

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
CLASSIFICATION SPECIFICATION

FISHERIES TECHNICIAN

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose of This Classification Specification

This classification specification is the basic authority under Wis. Admin. Code ER 2.04 for making classification decisions relative to present and future fisheries technician positions within the Department of Natural Resources. This classification specification is not intended to identify every duty which may be assigned to positions, but is intended to serve as a framework for classification decision making in this occupational area.

Classification decisions must be based on the “best fit” of the duties within the existing classification structure. The “best fit” is determined by the majority (more than 50%) of the work assigned to and performed by the position when compared to the class concepts and definition of this specification or through other methods of position analysis. Position analysis defines the nature and character of the work through the use of any or all of the following definition statements; listing of areas of specialization; representative examples of work performed; allocation patterns of representative positions; job evaluation guide charts, standards or factors; statements of inclusion and exclusion; licensure or certification requirements; and other such information necessary to facilitate the assignment of positions to the appropriate classification.

B. Inclusions

This classification encompasses positions found within the Department of Natural Resources’ basins and fish production facilities throughout the state. These positions are involved in a variety of program support activities such as the repair and maintenance of fyke nets; spawning various species of fish; rearing fish; planting fish fry and fingerlings; creel census; lake and stream surveys; data tabulation; and stream and lake habitat development design and planning projects.

C. Exclusions

Excluded from this classification are the following types of positions:

1. Positions which meet the statutory definition(s) of supervisor and/or management as defined in Wis. Stats. 111.81(19) and (13) as administered and interpreted by the Wisconsin Employment Relations Commission.
2. Positions which are, for a majority of time, engaged in technical paraprofessional fisheries management activities and are more appropriately classified within the Fisheries Technician-Advanced classification specification.
3. All other positions which are more appropriately identified by other classification specifications.

D. Entrance into This Classification

Employees enter positions within this classification by competitive examination.

**II. DEFINITIONS**

**FISHERIES TECHNICIAN**

Positions allocated to this classification: (1) participate in the extraction and collection of spawn; forage minnow and zoo plankton collection and distribution; propagation and rearing of warm/cool/cold water fish species; disease control; harvest and distribution of fish to lakes and streams; and maintenance of facilities, grounds and equipment; (2) participate in the rearing of fish in hatcheries and ponds which includes chemical treatments, monitoring and controlling of rearing environments, and the feeding process; (3) perform creel census by recording fishing pressure counts, interviewing anglers, and collecting and summarizing biological data; (4) function as a member of the region operations crew constructing and maintaining netting gear and equipment; performing warm/cool/cold water propagation activities; performing habitat development and habitat maintenance on state properties and easements; or (5) perform a variety of development and implementation activities as an assistant to a Fisheries Technician-Advanced, Fisheries Biologist or Natural Resources Supervisor. Work is performed under general supervision.

**Representative Positions :**

Crew Leader– Perform work in warm/cool/cold water fish propagation to include spawning, forage, rearing, harvesting, distribution, net and seine repair and construction. Serve as crew chief during spawning and forage operations with responsibility for assigned personnel and equipment; train and instruct Limited Term Employees and permanent staff in methods, procedures and aspects of warm/cool/cold water fish propagation.

Propagation Technician – Perform technical propagation operations including egg incubation, disease control, water level control, water quality monitoring, detailed record keeping, and outlying forage collection for hatchery productions. Monitor and observe the condition of eggs, fry and water quality and make needed corrections and adjustments when necessary.

Creel Census Clerk – Under the direction of the Treaty Assessment Biologist/Fisheries Technician-Advanced, conduct angler counts and interviews on lakes and streams to collect information to help determine fishing pressure, catch, harvest, and exploitation of the fishery. Provide field summarization of survey data. Assist field crews in surveys of selected lakes and streams. Serve as a point of contact for the public on a broad area of resource questions. Assist in educating and delivering information to the public on aquatic habitat protection.

Fisheries Crew Leader – As a member of the Regional Fish Habitat Subteam, conduct lake and stream surveys to gather data on warm/cool/cold water fishery populations; implement stream and lake habitat development projects; implement the region operations warmwater propagation program; construct and maintain seines, and fyke nets; direct permanent, seasonal and Limited Term Employees; and coordinate cooperative projects with clubs and volunteers.

Fisheries Technician – Provides technical support to the Southeast Region's (SER) Lake Michigan Work Unit including assisting in the assessment and surveying of sport fisheries and fish population in SER Lake Michigan waters and tributary streams; assisting in the maintenance of databases compiled during

Lake Michigan salmonid assessment; and disseminating written and verbal information in response to request by staff and the public.

**III. QUALIFICATIONS**

The qualifications required for these positions will be determined at the time of recruitment. Such determinations will be made based on an analysis of the goals and worker activities performed and by an identification of the education, training, work, or other life experience which would provide reasonable assurance that the knowledge and skills required upon appointment have been acquired.

**IV. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

This classification was created effective May 21, 2000 and announced in Bulletin CLR/SC-112 to describe positions which perform fisheries work at the Department of Natural Resources.

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