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Oceanographer 11

GS-1360-11

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I. INTRODUCTION

This position is located in

Conducts independent analyses requiring a thorough knowledge of the field of oceanography.

II. MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Assumes independent responsibility for an oceanographic study, either at sea or on land, or for the oceanographic phase of a combined marine science study. Plans and prepares technical and operational specifications for the study. Evaluates and interprets results to determine their scientific significance and to ensure that all aspects of the information required are provided and prepares scientific reports of the results.

Researches the literature, both domestic and foreign, relating to the study to be conducted. Assembles and selects pertinent data for analysis and interpretation. Prepares scientific manuscripts consolidating, correlating, and interpreting the significance of data from various sources on the ocean phenomenon being studied.

III. FACTOR LEVELS

Factor 1 - Knowledge Required by the Position FL 1-7, 1250 pts.

Professional knowledge of the principles, practices and theories of oceanography sufficient to conduct complex studies, including development of plans and methods, and analysis, evaluation and interpretation of data. Thorough knowledge of the subject matter of the field of investigation and study.

General knowledge of the principles, theories, and practices of related scientific fields, such as marine science.

Skill in developing and modifying analytical methods and techniques as necessary.

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

Supervisor provides only general objectives, priorities, and instructions and is available when unconventional, controversial, or peculiar situations develop. Employee is fully responsible for independently planning, organizing, and completing studies of some complexity. Completed work is accepted as technically sound, based on scientific logic, and is reviewed for adequacy of conclusions and soundness of procedures and methods used.

Factor 3 - Guidelines FL 3-3, 275 pts.

Guidelines include technical scientific references and literature, accepted oceanographic methods and practices, established laboratory practices, and general agency work policy and directives. Judgment is used in evaluating and selecting the appropriate guides to use for the study being conducted and in deviating from precedents as needed.

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

Assignments are varied, difficult, and complex, and require planning and execution of studies as well as interpreting the scientific significance of results. Judgment is applied in selecting and evaluating data and in deviating from precedents and guidelines.

Factor 5 - Scope and Effect FL 5-3, 150 pts.

Work involves a variety of problems or studies which may be solved by using established practices, although there often is a need to deviate from these precedents. The work affects reliability and acceptability of subsequent scientific products. Recommendations and conclusions affect reliability of unit's products.

Factor 6 - Personal Contacts FL 6-2, 25 pts.

Personal contacts include team members, other oceanographers and scientists within the agency.

Factor 7 - Purpose of Contacts FL 7-2, 50 pts.

Contacts are made to obtain additional information about the assignment or to clarify the problem to be solved, the data needed, or report the results. Contacts with others are also to discuss methodological problems.

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

The work is primarily sedentary, with occasional walking, bending, and lifting.

Factor 9 - Work Environment FL 9-2, 20 pts.

While most work is performed in an office or laboratory setting, many oceanographers routinely spend time at sea, subject to extreme, unexpected weather situations. Other oceanographers routinely visit hazardous material spills in coastal and estuarine waters, requiring the use of protective clothing and equipment.

TOTAL = 2,450 pts.

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

IV. UNIQUE POSITION REQUIREMENTS

(Last Updated: November 4, 1994)

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