



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

Photo: Petrus Hedman

Ranger (Biodiversity)

Location	Napier, Hawkes Bay District
Dates of Employment	October 2026 to February/March 2027
Salary	Salary range based on skills and experience is \$61,189 to \$67,446

Mō te tūranga | About the role

The Ahuriri/Napier Area Office is seeking an enthusiastic and motivated person to join our team and undertake weed control operations across the Hawke's Bay region.

Key Tasks

The primary focus of this role is to deliver field operations associated with weed control across a range of public conservation areas within Hawke's Bay. Working alongside a dedicated team, you will engage with local landowners, Hawke's Bay Regional Council, and our iwi partners to help achieve shared conservation outcomes.

Our weed control programme is guided by the [Hawkes-Bay-Regional-Pest-Management-Plan-2018-2038](#). Recent discoveries of high priority weeds for management include Chilean needle grass and Alligator weed. We also have a programme to progressively contain wilding pines in the Kaweka Forest Park. The wilding pine programme is led by another team member and is not a focus of this position.

Opportunities will arise to work across the broad range of the Area's core functions. As part of the wider Operations team, you may also assist with:

- Pest animal control
- Track maintenance
- Species monitoring
- Historic and visitor asset maintenance
- Marine reserve surveys and patrols
- Reporting and data management

This role offers opportunities to contribute across a broad range of conservation activities and gain valuable experience in different aspects of DOC operations.

Ngā pūkenga me ngā wheako | Skills and experience

We are looking for reliable and motivated person with a passion for conservation and proven experience in outdoor field work.

To be successful in this role, you will have:

- A full New Zealand driver licence
- A high level of physical fitness and ability to work in challenging outdoor environments
- Strong communication skills
- The ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Good organisational and problem-solving skills

Desirable:

- Previous experience in weed control, biosecurity, or conservation management
- Growsafe certification or equivalent agrichemical qualifications
- A current outdoor first aid certificate
- Off-track navigation skills
- Experience using handheld GPS units and computer-based data systems

Regular overnight trips to field bases and remote back-country locations will be required as part of this role.

Mō te tīma | About the team/Location

This position is based at our Hawke's Bay District Office in Napier. The Operations team in Hawke's Bay is part of the Lower North Island region and consists of twenty permanent staff committed to conservation and is led by the Operations Manager. Scheduling of work is co-ordinated by an Operation's Advisor and two Principal Rangers. The team works to increase conservation through conserving biodiversity, maintaining, and enhancing recreation on public conservation land, and community engagement.

Hawke's Bay, also known as Te Matau a Maui (Maui's fishhook), is located on the East Coast of the North Island. The region is renowned for its warm climate and abundance of horticultural and agricultural industries. The Hawke's Bay office manages wildlife hotspots such as the Kaweka Forest Park, Boundary Stream Scenic Reserve (Maungaharuru Range) and Te Angiangi marine reserve.

The main office is in Napier with satellite bases at Boundary Stream, Puketitiri and Kuripapango. There are two main cities; Napier, Hastings.

Our operational boundaries extend from the Waikare river mouth in Northern Hawke's Bay, sweeping inland and taking in the Kaweka Forest Park, Gwavas Conservation Area, south to the Central Hawkes Bay coast at Porangahau.

Additional Information

Roster: The standard work pattern for this role is Monday to Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm (40 hours per week).

Due to the nature of conservation field work, you will occasionally be required to work outside normal hours, including weekends and public holidays. Additional allowances and entitlements may apply for approved overtime, overnight stays, and other special duties.

If relocating to Hawke's Bay, successful applicants will be responsible for arranging their own accommodation. Information on available rental accommodation can be found through local community networks, social media groups, and Trade Me Property.

Accommodation: No accommodation provided

Number of Positions: 1

Me he pātai anō, whakapā mai | For further enquiries

Please contact Seasonal Jobs seasonaljobs@doc.govt.nz