License with a clear driving record.

It is policy of the Department of the Natural Resources that all candidates submit to a background check prior to employment. All job offers are contingent upon passing the following components:

1. Criminal history check
2. Driver's license history
3. Employment Reference checks
4. SEIM4 Record check

Why Work For Us

The Department of Natural Resources is proud to operate within a Culture of Respect that provides a healthy, safe, and productive work environment for all employees. This means that our employees are supportive of a diverse workplace, are respectful to one another and to our customers. We believe that promoting a Culture of Respect allows our employees to do their best work in support of the agency’s mission.

GREAT BENEFITS PACKAGE! The State of Minnesota offers a comprehensive benefits package including low cost medical and dental insurance, employer paid life insurance, short and long term disability, pre-tax flexible spending accounts, retirement plan, tax-deferred compensation, generous vacation and sick leave, and 11 paid holidays each year.

How to Apply

Click “Apply” at the bottom of this page and submit an application and resume that clearly describes your experience in the areas listed above. If you are unable to apply online, please contact the job information line at 651.259.3637.

For applicants not currently in the NR Specialist Fisheries job class series, submit your unofficial transcript(s) to demonstrate satisfactory completion of the following coursework requirements:

A. Fisheries and aquatic sciences courses. A minimum of 4 courses, for a total of 12 semester or 18 quarter hours. Of the 4 courses, at least 2 must be directly related to fisheries science, and at least 1 must cover principles of fisheries science and management.
B. Other biological sciences courses that, when added to the preceding courses, total 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours.
C. Physical sciences courses. Fifteen semester or 23 quarter hours.
D. Mathematics and statistics courses. Six semester or 9 quarter hours, including 1 college algebra and 1 statistics course or 2 statistics courses.
E. Communications courses. Nine semester or 13 quarter hours (3 semester or 5 quarter hours may be taken in communications intensive courses if officially designated as such by the university or college).

*To receive credit for coursework, letter grades awarded must be ‘C-' or higher.

**Certification by the American Fisheries Society as an Associate Fisheries Professional or a Certified Fisheries Professional will be accepted in lieu of the required coursework.
Please submit your transcript(s) for either position by email to Henry Drewes at henry.drewes@state.mn.us. Failure to submit your transcript(s) by the close of the posting may affect your consideration for the position. Applicants currently in the NR Specialist Fisheries series, no transcript submission required.

For additional information about the application process, go to http://www.mn.gov/careers.

If you are a Connect 700 applicant, please submit your certificate to Elyse Anderson at elyse.anderson@state.mn.us or fax to 651.296.6494 by the job posting close date.

**Contact**

If you have questions about the position, contact Nathan Olson at nathan.olson@state.mn.us or 218-846-8292.

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**AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

The State of Minnesota is an equal opportunity, affirmative action, and veteran-friendly employer. We are committed to providing culturally responsive services to all Minnesotans. The State of Minnesota recognizes that a diverse workforce is essential and strongly encourages qualified women, minorities, individuals with disabilities, and veterans to apply.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) encourages participation in all its programs, services and activities and does not discriminate against qualified applicants with disabilities. Anyone who believes they may need a reasonable accommodation in order to fully participate in the job application, interview or selection processes may contact any agency official with whom applicant has contact in the processing of their employment application to request an accommodation. Applicants may also contact the DNR’s Affirmative Action office to request an accommodation by: E-mail: ADAdiversity.DNR@state.mn.us or by calling Sarah Spence-Koivisto at 651-259-5016; or using MN Relay 711.