

Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District

Position Classification and Description



POSITION TITLE: Field Laborer
FLSA: Nonexempt
GRADE: NE1
SUPERVISOR: Labor Crew Supervisor
DEPARTMENT: Division Field Offices

Position Summary:

Ensures water delivery by cleaning, repairing, and maintaining canals, ditches, laterals, waste ways, drains, right-of-ways, roads, dams and other District facilities and structures.

This list of duties and responsibilities is illustrative only of the tasks performed by this position and is not all-inclusive.

Essential Duties & Responsibilities:

- Assists in the building or repairing of checks, turnouts, bridges, gauging wells, etc by hauling material to worksites, cutting lumber to required lengths, nailing boards in place, building concrete forms and pouring concrete.
- Controls the growth of weeds on ditches, canals, laterals, and waste ways by applying herbicides, cutting weeds using weed eaters and other hand tools, operating a weed burner and driving weed burner trucks.
- Breaks up and removes debris such as weeds, silt, animals, branches, trash and garbage weighing up to 100 pounds.
- Trims branches, opens and closes turnout, and checks gates.
- Repairs damages to ditch banks using potato hooks, chains, shovels, cables, bar hooks, machetes, chain saws and manure forks.
- Assists in the application of shotcrete/gunite handling a hose and nozzle under pressure; handles and places wire mesh; ties reinforcing bar; and operates hand held soil tamper.
- Carries, loads, and unloads lumber, rock rip rap, gas cans, oil drums, saws, and boards to assist in the building, repairing and maintenance of ditches, waste ways, laterals, turnouts, gates and other structures.
- Observes safety rules, and ensures and maintains a safe environment.
- Checks to ensure tools are in proper working order; reports defects and broken parts found on equipment. May repair equipment as directed.
- Contributes to a team effort and accomplishes related results as required.
- Performs other duties as required.

Minimum Qualifications:

High School Diploma or GED plus one year prior experience in farming, ranching, landscaping or construction labor. Must possess and maintain a valid New Mexico Driver's License with no major traffic violations; and successfully complete a drug and alcohol screening and criminal background

check. Employment will be contingent upon the successful completion of a physical examination and meeting the physical standards required to perform job tasks.

Knowledge, Abilities, Skills, and Certifications:

Knowledge of:

- basic construction techniques and practices
- proper safety and lifting techniques

Ability to:

- communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing
- carry out instructions furnished in verbal or written format
- analyze situations and adopt appropriate courses of action
- handle multiple tasks and meet deadlines
- develop and maintain positive working relationships with district employees and the public
- demonstrate excellence in everything, and continually seek improvement in results

Skill in:

- using various hand tools, power tools, chain saw, shotcrete equipment, and tampers
- driving vehicles over unimproved, dusty, muddy, and slippery ditch banks
- using safety and equipment devices; and utilizing safe and proper lifting techniques

Physical Demands:

While performing the duties of this job, the employee frequently is required to stand; walk; use hands to finger, handle, or feel; reach with hands and arms; and stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl. The employee regularly is required to climb or balance; and talk or hear. The employee occasionally is required to taste or smell. The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 125 pounds.

Work Environment:

Work is generally performed outdoors. Exposure to natural weather conditions and various dusts and mists may occur while performing outdoor duties. Standing and walking may be on uneven surfaces or unstable ground. Situations where safety-toe shoes, safety goggles, gloves, or protective face shields are needed may occur. Travel within the District area is required for completing work orders and working in sensitive and/or hazardous areas is common.