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Oceanographer Researcher 12

GS-1360-12

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I. INTRODUCTION

This position is located in

Incumbent conducts independent research or is a member of a team performing research on specific problems in oceanography.

II. MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Incumbent writes scientific papers for publication, investigates long range and short term oceanographic problems, and recommends solutions. Typical of duties at this level are:

Conducts independent investigations which result in a description of bio-geochemical processes within the world's oceans.

Develops new techniques for the quality control and processing of large data sets, including chemical, physical, and biological oceanographic data sets.

Analyzes data obtained from oceanographic investigations, interprets results, and prepares research quality papers for publication.

III. FACTOR LEVELS

FACTOR 1 - Research Situation/Assignment Degree B, 4 pts.

The oceanographic research situation is of greater than average difficulty and complexity. The investigation often requires a series of complete but related studies. The research is personally conducted by the incumbent, or, at times, by a member of a team of scientists and technicians where the incumbent is the scientific coordinator. Investigations often require unconventional or novel approaches, including sophisticated research techniques.

Completed research will result in a series of publishable contributions to oceanographic knowledge to answer important questions and suggest new avenues of further study. The research will make important contributions to the validation or modification of scientific theory or methodology in the field of oceanography, which may result in changes to existing products, processes, techniques or practices.

FACTOR 2 - Supervision Received Degree B, 4 pts.

The incumbent is assigned a broad problem area with freedom to identify, define and select the specific problem(s) for study. With little or no supervisory assistance, incumbent formulates hypotheses, develops and carries out plan of attack. Supervisor is kept informed through informal discussions of general plans and progress of work. Proposals to alter the level or direction of investigation are subject to supervisory review and approval. Completed work is reviewed for overall results.

FACTOR 3 - Guidelines and Originality Degree C, 6 pts.

Significant gaps or contradictory findings exist in relevant oceanographic literature. Incumbent applies, therefore, a high degree of originality in defining and delimiting problems for study. The incumbent applies new techniques and original methods of attack to solution of important problems in oceanographic science. These problems present novel or unprecedented aspects.

FACTOR 4 - Qualifications and Scientific Contributions Degree B, 8 pts.

Incumbent is author of one or more papers of considerable interest to other researchers in the assigned research situation.

Accomplishments demonstrate the ability to independently conduct research or contribute significantly to a research team. Incumbent consults with others on results of the research.

Total Points: 4+4+6+8 = 22

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

IV. UNIQUE POSITION REQUIREMENTS

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