



[Home](#) > [HR Practitioners](#) > [Classification & Position Management](#) > [PD Library](#)

Research Hydrologist 15

GS-1315-15

NOTE: THE SENTENCE 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

This position is located in

This position serves as research leader for one or more teams of scientists performing research into critical problems of hydrology and related scientific disciplines such as atmospheric physics, meteorology, etc.

II. MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The incumbent is assigned to direct and/or coordinate activities necessary for the national implementation of specific hydrologic forecast procedures, for example those associated with the Water Resources Forecast System (WARFS). High level coordination will be given to technical procedures required for the operation of new software at River Forecast Centers (RFCs) and Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) throughout the country. Such procedures include hydrologic data collection, statistical analysis with expanded use of probabilities of occurrence in hydrologic forecasts [including the Extended Streamflow Prediction (ESP) System], and tailoring of results to meet user needs.

Coordination involves other parts of the National Weather Service River Forecast System (NWSRFS) to assure effective performance. It may also involve other government agencies for data exchange, cross training, etc. Further, the incumbent will be responsible for the coordination of research contracts or cooperative agreements. The incumbent will also direct the planning, training, operational support, and coordination for the maintenance of software required for assigned projects.

The implementation of enhanced procedures into the RFC Forecast Systems will result in more frequent forecasts, processed with increased data sampling density, to provide greater accuracy and longer forecast lead times and expanded information on the extent and timing of flooding.

III. FACTOR LEVELS

Factor 1 - Research Situation/Assignment Degree E, 10 pts.

The incumbent is a team leader for scientists working on problems/research which have been recognized as critical obstacles to progress or development in the science, or where solutions to problems represent a major advance in hydrological science. The incumbent is personally responsible for formulating and guiding the research attack. There is a reasonable expectation that the research, although difficult, will produce useable outcomes.

Factor 2 - Supervision Received Degree E, 10 pts.

The technical supervision of the incumbent is nominal and consultative in nature. The incumbent works under broad administrative supervision, with direction limited to allocation of funds and staffing levels. Working within broad agency policies and guidelines, the incumbent is expected to identify the most fruitful and urgent areas of research. The incumbent takes complete responsibility for formulation of hypotheses and development of a plan of attack. Research findings are subject to higher-level management decisions concerning their use.

Factor 3 - Guidelines and Originality: Degree E, 10 pts.

The incumbent creatively extends, adds new dimensions to, or supplants existing hydrologic science theory or methodology, and/or applies a high degree of imagination and creativity in solution of problems of marked importance, for which there is an almost complete absence of applicable guidelines, pertinent literature, and methodology.

Factor 4 - Qualifications and Scientific Contributions Degree E, 10 pts.

The incumbent has achieved outstanding attainment in the field of hydrologic science and has authored a number of important publications, some of which have had major impact on hydrologic science, including surface water hydrology. The incumbent is regularly sought out by peers who are specialists and recognized scientists in the hydrologic sciences. The incumbent is invited to address national professional organizations. Other researchers take note of the incumbent's published results/papers in order to keep abreast of new developments in the field.

TOTAL POINTS: 10+10+10+20 = 50

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

IV. UNIQUE POSITION REQUIREMENTS

(Last Updated: November 4, 1994)

[Website Feedback](#) [About OHRM](#) [Contact Us](#) [DOCHROC](#) [FOIA](#) [Site Map](#)
[Privacy Policy](#) [Commerce Homepage](#) [Careers at Commerce](#)
[Commerce Employees](#) [HR Practitioners](#)