Job Title: Watershed Ranger
Job Code Number: 001440
Pay Level: 019   FLSA: Non-Exempt   EEO Code: 4
Bargaining Unit: 100 / AFSCME   Benchmark: Water Plant Operator I

JOB SUMMARY:
Under direct supervision of the Watershed Supervisor, incumbent maintains, protects and preserves the Salt Lake City Watershed and related lands and City facilities in and above the foothills. Directly responsible for preserving and stewarding water quality before it enters the water treatment plants, the Watershed Ranger performs patrol, land management, maintenance, education, code enforcement, HAZMAT response and other duties as needed. Interacts with and educates the public, watershed residents and visitors, agencies, ski resorts, and other watershed stakeholders concerning watershed protection and preservation. Enforces, or assists in the enforcement of, watershed ordinances, rules and regulations. This is a uniformed position.

TYPICAL DUTIES:

1. **Patrol** - Maintains year-round watershed patrols in recreation, residential and construction zones, as well as backcountry areas, by whatever means available: foot, motor vehicles, mountain bikes, skis, snowshoes, boats, etc. Responsible for the enforcement of Watershed regulations. Must be able to use, and direct and supervise persons in, the appropriate methods to correct problems, repair damages, or mitigate hazards. Locates and corrects actual and potential hazards. Informs and educates users and user groups on the importance of watershed protection. Works directly with the appropriate law enforcement agencies to assure enforcement, prosecution or forceful intervention when needed. Issues citations as needed when watershed ordinances are violated.

2. **Land Management** – Under direction of the Watershed Supervisor, leads and/or participates in land management projects. This includes, but is not limited to, noxious weed mitigation and mapping, fire fuel reduction programs, trail building and maintenance, campground and recreation area management and associated tasks. Must have working knowledge of use of tools such as chainsaws, pulaskis, axes, etc.

3. **Education** - Performs and leads completion of tasks related to the City’s Watershed educational programs, as directed by the Watershed Supervisor. Responsible for educational outreach on watershed policies. Delivers classroom and field-based watershed education programs. Helps develop and coordinate educational materials including displays, signage and brochures with other agencies.

4. **Maintenance** – Performs regular watershed stewardship activities. Cleans and maintains watershed toilet facilities to City standards on a regular basis. Maintains watershed lands and trims trails. Performs semi-skilled maintenance work such as painting, carpentry, system maintenance, building repairs, roofing, and electrical maintenance, plowing, etc., using appropriate hand tools and machinery. May work with skilled maintenance workers as an assistant or apprentice level trainee.

5. **Code Enforcement** - Monitors residential, commercial and ski resort construction within the watershed. Works closely with building permitting departments and other agencies to ensure
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construction compliance with watershed ordinance and regulations, including meeting minimum setback requirements and erosion control measures, and any other appropriate mitigation. Collects samples and evaluates data when appropriate.

6. Fire Response - Responsible for the notification of authorities of any fire threatening the watershed. May on occasion be asked to put out small fires when they are identified during the course of routine monitoring and are easily contained with minimal equipment and risk. Incumbent is trained in the use of a fire hose and fire extinguisher. Coordinates with local fire department and forest service on major fire fighting efforts and restoration projects. Advises campers, canyon residents and others on fire prevention measures.

7. HAZMAT - Responds to hazardous spills, initiates containment, and notifies appropriate agencies for cleanup. Maintains first response materials on vehicles. Notifies downstream users, including the water treatment plant, of the hazard to assist in decisions on facility operations. Files appropriate reports, and maintain records of the incident, along with any information on the cause, for appropriate cost reimbursement.

OTHER DUTIES:

8. Develops teams using seasonal employees and organizes and monitors volunteer groups to maintain watershed lands and facilities. May assist in the hiring, scheduling and management of seasonal employees and contributes to their performance appraisal.

9. Collects and reports data from monitoring stations, including weather, stream flow and snow fall. Inspects dams and reservoirs. Maintains records of observations and readings.

10. Attends meetings with the other entities involved in the watershed. This includes governmental agencies as well as public and community groups. Makes presentations, answers questions and addresses concerns.

11. Performs other duties as required

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Two (2) years post-high school study in one or more of the following fields: forestry, land or watershed management, field hydrology, water treatment or related fields; plus two (2) years work experience in the same aforementioned fields. Experience and education may be substituted one for the other on a year to year basis.

2. Knowledge of basic watershed ordinances and regulations protecting the watershed.

3. Familiarity with HAZMAT regulations (40-hour HAZMAT training preferable); ability to respond to emergencies.

4. Strong background in environmental education and related principles.

5. Ability to make minor repairs and perform routine maintenance with little supervision; operate chain saws, hand and power tools, and sanitary equipment in a safe manner, and occasionally perform physically demanding work, including backcountry travel on foot carrying equipment.

6. Proven effectiveness with dealing with the general public and other governmental agencies. Ability to relate well with fellow employees, other department representatives and the general public.
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7. Ability to use and operate a personal computer with applicable software, including Microsoft Office products.

8. Good written and verbal communication skills.

9. Must pass functional capacity test, herbicide applicators test and enforcement skills exam. New hires are required to complete and pass these tests prior to the end of their initial employment probationary period.

10. Possession of a valid state driver’s license or Utah driving privilege card.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Preferred BS in forestry, geography, environmental studies, ecology, land or watershed management, field hydrology, water treatment or related field.

2. Ability to speak and write in Spanish.

3. Ability to ski and/or snowboard at blue level or above.


WORKING CONDITIONS:

1. Heavy physical activity. Required to push, pull or lift medium to heavy weights, and to stand, sit or walk uncomfortably for extended periods.

2. Exposure to extreme heat, cold, dampness, noise, odors, dust, grease, elevation extremes and health and occupational hazards as may be expected when working in mountainous areas throughout the year. Some exposure to fire and hazardous materials. Considerable trail and driving hazards, especially in the winter. Requires physical ability to access watershed areas by whatever means available including by foot, motor vehicles, skis, snowshoes, boats, etc.

3. Exposure to stress as a result of human behavior.

4. Subject to standby and call back situations, and must respond to emergencies on a 24-hour basis.

5. Position requires regular evening, weekend and holiday shifts.

A TEN YEAR PERSONAL, CRIMINAL AND EMPLOYMENT BACKGROUND CHECK IS REQUIRED FOR THIS POSITION. The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by persons assigned to this job. They are not intended to be an exhaustive list of all duties, responsibilities and skills required of personnel so classified. All requirements are subject to possible modification to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities.

Position Review Information
Date: 5-29-2015
Departmental Approval: Jeff Niermeyer, Director
HR Consultant Approval: Kirk Anderson
Compensation Approval: David Salazar
Notes: Removed Special Functions Officer language