

CANAL OPERATOR II

Definition:

Under general supervision performs a variety of duties and related work involved in the operation and maintenance of canals; supervises and directs Canal Operators when required.

Distinguishing Characteristics:

This is the senior level of Canal Operator. Incumbents are expected to accomplish their work with little or no direct supervision. They may provide lead supervision to other Canal Operators, Maintenance Workers or temporary laborers. May act for Canal Supervisor in his/her absence. Will train new operators and may substitute for other operators as needed. May assist in evaluating other Canal Operators or temporary laborers. This job requires daily walking on uneven terrain and operation of a motor vehicle both on and off paved roadways. It requires frequent bending, stooping, kneeling and lifting (50 lbs). Work is predominantly outside in all types of weather with exposure to heat, cold and wet conditions. Must traverse irregular and steep terrain on a regular basis and be aware of the sights and sounds that could indicate potential danger. Must be able to take measurements of water flow, orifice sizes and water depth.

Examples of Duties:

- regulates water in canals and through spills;
- cleans trash racks;
- checks and regulates head gates and service connections;
- checks and cleans meters;
- installs and removes check boards;
- changes orifices, slide plates, jumbo plates or other water flow regulating devices;
- patrols and cleans canals;
- lock/unlock service connections;
- completes resale sheets, spill records and daily reports;
- notifies customers of outages or situations;
- responds to and resolves customer complaints;
- direct maintenance crews to problem areas;
- meets with and orients new customers;
- answers trouble calls and complaints on a stand-by basis after normal working hours;
- acts as Canal Supervisor when required;
- including receiving assignments, scheduling, supervising and directing Canal Operators;

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- leads and directs the canal cleaning crews;
- uses knowledge of entire canal system to train others and to substitute in various canal areas as necessary;
- evaluates the performance of other Canal Operators or temporary canal laborers;
- performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:

Knowledge of:

- standard practices and procedures for operation and maintenance of canals, spills and other raw water appurtenances;
- safety regulations and safe work practices;
- basic mathematics;
- basic supervision.

Ability to:

- work with customers courteously and effectively;
- write clear and concise reports;
- redo plans and maps related to canal locations and stationing;
- follow oral and written directions;
- give directions to Canal Operators;
- work responsibly without supervision;
- follow safety practices, operate motor vehicle safely;
- read maps, plans and sketches.

Education/Experience:

Sufficient education, training and experience to demonstrate the knowledge, skills and abilities listed above. These would normally be acquired by completion of high school or the equivalent and at least two years experience as a Canal Operator I or the equivalent. A Distribution Operator certificate Grade I is preferred.

License/Certificates:

Must possess and maintain a valid California driver's license with an acceptable driving record. Some positions may require a class A California Driver's License.