

Role Description

Title	Operations Manager
Manager Title	Director, Regional Operations
Group	Regional Operations
Date	January 2025
Approved By	Deputy Director-General, Regional Operations

Public Service

Ka mahitahi mātou o te ratonga tūmatanui hei painga mō ngā tāngata o Aotearoa

I āianei, ā, hei ngā rā ki tua hoki, he kawenga tino whaitake tā mātou hei tautoko i te Karauna i runga i āna hononga ki a Ngāi Māori i raro i te Tiriti o Waitangi. Ka tautoko mātou i te kāwanatanga manapori. Ka whakakotahingia mātou e te wairua whakarato ki ō mātou hapori, ā, e arahina ana mātou e ngā mātāpono me ngā tikanga matua o te ratonga tūmatanui i roto i ā mātou mahi.

In the public service we work collectively to make a meaningful difference for New Zealanders now and in the future. We have an important role in supporting the Crown in its relationships with Māori under the Treaty of Waitangi. We support democratic government. We are unified by a spirit of service to our communities and quided by the core principles and values of the public service in our work.

About DOC

The Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai (DOC) serves to protect and restore nature spaces and species across Aotearoa.

At the heart of our success is our strong DOC culture, built on clear values. Our integrity grounds us, our connections take us further together, we empower ourselves and others to do the best work, so we achieve more for nature and New Zealand.

Role Purpose

This purpose of this role is to lead integrated delivery of conservation outputs at place.

General

Employees are required to respond to DOC's changing needs, performing tasks as reasonably required.

DOC may make reasonable changes to the role in consultation with the role holder. This could include adjustment of the allocation of portfolios and responsibilities among members of the Group leadership from time to time.

As a leader you are visible, open, and engaging, proactive, and agile. You move towards problems and challenges and not create barriers or assume something is someone else's responsibility.

You are required to maintain a strict sense of personal ethics, maintain confidentiality and privacy, and abide by the Code of Conduct.

Key working relationships

Internal	External
Managers and their staff in Operations	Whānau, hapū and iwi
Staff and managers in support services and	Conservation Boards
technical advisory roles	Councils, community groups, businesses
	Conservation groups
	Landowners
	Conservation project partners
	Government agencies & non-government organisations (NGOs)
	Industry associations

Key Accountabilities

Accountability	Including
Operations management	Ensuring work sites are well managed and staff are supported to work effectively
	Identifying and managing key relationships at place with Treaty partners, community, business, and others
	Developing, monitoring and adapting a 1-3 year plan which integrates DOC work at place and is aligned with the Department's overall plan
	Ensuring statutory obligations arising from section 4 and from Treaty settlements are met
	Exercising good judgment in making statutory decisions
	Monitoring performance of systems, services, and output delivery
	Monitoring output delivery through monthly operating review (MOR), management by walking about (MBWA)
	Matching direct reports capability to work plans and providing opportunities for further development
	Monitoring and assessing the effectiveness and efficiency of output delivery and ensuring appropriate controls are in place for quality and cost
	Undertaking the Deputy Principal Rural Fire Officer role for your location as directed
Delivery and improvement	Leading the team to ensure effective integrated delivery of high-quality conservation outputs at place
	Ensuring prioritised step-change growth initiatives are delivered effectively at place
	Creating a strong safety-first environment, ensuring there is a positive safety culture and consistent safety practice across all work sites

Accountability	Including
	Shaping a culture which values:
	Safety for staff, visitors, and volunteers
	Continuous improvement
	Team process
	Partnership with iwi
	Working with community, business, and others
	Providing specialist knowledge and support on local conservation activities to the Director, Operations
	Working with colleagues across the Department to deliver on goals and work plans
	Working with peers to share knowledge and best practise
	Identifying critical issues and risks and ensuring they are effectively managed
	Scanning the external environment for information, trends, best practices, and innovations
	Initiating, supporting, and implementing continuous improvement and innovation
	Contributing to improvement and conservation growth
	Assisting peers and their teams to learn effectively from experience
Team leadership	Leading and supporting employees to ensure a high performing and capable team
	Ensuring suitable ranger capacity and capability is available to implement significant step-change growth projects
	Setting expectations with staff including clear definitions of success
	Providing constructive and robust feedback to staff and team leaders
	Investing in staff development, particularly Supervisors and Senior Rangers to enhance capability and performance
	Supporting the creation of an inclusive culture
	Encouraging the team to draw upon diverse strengths and perspectives
	Supporting the learning and development of the team to ensure identified capability requirements are met
	Directing and supporting team members to collaborate
Supporting group outcomes	Contributing to the setting of directorate priorities, ensuring alignment of activities and resources
	Providing leadership across the directorate
	Supporting the Director and Managers with specialist knowledge and expertise

