



TBD 2012
FLSA: EXEMPT

BOAT CAPTAIN

This class specification indicates, in general terms, the type and level of work performed as well as the responsibilities of employees in this classification. The job functions described are not to be interpreted as being all-inclusive to any specific employee.

DEFINITION

Under general direction from senior scientific staff, command and navigate a 58-foot, 68 gross ton ocean vessel during approximately 80 to 90 days of field sample collection for the District's ocean monitoring program; oversee and provide for the safe operation, care, and maintenance of the vessel; lead and participate in the work of a crew performing vessel operation and maintenance; participate in beach or laboratory sample collection and other duties; and performs related work as required.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED

Receives general supervision from an assigned supervisory and/or management staff. Exercises no direct supervision of staff. May exercise functional and technical leadership in assigned workgroups or teams.

CLASS CHARACTERISTICS

This is a specialized class that performs the full range of duties to command and navigate an ocean vessel for field sampling purposes for the District's ocean monitoring program. The incumbent coordinates and oversees assigned activities. Responsibilities may include guidance on programs and/or projects and leads by example. Successful performance of the work requires the frequent use of tact, discretion, and independent judgment and knowledge of program and departmental activities. Positions at this level receive only occasional instruction or assistance as new or unusual situations arise and are fully aware of the operating procedures and policies of the work unit.

EXAMPLES OF ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS (Illustrative Only)

Management reserves the right to add, modify, change, or rescind the work assignments of different positions and to make reasonable accommodations so that qualified employees can perform the essential functions of the job.

- Commands the District's twin-engine ocean vessel; keeps vessel's daily log; uses shipboard instrumentation to assure safe navigation and sampling station position accuracy.
- Works with senior staff to coordinate field sampling schedules, sampling logistics, and mobilization/de-mobilization for field sampling efforts to meet required ocean monitoring program objectives while ensuring crew safety and sample integrity.
- Acts as lead for vessel crew operations; oversee field operations and safe storage, deployment, and recovery of all sampling equipment.
- Oversees inspection of ocean vessel and equipment per regulating agencies requirements; prepare specifications for vessel overhaul, repair, modifications, and upkeep periods.
- Performs routine maintenance, including, but not limited to, maintaining lines, rigs, traps, and nets, filling fuel and water tanks, prepping/painting metal surfaces, washing down vessel and cleaning compartments, purchasing parts and supplies and maintaining vessel supplies, recommending major repairs or vessel modifications to accommodate new sampling requirements or equipment.

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- Assists in maintenance of sampling equipment such as benthic grab samplers, trawl gear, and automated water quality profiling and current meter moorings and instrumentation.
- Participates in field and office activities to ensure study objectives and compliance activities are met.
- Performs periodic review of and maintain Vessel Standard Operating Procedure Manual and Vessel Safety Manual; prepares technical memoranda, as requested, on vessel operations and efficiency, budgetary requirements, and recommendations for equipment.
- When assigned to programs and/or projects, provides leadership and guidance to others. As a program and/or project leader, may direct, assign, train, monitor and review the work activities of team members; determines work priorities; oversees quality and quantity of work performed and ensures adherence to established procedures by instructing employees accordingly; is a reference to employees by possessing specialized skills; develops and implements work improvements.
- Performs other duties as required.

QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

- USCG Navigation Rules and the execution of the rules for safe navigation of vessels.
- Federal laws governing navigation of power driven vessels in inland and coastal waters, including local navigation aids and hazards.
- General seamanship, including rules of the road, harbor regulations, first aid methods, and shipboard emergency procedures.
- Navigation instruments such as Plotter, Echo Sounder, Radar, Autopilot, navigation, station plotting, and positioning by visual triangulation, fathometer in DGPS, and radar.
- Potential hazards of working at sea on a moving platform with cables under tension and deploying heavy equipment, scientific instrumentation, and sampling gear overboard.
- Ocean vessel's crew performance to ensure safe sampling practices.
- Ocean vessels and related equipment, maintenance, operation and overhaul.
- Mechanical and electrical aptitude, and methods, tools, and equipment used in the operation and maintenance of power driven vessels diesel engines, hydraulics, electrical, and auxiliary equipment.
- Basic principles and practices of Project Management.
- Budgeting and cost control methods.
- Word processing and spreadsheet software.
- Good written and verbal communication skills.
- General principles of leadership.

Ability to:

- Command the navigation, safe operation, care, and maintenance of a 58-foot ocean monitoring vessel.
- Ensure ocean vessel systems are functioning and reliable through attention to detail and appropriate records keeping.
- Lead and participate in the work of a crew performing ocean monitoring vessel operation and maintenance, as well as laboratory and beach sample collection.
- Train others on proper work procedures and lead by example.
- Demonstrate safe work practices and procedures in the workplace.
- Direct the work of others.
- Interpret and apply applicable federal, state, and local laws, codes, and regulations.
- Operate computers and computer programs, including basic word processing, spreadsheet, and navigational software.
- Communicate well, both orally and in writing.
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.
- Swim.

Employment Standards:

Any combination of education and experience that provides the required knowledge, skills, and abilities may be qualifying as determined by OCSD.

1. High school diploma or equivalent supplemented by college level course work in science, or a related field from a college or university which is accredited by the US Department of Education;
AND
2. Five (5) years of increasingly responsible experience piloting a motor, oceanographic, or fishing vessel greater than 35 feet in length in coastal waters, including the deployment of heavy equipment overboard.

Licenses and Certifications:

- Master or Mate of Mechanically Propelled Vessel (in Inland and Coastal Waters) for up to 100 gt vessel issued by US Coast Guard.
- First Aid, CPR and AED issued by American Red Cross (or equivalent).

Disaster Service Workers:

All Orange County Sanitation District employees are designated Disaster Service Workers through state law (California Government Code Section 3100-3109). Employment with the Orange County Sanitation District requires the affirmation of a loyalty oath to this effect. Employees are required to complete all related training as assigned, and to return to work as ordered in the event of an emergency.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

Must possess sufficient mobility to work on an ocean-going vessel under all sea conditions, operate in confined spaces, as well as function in an office or laboratory setting, and travel to various locations; vision to read printed materials and a computer screen; color vision to identify chemical and biological solvents and substances; and hearing and speech to communicate in person and over the telephone. The job involves fieldwork requiring frequent walking in operational areas to identify problems or hazards. Finger dexterity is needed to access, enter and retrieve data using a computer keyboard or calculator and to operate above-mentioned tools and equipment. Positions in this classification bend, stoop, kneel, reach and climb to perform work and inspect work sites. Employees must possess the ability to lift, carry, push, and pull materials and objects weighing up to 50 pounds and heavier weights with the use of proper equipment.

ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

Varied environmental setting that will include exposure to wide-ranging sea and weather conditions as part of year-round work performed aboard an ocean-going vessel; may include standard office or laboratory setting; may be exposed to potentially hazardous chemicals, toxic materials, or waste and infectious materials; may work with or in or on the water. Employees may interact with upset staff and/or public and private representatives and contractors in interpreting and enforcing departmental policies and procedures.