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## Hydrologist (Headquarters) 12

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### GS-1315-12.HQ

NOTE: THE SENTENCE IN PART I DESCRIBING THE PURPOSE OF THE POSITION AND PARTS II AND III IN THEIR ENTIRETY ARE PERMANENT PARTS OF THE LIBRARY AND MAY NOT BE CHANGED OR EDITED IN ANY WAY.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

Serves as a journeyman hydrologist in a program or project support position organizationally located within NWS Headquarters. Performs duties in support of managers and/or program leaders responsible for policy development; operations planning; hydrometeorologic systems development, implementation, maintenance, and support; interagency coordination; international cooperation; training support; and other headquarters functions.

#### II. MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Applies professional hydrologic understanding and related skills in support of program functions at headquarters. Performs a variety of assignments such as preparation of presentations, writing of memoranda and operational manual sections; documentation of NWS field office requirements for new hydrometeorologic systems; and participation in the design, development, and implementation of hydrologic systems and support. Assimilates data and information, interacts with users, and performs analyses needed to support policy decisions and support the continual operation and enhancement of the Hydrologic Services Program.

#### III. FACTOR LEVELS

Factor 1 - Knowledge Required FL 1-7, 1,250 pts.

Knowledge of theories, methods, and techniques of professional hydrology sufficient to analyze, develop, and support hydrologic systems and policies; knowledge of agency programs related to hydrology; knowledge of NWS communications systems and techniques used in hydrologic data collection and dissemination. Knowledge of radar, satellite and remote instrument technology used in the measurement of hydrologic data such as stream flow, snowpack, and rainfall. Basic knowledge of meteorological principles and practices. Also has knowledge of the commonly used, computer-related technologies of modern hydrologic science including FORTRAN, C, or other current programming languages.

Factor 2 - Supervisory Controls FL 2-4, 450 pts.

Employee is fully responsible for planning, organizing, scheduling and completing assignments, which are received in terms of very general instructions. Supervisor discusses objectives and scope, priorities, and instructions on new or revised policies and procedures, and is available when problems are encountered. Completed work is accepted as technically sound, and reviewed only for adherence to established policies and accomplishment of objectives.

Factor 3 - Guidelines FL 3-4, 450 pts.

Guidelines used include appropriate reference materials such as systems and operations manuals, hardware and software design documents, national directives, policies, agreements, plans, textbooks, technical papers, journals, and other such documents. Because these guidelines will often have only partial applicability to assigned projects, the incumbent relies on technical experience and training as well as general knowledge of field and headquarters operations and objections.

Factor 4 - Complexity FL 4-4, 225 pts.

The work involves developing solutions to diverse policy, operational, and technological problems facing the Hydrologic Service Program. Assignments may include studies and analyses of a wide range of national policies; field office requirements; and hydrologic information, data, models, and systems. The employee may have to weigh and adapt a range of variables to any given situation in order to improve existing systems and operations or develop new systems and operations which best meet the requirements of the Hydrologic Service Program.

Factor 5 - Scope and Effect FL 5-4, 225 pts.

The purpose of the work is to support the resolution of a wide range of noncontroversial policy and/or hydrologic modeling/data systems issues that are unique to the agency. The work impacts the effectiveness of the Hydrologic Service Program and the water resources-related efforts of cooperators.

Factor 6 - Personal Contacts FL 6-3, 60 pts.

Contacts are made with employees in the unit, officials of other federal, state and local government agencies, general and specific nongovernmental user groups, and the general public.

Factor 7 - Purpose of Contacts FL 7-3, 120 pts.

The purpose of contacts is to plan, coordinate, consult and advise on technical/policy solutions to problems; to resolve operational problems and reconcile conflicting requirements for new and existing systems; to secure the cooperation of client officials in advancing hydrology-related efforts; and/or to assess, explain, and negotiate support requirements with clients and users.

Factor 8 - Physical Demands FL 8-1, 5 pts.

The work is sedentary but may involve some travel.

Factor 9 - Work Environment FL 9-1, 5 pts.

The work is performed primarily in an office setting.

TOTAL = 2,790 pts.

This position is exempt from coverage under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

#### **IV. UNIQUE POSITION REQUIREMENTS**

(Last updated: April 19, 1995)

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