Accountability	Including
Working with others	Managing conservation assets and supporting the implementation of value exchanges with partners
	Placing strong emphasis on positive, collaborative relationships internally and externally
	Positively representing the Department and reinforcing DOC's strategy
	Engaging with stakeholders to share information, build relationships, and identify critical issues and opportunities
	Providing regular updates on key outcomes and undertakings for internal and external audiences
	Participating in engagement and feedback activities and ensuring feedback is incorporated into the team's work
Treaty partnership	Ensuring DOC operates as an honourable Treaty Partner by identifying the impact of the team's work on Māori and building team awareness and capability
	Establishing networks with iwi and Māori who are interested in or impacted by the work of the team
	Identifying appropriate methods and leading engagement processes
	Ensuring co-design with Māori is undertaken when required
	Ensuring different ways of working are supported, institutional bias and stereotypes are not reinforced

Capability

Capabilities Required	
Specialist skills, knowledge, and qualifications	Excellent people skills and a strong drive for results through collaboration
	Knowledge and experience of conservation management, including natural and historic heritage, community, and visitor aspirations
	Excellent communicator, verbally and in writing
	Sound appreciation and understanding of value exchange opportunities with community groups, iwi and businesses
	A high level of competency in the use of planning, scheduling, and monitoring tools
	Competent at maintaining organisational standards and processes
People leadership	Skilled at inspiring, motivating, and directing teams
	Leads and manages using effective role modelling, delegation, and performance management skills
	Leads by example, guiding people to be disciplined and considered
	Understands the impact of own actions

Capabilities Required	
	Sets clear team objectives and expectations
	Monitors and strengthens management team cohesion and performance, focuses direct reports on achieving shared objectives
	Coaching and mentoring skills
Treaty partnership	Understands the impact DOC, the public sector and government have on the Māori-Crown relationship
	Comfortable engaging and working in partnership with iwi and tangata whenua
	Understands the obligations of the Crown under the Treaty of Waitangi as this relates to area of work
	Aware of the differences between Māori and non-Māori world views and knows how to access more knowledge
	Understands how Treaty settlement commitments impact area of responsibility
	A sound understanding of te ao Māori, te reo me ngā tikanga Māori
Collaboration and organisation leadership	Works effectively to solve problems, gains trust easily and supports peers
	Demonstrates and fosters collaboration across teams
	Proactively informs, and provides frank advice on sensitive issues
	Has a broad understanding of government processes and politics and key interfaces with government and other public sector agencies
	Communicates clearly and with impact, and inspires, motivates, and influences others
	Fosters culture of innovation, drives system and process improvements
	Leads cross-functional work and contributes to wider organisational outcomes
Delivering results	Plans and organises work to achieve required deadlines
	Manages and delivers on diverse work priorities, effectively allocating time and resources
	Manages risk effectively through appropriate identification, categorisation, and evaluation and/or mitigation
Relationship management, interpersonal and	Works cooperatively and collaboratively with others; builds relationships with stakeholders and partners
communication skills	Connects with others, builds trust and listens
	Shares information proactively and seeks to support others
	Communicates clearly and sensitively with a wide range of audiences
	Gains active participation and/or support for initiatives, from senior leaders, staff, and senior stakeholders

Capabilities Required	
Decision making and reasoning	Integrates wide ranging information to support effective decision making Seeks different perspectives to check for and mitigate unconscious bias
Commercial and financial management	Budget management skills Commercial experience and expertise Contract negotiation skills

You are required to comply with the standard operating requirements of DOC, i.e., you must comply with the financial, health and safety, legal, people and other delegations set out in Standard Operating Procedures, policies, and instructions (refer to the Intranet for further information).