
BENTON COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL UAS OPERATOR JOB DESCRIPTION

PERIOD OF EMPLOYMENT: Seasonal
JOB LOCATION: Benton County Mosquito Control, West Richland
DEPARTMENT: Field
SUPERVISOR: Rodolfo Cruz, Lead UAS Operator
REVISION DATE: January 1, 2024

SUMMARY:

The Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Operator reports directly to the Lead UAS Operator. Under the direction of the Lead UAS Operator, the UAS Operator is responsible for ensuring safe operations of UAS flights. The UAS Operator must complete all job duties in compliance with all local, state, and federal laws. The UAS Operator may be asked to fulfill duties consistent with other seasonal positions when not engaged in activities associated with the district's UAS program.

PRINCIPAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Conduct UAS (drone) operations for mosquito survey flights and pesticide applications.
- Conduct UAS operations within the guidelines of the Benton County Mosquito Control District's Certificate of Authorization (COA) or operations under part 107 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR's).
- Ensure that any UAS owned and operated by Benton County Mosquito Control remains in a workable, safe condition.
- Communicate effectively with the Visual Observer (VO) prior to and during flight operations.
- Keep accurate records (including accurate and detailed flight and maintenance logs for all drones operated by the District) of UAS activities using forms and handheld devices provided by the District.
- Keep accurate records of pesticide applications, using forms and handheld devices provided by the district.
- Perform tasks as outlined in the pre-flight checklist before each flight.
- Keep informed of trends and developments regarding pesticide applications and UAS operations, including applicable laws and regulations governing their use.

- Capture and transfer photographs, video footage, and flight mission data from the UAS to the district's computer system.
- Cooperate with other district personnel to schedule and complete UAS pesticide applications in a timely manner.
- Keep the Lead UAS Operator informed of the progress of the UAS program and any associated problems or issues that need to be resolved.
- Operate District provided vehicles, which may require the use of four-wheel drive trucks and ATV's and operate specialized spray equipment including a UAS.
- Be mindful of workplace safety and act responsibly with district property.
- While performing work duties, communicate with the public and individual landowners in a professional manner.
- Attend all required classroom and field training.
- Assist the District Manager, Field Supervisor, Lead UAS Operator, and Assistant Manager with various tasks as assigned.
- Perform additional duties and projects as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- High School Diploma or equivalent, which may include appropriate work experience to demonstrate a level of general knowledge and literacy sufficient to carry out the responsibilities of the position.
- Experience with UAS operations and flight safety procedures, biology, entomology, public health, and GIS (Geographical Information Systems) is preferred.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be at least 18 years of age.
- Must obtain a Washington State Pesticide Applicator's license for Public Health within two (2) weeks of employment.
- Must obtain a Federal Aviation Association (FAA) part 107 certification within twelve (12) weeks of employment.
- Possess a valid driver's license. Review of an employee's driving record for a 3-year history is a condition of employment.

- Maintain in good standing, a current FAA part 107 certification, a Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) pesticide applicators license, and a current driver's license.
- Be in good physical condition. Able to walk over uneven sloping terrain while carrying UAS equipment and product containers that will often exceed 50 pounds.
- Able to work independently and cooperatively with other employees and the public with minimal direct supervision.
- Able to accurately interpret pesticide labels and make proper pesticide applications using information contained on the pesticide label or labelling.
- Able to learn the operation of specialized equipment and comply with local, state, and federal laws regarding operation of a UAS.
- Evaluate workplace circumstances and activities and implement an effective and appropriate course of action.

ABILITIES:

A successful candidate will share a passion for and a commitment to the mission of Benton County Mosquito Control. A successful candidate will show enthusiasm and initiative. Applicant must be detail-orientated and capable of managing multiple tasks simultaneously. Applicant must have the ability to follow established, detailed procedures. Strong written and verbal communication skills are preferred. Experience in science-based education or employment is preferred. Previous experience with UAS operations and possession of a current FAA part 107 license is preferred. Knowledge of video and photo editing software and advanced computer skills are preferred.

Employee Printed Name: _____

Employee Signature: _____ Date: _____