



Experience a different 9 to 5

with a summer job at the

Department of Conservation

Photo: Petrus Hedman

Ranger (Biodiversity)

Location	Geraldine, Raukapuka District
Dates of Employment	September 2026 to June 2027
Salary	Salary range based on skills and experience is \$61,189 - \$67,446

Mō te tūranga | About the role

This role focuses on delivering field-based conservation work across a range of habitats and species programmes in the breathtaking Canterbury high country. Your work will primarily involve protecting native species through plant and animal pest control and monitoring, although you will be involved in a much wider range of tasks than that. We have an integrated biodiversity team where staff work across a range of programmes. You may be required to spend up to four nights a week at our field bases in the Hakatere Conservation Park and should expect to be staying out in the field from 4-12 nights per month. You will work in remote environments and contribute to the protection of nationally significant biodiversity values amongst some of the most scenic environments in Aotearoa.

Key Tasks

- Undertake animal pest control (primarily trapping)
- Monitor threatened plant species and braided river birds
- Maintain fencing and support infrastructure upkeep
- Undertake native planting, plant maintenance and seed collection
- Collect and record field data accurately
- Work across remote environments

Ngā pūkenga me ngā wheako | Skills and experience

Essential

- Backcountry experience and confidence working in remote environments
- Strong off-track navigation and river crossing skills
- Ability to work independently and as part of a small team
- Good data recording and attention to detail

- Strong time management and organisational skills
- Practical field skills and a hands-on approach to conservation work
- Full New Zealand driver's licence

Desirable

- Experience with 4WD driving (NZQA 4x4 unit standards)
- Experience with LUV driving (relevant NZQA unit standards required)
- Experience operating and maintaining a range of animal traps
- Knowledge of woody weed identification and control methods
- Experience using agrichemicals safely
- Current First Aid certificate

Mō te tīma | About the team/Location

The Geraldine District spans from the Southern Alps to the coast between the Rakaia and Waitaki Rivers, encompassing a wide range of ecosystems and recreational opportunities. Geraldine is less than 2 hours from Christchurch and just 35 minutes from Timaru. The role is primarily field-based, with work occurring across remote environments with regular overnight stays in DOC field bases (with hot showers and wi-fi) or backcountry huts.

For a taste of how the Raukapuka team roll and what we do, check out this video [Raukapuka Thrives - YouTube](#)

Additional Information

Roster: Regular hours of work are 8.00 – 4.30 Monday to Friday, although some weekend work may occasionally be required.

Accommodation: Not provided (except when working in the field)

Number of positions: 2

Me he pātai anō, whakapā mai | For further enquiries

Please contact Seasonal Jobs seasonaljobs@doc.govt.nz