

PD Tracking Number 0000826

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 processes, methods and procedures of biological science to perform a variety of assignments.

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.

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

FACTOR 2 SUPERVISORY CONTROLS (Level 2-1, 25 points)

Works under the close supervision of a biological scientist or technician. Instructions are provided with each assignment. Work is checked in progress and 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 provide support to scientists and technicians in the collection of biological data or laboratory analysis of biological samples.

FACTOR 6 PERSONAL CONTACTS AND

FACTOR 7 PURPOSE OF CONTACTS (Level 1-a, 30 points)

Personal Contacts

Personal contacts are with professional employees or technicians in the immediate office or laboratory.

Purpose of Contacts

Contacts are to provide or obtain information concerning work assignments.

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 in a laboratory or field environment. Field work 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 820

GRADE CONVERSION GG-04

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