Classification: Environmental Scientist
Position Number: 880-300-0762-047

DUTY STATEMENT

☐ **CURRENT** ☒ **PROPOSED**

RPA Number: 26-300-054	**Classification Title:** Environmental Scientist	**Position Number:** 880-300-0762-047
Incumbent Name: Vacant	**Working Title:** Aquatic/Fisheries Scientist	**Effective Date:** TBD
Tenure: Permanent	**Time Base:** Full-Time	**CBID:** R10
Division/Office: Division of Water Rights	**Section/Unit:** Bay-Delta Section / Bay-Delta: Sacramento Unit	
Supervisor's Name: Craig Williams	**Supervisor's Classification:** Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisory)	

Human Resources Use Only:	
HR Analyst Approval: Nina Lopez	**Date:** 11/09/2026

General Statement

Under the close supervision of 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.

Position Description

The Environmental Scientist is responsible for performing complex and varied aquatic/fisheries and/or water quality analyses, research, and modeling assignments related to the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta (Bay-Delta). The incumbent will prepare scientific analyses and documentation to assist with the high priority complex technical and regulatory assignments for the Division of Water Rights and State Water Board. This position is specifically focused on State Water Board regulatory and planning activities in the Bay-Delta. In addition, the incumbent may review hydrologic modeling of Central Valley rivers and estuaries to investigate how water management actions may affect flows, river and reservoir temperatures, fisheries and other aquatic habitat, water quality, and water rights. Duties also include the handling of routine telephone and written inquiries from the public concerning water rights.

Essential Functions (Including percentage of time):	
30%	Perform complex and varied aquatic/fisheries and other ecological analyses, research, and other assignments related to the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta (Bay-Delta). Assess beneficial uses of rivers, estuaries, and other aquatic environments; develop and evaluate flow objectives and implementation plans and requirements for updates and implementation of the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan (Bay-Delta Plan); evaluate chemical, hydrologic, fisheries, ecological, and other environmental effects of implementing flow objectives, and prepare related recommendations; assist with assessment and oversight of water right holders' compliance with permit requirements related to implementation of the Bay-Delta Plan and other Bay-Delta water right matters. Synthesize information and prepare written reports to communicate flow issues to water rights staff, State Water Board Members, and the general public. Present at public workshops/meetings, or before the State Water Board.
15%	Administer the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as it relates to State Water Board actions on controversial water resource development projects, including water supply projects of statewide significance; analyze complex scientific data for technical accuracy in environmental documents, assure adequacy of environmental documents, and make recommendations to management or the State Water Board regarding project approval, CEQA compliance, selection of alternatives, and the applicability of mitigation measures.
15%	Serve as a liaison by representing the State Water Board by coordinating with and attending meetings of related governmental agencies or nongovernmental organizations, such as the Interagency Ecological Program (IEP); respond to written and verbal inquiries regarding water right projects and CEQA requirements.
15%	Coordinate with state and federal agencies on flow evaluation efforts, including review and evaluation of scientific literature and other technical information to develop flow requirements; review and comment on flow recommendations developed by external parties; and represent the State Water Board at meetings and workshops.
10%	Function as a team member or lead on hearings before the State Water Board on Bay-Delta matters; act as staff expert on complex and controversial environmental matters; assist the hearing officer with the conduct of hearings, evaluate testimony and evidence, question witnesses, write staff analyses and decisions, and respond to comments.
Marginal Functions (Including percentage of time):	
5%	Coordinate with water rights staff on investigations regarding potential impacts to public trust resources; prepare compliance correspondence; request compliance with required conditions as necessary; review compliance submittals for adequacy and, if necessary, coordinate with the Division of Water Rights' Enforcement Section on follow-up enforcement.

5%	Answer questions from the public related to water rights (phone duty); update and maintain the water rights database (CalWATRS); assist with the development and implementation of contracts with consulting firms to support the preparation of environmental documents.
5%	Perform other duties as required.

Typical Physical Conditions/Demands:

The job requires extensive use of a personal computer and the ability to sit/stand at a desk, utilize a phone, and type on a keyboard for extended periods of time. Ability to lift 15 pounds, bend and reach above shoulders to retrieve files and/or documents.

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.

Supervisor Statement

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
Craig Williams		
Employee Name	Employee Signature	Date