

WATER OPERATIONS WORKER

Reports to: Water Operation Supervisors

Definition/Summary

Under general supervision, perform all functions involved in delivering irrigation water to growers, monitor and maintain water delivery systems, operate motor vehicles, and perform construction, general maintenance, equipment operation, and other work at the discretion of the District.

Essential Functions

- Perform a variety functions involved in delivering irrigation water to growers and respond to requests from landowners and water users.
- Accurately maintain required records on irrigation and water usage; record meter readings and staff gauge readings as required.
- Ensure compliance with water conservation policy.
- Conduct routine inspections of conveyance system; monitor spills, maintain proper levels in main canal and laterals, raise or lower gates to make necessary adjustments; call in daily orders and readings to water operations department personnel.
- Ensure water is delivered to growers within designated time frames and in conjunction with District procedures.
- Perform a variety of activities during maintenance season, including construction, welding, carpentry, painting, and related functions.
- Operate a variety of equipment: hand and power tools to perform routine maintenance work, including small backhoe, forklift, tractor, front-end loader, chainsaw, drill saw, and related tools and equipment.
- Operate pneumatic, hydraulic, and gasoline powered tools such as pavement breaker, clay spade, tamper, vibrator, and compactor.
- Load and unload materials and equipment.
- Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with co-workers and the public.
- Respond and resolve complaints from water users, deal tactfully and courteously with water users and the public.
- Demonstrate regular attendance and adherence to prescribed work schedule to conduct job responsibilities.

Other Duties

- Clean and maintain shop area; perform custodial functions in the shop and other facilities.
- Perform preventative maintenance on assigned equipment and vehicles.
- Maintain proper work safety standards.
- Perform related duties and responsibilities as assigned.
- May learn semi-skilled, maintenance, repair, and construction work in an assigned area.
- Comply with all District policies, procedures, rules, and regulations, including all safety standards.
- Performs related duties and responsibilities as required.
- Must be able to operate vehicle to travel to and from job sites.

Job Standards/Specifications

Knowledge of:

- Equipment and tools used in maintaining District facilities.
- Basic hydraulics and water flow.
- Basic arithmetic and mechanical principles.
- Various types of water gates, diversions, and turnouts.
- Methods used in balancing water flow.
- Geography of the local area.
- Tools and equipment used in repairing leaks in gates and delivery facilities.
- Operation and maintenance of hand and power tools.
- Safe work methods and safety regulations pertaining to the work being performed.
- Customer service techniques.
- District policies, rules, regulations, and procedures.
- Occupational hazards and standard safety practices.

Ability to:

- Ensure that water is delivered in a timely manner.
- Learn methods and techniques of general construction, maintenance and repair related to maintaining canals and District facilities.
- Learn to perform a variety of skilled and semi-skilled maintenance, construction, and repair work in the area of work assigned.
- Learn to operate a variety of vehicular and stationary mechanical equipment in a safe and effective manner.

Ability to (continued):

- Operate hand and power tools and equipment.
- Perform heavy physical labor.
- Work above and around water safely.
- Practice established safety techniques related to maintenance work.
- Understand and follow oral and written directions.
- Communicate clearly and concisely.
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.
- Handle hostile situations in a calm manner.
- Perform a variety of manual tasks for extended periods of time, and in unfavorable weather conditions.
- Maintain effective audio-visual discrimination and perception needed for successful job performance.

Typical Physical Activities

- Must be able to operate motorized equipment and vehicles.
- Ability to carry, push, pull, reach, and lift equipment and parts weighing up to 50 pounds.
- Ability to stoop, kneel, crouch, crawl, twist and climb during field maintenance and repair work.
- Ability to transport objects by holding them in hands or arms.
- Ability to reach and extend hands and arms in any direction
- Ability to stand and walk for extended time periods.
- Ability to move about on foot through uneven terrain.
- Ability to work in an environment with exposure to dust, dirt, and hazardous materials.
- Ability to work in an environment with significant changes between cold and heat.
- Ability to use a telephone and two-way radio for communication.
- Ability to use office equipment such as computers, fax machines, and copiers.
- Hearing and vision within normal ranges with or without correction.
- Ability to communicate orally with District staff in face-to-face, one-to-one settings.
- Ability to work irregular or extended work hours; occasionally required to change work hours or work overtime.

Environmental Factors

- Exposure to the sun: 50% to 100% work time spent outside a building and exposed to the sun.

- Considerable work time may be spent in all types of weather conditions: temperatures above 100 degrees, wind, wet and cold conditions, and humidity.
- Work above floor level: some work done on ladders or other surfaces from 4 to 12 feet above the ground.
- High temperatures: some work time possible in temperatures above 90 degrees.
- Humidity: work in areas with unusually high humidity.
- Wetness: more than 10% of work time getting part or all of the body and/or clothing wet.
- Noise: occasionally may be exposed to unusually loud sounds.
- Oil: some parts of the body may be in contact with oil or grease occasionally.
- Dust: work in or around areas with minor amounts of dust.
- Irregular or extended work hours: occasionally required to change working hours or work overtime.

Desirable Qualifications

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

Experience:

One year of experience performing field maintenance related to maintaining canals and laterals is desirable.

Training:

Formal or informal education or training that ensures the ability to read and write at a level necessary for successful job performance.

License Certificate Registration Requirement

- Driver's License: possession of a valid California Class C Driver License required at the time of appointment.
- Ability to obtain and maintain a Class B and Class A California Driver's License, if required.
- Ability to obtain and maintain Crane Operator Certification, if required.

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