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## Research Hydrologist 14

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### GS-1315-14

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

This position is located in

This position performs scientific research into critical problems of hydrologic phenomena and related scientific disciplines, such as meteorology, atmospheric physics, etc.

#### II. MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The incumbent is assigned to assist in directing and/or coordinating activities necessary for the national implementation of specific hydrologic forecast procedures, for example those associated with the Water Resources Forecast System (WARFS). High level coordination will be given to technical procedures required for the operation of new software at River Forecast Centers (RFCs) and Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) throughout the country. Such procedures include hydrologic data collection, statistical analysis with expanded use of probabilities of occurrence in hydrologic forecasts [including the Extended Streamflow Prediction (ESP) System], and tailoring of results to meet user needs.

Coordination involves other parts of the National Weather Service River Forecast System to assure effective performance. It may also involve other government agencies for data exchange, cross training, etc. Further, the incumbent assists in coordinating research contracts or cooperative agreements. The incumbent will also assist in planning, training, operational support, and coordination for the maintenance of software required for assigned projects.

The implementation of enhanced procedures into the RFC Forecast Systems will result in more frequent forecasts, processed with increased data sampling density, to provide greater accuracy and longer forecast lead times and expanded information on the extent and timing of flooding.

#### III. FACTOR LEVELS

Factor 1 - Research Situation/assignment Degree D, 8 pts.

The research situation is of greater-than-average difficulty and complexity. The problem area must be approached by a series of complete but related studies. The incumbent may either personally conduct the research or lead a team of scientists/technicians. Sophisticated research techniques must be applied to solve problems. Studies will result in a series of publishable contributions to hydrological knowledge. Investigations will result in important changes to existing products, processes, techniques or practices.

Factor 2 - Supervision Received Degree D, 8 pts.

The research conducted by the incumbent is subject to broad technical supervision within the framework of broad goals, guidelines, and perspectives. The incumbent is responsible for developing the research plans for specialty area(s), adjusting them to meet new developments, addressing problems as they arise, and analyzing and interpreting results. Management is kept current on project status through discussion and progress reports.

Factor 3 - Guidelines and Originality Degree D, 8 pts.

The incumbent applies new techniques and original methods of attack to the solution of important hydrologic problems that present novel or unprecedented aspects, and for which there is a dearth of scientific literature. A high degree of insight is required to isolate and define critical features of problem. A high degree of ingenuity is needed to adapt, extend and synthesize existing theory, principles and techniques, or, at times, to formulate new theory or methodology.

Factor 4: Qualifications and Scientific Contributions Degree D, 16 pts.

Incumbent is becoming recognized for outstanding achievements in a critical aspect of hydrology which would include surface water hydrology. Incumbent a) has authored a one or more important papers, which are beginning to have a major impact on the field or are becoming accepted as definitive of areas of it, and/or; b) has contributed new inventions, designs or techniques regarded as important advances in the state of the art; c) is regularly sought out by peers who are specialists and recognized scientists in the field; d) may be invited to address national professional organizations.

Other researchers take note of the incumbent's published results/papers in order to keep abreast of new developments in the field.

TOTAL POINTS: 8+8+8+16 = 40

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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