



Experience a different 9 to 5

with a summer job at the

Department of Conservation

Photo: Petrus Hedman

Hut Warden Ranger

Location	Rakiura Stewart Island, Southern South Island
Dates of Employment	5 October 2026 to 7 April 2027
Salary	Salary range based on skills and experience is \$61,189 - \$67,446

Mō te tūranga | About the role

We have two Hut Warden Ranger opportunities available on Rakiura/Stewart Island: one fixed-term position and one seasonal permanent position.

As a Hut Warden Ranger, you will be part of DOC's Heritage and Visitor team, based at either Port William Hut or North Arm Hut on the renowned Rakiura Track. This role offers a unique opportunity to live and work in a remote backcountry environment while helping visitors enjoy one of New Zealand's Great Walk experiences. Duties include welcoming and assisting visitors, delivering hut talks, checking bookings and campsites, carrying out basic track and hut maintenance, monitoring trapping networks, and maintaining hut and toilet facilities.

This is a full-time seasonal role, typically operating from October through to April or May each year. You will join a high-performing operations team responsible for delivering exceptional visitor experiences and maintaining DOC's hut network across Rakiura/Stewart Island.

Hut Wardens work rostered hours throughout the busy summer season. Daily hours can vary, so please refer to the Applicant Information Sheet for further details about the role and roster requirements. Accommodation is provided in private hut warden quarters, which include solar lighting, cooking facilities, and other essential amenities to support extended stays in the field.

Key Tasks

- Engage with visitors, providing information and guidance to walkers and riders
- Undertake track maintenance including vegetation control and drainage work
- Clean and maintain huts, water systems, and toilet facilities
- Support the wider team with track and hut maintenance tasks
- Maintain high standards across Great Walk facilities

Ngā pūkenga me ngā wheako | Skills and experience

- Strong communication skills and ability to engage with a wide range of visitors
- High level of self-reliance and ability to work independently in isolated environments
- Good practical skills for track and facility maintenance
- High level of physical fitness for demanding fieldwork
- Experience in backcountry environments
- Ability to work in challenging weather conditions
- Full New Zealand driver's licence

Mō te tīma | About the team/Location

Join a passionate and supportive team on Rakiura/Stewart Island, where you'll help deliver outstanding visitor experiences and maintain facilities along the iconic Rakiura Track Great Walk. Based at either Port William Hut or North Arm Hut, you'll live and work in a unique remote environment renowned for its stunning landscapes, rich wildlife, and strong conservation values. This is an exceptional opportunity to combine practical outdoor work, visitor engagement, and conservation in one of New Zealand's most special places

Additional Information

Roster: 10 days on, 4 days off from Monday – Wednesday

Accommodation: Hut-based warden quarters provided at assigned huts

Number of positions: 2: 1x fixed term position

1 x Seasonal permanent position

Me he pātai anō, whakapā mai | For further enquiries

Please contact Seasonal Jobs seasonaljobs@doc.govt.nz