



Photo: Petrus Hedman

Experience a different 9 to 5
with a summer job at the
Department of Conservation

Ranger

Location	Alexandra, Central Otago District
Dates of Employment	19 October 2026 to 30 April 2027
Salary	Salary range based on skills and experience is \$61,189 - \$67,446

Mō te tūranga | About the role

As a Generalist Ranger, this role focuses on a mix of biodiversity work, visitor asset maintenance, and compliance activities, often in remote and physically demanding environments. You will contribute to ensuring safe and enjoyable visitor experiences while supporting conservation outcomes across the region.

Key Tasks

- Weed management, including spray work
- Cleaning and maintenance of visitor amenities
- Track maintenance (gravelling, vegetation clearing, drainage work) and routine hut maintenance
- Use of mobile applications for reporting and timesheets
- Monitoring and basic management of water, sewerage, and solar systems
- Providing visitor safety information, including weather updates
- Carrying out compliance and law enforcement activities as required
- Trapping and pest control work
- Species monitoring (flora and fauna)
- Supporting operations during emergency situations

Ngā pūkenga me ngā wheako | Skills and experience

- Strong communication skills and ability to engage with a diverse range of people
- Good data collection and record-keeping ability
- Practical skills in recreation facility maintenance (cleaning, painting, mowing, weed eating)
- Experience with track maintenance and drainage work
- High level of physical fitness for demanding outdoor work
- Current First Aid certificate

- Basic knowledge of conservation and New Zealand's natural and cultural heritage
- Knowledge of Aotearoa's native flora and fauna
- Ability to work independently and unsupervised
- Ability to work alone and in remote or alpine environments for extended periods
- Strong off-track navigation skills
- Experience using tools such as scrub bars, hedge trimmers, and chainsaws
- Full New Zealand driver's licence

Mō te tīma | About the team/Location

Central Otago District covers a large and diverse landscape, from Haast Pass in the north to Beaumont in the south, and from the Matukituki Valley to Kokonga.

The district includes key visitor and conservation assets such as the Otago Central Rail Trail, 49 huts, tramping and 4WD tracks in the Oteake Conservation Area, and significant historic gold mining sites. Biodiversity work spans from lowland ecosystems to high alpine environments, including species of national significance.

Additional Information

Roster: Includes weekends and public holidays; flexible hours required. Flexibility required to cover staff leave and peak periods

Accommodation: None available

Number of positions: 1

Me he pātai anō, whakapā mai | For further enquiries

Please contact Seasonal Jobs seasonaljobs@doc.govt.nz