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## BENTON COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL CONTROL OPERATOR JOB DESCRIPTION

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**PERIOD OF EMPLOYMENT:** Seasonal  
**JOB LOCATION:** Benton County Mosquito Control, West Richland, or Prosser  
**DEPARTMENT:** Field  
**SUPERVISOR:** Stephen Ingalls, Field Supervisor  
**REVISION DATE:** January 1, 2024

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### **SUMMARY:**

The Control Operator reports directly to the Field Supervisor and is responsible for conducting mosquito control activities for Benton County Mosquito Control. The Control Operator is responsible for larviciding, adulticiding, surveying, and controlling mosquito populations within an assigned zone. The Control Operator will abide by all local, state, and federal laws and regulations. The Control Operator will have frequent communications with the Field Inspector and coordinate field activities with the Field Inspector or Field Supervisor.

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### **PRINCIPAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Conduct mosquito larviciding and adulticiding using physical, biological and/or chemical control methods.
- Keep accurate records of sites visited and/or treated, using forms and handheld devices provided by the District.
- Update field maps and handheld devices when necessary.
- Attend all required classroom and field training.
- Keep the Field Supervisor or Field Inspector informed of activities and issues requiring discussion or immediate action, and stay informed of District policies and procedures.
- Operate District provided vehicles, which may require the use of four-wheel drive trucks and ATV's, and operate specialized spray equipment. The operation of specialized equipment will require additional training.
- 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.
- Survey wetland habitats and sample mosquito populations.
- Investigate service requests in a timely manner.

- If necessary, apply adulticides during the evening hours as assigned. Operating Ultra Low Volume (ULV) spray equipment for mosquito adulticiding (fogging) will require additional training.
- Operate truck mounted sprayers and consider all negative impacts prior to applying adulticides (i.e., pedestrians, environmental concerns, location of beehives in proximity to the spray route, location of organic crops, etc.).
- Coordinate with the public, city, county, and state agencies as necessary to manage habitats known to produce mosquitoes. Report these activities to the Field Inspector or Field Supervisor.
- Keep informed of trends and developments regarding pesticide applications and applicable laws and regulations governing their use.
- Maintain access to mosquito sites and promote proper drainage of habitats that produce mosquitoes. This may include the removal of vegetation with a machete, digging ditches, cleaning culverts, or altering beaver dams. **Permits may be required before performing these tasks.**
- Assist the District Manager, Field Supervisor, and the Assistant Manager with various tasks as assigned, including the spring tire drive event.
- If assigned, perform maintenance and repair of buildings and grounds.
- Perform additional duties and projects as assigned.

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**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 biology, entomology, public health, field sampling, GIS (geographical information systems), or Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS/Drones) is preferred.

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**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.
- 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 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 backpack spray equipment of 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 including computers, tablets, smartphones, and other equipment utilized in the field.
- Safety minded with the ability to keep detailed records and evaluate situations while accurately implementing an effective course of action.

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**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. The ability to follow established, detailed procedures is necessary. Strong written and verbal communication skills are preferred. Experience in science-based education or employment is preferred. Previous experience with UAS/Drone operations is preferred.

Employee Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Employee Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_