

Applicant Information Sheet

About the Group

The Operations Group is responsible for delivering conservation work on the ground through our biodiversity, heritage and visitors, community engagement and visitor centre teams. The Operations Group is organised into nine regions across New Zealand.

Each region is led by an Operations Director based in Whangarei, Auckland, Hamilton, Taupo, Palmerston North, Christchurch, Nelson, Hokitika and Queenstown.

About the Team

The Operations team in Hokitika consists of up to 27 permanent staff and a number of seasonal fixed term positions and contractors. Scheduling of work is done by Principal Rangers, Programme Leads and Operations Advisors, field staff in the District report directly to these positions. Principal Rangers, Programme Leads and Operations Advisors report to the Operations Manager.

The Hokitika District Operations work and team is organised under three main functions being Community, Visitor and Heritage and Biodiversity. Our area of district operation is between the Taramakau River in the north, the Bonar Ridge south of the Waitaha River in the south, and the main divide of the Southern Alps in the east. This includes part of Arthurs Pass National Park. The district has important biodiversity values (including a whoio security site in nearby river catchments and plant and animal pest control programmes), a large backcountry network of huts and tracks to manage, some great front country visitor assets (including the Hokitika Gorge short Walk and facilities at Lake Kaniere and Mahinapua) and a large amount of commercial activities such as mining and grazing to manage on public conservation land.

Being centrally based in the WSI region the Hokitika District office includes some regionally based teams who operate across all four of the regions Districts; Buller in the north, Greymouth and Hokitika centrally and South Westland district to the South. These regionally based teams include a building team, freshwater and marine specialist roles and wild animal control work.

The advertised role fits in the regionally delivered work within the biodiversity function.

Role Requirements

This position is focused on implementing the region's ungulate control programme by facilitating and ensuring ungulate control operations are undertaken.

It is a full-time role. It requires spending time working in the field alongside contractors and or staff and at times working alone. There is a requirement to deliver some hunting including with the use of indicating and bailing dogs. There is a need for a reasonable amount of office work with the relative proportion of office to field being highly variable across the year. Overall we expect the role to be in the region of 50/50 office to field.



Firearms License

You will be required to maintain a firearms licence for as long as you are employed in this position.

Dog Ownership

As a requirement of this position, you are required to bring on, own and train an ungulate indicating and/or bailing dog. There are allowances in the remuneration package to cover the cost of this.

Location

Hokitika district is a great place to call home.

The district contains the towns of Kumara, Hokitika, and Ross, and various small settlements including Otira, Lake Kaniere, and Kokatahi. Hokitika is centrally located being around 3.5 hours' drive north to Karamea and 3.5 hours south to Haast. And also about 3 hours drive to Christchurch. There is a wealth of outdoor activities and an extensive backcountry hut/track network to explore with over 140 huts in the region. The area spans a wide range of habitat types from beech forest to the north and south, mature lowland podocarp forest in the more western regions with large areas of mixed broadleaf and of alpine country. The backcountry has extensive alpine areas, with a lot of the country being big, rugged, and captivating, being a lot friendlier on the eyes than it is on the legs.

Pre-Employment Background Checks

Should you be the successful applicant for a position, you may be required to undertake a range of pre-employment background checks. The level of background checks required will depend on the level and type of position you are appointed to. *These could include one or more of the following:*

- Reference checks
- Pre-employment drug testing
- Pre-employment health questionnaire
- Ministry of Justice (MOJ) criminal conviction history check
- Safety checks
- Workforce Assurance checks (for anyone who has worked in the public sector in the last three years)