



21 October 2022



Tēnā koe 

Thank you for your Official Information Act request to the Department of Conservation, received on 15 September 2022 in which you asked for:

*I've begun work which aims to quantify the scale of the nature economy on the West Coast. As part of this I'm interested in employment data.
Can I please ask you to look into how many FTE's DOC employs on the West Coast?
How many people are employed part time? (positions less than 1FTE)
How many contractors are currently employed and for how many hours?
If you have the ability to provide this data by district office that would provide another layer to my understanding.*

On 23 September 2022 you clarified your request by saying:

If you could please provide information for both 31 December 2021 and 30 June 2022 this will help me to understand the season patterns of employment for DOC West Coast.

Secondly I'd like to ask for information relating to contractors who contract for services and invoice DOC monthly for their services.

Your questions and our responses are listed below:

1. FULL TIME AND PART TIME FTEs AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021 AND AS AT 30 JUNE 2022

The table below provides our full and part time FTE (full-time equivalent) and head counts for fixed term and permanent employees. Note that Statistics New Zealand defines full time as working **30 hours or more per week** and this is the definition we have applied to the data provided. The number of FTE in the part time columns in the table below are therefore only for staff who work less than 0.7 FTE.

Region/ Unit	District/Team	Employment category	As at 30 June 2022					As at 31 December 2021				
			FTE				head count	FTE				head count
			Full time	Part time	Total FTE	Vacancy FTE		Full time	Part time	Total FTE	Vacancy FTE	
Western South Island	Buller	Fixed Term	3		3		3	7.75		7.75		8
		Permanent Employee	19.5	0.6	20.1	2	21	19.8	0.6	20.4	2	21
	Buller Total		22.5	0.6	23.1		24	27.55	0.6	28.15		29
	Greymouth	Fixed Term	5.8		5.8		6	8.8		8.8		9
		Permanent Employee	16.4		16.4	4	17	16.8		16.8	5	17
	Greymouth Total		22.2		22.2		23	25.6		25.6		26
	Hokitika	Fixed Term	1		1		1	1	1.5	2.5		4
		Permanent Employee	15.8	2.5	18.3	2	21	13.8	1	14.8	3	16
	Hokitika Total		16.8	2.5	19.3		22	14.8	2.5	17.3		20
	South Westland	Fixed Term	7		7		7	4.8		4.8		5
		Permanent Employee	30.8		30.8	2	31	27.8		27.8	8	28
	South Westland Total		37.8		37.8		38	32.6		32.6		33
	Western South Island Leadership Team (LT)	Permanent Employee	6		6		6	7		7		7
	Western South Island LT Total		6		6		6	7		7		7
Western South Island Total			105.3	3.1	108.4	10	113	107.55	3.1	110.65	18	115

2. NUMBER OF CONTRACTORS CURRENTLY EMPLOYED AND FOR HOW MANY HOURS

I regret that I am unable to provide you with the information you seek in relation to the number of hours contractors are employed, as this information is not stored in our financial system. I must therefore refuse this part of your request under section 18 (e) of the Official Information Act because the information requested does not exist.

However, I have provided the total dollar value of the spend with West Coast vendors over the last financial year (1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022) as a proxy for the number of hours. I trust that this will adequately contribute to your intended output to “*quantify the scale of the nature economy on the West Coast.*”

You are entitled to seek an investigation and review of my decision by writing to an Ombudsman as provided by section 28(3) of the Official Information Act.

West Coast Contractors spend 2022	Sum of \$ Value	Number of contractors
BAU	5,819,835	
West Coast Based Vendor	2,734,297	99
Outside West Coast Vendor	3,085,538	55
Jobs 4 Nature	1,471,888	
West Coast Based Vendor	1,458,817	56
Outside West Coast Vendor	13,070	14
Dolomite Point	2,208,656	
West Coast Based Vendor	\$1,128,008	11
Outside West Coast Vendor	\$1,080,648	13
Grand Total	\$9,500,379	235¹

Please note the following:

- “BAU” covers the general ongoing spend in the region.
- We have identified what vendors are based in the West Coast versus the rest of New Zealand as this helps to show what funding supports:
 - work taking place in the West Coast
 - work taking place elsewhere in New Zealand to support the West Coast
- We have split out *Jobs 4 Nature* and *Dolomite Point* projects as these are temporary increases in spend, and so are unlikely to represent the expected level of ongoing funding into the region. You can find out more information about both projects on our website, www.doc.govt.nz.

¹ There are 235 discrete vendors across all three categories but the numbers in the table do not separate out where the same vendor may be used in each of those three categories.



Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) may be published on the Department's website.

Nāku noa, nā



Ginny Baddeley

Chief People Officer

Department of Conservation

Te Papa Atawhai