



ROLE DESCRIPTION – Community Ranger

Zero Invasive Predators

Location: Twizel

Reporting to: Project Lead – Te Manahuna Aoraki

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

Work with the Project Lead to build and maintain support for the outcomes of Te Manahuna Aoraki Project within the local communities.

As Community Ranger, you will be responsible for:

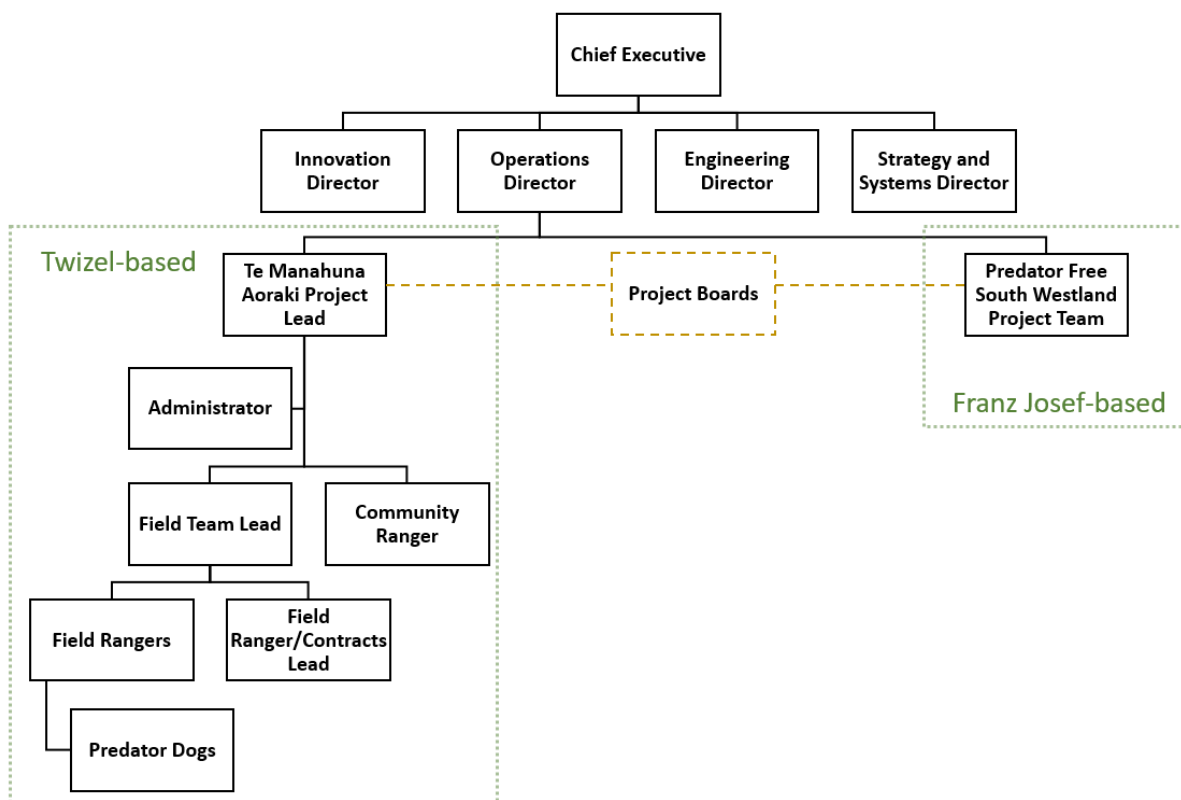
- Gaining an understanding of landowners’ concerns with any part of Te Manahuna Aoraki Project (TMAP) mahi, and facilitating kōrero with landowners and the ZIP team to find solutions to these concerns.
- Supporting the Twizel-based team and wider ZIP team to successfully deliver TMAP.
- Leading conversations with members of the local community to build support for TMAP mahi.

- Building and maintaining strong relationships with land owners and businesses, to gain property access and permissions to achieve the goals of TMAP.
- Providing input into operational planning as required.
- Gaining necessary permissions to enable operational activities to progress.
- Collecting and collating high quality data from field development site(s) for the team to access and utilise in planning and development work.
- Other tasks including (but not limited to) deploying and checking detection devices, servicing traps and bait stations, species monitoring and using electronic equipment.

To succeed in this role, you will need:

- Experience engaging with people and groups of various backgrounds
- Openness to exploring and understanding landowners’ concerns to find solutions to deliver TMA mahi
- Excellent communication, writing and listening skills
- Ability to work flexible work hours
- Willingness to be ‘embedded’ in the work – not just to work hard and to a high standard, but also to contribute your feedback and observations
- Keen to learn, develop skills, and contribute to research and development in the field

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