

Conservation Field Worker- Biodiversity

Location: Living Springs, Whakaraupō/ Lyttelton Harbour
Reports to: Conservation Manager/ Team Leader
Hours: Part-time – 24 hours/week, \$30/hr
Status: Term Contract – 40 weeks

INTRODUCTION

Living Springs is a unique retreat and conference centre nestled at the southern end of the Port Hills in Whakaraupō / Lyttelton Harbour. Renowned for its commitment to environmental stewardship, Living Springs is dedicated to preserving and enhancing the natural beauty of its surroundings. Our conservation efforts span the entire Allandale catchment ki uta ki tai, focusing on sustainable practices and habitat restoration to support local wildlife and biodiversity.

Living Springs is deeply community-oriented, actively engaging with a diverse network of volunteers. Together, we work collaboratively on various projects, from conservation initiatives to community events, fostering a sense of shared responsibility and stewardship for our environment.

In addition to our environmental initiatives, Living Springs offers a wide array of programs and activities designed to foster personal development, outdoor adventure, and community building. Our facilities cater to diverse groups, including schools, corporate teams, and community organizations, providing them with enriching experiences in a serene natural setting.

By joining the Living Springs team, you will be part of an organization that values conservation, community engagement, and environmental education, while also contributing to the broader mission of creating meaningful and transformative experiences for all who us.

SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Field worker will be responsible for contributing to biodiversity enhancement at Living Springs. They will work closely with other staff and volunteers to deliver and monitor conservation outcomes. The ideal candidates will be organised, conscientious and have experience working outdoors in rugged terrain and in variable weather conditions. This role will suit a self-motivated person with a strong work ethic. Someone that can operate well both in an isolated environment and as part of a team. They will have a strong community focus.

Duties and Responsibilities

Weed Specialist Responsibilities

As a Conservation Field Worker specialising in weed management, your role will include:

- Developing a master plan for managing and eliminating invasive weeds on Living Springs property (including Old Man's Beard, Wilding Pine, Boneseed, Ivy, Himalayan Honeysuckle and others).
- Organising and carrying out fieldwork to remove invasive pest plant species.
- Collaborating with volunteers and community partners to support weed control activities.
- Ensuring safety in the field by managing risks and reporting incidents or accidents.
- Training and mentoring volunteers and staff to carry out weed control tasks safely and effectively.

- Supporting community members and neighbouring properties by sharing control methods and promoting awareness of invasive weeds.
- Conducting plant release work, including controlled spraying and hand releasing with volunteer's groups.
- Managing agricultural chemicals and PPE, including maintaining inventory, ordering supplies, and ensuring proper equipment use for safe operations.
- Using GIS technology to track and manage weeds in the field.
- Providing monthly progress reports on deliverables.

Plant and Plant Nursery Responsibilities

- Managing the incoming and outgoing of native plants in the nursery and field sites.
- Ordering eco sourced plant species suitable to the restoration work being completed.
- Managing plant equipment such as tools, resources, plant guards, matting etc.
- Planting native trees to support habitat restoration.
- Monitoring certain plant species to track ecosystem health.
- Identifying and recognising indigenous plant species.
- Coordinating and delivering planting days alongside our volunteer coordinator.
- Support and training of volunteers who are passionate about nursery work or native plants.

Additional Responsibilities

In addition to weed and plant management, you may also be involved in:

- Maintaining tracks, including vegetation clearing and upkeep.
- Contributing to team efforts to achieve conservation goals.
- Upholding Living Springs Health and safety policies, including PPE compliance.
- Maintaining high team morale and motivation.
- Responding appropriately to accidents or emergencies in line with approved procedures.
- Participating in leadership or strategic meetings.
- Ensuring the care, maintenance, and safe operation of vehicles, trailers, tools, and equipment.
- Representing Living Springs positively in the community and demonstrating professional leadership and behaviour.
- Carrying out additional duties as directed by your manager.

General Responsibilities for All Living Springs Employees

All employees of Living Springs are expected to:

- Maintain a strong focus on workplace health and safety, providing leadership to foster a strong safety culture.
- Promote Living Springs' purpose and projects to increase community awareness.
- Adhere to Living Springs' Policies & Procedures and the Employee Code of Conduct.
- Contribute to a positive team environment by maintaining morale and motivation.
- Respond appropriately to accidents or emergencies following approved procedures.
- Demonstrate high standards of professional and personal behaviour.
- Undergo police vetting as part of employment requirements.

Essential Requirements

Candidates must have:

- Relevant experience or qualifications in managing invasive weeds and plant knowledge.
- A strong passion for conservation.
- Proven ability to work cooperatively as part of a team.
- A good work ethic and reliability.
- A willingness to learn about Mātauranga Māori and Manaakitanga.
- A valid New Zealand work visa, permit, or residency.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- Full Driver's License
- Grow safe Standard or Higher
- Previous experience with conservation work
- LTV or Side by Side experience or qualification
- Chainsaw experience
- Safe operation of equipment and tools
- First Aid Certificate

