



ROLE DESCRIPTION

Project Lead – Te Manahuna Aoraki

Zero Invasive Predators

Location: Twizel
Reporting to: Operations Director

Context

Zero Invasive Predators

Zero Invasive Predators Ltd (ZIP) is a registered company and charity that was established in February 2015 by the Department of Conservation and NEXT Foundation.

The mission of ZIP is to “*rapidly develop technology to enable permanent elimination of key threats to native plants and animals.*”

Eliminating threats to biodiversity

New Zealand has traditionally managed pest animals by suppressing their populations. Often this means an initial operation to reduce pest numbers, followed by ongoing cyclical control. This results in a boom-and-bust type impact on pest populations, and limits the recovery of native species and ecosystems. Given finite resources, the enduring cost of this approach also restricts the scale at which pest populations can be managed.

The launch of the Predator Free 2050 mission in 2016 introduced a new goal: to eliminate, rather than suppress, invasive predators across Aotearoa. Elimination focuses on removing every individual target pest from an area, and then managing incursion to prevent these pests from re-establishing.

New Zealand is already a world leader in eliminating invasive species from offshore islands, and within fenced sanctuaries, but achieving this at landscape scale on the mainland is a challenge that requires new tools and techniques. ZIP’s role is to develop methods to (1) eliminate invasive pest animals from large mainland areas, and (2) quickly detect and remove any invaders before they are able to re-establish a population.

This approach is now being developed and implemented to enable elimination of invasive pests from large sites around New Zealand.

More information about ZIP is available at <https://zip.org.nz>.

Purpose of the role

Provide strategic leadership for the ZIP Twizel-based team, to revitalise the Te Manahuna Aoraki Project area by eliminating key threats to native plants and animals.

As Project Lead, you will be responsible for:

- leading the implementation of Te Manahuna Aoraki Project (TMAP)
- fostering development of new tools and techniques required to achieve elimination

- ensuring health and safety of the team and contractors
- building and maintaining strong relationships with project partners, iwi, landowners, community and contractors
- ensuring connectedness and integration between the Twizel team and the wider ZIP team
- supporting team members' professional and personal development
- leading by example ZIP's work culture, i.e. *caring, connected, empowered and innovative*
- ensuring strong metrics, and reporting on progress

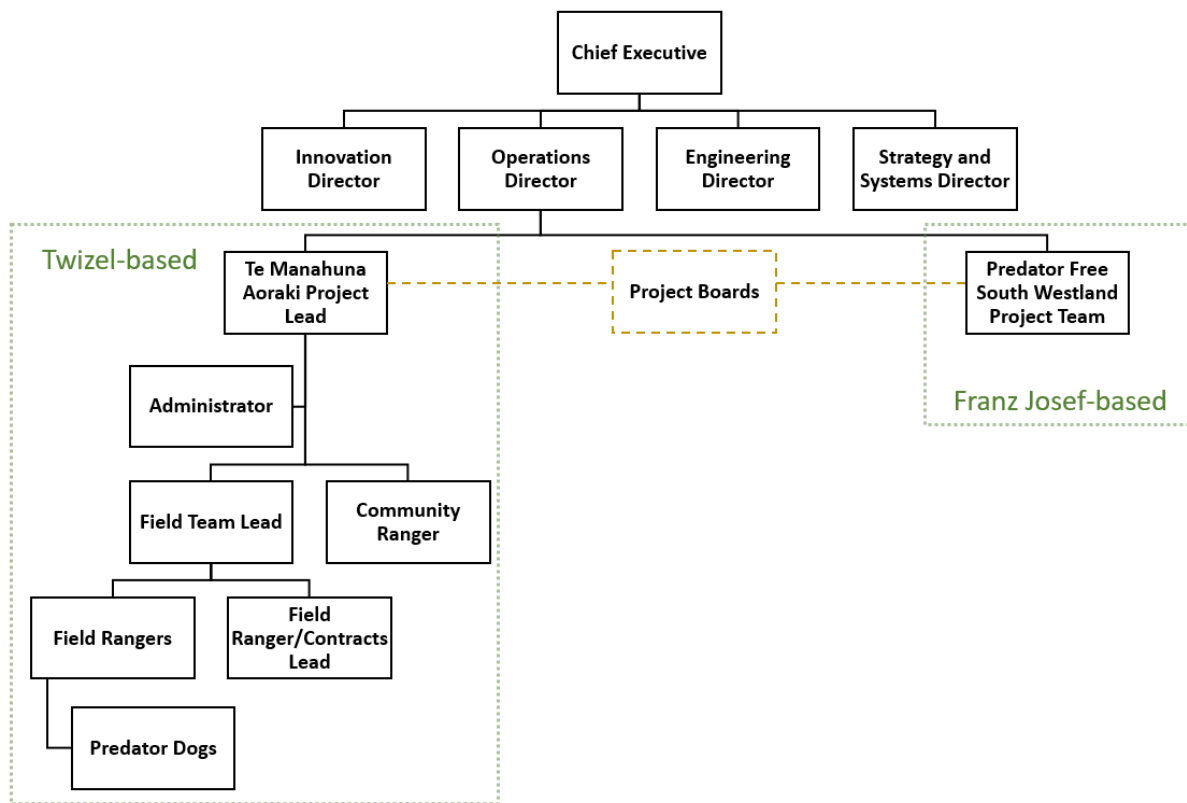
At times the role will require:

- spending periods of time in the back country
- supporting the recruitment and training of new team members

To succeed in this role, you will need:

- experience and skills in managing and delivering complex projects
- excellent communication skills, both verbal and written, including reporting across a wide range of partners at various levels
- an ability to work with others to develop effective strategy to deliver operational objectives
- an ability to lead, mentor and bring people together for a common purpose, and enable great relationships and support
- to understand and ground yourself in the work, to actively improve and refine the tools and techniques being deployed
- to be willing and able to quickly adapt plans on the basis of new information, and gain the support of the team and Board to implement
- to demonstrate understanding and passion for the goals of Te Manahuna Aoraki Project

Organisation Structure



Team Culture

People – our team, conservation partners and other stakeholders – are always our number one priority, without exception. We are caring, connected, empowered and innovative.

Within this context, some of the values and principles we follow include:

- Keep people safe
- Communicate openly
- Work with others to enable a change in practice
- Empower and trust the team
- Rapidly find and deploy solutions
- Strive for continuous improvement