



SALTCEDAR, VEGETATION, WEED MANAGER

DEFINITION: Plans, organizes, directs, regulates, and reviews the operation of a field program; develops and implements programs to control invasive weed species and/or field data collection; evaluates work and takes appropriate action to maintain an effective working force; prepares and administers the annual budget; seeks and administers funds to operate the program.

ESSENTIAL JOB DUTIES:

Specific duties will vary with the organizational unit to which assigned.

Examples of this include:

Saltcedar Eradication Program - Plans and conducts studies on methods of saltcedar and invasive weed control; develops long-term control plans, and annual saltcedar and invasive weed control programs within budgetary constraints; establishes lines of authority to carry out program; prepares and presents reports to the department head and others, including the public; assists in determining and developing operating policy; recruits, selects, and assigns subordinate employees; assists in the supervision of prison laborers involved with the program; recommends employee salary structure; and directs employee training programs. Works with and/or negotiates with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, the California Department of Fish and Game, the California Department of Forestry, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and other agencies as necessary to establish, carry out, and fund a saltcedar/invasive weed control program in the Owens Valley (including the Lower Owens River Project); acts as the department's liaison to the Eastern Sierra Weed Management Area; maintains budgetary controls over expenditures; seeks grant funding for program; ensures that program facilities and equipment are effectively utilized; plans, develops, and directs a program of public relations and community education; keeps informed of latest developments in saltcedar and invasive weed control and related fields; works effectively with other staff in the department; works as control technician; performs related work as required.

Vegetation Monitoring - Plan, organize, supervise, and conduct field data collection related to Water Department goals. Duties include both working in the field collecting data, and in the office organizing field work and working with data. Coordinate with other Water Department staff on vegetation monitoring, monitoring related to Lower Owens River Project, hydrologic measurements, soil moisture measurements.

Coordinate with Water Department science staff to plan, install, and maintain monitoring sites; maintains Water Department field equipment and vehicles; assist in design and execution of research and monitoring activities; collect and organize field and laboratory data; perform quality control procedures on data and equipment; assist Water Department GIS/LAN Administrator in maintaining and appending to Water Department databases; prepare short technical reports; training of research assistants and/or seasonal field assistants and coordinate and supervise activities of these personnel.

Agriculture - Plans, organizes, directs, regulates, and reviews the operation of one or more programs; evaluates work and takes appropriate action to maintain an effective working force, assists in the preparation of budgets; makes continuing and periodic surveys and directs the studies of mosquito and invasive plant occurrence and problems; confers with technical and scientific personnel on programs and priorities for mosquito and invasive plant abatement; assigns functions and lines of authority to carry out program's purpose; prepares and presents reports to the governing board and assists in determining and developing operating policy; recruits, selects, and assigns subordinate employees; directs employee training programs; maintains budgetary controls over expenditures; sees that program facilities and equipment are effectively utilized; coordinates program, private parties and public agencies to effect and stimulate projects favorable to the prevention and control of mosquitoes and invasive plants; coordinates the Eastern Sierra Weed Management Area, organizes and operates GIS software and hardware, applies GIS to manipulate data and updates and maintains GIS databases for invasive plant inventory and control projects, vector surveillance operations, vector control operations, mosquito breeding sources, and service requests, plans, develops, and directs a program of public relations and community education; keeps informed of latest developments in mosquito and invasive plant control and related fields, participates in daily field operations as needed.

Field Ecological Activities: Conducts studies and surveys of vector and invasive plant population measurement by way of collection, identification, recording, and evaluation of findings; works closely with other state and area agencies on entomological and educational programs; performs disease surveillance operations in the field, develops new surveillance tools for monitoring populations of mosquitoes and other vectors; draft reports, maps, and graphs for surveillance and control operations; coordinates the development and direction of programs to reduce or eliminate environmental factors favorable to mosquito production; performs field identification of mosquitos for Owens Valley Mosquito Abatement Program and other agencies, private and public.

Other Activities: Provides scientific consultation to Agricultural Commissioner, Health Officials and Veterinarians on various program operations; review scientific journals, research and technical reports and attends scientific seminars as needed to obtain state-of-the-art information related to vector ecology and invasive plant management. Completes other duties as directed by Agricultural Commissioner.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

Education/Experience: Graduation from an accredited college or university with at least 60 units college or university credit in Environmental Studies, botany, ecology, or related science; plus four years of related experience and one year of supervision experience.

Knowledge and Abilities: Thorough knowledge of administrative practices, principles of organization, and fiscal and personnel management; invasive plant control operations and practices; herbicides and hazards to humans and the environment; programs of irrigation and water-spreading and public and private organizations with functions related to saltcedar control; operate scientific equipment such as a GPS receiver and input data into a GIS system; basic computer skills; make effective written and oral presentations; work and negotiate with outside agencies; and ability to supervise employees and participants in the program.

Special requirements: Must possess or obtain within six months of appointment a Qualified Applicator Certificate issued by the California Department of Pesticide Regulations; must possess a valid operator's license issued by the State Department of Motor Vehicles; must be willing and able to travel throughout the Owens Valley in the course of work; must have ability to operate chainsaw, brush cutters, axe, loppers, handsaw, and sprayer; ability to work outdoors in extreme temperatures and weather, walk up to four miles per day carrying up to 40 pounds of weight.