

PD Tracking Number 0000827

Major Duties

Incumbent performs technical work in a laboratory or field environment in support of professional or technical employees engaged in data collection activities or analysis of biological data collection activities or analysis of biological samples. Performs one or more of the following duties:

--Collects biological, botany, fisheries, or wildlife data from study files or monitoring stations.

--Performs laboratory analysis of biological samples to determine specified chemical, biological, or physical characteristics.

--Operates a government motor vehicle or a boat as an incidental driver.

FACTOR 1 KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED BY THE POSITION (Level 1-4, 550 points)

Practical knowledge of the technical methods and procedures of biological sciences to organize and execute a variety of limited operations projects.

Knowledge of routine field data collection procedures in order to collect biological data.

Skill in the operation, maintenance, and servicing of a variety of biological recording and measuring instruments.

Knowledge of procedures and techniques utilized in a biological laboratory for measuring the physical and chemical parameters of organisms.

FACTOR 2 SUPERVISORY CONTROLS (Level 2-2, 125 points)

Works under the general supervision of a biological scientist or technician. Routine assignments are independently performed with only general instructions. Detailed instructions are provided for new or unusual assignments. Nonroutine work is reviewed in progress and all work is reviewed upon completion for accuracy and conformance to instructions.

FACTOR 3 GUIDELINES (Level 3-1, 25 points)

Guidelines include manuals on techniques of data collection or laboratory analysis, procedural directives, oral instructions, and previously established methods of operating, servicing, installing, and setting up equipment and instruments. Guidelines are detailed and relate directly to assignments. Necessary deviations from established procedures are discussed with the supervisor.

FACTOR 4 COMPLEXITY (Level 4-2, 75 points)

Assignments consist of specific data collection or laboratory analysis tasks. Tasks are usually routine, requiring accuracy and attention to detail in operating, servicing equipment, and recognizing unusual situations which may affect the accuracy of data.

FACTOR 5 SCOPE AND EFFECT (Level 5-2, 75 points)

Purpose of the work is to collect data or perform laboratory analysis of biological samples that will

be subject to further analysis by scientist or technicians. Work efforts have an impact on the accuracy of reports prepared by the office.

**FACTOR 6 PERSONAL CONTACTS AND
FACTOR 7 PURPOSE OF CONTACTS (Level 2-a, 45 points)**

Personal Contacts

Personal contacts are with professional employees or technicians in the immediate office or laboratory. There may be some contact with the general public, such as landowners, in conducting day-to-day field activities.

Purpose of Contacts

Contacts are chiefly to obtain advice or direction, to clarify or exchange information. Contacts with landowners are to obtain permission for access to property.

FACTOR 8 PHYSICAL DEMANDS (Level 8-2, 20 points)

Work is physically demanding and includes walking, bending, climbing, and lifting of equipment up to 100 pounds when in the field, sometimes during adverse conditions.

FACTOR 9 WORK ENVIRONMENT (Level 9-2, 20 points)

The work is performed outdoors, and involves moderate or sometimes extreme exposure to the discomforts of rain, cold/hot weather, and rapidly running or icy streams and rivers. Special safety precautions are required in many cases, and the employee may typically wear life jackets, special safety boots, waders, and special organism handling gear.

TOTAL POINTS 925

GRADE CONVERSION GG-05

Grade Level Guide for Aid and Technical Work in the Biological Sciences GS-400, 12/91