



**Classification:** Environmental Scientist  
**Position Number:** 880-300-0762-079

**DUTY STATEMENT**

**CURRENT**       **PROPOSED**

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <b>RPA Number:</b><br>25-300-146                    | <b>Classification Title:</b><br>Environmental Scientist | <b>Position Number:</b><br>880-300-0762-079  |
| <b>Incumbent Name:</b><br>Vacant                    | <b>Working Title:</b><br>Environmental Scientist        | <b>Effective Date:</b><br>TBD  |
| <b>Tenure:</b><br>Permanent                         | <b>Time Base:</b><br>Full Time                          | <b>CBID:</b><br>R10  |
| <b>Division/Office:</b><br>Division of Water Rights |   | <b>Section/Unit:</b><br>Instream Flows Section/ Instream Flow Unit                             |
| <b>Supervisor's Name:</b><br>Vacant                 |   | <b>Supervisor's Classification:</b><br>Senior Water Resource Control Engineer<br>(Supervisory) |

|                                  |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Human Resources Use Only:</b> |              |
| <b>HR Analyst Approval:</b>      | <b>Date:</b> |

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| <b>General Statement</b>  |
| Under the close supervision of a Senior Water Resource Control Engineer (Supervisory) or a Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisory) and consistent with good customer service practices and the goals of the State and Regional Board's Strategic Plan, the incumbent is expected to be courteous and provide timely responses to internal/external customers, follow through on commitments, and to solicit and consider internal/external customer input when completing work assignments.  |
| <b>Position Description</b>   |
| The Environmental Scientist will support the Instream Flow Section in the Division of Water Rights to develop instream flow requirements for priority watersheds in California. The Environmental Scientist will perform complex, varied and broad environmental analyses and research related to watershed ecology, stream hydrology, groundwater connectivity, and development of instream flow objectives. The incumbent must be able to communicate with other agencies and groups and conduct stakeholder outreach activities and must be willing to travel periodically for field work and public engagement. |



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**Essential Functions (Including percentage of time):**

|     |   |
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| 35% | Use scientific knowledge and technical expertise to evaluate beneficial uses within priority streams, flow objectives, and implementation plans to assess flow related impacts to public trust resources for consideration in the development or update of water quality control plans, policies, or regulations, including emergency drought regulations. Evaluate hydrological, geological, environmental, and water supply effects of implementing flow objectives. Assist with assessment and oversight of water right holders' compliance with permit requirements related to implementation of the flow objectives and review local cooperative agreements and/or other implementation strategies to implement flow objectives throughout the state.  |
| 25% | Prepare technical reports, orders, decisions, and any other documents to support the Unit's effort to develop and implement flow objectives for priority watersheds. This work includes writing chapters or technical appendices in support of the flow objectives. Oversee, manage, and develop contracts or grant agreements related to flow enhancement in priority watersheds. Present at public workshops/ meetings, or before the State Water Board. Use sound scientific knowledge and judgment, prepare briefing documents and other related information. Prepare written comments that identify and recommend appropriate feasibility studies, mitigation measures, or alternatives to the design and operation of projects. Respond to written and verbal inquiries related to the Unit's work. Lead or act as a team member on hearings, workshops, or meetings before the State Water Board; act as staff expert on complex and controversial public trust matters; assist with hearings, evaluate testimony and evidence, question witnesses, write staff analyses and decisions, and respond to comments. |
| 20% | Coordinate with state and federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, and others on instream flow efforts. Coordinate internally with State Water Board and Regional Water Quality Control Board staff to ensure consistent and appropriate development and implementation of flow objectives. Review and comment on instream flow recommendations developed by external parties, including instream flow recommendations developed by the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Review and comment on Integrated Surface Water and Groundwater Sustainable Groundwater Management Plan components. Present at and represent the State Water Board at meetings, workshops, or conferences to share information on the State Water Board's efforts. Coordinate with water rights staff and other agencies on investigations regarding potential impacts to public trust resources.  |
| 10% | Administer the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), including the development of substitute environmental documents, as CEQA relates to State Water Board actions on controversial water resources development projects, including projects of statewide significance. Review submitted models, results, and analyses for technical accuracy in environmental documents. Make recommendations to management or the State Water Board regarding project approval, CEQA compliance, selection of alternatives, and the applicability of mitigation measures. Oversee development and implementation of contracts and direct the preparation of environmental compliance documents by consulting firms.  |



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| <b>Marginal Functions (Including percentage of time):</b> |  |
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| 5%  | Lead efforts to measure stream flow including instream flow measurements, installation and maintenance of stream gages, data download and QAQC, developing stream flow rating curves. Coordinate with state and federal agencies on instream flow efforts, including collection of field data for instream flow studies. |
| 5%  | Perform other duties as required.  |

**Typical Physical Conditions/Demands:**

The job requires extensive use of a computer and the ability to remain stationary at desk, utilize a phone and a keyboard for extended periods of time. Ability to move 50 pounds, retrieve files and/or documents. Occasional travel may require extended periods of remaining stationery. Occasional fieldwork requires navigating uneven, rugged terrain for extended periods of time, in extreme temperatures throughout the workday, occasionally exposed to water exploration and working in flowing streams.

**Typical Working Conditions:**

The incumbent works on the 14th floor of a high-rise office building in downtown Sacramento, in an enclosed, non-windowed office cubicle in a smoke-free environment. The work schedule is Monday through Friday. Travel may be required locally and within the state.

| <b>Supervisor Statement</b>   |                      |      |
|---|----------------------|------|
| I certify this duty statement represents an accurate description of the essential functions of this position. I have discussed the duties of this position with the employee and provided the employee a copy of this duty statement. |                      |      |
| Supervisor Name   | Supervisor Signature | Date |
|   |                      |      |
|   |                      |      |
| Employee Name   | Employee Signature   | Date |
|   |                      |      |