



Water Controller I/II

Class Code:
711, 712

DEFINITION

Under supervision (Water Controller I) or general supervision (Water Controller II) of the Water Supply Supervisor, performs a variety of technical tasks related to the movement of large amounts of water through diversion facilities and fish passage and screening facilities into the groundwater system; monitors and operates manual and automated controls to regulate the flow of raw water into groundwater recharge facilities to ensure timely diversion of water supplies; conducts field activities related to watershed protection and surveillance; and performs related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

Water Controller I is the entry-level class in the Water Controller series. Under close to general supervision, within a framework of established policies and procedures, incumbents learn and perform a variety of routine, but moderately difficult technical tasks related to the movement of large amounts of water through the District's diversion and fish passage and screening facilities. Assignments are given in specific terms and are subject to frequent review while in progress and upon completion by the Water Supply Supervisor. There is limited latitude for independent judgment and action in well-defined areas of work.

This classification is distinguished from the experienced, journey-level Water Controller II class by the routine nature and limited complexity of work assignments and the level of supervision received. The Water Controller I and II classifications are flexibly staffed. Upon recommendation of the immediate supervisor and approval by the department manager, incumbents in this class may advance to the Water Controller II after a minimum of three (3) years at the first level and with demonstrated proficiency to meet the job requirements of the Water Controller II classification.

Water Controller II is the experienced, journey-level class in the Water Controller series. Under general supervision, within a framework of established policies and procedures, incumbents are fully competent, with a high level of accuracy, to perform the full range of more difficult and complex technical tasks related to the movement of large amounts of water through the District's diversion and fish passage and screening facilities. Assignments are given in general terms and are subject to periodic review while in progress and upon completion by the Water Supply Supervisor. There is considerable latitude for independent judgment and action in well-defined areas of work.

This classification is distinguished from the entry-level Water Controller I class by the complexity of work assignments, the potential impact of error, the level of independence with which assignments are performed, and the limited level of supervision received

TYPICAL DUTIES

TYPICAL EXAMPLES OF DUTIES MAY INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:

- Operates inflatable rubber dams and regulates flow through pumps, diversion structures, fish ladders, and fish screening facilities to maintain optimum water flows and elevations in the District's recharge ponds and downstream of the District's facilities in Alameda Creek.

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- Monitors upstream watershed conditions to determine proper regulation of in-stream storage capacity and off-stream diversion rates to enable the capture of maximum amounts of water while complying with all conditions of the District's water rights permits and current environmental requirements and permits; makes field decisions regarding release or capture of water to assure that facilities are not damaged during periods of moderate to high water flow.
- Uses a computer to access upstream flow and rainfall data, monitor status of and flow through the District's Alameda Creek facilities using SCADA systems, and input field operations data.
- Patrols groundwater percolation and watershed areas to determine the structural conditions of channels, dams, levees and other water impoundment, diversion, and fish screening and passage facilities.
- Assists in the preparation of watershed sanitary survey and conducts ongoing watershed surveillance to identify point and non-point discharge; provides assistance in monitoring and follow up of corrective action.
- Records changes in water levels and flow rates; monitors stream gauging stations for accuracy; assists in the design, implementation, and operation of monitoring and control systems for creek and pond flows.
- Conducts routine and special water quality sampling using both manual and automated techniques.
- Patrols creek and recharge areas and coordinates with law enforcement agencies to control trespassing and illegal activities in the recharge areas and the watershed.
- Performs field maintenance on stream banks and recharge facilities in compliance with current environmental requirements and may direct minor maintenance, repair, and construction activities on ponds, dams, levees, and channels.
- Repairs or assists with minor repairs and maintenance of fish screening and ladder facilities and other groundwater recharge facilities and equipment.
- Performs other related work as required.

REQUIREMENTS

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

Education and Experience:

Possession of a high school diploma or its equivalent; and

Water Controller I: Two (2) years of experience in operations or maintenance work that would provide experience with water production, supply, or distribution activities, operations and maintenance. College or technical school course work in engineering or a field related is desirable and may be substituted for the required experience on a year for year basis, up to a maximum of one year.

Water Controller II: Three (3) years of full-time experience equivalent to that of a Water Controller I within the District.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

Knowledge of: water supply characteristics, control structures, and watershed terrain; operating and maintenance principles of valves, pumps, meters, fish screens, fish ladders, and other mechanical devices found in a raw water diversion and groundwater percolation system; hydrographic calculations and engineering conversions; pertinent federal, state, and local codes, laws, and regulations; safety precautions related to work; modern office practices, methods, and computer equipment and applications related to the work, including word processing, database, and spreadsheet software.

Skill and Ability to: recognize unusual operating conditions and take appropriate action; be extremely observant of all field conditions; identify and report accurately all pertinent data; read and interpret meters, gauges, and various recording devices accurately; anticipate possible changes in stream flow, water levels, and fish ladder operations and independently take appropriate action to control the water and fish ladder flows; communicate with other area water users and the general public with tact and diplomacy; rapidly and accurately perform simple hydrographic calculations and engineering conversions; prepare clear and concise reports and maintain accurate and complete records (paper and electronic) of operating conditions; work long hours alone or with others under all types of weather conditions; perform the essential functions of the job without causing harm to self or others; operate modern office equipment including computer equipment and specialized software applications programs; communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing; establish, maintain, and foster positive and effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

Additional Requirements:

- Must possess a valid California driver's license and have a satisfactory driving record.
- Water Controller I: A Distribution Operator (D2) license and/or Treatment Operator (T2) license from the State of California is desirable.
- Water Controller II: A Distribution Operator (D2) license and/or Treatment Operator (T2) license from the State of California is required.

Working Conditions/Physical Requirements:

The essential duties of the job are performed outdoors under various climatic and geographic conditions with potential exposure to dust, allergens, and other environmental substances; and requires the ability to work after hours, overtime, holidays and weekends on a set schedule; to hear and talk to receive and communicate information; to use hand strength and finger dexterity to perform simple grasping and fine manipulation; to see to distinguish color differences; to safely operate a vehicle; to stand for long periods of time; to walk, bend, and squat; and to perform work activities with hands in and out of water.

Revised: 07/12, 11/21

Approved: _____
Human Resources/Risk Manager