

AQUATIC BIOLOGIST V

I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

Position/Pseudo Number: 125507 (92314C)
Department: Land and Natural Resources
Division: Aquatic Resources
Branch: Mitigation, Aquaculture, Resiliency, and Restoration
Section: Coral Reef Research, Resiliency, & Restoration
Geographic Location: Sand Island, Oahu

II. INTRODUCTION

Function of this organizational unit: Engages in activities that preserve, enhance, restore, and increase resiliency for the State's native aquatic resources and their associated habitats by promoting stakeholder stewardship, while supporting cultural and traditional practices to ensure the long-term viability of Hawaii's aquatic ecosystems.

Purpose of the position: The primary responsibility of this position is to plan, direct, and coordinate activities associated with coral restoration including coral husbandry operations, coral mitigation, and emergency coral restoration response efforts. This position manages the coral restoration nursery at the Anuenue Fisheries Research Station on Sand Island and related projects; directs and oversees the work of project staff. Provides a broad range of locally specialized services in support of the Division's coral restoration projects, including providing expertise in the science of coral restoration, collection, and out-planting, and seeking funding to support program operations and upgrades.

III. MAJOR DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Coral Restoration

80%

1. Direct operations of the coral restoration nursery (coral nursery) at the Anuenue Fisheries Research Station (AFRC) on Sand Island; oversees support of aquatic life, including coral husbandry, holding facilities, infrastructure, and maintenance; advises and develops State policies, goals, and objectives related to coral restoration. [1][2]
2. Directs and manages day-to-day maintenance, repairs, minor fabrications, and staff on duty at the coral nursery and AFRC to ensure health and survivorship of marine life. [1][2]
3. Provides coordination and collaborative support for operations at AFRC [1][2].
4. Seeks program funding and develop grants to maintain and develop coral restoration projects, including project proposals, operating plans; prepares budgets, and oversees expenditures. [1][2]

5. Provides guidance and support for scientific research, policy, best management practices, and management efforts, including workforce development to expand coral restoration capacity for the state of Hawaii. [1][2]
6. Schedules, plans, and conducts coral restoration operations including coral nursery maintenance, coral propagation, coral reef surveys, out-planting, and monitoring. [1][2]
7. Promotes and provides innovative input in the development, coordination, management, scientific accuracy, and communication of coral restoration activities, and programs.
8. Plans and directs coral restoration projects to ensure deliverables are met; creates, reviews, and edits reports related to coral nursery operations and projects. Manages data to ensure accuracy and efficiency. [1][2]
9. Establishes and maintains cooperative, consultative and coordinated relationships with other divisions, agencies (state, federal and county), committees, elected officials, research institutions, community groups, Native Hawaiian groups, and non-government organizations [1][2]
10. Represents the Division at meetings, workshops, task forces, committees, working groups, advisory groups, conferences, public meetings, and other events and activities, serving as a coral resource person and facilitator. [1][2]
11. Maintains project records and ensures project compliance with internal policies and external requirements. [1][2]
12. Works with DAR's Special Activity Permit Coordinator to review and provide consultation for State and Federal permits associated with coral restoration and take. [1][2]
13. Develops and recommends policies on safety protocols in collaboration with relevant staff; ensures all staff are compliant with safety regulations; ensures project compliance with external requirements, including appropriate biological research, and coral restoration permits. [1][2]
14. Oversees the development of dive safety plans related to coral restoration activities that are compliant with the DAR Diving Safety Manual. [1][2]
15. Mentors and promotes staff growth and professional development. Oversees staff trainings and maintains a positive workplace culture. [1][2]
16. Leads the development of coral nursery protocols, nursery policies, and standard operating procedure documents in collaboration with relevant staff. [1][2]
17. Hires/supervises and advises staff, contractual hires and volunteers; directs, oversees, and assigns work to project staff; oversees, trains, supports, and evaluates staff performance and monitors work schedules. [1][2]
18. Performs surveys (utilizing SCUBA up to depths of 130 feet and/or Snorkel) of coral restoration sites, coral reef damage sites, invasive species invasions, and incidents of habitat destruction; evaluates findings; prepares timely reports of results; and, where possible, recommends appropriate remedial action. [1] [2]
19. Participates in long-term coral reef monitoring and management projects. [1] [2]

B. Other Duties

20%

1. Provides information on aquatic life and coral activities in Hawaii in response to telephone, correspondence, public and media inquiries. [1][2]
2. Coordinates resource planning and funding; participates in preparation of program budgets, project proposals, and grant applications. [1][2]
3. Participate in public and interagency meetings, workshops, hearings and so forth, representing interests of the Division to representatives of other agencies and to community groups. [1][2]
4. Other tasks and duties of similar scope and difficulty.

[1] The performance of this function is the reason that the job exists.

[2] There are limited employees among whom the performance of this function can be distributed.

[3] This function is highly specialized. Employees are hired for the skill/ability to perform this function.

Evidence considered in determining essential duties included relevance and amount of time spent per task, consequences of not requiring a person to perform the task, nature of operation, importance of task related to overall program.

Supervises Positions(s) No.

Title

Supervises specialized, temporary, staff including interns, fellows, and contractors.

IV. CONTROLS EXERCISED OVER THE WORK

A. Supervisor

Position No.

125415

Class title

Aquatic Biologist VI

The position is supervised directly by the Aquatic Biologist VI (Position No, 125415) who heads the Coral Reef Research, Resiliency, and Restoration Section.

B. Nature of Supervisory Control Exercise over the Work

Work assignments are performed independently. Scope of assignment, objectives, and the nature of end products expected are initially specified by the Supervisor.

Supervision is limited primarily to advice on new policies or procedures; however, the employee may seek guidance or specific assistance from Aquatic Biologist VI (Position No. 125415) at any time.

C. Nature of Available Guidelines Controlling the Work

Revised Statutes; Hawaii Administrative Rules; State Administrative Policies and Procedures; and applicable Federal Rules and Regulations. Procedural guides cover all technical aspects of the work. The employee is expected to know and apply all pertinent State and Federal rules, regulations, policies, and procedures; Division of Aquatic Resources Diving Safety manual.

V. REQUIRED LICENSES, CERTIFICATES, ETC.

This position requires possession of a Basic Open Water Diver (SCUBA) certification or a higher level SCUBA certification (e.g. rescue diver certification, master diver certification, etc.). Must also pass a medical examination to determine physical fitness for SCUBA diving and obtain scientific diver certification within the probation period. Must be able to obtain all certifications to meet DAR scientific diver status requirements within the probationary period and maintain throughout the duration of employment. Applicant must have a valid driver's license.

VI. RECOMMENDED QUALIFICATIONS

A. Knowledge:

Refer to class specifications for the Aquatic Biologist V class of work and the Specialized Experience selective certification for the position.

B. Skills/Abilities:

Refer to class specifications for the Aquatic Biologist V class of work and the Specialized Experience selective certification for the position.

C. Education:

Refer to class specifications for the Aquatic Biologist V class of work and the Specialized Experience selective certification for the position.

D. Experience:

Refer to class specifications for the Aquatic Biologist V class of work and the Specialized Experience selective certification for the position.

Supervisory Aptitude

Applicants must possess supervisory aptitude.

E. Physical Condition: The position requires good health, physical endurance, and fitness for qualifying under standards of the Department's Safe Practices Manual and Safety Program for SCUBA Diving, willingness to work long and irregular hours, and occasionally to perform tasks under potentially hazardous conditions.