



Experience a different 9 to 5

with a summer job at the

Department of Conservation

Photo: Petrus Hedman

## Ranger (Visitor Centre)

|                     |                                                                    |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Location            | Franz Josef, South Westland District                               |
| Dates of Employment | October 2026 to April 2027                                         |
| Salary              | Salary range based on skills and experience is \$61,189 - \$67,446 |

### Mō te tūranga | About the role

As a Visitor Centre Ranger based in Franz Josef village, this role focuses on delivering high-quality visitor experiences through frontline customer service, providing information, managing bookings, and supporting conservation engagement. You will work in a busy visitor centre environment, connecting visitors to the conservation estate and promoting safe and responsible use of the outdoors.

### Key Tasks

- Provide conservation, recreation, and safety information to domestic and international visitors
- Operate and monitor radio communications with DOC field teams
- Manage bookings for huts, campsites, and Great Walks
- Issue permits and licences
- Deliver retail sales of conservation-related products
- Support visitor engagement and promote conservation outcomes
- Assist with wider conservation work programmes and familiarisation activities

### Ngā pūkenga me ngā wheako | Skills and experience

- Strong interpersonal skills and ability to work effectively in a team
- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal
- Ability to engage with a diverse range of visitors
- Sensitivity to and appreciation of Māori cultural perspectives
- Interest in conservation, recreation, and environmental management
- Professional, reliable, and safety-conscious approach to work
- Ability to manage a range of tasks in a busy visitor centre environment
- Practical and organisational skills to support efficient operations
- Full New Zealand driver's licence

## Mō te tīma | About the team/Location

The South Westland Operations team consists of approximately 36 staff working across heritage and visitor, biodiversity, and community programmes. The Visitor Centre team operates from Franz Josef and Haast, providing information and support to visitors across the district.

The South Westland District spans a large and diverse area from Haast Pass to the Waitaha River, including significant parts of the Te Wāhipounamu World Heritage Area. Iconic locations include Franz Josef and Fox Glaciers, Lake Matheson, Ship Creek, and the Copland Track.

Franz Josef / Waiau is a small alpine village surrounded by rainforest and glacier landscapes, offering a unique environment for both work and outdoor recreation.

Franz is approximately a 2-hour drive to Hokitika in the north or a 4-hour drive to Wānaka in the south. A vehicle is highly recommended, though the town is serviced by the Intercity bus which goes north to Greymouth and south to Queenstown daily. It provides both a passenger and limited freight service. Other couriers operate daily.

Franz Josef has all the services necessary such as medical centre, grocery store, community centre/gym facilities, church services. For day-to-day living, and for airport access it is two hours to Hokitika, or five hours to Christchurch or Queenstown.

## 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:** Visitor Centre staff are required to work an 8-hour day (40-hour week) on a roster system (5 days on, 2 days off). As the Visitor Centre is open 364 days per year, all staff are expected to be able to work weekends and public holidays.

The working hours for the role will usually be between 8.00am and 5.00pm. Full training will be provided. Applicants must be able to complete the full period of employment from 19 October 2026 to 20 April 2027.

**Number of positions:** 1

## Me he pātai anō, whakapā mai | For further enquiries

Please contact Seasonal Jobs [seasonaljobs@doc.govt.nz](mailto:seasonaljobs@doc.govt.nz)