



Photo: Petrus Hedman

Experience a different 9 to 5

with a summer job at the

Department of Conservation

Ranger (Compliance)

Location	Queenstown, Whakatipu-wai-māori/Queenstown District
Dates of Employment	October 2026 to June 2027
Salary	Salary range based on skills and experience is \$61,189 - \$67,446

Mō te tūranga | About the role

As a Compliance Ranger based in Queenstown, this role focuses on increasing ranger presence to manage visitor pressure, enhance visitor experience, support compliance, and contribute to the protection of this iconic visitor destination.

Working as part of the Whakatipu team, you will play a key role in engaging with visitors, freedom campers, and supporting front and back country facilities and conservation outcomes.

Key Tasks

- Visitor engagement and customer service – Engage with visitors, provide accurate information, and promote positive visitor experiences.
- Compliance and regulatory awareness – Apply and communicate freedom camping laws, concession conditions, and hut or campground fee requirements with confidence and professionalism.
- Operational monitoring and asset stewardship – Inspect, monitor, and undertake basic maintenance of visitor infrastructure, reporting faults and issues promptly.
- Problem solving and technology use – Troubleshoot equipment, use mobile applications and digital systems, and support data collection and reporting.
- Field operations and facility maintenance – Assist with the upkeep of visitor facilities, tracks, campgrounds, and support temporary closures where required.
- Administration and financial accuracy – education and follow up communication (infringement notices etc) on compliance matters. Complete administrative tasks, invoicing accurately and efficiently.
- Communication and teamwork – Maintain effective communication with field staff, hut wardens, contractors, and visitors while contributing positively to the wider team.
- Adaptability and self-management – Work independently, prioritise competing demands, and respond effectively to changing operational needs and visitor pressures.

Ngā pūkenga me ngā wheako | Skills and experience

- Previous experience in compliance or regulatory work
- Leadership abilities and strong integrity
- Strong customer service skills and ability to engage positively with a wide range of visitors
- Practical skills or experience in basic maintenance or field-based work
- Tech savvy skills with ability to learn new systems.
- Clear and effective communication skills, including the ability to share information confidently
- Comfortable engaging and working in partnership with iwi and tangata whenua
- Calm, approachable manner with good judgement in managing compliance and emergency situations
- Interest in conservation, outdoor recreation and understanding of National Park values
- Practical skills or experience in basic maintenance or field-based work
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Current First Aid certificate
- Full New Zealand driver's licence

Mō te tīma | About the team/Location

The Whakatipu district covers an area from the beginning of the Routeburn Track through to the Kawarau Gorge. Within this area there are many areas such as Reserves, Carparks, Toilets etc that are visited on a regular basis by the Heritage Visitor Team throughout the week. The work program is scheduled monthly.

The position is based out of Queenstown, and the successful applicant will report to the Queenstown office each day. The Wakatipu/Queenstown District is in the West of the Southern and Eastern South Island Region. It comprises the Whakatipu Basin and part of Mount Aspiring National Park.

The district is home to some of the Departments premier day visitor tracks, through areas of some of the best scenery in the country. These, together with the mountains, lake and indigenous grasslands and forests provide settings for a nationally important tourism industry and a full range of recreational opportunities.

Additional Information

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

Accommodation: Not provided

Number of positions: 1

Me he pātai anō, whakapā mai | For further enquiries

Please contact Seasonal Jobs seasonaljobs@doc.govt.nz