

ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGIST IV

DEFINITION

To perform a wide variety of inspection and enforcement duties related to Federal, State and local agricultural codes and regulations, weights and measures, air pollution and hazardous waste laws and regulations, including those contained in the Unified Hazardous Waste and Hazardous Materials Management Regulatory Program; to supervise and assist in training lower-level staff biologists.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

The Environmental Biologist IV is an advanced journey-level and lead classification in the Environmental Biologist series. It differs from the classification of Environmental Biologist III in that the IV requires possession of all eight state certificates in agriculture and weights and measures, and provides lead supervision and training of lower-level environmental biologists.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED

Receives direction from the Assistant and/or Deputy Agricultural Commissioner; exercises technical and lead supervision over lower-level staff.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES -- Duties may include, but are not limited to, the following:

Recommends and assists in the implementation of goals and objectives; establishes schedules and methods for carrying out the goals, policies and procedures of the Agricultural Commissioner, Sealer, Air Pollution Control Officer and Director of CUPA.

Provides technical and lead supervision of lower-level staff biologists.

Assists in budgeting and equipment acquisition and maintenance; assist in obtaining and implementing grant funded projects.

Receives and responds to public inquiries and complaints; investigates complaints and recommends corrective action as necessary.

Provides uniform interpretation of agricultural and environmental health laws and regulations to the public, other departments and outside agencies.

Works with community, private agencies and governmental jurisdictions in the promotion of improved agricultural and environmental health standards and programs.

Plans and performs inspections, surveys, investigations and assessments to determine agricultural and environmental problems and needs.

Certifies commodities being shipped to foreign countries and other states; issues federal and state phytosanitary certificates and quarantine compliance certificates for commodities.

Test and certify all commercial weighing and measuring devices; liquid petroleum gas metered dispensers and retail gas dispensers; issues off-sale orders and notices of violation as required.

Inspects and certifies seed fields for plant disease as required by local and foreign quarantine requirements.

Inspects weigh master certificates to ensure accuracy.

Conducts illness investigation reports; conducts crop loss complaint investigations; conducts air pollution patrol and investigations of hazardous materials and agricultural burning violations.

Trains and supervises staff in, and coordinates pest detection activities, including trapping insects and noxious weed control; surveys County areas for primary noxious weeds.

Registers and regularly inspects apiaries for the presence or absence of bee diseases; collects and submits samples; issues hold orders if appropriate.

Inspects incoming shipments of plant materials and other restricted articles at receiving points for compliance with plant quarantine laws and regulations; orders quarantined shipments to be treated, destroyed or returned to origin.

Inspects fruits, vegetables, nuts, eggs and honey at retail for compliance with state and federal grades, standards and labeling requirements; issues notices of non-compliance and disposal orders as necessary.

Inspects nurseries for compliance with pest cleanliness, grades, standards and labeling requirements; collects, prepares and submits pest specimens; issues off-sale orders and notices of violation as required.

Samples and weighs packaged retail and wholesale commodities for compliance with weights and measures laws and regulations; issues off-sale orders as required.

Participates in the Unified Hazardous Waste and Hazardous Materials Management Regulatory Program.

Recommends appropriate enforcement actions for non-compliance with agricultural, weights and measures, and environmental health laws and regulations.

Performs environmental certifications.

Compiles crop statistics for the annual state-mandated crop report; records changes in plantings of permanent crops in the County.

Prepares disaster reports for various agencies as necessary.

Makes training / educational presentations to various public/private groups.

Identifies plant pests and insects brought to the department's attention by the public.

Conducts pesticide use enforcement; issues pesticide permits to growers and pest control operators.

Registers pest control advisors, pilots and farm labor contractors.

Performs general office work as required, including but not limited to preparing reports and correspondence, entering computer data, copying and filing documents, answering the telephone, assisting the public, etc.

Develop, administer and coordinate grants.

Performs related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Knowledge of:

Pertinent federal, state and county laws and regulations.

Principles and practices of agriculture, weights and measures, air pollution control, vegetation and pest abatement, and hazardous waste management programs.

Proper pesticide use enforcement.

Types of weighing and measuring devices and methods used in verifying the accuracy and content of packaged commodities.

Methods, equipment, chemicals and techniques used in spraying noxious weeds.

Principles of supervision, training and performance evaluation.

Principles and procedures of record keeping.

Computer programs, software and hardware operation.

Budget preparation methods.

Basic arithmetic, algebra and geometry, and statistical analysis.

Ability to:

Understand, apply and enforce pertinent laws, policies, rules and regulations.

Supervise, train and evaluate assigned staff.

Make sound, educated decisions and work independently with little supervision.

Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with those contacted during the course of work.

Communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.

Make required calculations accurately and quickly as required.

Mix and safely prepare solutions of poisonous and dangerous chemicals; mix poison baits for pesticide control work.

Conduct necessary inspections and prepare complete and accurate technical reports.

Enforce air pollution control and hazardous waste rules and regulations.

EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING GUIDELINES

Any combination of experience and training that would likely provide the required knowledge and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge and abilities would be:

Experience:

Three years in increasingly responsible experience in agricultural inspection or weights and measures work, including one year of lead responsibility.

Training:

Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university specializing in one or more of the following disciplines: agricultural, biological, chemical or physical sciences or other appropriate discipline.

LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE:

Possession of all county agricultural inspector/biologist licenses in agriculture and weights and measures.

Possession of, or ability to obtain, a valid California driver license.

Classification Code:	3536000
Bargaining Unit:	12
FLSA Status:	Y
Workers' Compensation Code:	9410
Pay Table:	CNTY
Range:	Refer to current "Class Range Sort List"