



Experience a different 9 to 5

with a summer job at the

Department of Conservation

Photo: Petrus Hedman

Ranger (Island)

Location	Matiu Somes Island, Lower North Island
Dates of Employment	23 November 2026 to 28 February 2027
Salary	Salary range based on skills and experience is \$61,189 to \$67,446

Mō te tūranga | About the role

This is a unique opportunity to contribute to the protection and revitalisation of the Wellington Harbour Islands, Matiu/Somes, Mokopuna and Mākaro/Ward. They are taonga to Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika who own them. The work on the islands is directed by the Kaitiaki Board via the Kaitiaki Strategy and Plan. Te Papa Atawhai (Department of Conservation) is responsible for the day to day operations on the islands.

Matiu/Somes is located in the Wellington harbour and is a short ferry ride from Queens Wharf or Days Bay, and transport to and from the island is provided by the East by West Ferry company.

As part of the team, you will help provide a positive experience for visitors, iwi and community groups while supporting the care and maintenance of the island. The role includes cleaning and maintaining accommodation and visitor facilities, maintaining tracks and structures, pest monitoring and trap maintenance, vegetation and amenity management using machinery, and working alongside iwi, volunteers, contractors and community groups. You will also support the Island Ranger and provide island cover when required.

Key Tasks

- Welcoming and contributing to a positive experience for visitors, iwi, community groups.
- Day to day cleaning and maintenance tasks of all the bookable accommodation and facilities on the island, ensuring these and all other island public facilities are kept to a high standard for guests.
- Maintain the track network and associated structures.
- Working alongside iwi, volunteers, contractors and community groups.
- Monitor and maintain traps to keep the island pest free.
- Amenity maintenance using scrub cutters/lawnmowers and other mechanised machinery.
- Providing island cover for the island ranger where required.
- Assisting the island ranger with other duties as required.

Ngā pūkenga me ngā wheako | Skills and experience

- An understanding of Te Ao Māori principles and Taranaki Whānui tikanga.
- Able to converse and engage with a wide range of people.
- Reasonable level of fitness.
- Enjoy working in all weather.
- Be personable and self-motivated.
- Be organised and flexible.
- Able to work safely on your own in a remote location.
- Able to work effectively and often without supervision.
- Have the confidence and resourcefulness to resolve a variety of situations.
- Current First Aid Certificate and drivers' license would be an advantage.

Mō te tīma | About the team/Location

This summer ranger role is based on Matiu/Somes Island and supports the Island Ranger to deliver the mahi during peak summer season. A number of kaimahi work on Matiu/Somes island. There is a full time DOC ranger along with a part time island cover ranger. Taranaki Whānui also employ a Tangata Tiaki kaimahi who regularly works on the motu. The DOC roles report into the Kapiti Wellington District Office which has approximately 30 staff. Wellington has a large and diverse population who actively participate in conservation work and Matiu is no exception. This position reports to the Heritage and Visitor Principal Ranger.

Additional Information

Roster: Weekends and public holidays

Accommodation: Whilst on your shift you will be staying each night in staff accommodation on the motu. This is equipped with water, gas cookers, fridge, crockery, cutlery and cookware. This accommodation is available to other staff/contractors on the rostered days off.

Number of positions: 1

The cost of ferries onto and off the motu for work purposes will be covered by the Department. A field food allowance will be paid per day worked at a rate of \$34.31 per day in addition to the pro-rata salary. You will be provided with a uniform, safety equipment and appropriate footwear.

Me he pātai anō, whakapā mai | For further enquiries

Please contact Seasonal Jobs seasonaljobs@doc.govt.nz