

WEED MANAGEMENT FIELD INSPECTOR, LEAD

JOB PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

Primary responsibilities include inspection and enforcement services to insure that noxious and exotic weeds are eradicated and that State regulations regarding weeds are complied with. In the lead role, this position prioritizes, assigns, coordinates, monitors, evaluates work; provides technical assistance; resolves work and minor personnel problems; provides input to the Weed Management Director regarding performance evaluations, discipline, training, major job reassignments, and recruitment selection. The incumbent performs work with considerable independence, contributes to annual planning and in decision making in the coordination of projects, provides input in establishing department base line budget, and participates in the work of the unit. Additional responsibilities include conducting surveys of lands and waterways to detect early infestation, observing dredging to insure compliance, educating citizens on how to manage noxious weeds, and responding to complaints.

CLASSIFICATION DISTINCTIONS

This classification is the leadworker for a group of Field Inspectors and seasonal temporary laborers. The incumbent exercises independent judgment and demonstrates an advanced level of technical expertise.

KEY TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Conducts inspections of weed reports in order to eradicate noxious weeds and insure compliance with State regulations.
- Provides work assignments for field inspectors, entry level and seasonal workers; inspects completed work for compliance with standard procedures; provides input to performance evaluations of assigned staff; responds to requests for assistance or guidance from assigned employees.
- Prepares reports of weed infestations as identified through inspections.
- Interfaces with other counties, cities, the state and federal agencies to inform and assist them when infestations are found in their jurisdictions.
- Applies herbicides and operates various equipment such as shovels, machetes, infra-red cameras, global positioning systems, watercraft and dredges.
- Provides information and education through public speaking and development of written materials to citizens about controlling noxious weeds.
- Observes dredging operations of private contractors for compliance with dredge permits.
- Periodically surveys waterways to detect early infestations of invasive aquatic weeds.
- Conducts enforcement proceedings against property owners to insure compliance with RCW and County Code.
- Develops a library of multi-media training aids.

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- Researches and documents facts and information for grant applications.
- Assists in the guidance, training and direction of volunteers.
- Provides assistance to the Weed Management Director and the office staff to enhance productivity and administration of the Department.
- Performs related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS

- A Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience in botany, horticulture or a related field and four years of experience in vegetation control and weed identification.
- A valid motor vehicle operator's license and herbicide applicators license are required.
- Moderate to advanced computer skills.

Knowledge of....botany and plant identification; principles of weed eradication and control; chemicals and tools used for the elimination of weeds; state and local laws and regulations pertaining to weed control.

Ability to....conduct inspections of waterways and lands to detect early infestation; operate equipment such as jet ski's, dredges, and various hand tools; read maps and identify locations; communicate both orally and in writing; develop and deliver presentations on weed control; apply herbicides with care and attention to hazardous materials cautions.

WORK ENVIRONMENT AND PHYSICAL DEMANDS

Incumbents typically work in the field. Work involves identifying and inspecting for noxious weeds, interacting with the public regarding complaints about weeds which may be stressful or sensitive, and assisting in record keeping and report writing.

Essential tasks include application of herbicides, driving motor vehicles, watercraft, dredges and mowers and operation of various hand tools such as shovels, machetes, infra-red cameras and survey equipment.

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