

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF CLASS

The FIELD BURNING TECHNICIAN performs investigations of suspected field burning violations which are reported via two-way radio by an observation airplane.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

This is a single classification and not currently part of a series of classes.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Investigation of Suspected Violations. Typical tasks: contacts and interviews farmers regarding apparent field burning violations such as a field not properly prepared for burning or burning at unauthorized times or during a time of high wind; observes wind/weather conditions, techniques used in igniting fields, and the burning characteristics of the fields; takes notes recording times, events, and conversations; documents violations so that documentation can be used as evidence in contested case hearings; documentation is used by Department employees of higher authority to write citations and level fines and/or penalties.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHERS

Employees in this class are in daily in-person contact with farmers (grass seed growers) to ensure compliance with field burning statutes and rules. Employees are in daily contact in person or by two-way radio with local fire district personnel to inform them of field burning activities and infractions. Employees are in contact monthly by telephone or in person with agency enforcement staff to discuss evidence in preparation for contested cases.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED

Employees in this class work independently. An administrative superior provides general supervision, reviews investigative reports and documentation upon completion to assure that all regulation requirements have been addressed and that the report is complete, accurate, and presentable. Employees meet weekly with a supervisor to discuss issues and problems. Duties of this class are governed by DEQ burning regulations and statutes.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Positions are found in central and remote locations throughout State government in agencies. They require the willingness to work within the environment associated with the position's location.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES (KSA)

Skill in gathering information and preparing reports.

Ability to understand field burning statutes and regulations.

Ability to communicate effectively orally to discuss violations and statutes with farmers who may be angry and sometimes hostile.

Ability to communicate effectively in writing to document field burning conditions, weather conditions, and evidence of violations.

Ability to work effectively with the public to enforce compliance with law.

Ability to interview public to obtain specific information.

Ability to work independently.

Ability to take accurate field notes.

Ability to travel to location of field burning activity.

Ability to work around excessive smoke and field fires.

Ability to operate a two-way radio.

Ability to testify in administrative hearings.

Ability to understand basic aspects of meteorology and agronomy.

Ability to interpret aerial photographs and operate 35MM camera.

Ability to communicate with nonregulated public within strict guidelines.

NOTE: The KNOWLEDGE and SKILLS are required for initial consideration. ABILITIES may be required for initial consideration, at any time during the selection process, or during a trial service period as a final stage of the selection process. Some duties performed by positions in this class may require different KSA's. No attempt is made to describe every KSA required for **all** positions in this class. Additional KSA requirements will be explained on the recruiting announcement.

Adopted 7/90

Revised

Examples of work are typical of duties assigned to this class. No attempt is made to describe every duty performed by all positions in this class.