



Special Unit Dive Unit

NOTE: This job analysis was prepared as a supplement to the general Port of Seattle Police Officer job analysis, and highlights and reflects changes/differences from the information contained in the general Port of Seattle Police Officer job analysis.

Job Description, Essential Functions, Tasks and Skills:

The Police Dive Team works closely with the Marine Unit in and around Elliot Bay, the Shilshole Bay Marina, Fisherman's Terminal and the Duwamish waterways.

Divers use their specialized skills in underwater search and recovery related to waterborne crimes, hull and pier sweeps as part of dignitary and traveler protection, and assist with special events, such as Seafair, cruise ship operations, and Port of Seattle sponsored maritime events.



Dive Unit Officers will perform the following typical tasks:

- Participate in dive plan development.
- Conduct under water search and recovery for missing persons or bodies, missing property including automobiles, contraband, evidence of crimes, etc. Check sunken boats for bodies.
- Provide dignitary protection through under water searches or sweeps for explosive devices.
- Locate, mark and/or recover obstructions hazardous to navigation at Port of Seattle piers, marinas, and in public waterways.
- Maintain and operate specialized Dive Unit equipment, including dive gear, air tanks, boats, etc.
- Participate in dive training.
- Potentially operate dive boat.
- Operate in under water environments with minimal visibility.
- Ability to identify underwater explosive devices, such as limpet mines.
- Complete ship hull searches as requested for contraband and/or explosive devices.
- Put on and take off dive equipment, in and out of the water.
- Assist local, state, and federal agencies as requested.

Typically the Dive Unit will complete dives in teams of two to six divers with one rescue diver and a communications officer. The team members on the boat will track time underwater and air usage of the divers in a logbook.



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Dive Unit Machinery, Tools, Equipment, Personal Protective Equipment:

- Mask, fins, booties, mitts, hoods, dry suit, weight belt and weights, buoyancy control device (“BCD”), regulator, and air tanks with gauges.
- Compass, computer, timer, depth gauge.
- Knife and sheath.
- Night vision and hand-held thermal imaging equipment.
- Remote Operated Vehicle (“ROV”) used to view hulls and piers remotely with its ability to descend 500 feet.
- Lights and camera.
- Collection and lift bags
- Dive float and dive flag.
- Logbook.
- Towels.
- The Port owns a 37-foot, all-aluminum dive vessel, with twin 540-horsepower diesel engines and jet drives.
- Dive Unit van.



Dive Unit Officer Specific Education/Training:

Divers are trained in both basic and advance open water response, and are certified as Rescue Divers. Officers also complete a three-week Working Diver course conducted by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).



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PHYSICAL DEMANDS

NOTE: The physical demands of a Police Officer position vary greatly and are hard to predict due to the need to respond to unique situations and circumstances.

Frequency Definitions:

N/A: Not Applicable

S: Seldom (1-10% of the time)

O: Occasional (10-30% of the time)

F: Frequent (30%-70% of the time)

C: Constant (Over 70% of the time)

WNL: Within Normal Limits (talking, hearing, etc.)

	Frequency	Comments
Sitting	S	Reduced due to nature of work.
Standing	O	Reduced due to nature of work.
Walking	O	Reduced due to nature of work.
Swimming	F	Whole body movement.
Reaching (Over the Shoulder)	F	Increased due to swimming and holding lights and other equipment in front of the body while swimming.
Repetitive Motion	F	Increased due to using legs to kick for propulsion in the water. Putting on and taking off dive equipment.
Driving	S	Reduced as driving is a limited aspect of the Dive Unit duties.
Foot Controls	S	Reduced due to reduced driving.
Normal Job Site Hazards	C	Swimming underwater using scuba gear. Upper respiratory infections and or colds may impact an Officer's ability to clear their ears/sinuses and may impact an Officer's ability to perform the duties assigned to the Dive Unit. Traveling in a boat may cause motion sickness.
Expected Environmental Conditions	C	The Dive Unit performs its dives in Puget Sound and other salt-water environments. Officers travel to dive sites in a boat. There is an enclosed cabin on the boat, however Officers will have to leave the cabin and will be exposed to outdoor weather conditions while on deck. Divers are exposed to cold water and all types of outdoor weather conditions. Dive Unit members remaining on the boat will also be exposed to outdoor weather conditions while on deck.