

Meteorologist or Consulting Meteorologist

Tracking Code 1697

Job Location Boise, ID

Salary \$70,657–98,737 DOE (exempt)

Application Deadline 02/24/12 (5:00 p.m. MST)

Job Description

The primary role of the Meteorologist is to address technical and scientific questions related to meteorological and hydrologic forecasting, climate and climate change, and other meteorological issues important to Idaho Power Company (IPC) business. The audience ranges from internal scientific staff, IPC senior management, executives or board members, public and private agencies, and the general public. Responsible for preparation of specialized weather forecast products for use in stream flow forecasting, seasonal forecasting, wind energy forecasting, weather modification, and conducting weather studies and analyses. Also responsible for operating (with other meteorological staff) IPC's winter weather modification program and coordinating operations with other weather modification stakeholders. Additionally, will provide insight on research conducted by IPC and outside contractors that pertains to meteorology and IPC. This will include research and integration of temperature and quantitative precipitation forecasts (QPF) with stream flow forecasts, wind and renewable energy forecasting, as well as research with weather modification.

The Consulting Meteorologist will be responsible for developing procedures to produce specialized weather forecast products for use in stream flow forecasting, energy load forecasting, wind energy forecasting and such other meteorological matters of concern to IPC, and preparation of these specialized weather forecast products. Responsible for overseeing research that is being done by IPC with outside contractors that pertains to meteorology and IPC, as well as developing procedures that will be used in forecasting and other day-to-day meteorology operations. In addition, will provide oversight of contractors working on meteorological issues with Idaho Power. Participates in developing budget and staffing requirements for meteorological research and day to day operations of the meteorology group, and serves as the technical lead in developing RFP's and contractor selection criteria as well as overseeing the development and periodic review of meteorological operation planning.

Required Knowledge, Skills, and Ability

- Knowledge of:** Applied meteorology, hydrology, and climatology; long-term (temperature and precipitation) forecasting; snow and river system hydrology; effects of orographics on wintertime weather systems; snow pack measurements and analysis used in temperature and quantitative precipitation forecasting, climate and climate change; wind and renewable energy; and a preferred knowledge of stream flow forecasting and wintertime weather modification.
Consulting: Knowledge of how meteorology pertains to a hydro-electric power utility, renewable energy sources, and weather modification. **Prefer** knowledge of instrumentation, specialized sensors (including microwave radiometer and rawinsonde) and their data, weather analysis and forecasting techniques, remote sensing, river and snow hydrology, and weather modification.
- Skills in:** Planning and organizing; time management; weather and hydrologic analysis and forecasting. Preferred skills in project management and budgeting.
Consulting: Mentoring and providing direction on meteorological forecasting, as well as day to day operations to staff and contract meteorologists.
- Ability to:** Produce short (days) and long (months) term weather forecasts including QPF and temperature to work with both fixed and irregular time constraints.
Consulting: Acquire and use atmospheric/meteorological data, synoptic and mesoscale models, and products to conduct mesoscale meteorological analyses and support specialized meteorological and hydrologic applications, work with limited supervision, independently solve complex problems, plan and conduct assignments. **Prefer** ability to identify productive areas for research, act in a liaison capacity with other departments, to conduct quantitative precipitation and temperature forecasting, design and implementation of new techniques of implementing meteorological forecasts into IPCs day to day operations.

Required Experience

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- Education** Bachelor's degree in atmospheric science, physics, meteorology, or a related science. **Prefer** Master's degree in atmospheric science or physics, meteorology, or a related field.
- Experience** 2 years experience in operational forecasting and experience in mesoscale meteorology. **Prefer** 3 years experience with weather modification, renewable energy research, or meteorological and hydrologic forecast integration, as well as 3 years experience in forecasting QPF in mountainous terrain.
- Consulting:** 7 years experience in operational meteorology with at least 3 years of winter weather modification, renewable energy research, or meteorological and hydrologic forecast integration. A *Master's of Science (or Ph.D.) in atmospheric science or physics, meteorology, or a closely related science can be substituted for 1 year (3 years for Ph.D.) of experience.* **Prefer** 10 years experience in operational meteorology with 7 seasons of meteorological and hydrologic integration; winter weather modification; or renewable energy research.
- Licenses & Certifications** Valid driver's license with an acceptable driving record based on driving requirements for the position, and ability to obtain a Department of Transportation (DOT) medical card prior to hire. **Prefer** candidate that has or is able to meet the requirements necessary for Certified Operator defined by the Weather Modification Association.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

(Applies to Meteorologist level only, not the Consulting Meteorologist)

This position is primarily an office position with some requirements to be in the field (estimated less than 5%). The office component includes an element of shift work during winter cloud seeding operations. The field component requires ascending/descending hillsides and walking on uneven terrain, bending, stooping, squatting, twisting, kneeling, reaching, balancing, and lifting knee high and waist high no more than 50 lbs; rarely lifting shoulder height and above no more than 50 lbs and ascending/descending towers to platforms approx. 25 ft. off the ground. The field work may include long hours in outdoor adverse weather conditions. Applicant must be able to perform the essential job functions of the job without posing a direct threat of harm to self, others, or property. **Job offer is contingent on the candidate's ability to successfully complete a post-offer/pre-placement Functional Capacity Assessment (FCA) and Department of Transportation (DOT) medical card.**

Competencies

Customer Focus, Decision Making, Information Monitoring, Adaptability, Stress Tolerance, Communication, Building Strategic Working Relationships, and Continuous Learning.

Additional Requirements

Candidate must have ability and willingness to be flexible and work long, often irregular hours (ex. twelve hour shifts during cloud seeding operations).