

**DREDGE OPERATOR****NATURE OF WORK**

This is skilled work in the operation of fixed dredge units.

An employee in a position allocated to this class is responsible for operating and maintaining diesel and electric dredges. Work involves assembling the dredge; operating, maintaining and repairing motor equipment in dredging operations; and laying pipe. An employee in this class may be given the responsibility of a leadworker. The work is performed under general supervision but the employee must exercise a high degree of independent judgment and initiative due to isolated work locations.

**EXAMPLES OF WORK**

Operates dredge to transfer sand at an inlet to prevent it from blocking the shipping channel.

Lubricates and adjusts mechanical equipment while dredging operations are in progress; cleans and changes filters and refuels dredge.

Works on and lays pipe lines; patches pipe with welder.

Performs light maintenance on stationary dredge; paints building and equipment; cleans the jetty around the pump.

Ensures that proper pressure and head in line is maintained at all times.

Positions dredge to assure proper pumping.

Performs routine running and mechanical repairs to dredging equipment.

Performs related work as required.

**REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

Knowledge of dredging methods and operating procedures.

Knowledge of the mechanical operations and safety precautions involved in the operation of a dredge.

Knowledge of tools and equipment used in dredging operations

Skill in the operation of a dredge including adjustments of pumps, cables, and other parts involved in dredging operations.

Ability to keep records and make reports.

Ability to swim.

**MINIMUM ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS**

Graduation from high school or an equivalent recognized certification; three (3) years experience as a dredge operator, heavy equipment operator or diesel mechanic; or any equivalent combination of related training and experience.

**NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENT**

Possession of a valid Florida Class "B" commercial drivers license.