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## Hydrologist 09

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### GS-1315-09

NOTE: THE SENTENCES IN PART I DESCRIBING THE PURPOSE OF THE POSITION AND PARTS II AND III IN THEIR ENTIRETY ARE PERMANENT PARTS OF THE LIBRARY AND MAY NOT BE CHANGED OR EDITED IN ANY WAY.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

Performs a limited range of hydrologic assignments such as hydrologic forecasting, interpretive studies, hydrologic procedure development, systems support, policy development support, and/or hydrometeorological network analysis. Receives on-the-job training, guidance, and instruction in accordance with the National Weather Service (NWS) Hydrologic Intern Training Program.

#### II. MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Performs tasks designed to broaden the incumbent's understanding and knowledge of operational hydrology and/or NWS Hydrologic Services Program support functions. Continues to receive on-the-job training in River Forecast Center (RFC) operations, agency policies and regulations, hydrometeorological data collection, communications, and/or computer procedures. Continues education and professional development in hydrology, meteorology, and hydrometeorology through NWS training, university course work, and participation in professional societies. Performs one of the following:

1. Develops moderately complex procedures used in data management/display and river forecasting, following accepted and standard methods, with guidance of journeyman hydrologic and hydrometeorologic forecasters on the more difficult aspects; prepares river forecast guidance including during moderately difficult high water or flooding situations which require considerable judgment and initiative; assists in basic hydrometeorological analysis and support functions such as assimilation of radar-based rainfall and quantitative precipitation forecasts; and/or executes assigned functional responsibilities such as data network analysis or maintenance of rating tables.

2. Performs Hydrologic Services Program support activities at NWS Headquarters such as development of database management applications, maintenance and improvement of hydrometeorological databases, support for field office systems, development of new field office systems, analysis of hydrometeorological networks, production of computerized maps and graphics, and development of computer programs.

#### III. FACTOR LEVELS

Factor 1 - Knowledge Required FL 1-6, 950 pts.

Knowledge of principles, theories, modeling techniques, and practices of professional hydrology, sufficient to adapt previous findings and theories to conduct individual projects or portions of larger ones. A basic knowledge of meteorologic science is desirable. Ability to properly use standard principles, methods, and procedures of operational hydrology in specific situations, adjust and correlate hydrometeorologic data, recognize discrepancies and deviations in results, schedule work sequences, and prepare summary and descriptive material.

Factor 2 - Supervisory Controls FL 2-3, 275 pts.

Supervisor or program leader assigns work by defining overall objectives, priorities, and deadlines, with suggestions on the handling of potential unusual problems. Employee independently plans and carries out assignments, handling problems encountered in accordance with previous training and accepted hydrologic/hydrometeorologic practices. Completed work is reviewed for technical soundness and conformance with requirements.

Factor 3 - Guidelines FL 3-3, 275 pts.

In the RFC, standard operating procedures exist in the station duty manual, but technical literature is also consulted. At NWS Headquarters, standard operating procedures are found in the NWS operations manual, approved policies and plans, and technical/systems manuals. Assignments do not involve radical departures from past practices and do not require development of new, novel or innovative approaches, methods or techniques. Judgment is required in the evaluation, selection and optimal use of precedents, and available data.

Factor 4 - Complexity FL 4-3, 150 pts.

Work involves assimilating, adjusting, and correlating hydro-meteorological data, contributing to systems designs, recognizing discrepancies and deviations in results, scheduling work sequences, and preparing summary and descriptive material. At RFCs, the incumbent develops procedures for a unique, geographically diverse group of river basins in the RFC area and furnishes routine information to the general public, supported offices, and user groups.

Factor 5 - Scope and Effect FL 5-3, 150 pts.

At headquarters, findings, project results, and recommendations affect the office's ability to support operations at all NWS field offices. For RFCs, hydrologic forecasts and procedure development activities affect accuracy and reliability of services provided to users.

Factor 6 - Personal Contacts FL 6-2, 25 pts.

Personal contacts are with co-workers and supervisor. At RFCs, contacts may include the general public.

Factor 7 - Purpose of Contacts FL 7-1, 20 pts.

Contacts are to receive advice and assistance and to report progress and results. At RFCs, may receive requests for information and river forecasts from cooperating agencies and the public.

Factor 8 - Physical Demands FL 8-1, 5 pts.

Work is primarily sedentary, but may involve rotating shifts.

Factor 9 - Work Environment FL 9-1, 5 pts.

Work is performed primarily in an office setting.

TOTAL =1,855 pts.

This position is exempt from coverage under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

#### **IV. UNIQUE POSITION REQUIREMENTS**

(Last updated: April 19, 1995)

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