



TE RARAWA

JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE: Environmental Field Technician
REPORTS TO: CEO and Principal Advisor
DIRECT REPORTS: Project Team Lead & Project Manager

LOCATION: Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa
16 Matthews Ave, Kaitāia – at times it may require the utilisation of a stakeholder’s premises, including site inspections.

PURPOSE: To deliver integrated environmental field services across water monitoring, kauri protection, pest control, and ecological restoration programmes under the Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa Taiao Framework.
The role supports the health of awa, ngahere, whenua and communities by combining science, cultural values, and field expertise.

This role contributes to:

- Enhancing freshwater quality and ecosystem resilience
- Restoring native forests and biodiversity
- Controlling invasive species and pests
- Supporting iwi-led data sovereignty and mātauranga retention

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Field Operations and Restoration

- Conduct Stream Health Monitoring Assessments (SHMAK)
- Monitor and assess freshwater species, aquatic habitats and macro invertebrates
- Remove invasive species from waterways and riparian margins
- Assist with planting and maintenance of riparian and forest restoration sites
- Support Kauri Ora protection and pathogen mitigation protocols
- Operate traps, monitoring tools, and bait stations to suppress pest populations
- Record and log field data using digital tools (tablets, apps, ArcGIS platforms)

Science and Laboratory Support

- Collect, handle, and prepare samples for water and soil testing
- Assist in lab procedures
- Maintain field data integrity and ensure reporting accuracy
- Support development of a live land management app (inputting real time data)

Equipment & Safety

- Maintain and transport field gear including water testing kits, traps, PPE, etc.
- Work safely across uneven terrain, rivers, and off-road environments
- Follow biosecurity and H&S protocols when working with sensitive or contaminated areas

Cultural and Community Engagement

- Uphold tikanga Māori in all engagements
- Support whānau, hapū and marae in environmental aspirations
- Participate in educational events, field days, and community workshops
- Promote Te Rarawa environmental values and the kaupapa of Te Hekenga

KEY RELATIONSHIPS:

- Project Manager(s)
- Pou Taiao (Leadership Team)
- Lab Technicians, GIS Analysts, Ecologist
- Kura, Marae, Community Volunteers, Contractors
- Internal & External Partners

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Environmental Field Technician

The following identifies the essential and desirable competencies that Te Rūnanga O Te Rarawa considers necessary to carry out the position. The demonstration of these skills is not limited to paid employment but can include any voluntary work that a prospective applicant may have carried out.

KEY SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES

- Passion for environmental restoration and Taiao protection
- Ability to work in rugged outdoor terrain and remote locations
- Understanding of freshwater and forest ecosystems
- Experience in pest control or restoration planting preferred
- Comfortable using digital field technology and databases
- Strong commitment to health and safety
- Willingness to work across kaupapa (water, pest, ngahere)
- Understanding of Māori environmental values and Treaty principles
- Physically fit to hike and can swim
- Effective communicator and team player
- Uphold Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa values: Manaakitanga, Rangatiratanga, Whakapapa, Kaitiakitanga, Mātauranga
- Respect tikanga protocols (e.g. wai tapu, whanaungatanga, site conduct)
- Te reo Māori proficiency and local tikanga knowledge
- SHMAK, First Aid, Chainsaw, Growsafe or LUV training (or willingness to train)
- Experience with ArcGIS, aerial mapping or species monitoring tools
- Skills in community education, science communication or rongoā Māori

POSITION OUTCOMES

- Freshwater data and samples collected to national standards
- Restoration sites established and maintained
- Pest activity reduced through effective suppression
- Whānau and hapū receive Taiao support
- Real time data contributes to regional land management insights