

**Department of Parks and Recreation  
Natural Resources Division**

**SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST (SPECIALIST) –  
AQUATIC RESOURCES**

**DUTY STATEMENT**

August 2018

Under the direction of the Environmental Program Manager I, this Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist) position acts as the Natural Resources Division (NRD)'s aquatic resources specialist and program lead. Incumbent works cooperatively with District and Division natural resources staff on issues and department policies related to the management and restoration of fisheries, estuaries and other aquatic resources throughout the State Park System. The position also serves as NRD's liaison with districts and outside partners, agencies, and other land managers with regard to aquatic resource management challenges and opportunities and best strategies to address them. The position provides technical services to field offices in inventory, monitoring, and management of aquatic resources and supports the NRD's natural resource programs, including the Coastal Program.

The position requires a high level of independent action, the ability to both identify and solve complex program-related issues, and the ability to make sound recommendations to management for program improvement. This Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist) may lead, but not formally supervise, other staff such as Environmental Scientists to accomplish program goals and objectives in support of the Environmental Program Manager.

The following are assigned duties:

**40% Aquatic Resources Program Lead**

- Develops and implements system-wide natural resources management program with a focus on critical aquatic resources and issues;
- Identifies and develops standard methods for various aquatic resources inventory, monitoring, and management activities. In doing so, maintains awareness of methods used by others in the department and in other agencies/organizations;
- Independently analyzes program and project-related issues and makes written recommendations for courses of action;
- Evaluates the results of outside research performed for, or applicable to, the management of State Park System aquatic resources;
- Provides data and aquatic resources management expertise to support Department natural resources programs; holds State and federal scientific collecting permits for aquatic data collection;
- Provides special technical services and expertise related to the management of natural resources including but not limited to fisheries, estuaries, and aquatic ecosystems.

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**25 % Program Planning, Policies and Guidelines**

- Prepares guidance, policy, and program planning documents to develop and support the aquatic resources management program;
- Independently reviews department natural resources policies and guidelines for their effectiveness in meeting system-wide goals and objectives for the aquatic resources management program and makes recommendations to management for improvements;
- Prepares Budget Change Proposals, as needed, to support natural resource programs.

**20% Coordination and Collaboration**

- Provides technical support relating to aquatic resources for the Coastal Program within NRD;
- Coordinates with district natural resources staff to support aquatic resources program objectives and facilitate aquatic resource protection and enhancement;
- Acts as the Department’s liaison with regulatory (e.g., Department of Fish and Wildlife, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA Fisheries, CA Coastal Commission, etc.) and other agencies and non-governmental organizations as applies to aquatic resources and management;
- Collaborates with other natural resources staff on restoration priorities for the Department.

**15% Other Duties as Required**

- Prepares written reports;
- Prepares and manages contracts and interagency agreements;
- Provides natural resource training to department staff;
- Responds to correspondence, attends meetings;
- Prepares internal and external presentations and training materials and gives presentations;
- Represents the Department at meetings and conferences with other agencies/organizations;
- Provides other technical services, as assigned, to support division goals and objectives.

Employee: \_\_\_\_\_

(Name)

Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)  
- Aquatic Resources

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Terri Gaines  
Environmental Program Manager I

Date: \_\_\_\_\_