

Department of Natural Resources
Position Description

Classification: Hydrogeologist Program Coordinator
Working Title: Complex Sites Expert

Position Summary: This position provides geologic, hydrogeologic and technical expertise and oversight for investigation and remediation of complex contamination sites, providing direction for the larger, more complex response action remedial actions and other highly sensitive and/or complicated environmental investigations across the state. Many of these cases involve complex hydrogeological issues requiring a high level of interpretation, creativity and independent judgment, which have major impacts on DNR actions and future decisions. The position will serve as a statewide complex sites expert, coordinating with regional office Remediation & Redevelopment (RR) Program staff, responsible for providing direction for sites with challenging remedial options, nonaqueous phase liquid (NAPL) and highly complex geology, including coordinating review of plans for investigation and remediation plus long-term stewardship at these complex sites.

Geographic Scope and Travel Requirements: The position will have responsibility for sites with environmental contamination across the state. The position will also participate in regional and statewide RR Program meetings and activities and may serve on regional or statewide standing or ad hoc teams. Regular travel to sites across the state and occasional night meetings will be expected, as well as infrequent statewide overnight travel.

Scope of Authority:

This position reports to and is under general supervision by the RR Complex Project and Technical Resources Section Chief and has responsibility for providing oversight and technical expertise to consultants and responsible parties for assigned sites statewide. The position will work closely with Central Office and regional staff throughout the state.

Goals and Activities:

70% A. Technical Review of Complex Remediation Projects

- A1. Serve as a statewide expert for complex remediation projects. Provide expertise and training to other staff and consultants regarding complex sites, including interpretation and implementation of actions taken to characterization and remediate challenging contaminants and complex geological conditions. This includes sampling and analysis techniques, identification of appropriate analytical parameters and acceptable concentrations, design of protective measures and long-term stewardship procedures.
- A2. Coordinate and provide direction to regional staff and consultants regarding complex site investigation and remediation, including leadership of regional peer review groups for these approvals.
- A3. Coordinate with RR and other program experts and staff on issues related to challenging contaminants. Participate on statewide RR Program teams as needed for challenging contaminants and related topics.
- A4. Evaluate the accuracy, quality and completeness of complex technical data and of the site recommendations as requested. Prepare letters and recommendations for referencing appropriate administrative code and/or department policy.

20% B. Guidance & Training Development & Review

- B1. Evaluate the need for new technical or implementation guidance and/or training for staff and consultants. Assist in the development of DNR rules and policy related to effective management of complex sites. Participate in training for staff and externals, including regional and statewide training sessions. Disseminate technical and procedural information to DNR staff and interested external parties.
- B2. Develop and maintain technical references, case studies and information related to challenging contaminants and complex sites and methods to assess and address risk they pose.
- B3. Prepare and present training materials to DNR staff and externals as requested by supervisor. Identify and recommend training topics for staff. Coordinate with vendors and others with developing and/or complex technologies to collect and present information to DNR staff as part of continuing education for staff.

10% C. Professional Development & Organizational Responsiveness

- C1. Review and keep abreast of changes in scientific knowledge of position-related activities and in technology and management practices for investigation and remediation.
- C2. Participate in job-related training as directed by supervisor.
- C3. Disseminate relevant information to other technical staff regarding complex site cleanup and management.
- C4. Perform other position-related duties as assigned.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Knowledge of hydrogeology, geology, hydrology, soil science, and vapor intrusion, including soil morphology, mechanics, chemistry and classification, as related to remediation and redevelopment.
- Knowledge of hydrogeologic and chemical principles controlling the fate and transport of contaminants in the environment from spills and/or unauthorized disposal of hazardous substances and wastes.
- Knowledge of well and groundwater hydraulics.
- Knowledge of environmental monitoring, sampling techniques and groundwater quality standards.
- Knowledge of hydrogeologic and applicable engineering concepts relating to the investigation and clean-up of contamination incidents, spills and/or unauthorized disposal of waste.
- Knowledge of and experience with hazardous substance spill laws, codes, regulations, policies and guidance and their applicability to hazardous substance discharges and/or unauthorized waste disposal.
- Knowledge of and experience with clean-up requirements in NR 700 WAC series.
- Knowledge of program processes, policies, and procedures.
- Knowledge of and experience with characterization and management procedures applicable to complex sites and related requirements of NR 700 WAC.
- Knowledge of environmental enforcement process and procedures from NON to Referral to DOJ.
- Skill in using hydrogeologic and engineering concepts to recommend or require action at clean-up sites.
- Ability to understand a complex situation, issue, or problem by breaking it down into smaller pieces and trace implications or consequences.
- Ability to work well independently and be self-motivated to take action to meet critical organizational/program/unit goals.
- Ability to demonstrate personal integrity and high ethical standards in all transactions.
- Ability to present a good professional image through dress, speech and actions with a demeanor that inspires confidence in the individual and the organization.
- Skill in employing analytical abilities, pragmatism and other tools to resolve complex problems in a variety of situations.
- Ability to work cooperatively, collaboratively and facilitate others toward accomplishment of a shared goal.
- Strong leadership and interpersonal skills.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Knowledge of cross-program, multi-agency and other regulatory requirements.
- Ability to adapt to change.