JOB DESCRIPTION

TITLE: Irrigation System Worker III  
SECTION: Canal and Distribution Maintenance

DEPARTMENT: Trades and Support

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS:

Reports to: Crew Supervisor

Supervises the following positions: Not applicable

DEFINITION
Under general supervision, to perform the most specialized and complex duties in the maintenance, construction, and installation of District equipment and facilities; to provide project leadership, planning and carrying out work assignments using sound judgment and initiative; to provide training to employees in job duties, procedures, and the use of specialized equipment.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

1. Exercise lead responsibilities over a group of workers on assigned projects.

2. May oversee operations of the irrigation section’s screen and metal shop.

3. Perform semi-skilled duties using gas and electric welding and cutting equipment.

4. Lay and replace pipelines which may include manually leveling pipe bed, operating compaction equipment, breaking down concrete pipe using a sledge hammer, cut-off saw and jack hammer, and hand mix cement.

5. Perform jetting of pipelines on the drainage and irrigation system.

6. May occasionally operate vehicles requiring a class A driver’s license such as dump trucks, water trucks, equipment haulers, and operate backhoes.

7. Remove, replace, and rebuild radial gates, check gates, traveling screens, valves, gear boxes, meters and related equipment on the canal and distribution system.

8. Perform weed eradication using herbicides and equipment associated with the spray program and manually removing weeds using hand tools.

9. Adhere to District safety rules, wearing appropriate safety equipment, properly setting up traffic control, job sites, preparing trenches with shoring or sloping, setting up confined space entry equipment, and inspecting all equipment prior to use.

10. Maintain cathodic protection on canal and distribution facilities
MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

License or Certificates:
Possession of a Class A California driver’s license with all endorsements issued by the State Department of Motor Vehicles. Department of Motor Vehicles driving record may influence employment or classification.

Experience: Any combination of experience or training that could demonstrate the minimum qualifications of the position would be qualifying. A typical way to have the required knowledge and abilities would be to have at least five years of related experience, with at least one year of experience as an Irrigation System Worker II.

Knowledge of:
- Basic principles of water hydraulics.
- Safe operation of basic hand tools, sand blasting equipment and power equipment.
- Safe working practices and procedures.
- Materials, supplies and equipment needed to carry out construction and maintenance duties.
- Herbicides and equipment used in weed eradication.
- Geography of the district, and the location of irrigation facilities for both the canal and the distribution system.
- Operational characteristics of the irrigation system.
- Basic welding practices and procedures.
- Principles of training and supervision.

Abilities:
- Recognize, analyze, test and troubleshoot problems with equipment on the canal and distribution system and make appropriate repairs.
- Operate hand tools and a variety of light and moderately heavy mechanical equipment safely and skillfully.
- Perform skilled tasks in general maintenance and construction.
- Perform heavy manual labor exposed to unfavorable weather conditions.
- Understand and carry out oral and written assignments without supervision.
- Communicate effectively both verbally and in writing.
- Train and provide lead supervision to assigned employees.
- Work cooperatively and safely with others.
- Deal tactfully and courteously with customers and the general public using professional customer service skills.
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PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Drives District vehicle to job sites including over rough terrain. Communicate using two-way radio. Drive requirement: High

2. Works in extreme weather conditions including heat and rain. Works in areas that may contain dust, fumes, exhaust, snakes, chemicals, pesticides and insects.

3. Works in confined spaces and below ground level in structures and trenches.

4. Climbs ladders and works at heights of 50 feet above ground level.

5. Uses a shovel to dig and backfill trenches, expose underground utilities, pipelines, and valves, and makes other excavations.

6. Must be able to swim.