



Photo: Petrus Hedman

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

Ranger (Island)

Location	Aotea Great Barrier Island, Auckland Inner Islands District
Dates of Employment	October 2026 to April 2027
Salary	Salary range based on skills and experience is \$61,189 to \$67,446

Mō te tūranga | About the role

As a Generalist Ranger based on Aotea / Great Barrier Island within the Biodiversity, Community, Heritage & Visitor work group. This role offers a unique opportunity to work across a diverse range of conservation activities in a remote island environment.

The role combines biodiversity work, visitor asset management, and community engagement. You will support conservation outcomes through predator control, monitoring, and fieldwork, while also assisting with campsite operations and representing DOC in the absence of permanent staff.

Key Tasks

- Acting as DOC representative when permanent staff are on leave
- Supporting campsite operations and managing camp hosts
- Engaging with a range of stakeholders
- Undertaking practical field tasks such as scrub bar work and mowing
- Prioritising tasks and working with initiative
- Learning and using technical systems (e.g. Recreations Dynamics - campsite booking system, Trap.NZ)
- Operating safely in isolated environments
- Carrying out tracking and trapping work
- Trapping, monitoring, predator control, and weed management
- Off-track navigation using GPS systems
- Working in remote backcountry and rugged terrain
- Undertaking extended field trips, including overnight stays of up to a week

Ngā pūkenga me ngā wheako | Skills and experience

- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Experience with chainsaws, scrub bars, 4WDs, LUVs, and Growsafe (desirable)

- High level of physical fitness
- Strong planning and organisational skills
- Emotional intelligence and sound judgement
- Strong health and safety focus
- Confidence using technology and ability to learn new systems
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Practical, hands-on skillset
- Experience in stakeholder engagement
- Experience with trapping and tracking, including Trap.NZ
- Ability to show initiative and leadership in the field
- Full New Zealand driver's licence

Mō te tīma | About the team/Location

Working as a summer ranger on Aotea / Great Barrier Island offers a unique lifestyle and work environment. The role sits within a small, supportive team delivering biodiversity, community, and visitor outcomes across the island.

Aotea / Great Barrier Island is remote and largely off-grid, with no reticulated power or water supply. The island relies on solar energy, and water use must be managed carefully. Heating is typically via wood fires, and mobile coverage is limited, although internet access is available at the DOC office.

Daily life differs from the mainland, with limited retail options and supplies typically ordered from Auckland and delivered every 3–4 weeks. Transport to the island is via regular flights or ferry services, both of which are weather dependent.

Located approximately 100km from central Auckland, the island offers a truly remote and immersive conservation experience.

Additional Information

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

Accommodation: Shared DOC accommodation may be available (market rent applies); private options may also be available

Number of positions: 1

Me he pātai anō, whakapā mai | For further enquiries

Please contact Seasonal Jobs seasonaljobs@doc.govt.nz