Job description

Agency	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries			Work unit	Field Operations
Job title	Manager, Technical Operations			Designation	Technical 5
Job type	Full Time			Duration	Ongoing
Salary	$107,238 - $116,744			Location	Darwin
Position number	39035	RTF	359551	Closing	24/11/2026
Contact Officer	Belinda Townend on 08 8999 2155 or belinda.townend@nt.gov.au				
About the agency	https://daf.nt.gov.au/				
Apply online	https://jobs.nt.gov.au/Home/JobDetails?rtfId=359551				

APPLICATIONS MUST INCLUDE A ONE-PAGE SUMMARY ABOUT YOU, A DETAILED RESUME AND COPIES OF YOUR TERTIARY QUALIFICATIONS.

Information for applicants – inclusion and diversity plan

The NTPS values diversity. The NTPS encourages people from all diversity groups to apply for vacancies and accommodates people with disability by making reasonable workplace adjustments. If you require an adjustment for the recruitment process or job, please discuss this with the contact officer. For more information about applying for this position and the merit process, go to the OCPE website.

Primary objective

Manage the Technical Operations Unit within the Science and Systems Branch, including the leadership and development of technical staff, management of operational budgets and assets, and oversight of safe and effective technical operations to support fisheries research, monitoring and management priorities.

Key duties and responsibilities

1. Manage the day-to-day operations of the Technical Operations Unit, including supervising and developing technical staff, planning and coordinating operational activities, allocating resources and ensuring the delivery of approved work priorities.
2. Manage technical assets and resources, including laboratory and field equipment, facilities, vehicles and vessels, ensuring their safe operation, maintenance and availability to support research and operational requirements.
3. Manage operational budgets, procurement and contract administration, including planning and monitoring expenditure, identifying equipment and resource requirements and ensuring the effective use of available funding and assets.
4. Implement and maintain work health and safety procedures and operational risk management requirements for field, vessel and laboratory activities, including oversight of safe work practices and undertaking Designated Person Ashore responsibilities such as staff call-ins, field itineraries, incident reporting and operational safety monitoring.
5. Provide expert technical advice and support for fisheries research, commercial fishing observer, electronic monitoring and recreational fishing survey programs, including maintaining the confidentiality of sensitive information and driving continuous improvement in technical operations, procedures and service delivery.
6. Undertake other duties as reasonably directed, consistent with the responsibilities and classification of the position.

Selection criteria

Essential

1. A qualification in science, natural resource management, fisheries or a related discipline, or equivalent relevant technical and operational experience.
2. Demonstrated leadership, organisational and project management skills, including experience managing and developing technical staff, coordinating operational activities, allocating resources and managing competing priorities to deliver outcomes.
3. Demonstrated experience supporting field, research or monitoring programs, including the safe operation of technical equipment, field sampling techniques and collection of research or monitoring data.
4. Demonstrated experience in managing operational budgets, procurement and expenditure, and overseeing the management and maintenance of vehicle and vessel fleets, technical equipment and property assets.
5. Demonstrated knowledge and experience in the safe operation and maintenance of vessels up to 24 metres, including associated survey, safety and operational requirements.
6. Demonstrated experience in implementing and maintaining work health and safety procedures and operational risk management practices, particularly in field, vessel and laboratory environments.
7. Knowledge and experience in research principles, practices and laboratory techniques relevant to fisheries research, with the ability to effectively communicate technical and scientific information to stakeholders.

Desirable

1. Master 5 vessel operating qualification.
2. Electrofishing qualifications and extensive experience in boat and backpack operations.

Approved: October 2026

Belinda Townend, Acting Senior Director Fisheries

NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT