



Experience a different 9 to 5

with a summer job at the

Department of Conservation

Photo: Petrus Hedman

Ranger

Location	Kaikōura South Marlborough District
Dates of Employment	November 2026 to March 2027
Salary	Salary range based on skills and experience is \$61,189 - \$67,446

Mō te tūranga | About the role

As a Ranger based in Kaikōura, you will play a key role on reducing pressure from human-seal interactions through advocacy, education, and compliance activities. The Kaikōura Peninsula is home to a significant population of New Zealand fur seals (kekeno) and attracts thousands of visitors each year who come to experience its unique coastal environment and wildlife.

The successful candidate will spend much of their time engaging with visitors, helping them understand how to safely and respectfully interact with wildlife, while encouraging responsible behaviour around seals and other protected species. This is a highly people-focused role and would suit someone with a genuine interest in the marine environment, conservation, and visitor engagement.

Key Tasks

- Engage with domestic and international visitors at key sites around the Kaikōura Peninsula.
- Educate visitors on appropriate wildlife viewing practices and the importance of protecting New Zealand fur seals.
- Promote compliance with conservation legislation, regulations, and local wildlife protection requirements.
- Monitor visitor behaviour and intervene where necessary to prevent wildlife disturbance.
- Provide positive, informative, and professional visitor interactions that encourage conservation outcomes.
- Record visitor engagement, incidents, and compliance activities.
- Support wider conservation initiatives across the district.
- Work independently, prioritise competing demands, and respond effectively to changing operational needs and visitor pressures.

Ngā pūkenga me ngā wheako | Skills and experience

- Strong customer service skills and ability to engage positively with a wide range of visitors
- Clear and effective communication skills, including the ability to share information confidently
- Cultural awareness and ability to interact with people from diverse backgrounds (additional languages advantageous)
- Calm, approachable manner with good judgement in managing compliance or emergency situations
- Interest in conservation and outdoor recreation.
- Knowledge of New Zealand's tourism and recreation opportunities (local knowledge advantageous)
- Ability to maintain high standards in a repetitive work environment
- Competence using technology, including Microsoft Office and booking/reporting systems
- 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

Kaikōura is a growing tourism destination with a vibrant and diverse community. The Kaikōura Field Base is part of the South Marlborough District and is made up of a small but dedicated team committed to caring for the Kaikōura area's outstanding natural, cultural and visitor assets.

Your primary workplace will be the Kaikōura Peninsula, one of the region's most iconic and popular destinations for both locals and visitors. Set against the stunning backdrop of the Seaward Kaikōura Ranges, the peninsula offers an exceptional visitor experience, with opportunities to walk the Kaikōura Peninsula Walkway, observe wildlife such as New Zealand fur seals and nesting gulls and terns, and enjoy spectacular coastal and mountain views.

Additional Information

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

Accommodation: None available

Number of positions: 1

Me he pātai anō, whakapā mai | For further enquiries

Please contact Seasonal Jobs seasonaljobs@doc.govt.nz