

Applicant Information Sheet

2026 DOC Seasonal Recruitment

Work Group	Heritage and Visitor
Role	Ranger
Location	Matiu/Somes Island, Wellington Harbour
Date of Employment	4 months fixed term (suggested 23/11/26 to 28/02/27) dates negotiable. – 14 weeks in total.
Number of Available Positions	1
Salary	The salary range for this position is \$62,565 to \$65,135 pro rata with the starting salary of the successful applicant being based on their relevant skills and experience.

Our vision: Nature is thriving in Aotearoa | Te Oranga o te Ao Tūroa

The Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai (DOC) serves to protect and restore nature across Aotearoa. When nature thrives, we all thrive.

About the Team

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 Whanui 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.



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About the Location

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.

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.

Capabilities

Desirable:

- 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.

Additional Information (Roster | Accommodation)

The successful applicant will be expected to work on a roster system which will include weekends and public holidays. 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.

You will be provided with a uniform, safety equipment and appropriate footwear.

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.

For any further information contact dherron@doc.govt.nz or 027 201 9986.



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