



Experience a different 9 to 5

with a summer job at the

Department of Conservation

Photo: Petrus Hedman

Ranger Community

Location	Franz Josef, South Westland District
Dates of Employment	2 November 2026 to 30 April 2027
Salary	Salary range based on skills and experience is \$65,590 - \$76,589

Mō te tūranga | About the role

As a Community Ranger based in Franz Josef Village, this role focuses on enhancing visitor experiences, supporting conservation outcomes, and monitoring concessionaire activities within South Westland. You will play a key role in connecting visitors with the natural and cultural values of the area while supporting DOC initiatives such as the paid parking programme. Occasional cover in the Franz Visitor Centre will be required.

Key Tasks

- Provide exceptional visitor engagement, interpretation, and conservation advocacy
- Support the Franz Josef Glacier Valley paid parking programme
- Monitor and support compliance of concessionaires and tourism operators
- Identify and report unauthorised commercial activities
- Collect and report visitor use and site information to support management decisions

Ngā pūkenga me ngā wheako | Skills and experience

- Strong communication skills and confidence in public-facing roles
- Ability to engage with a diverse range of visitors from different backgrounds
- Comfortable working both independently and as part of a small team
- Experience in tourism, visitor services, or compliance (desirable)
- Understanding of, or respect for, Māori cultural perspectives
- Passion for conservation and a strong sense of kaitiakitanga
- Reliable, professional, and safety-conscious approach to work
- Ability to develop and implement conservation/nature-based programmes
- Previous experience working with school and community groups desirable

- Ability to adapt and contribute to a dynamic work environment
- Experience living and working within small communities
- Full New Zealand driver's licence

Mō te tīma | About the team/Location

The South Westland Operations team consists of approximately 3 permanent staff across heritage and visitor, biodiversity, community, and visitor centre functions. Seasonal staff support increased visitor demand and fieldwork during the summer period.

The role is based in Franz Josef / Waiau, a small alpine village surrounded by rainforest and glacier landscapes within the Te Wāhipounamu World Heritage Area. The district spans a vast area from Haast Pass to the Waitaha River and includes iconic sites such as Franz Josef and Fox Glaciers, Lake Matheson, Ship Creek, and the Copland Track.

This role is based out of the Franz Josef Visitor Centre and office, with opportunities to work across other sites and conservation programmes within the district.

Additional Information

Accommodation: There is Departmental accommodation available in a furnished, shared occupancy two- or three-bedroom property. Rental is set at market rates as determined by Valuation NZ. Private rental accommodation options may be available in the area. The successful applicant will need to provide their own bed linen etc.

Hours of Work: Working hours are usually between 8.00am and 5.00pm and are worked on a rostered basis of five days on and two days off, including weekends and public holidays. Applicants should be prepared to work flexible hours when required, including occasional late finishes, to support visitor, compliance, and operational needs. Full training will be provided. Applicants must be able to complete the full period of employment from 2nd November 2026 to 30th April 2027.

Number of positions: 1

Me he pātai anō, whakapā mai | For further enquiries

Please contact Seasonal Jobs seasonaljobs@doc.govt.nz