

Biosecurity Officer – Predator Free 2050

(Fixed term ending June 2027)

Pūtake Tūranga - Scope

The primary focus of Predator Free Whangārei is to demonstrate that possums can be completely removed from a landscape scale area of approximately 9,000ha across the Whangārei Heads peninsula.

This role will be part of a small dynamic team focussed on the operational field delivery of the possum eradication aspect of Predator Free Whangārei. Based out of our Parua Bay field office, this will involve liaising and working alongside landowners, tangata whenua / mana whenua, residents, volunteers, and contractors to collectively achieve the project's ambitious goal of being possum free across Whangārei Heads.

This role contributes directly to the following council areas of focus: enhancement of indigenous biodiversity and biosecurity, a strong regional economy, enduring relationships with mana whenua and efficient and effective service delivery.

Ngā Whainga - Key responsibilities

Relationship Building

The person must be comfortable liaising with landowners to communicate vital information, develop and maintain strong working relationships and seek agreement to access properties to install and service traps and bait stations. This includes an ability to represent the kaupapa at various stakeholder events including school programme delivery.

Developing relationships with mana whenua is a crucial aspect of this role along with an awareness of the importance of tikanga as it relates to respectfully working with people and the whenua. Being aware of the principles of Te Tiriti and mātauranga Māori will be beneficial to the successful candidate.

Field Operations

The successful person will work as a collaborative team member to deliver field operations relating to possum elimination. Tasks will include installing infrastructure, track development and maintenance, trap setting, safe handling of toxic bait, humanely euthanizing wild animals, and using hand and power tools. They will be confident navigating rough and challenging terrain, physically able to meet demands of challenging terrain and weather conditions, and competent working unsupervised.

The collection of high-quality field data is integral to the success of the possum eradication. The successful person will collect and manage this data to a high standard using a range of technical devices and will have the ability to analyse field data and interpret information.

Health and Safety

Adherence to all safe working procedures and instructions will be a prerequisite, as well as taking care of oneself and others. Having a commitment to health and safety as detailed in the NRC policies and guidelines, and as defined by the Health and Safety Legislation will be important.



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Tō Pukenga - About you

Qualifications, skills and experience:

- A relevant degree qualification in a relevant discipline (biosecurity, pest management, farming or horticulture) would be a help.
- 2 plus years in a role of relevance.
- Experience in hands-on field delivery work.
- Ability to work unsupervised.
- Sound understanding of tikanga Māori.
- Experience in use of Microsoft applications especially Word, Excel and Outlook.
- Full drivers' licence.
- Basic GIS knowledge and skills.
- Familiarity with GPS and map navigation.
- Current first aid and 4WD certificate is desirable.
- Local knowledge of the Whangārei Heads whenua.

Personal attributes

- Displays cultural empathy and awareness, and values strong working relationships with treaty partners, community conservation groups and other members of the community.
- Able to meet physical demands of working in challenging terrain and weather conditions.
- Displays personal and professional integrity.
- Committed to H&S and organisational values.
- Sound understanding of Māori culture.

Reports to: Biosecurity Manager – Predator Free Whangārei
Group and Department: Biosecurity
Location: Whangārei
Date: March 2026

Declaration

I have read and understood the contents of this Job Description.

Name:

(Please print full name)

Signature:

Date:



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