



Earth Sciences
New Zealand

Kaiāwhina Rerenga Rauropi

Collections Curation & Marine Biodiversity internship

Earth Sciences NZ is offering a 3-month funded internship based at our Te Whanganui a Tara Wellington office over the summer of 2025 for uri of **Te Āti Awa, Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika, Ngāti Toa Rangatira** currently undertaking studies in biology or ecology.

This summer internship is our commitment to supporting our local Iwi and enable them to build skills in biology and ecology while contributing to the care of a nationally significant marine collection. Working with over 350,000 taonga from Aotearoa, Antarctica, and the Pacific, you'll gain hands-on experience that strengthens your career pathway and support your Iwi aspirations in the Taiao.

What is the Invertebrate and Macroalgal Collection?

The collection dates back to the 1950s and was collected from shallow coastal seas and deep sea habitats all the way to 10 km deep. It holds a wide range of preserved marine animals, from sponges to corals, shellfish, and crustaceans, and macroalgae pressed on herbarium sheets and preserved in jars.

It plays a crucial role in advancing our understanding of marine biodiversity, ecosystems, and the evolutionary relationships of species in Aotearoa and beyond. The collection provides for research in:

- ✓ Taxonomy – Identifying and classifying species
- ✓ Evolutionary biology – Understanding species relationships over time
- ✓ Marine ecosystems & biodiversity – Exploring the richness of life in our moana
- ✓ Ecological research – Studying species interactions and environmental changes
- ✓ Biosecurity – Detecting and managing invasive marine species
- ✓ Marine conservation – Informing protection and restoration efforts



More information at:

<https://niwa.co.nz/our-services/online-services/nic>



Who can apply?

This internship will be best suited to a person over the age of 18 years, with computer literacy, an eye for detail, and the willingness to learn laboratory/chemical handling skills.

They will be working alongside Earth Sciences New Zealand technicians and scientists, learning how to care for preserved specimens, participating in local fieldwork as the opportunity arises. At the end of the internship, the intern will be expected to present a report of their experience to their respective iwi.

The internship will be based at our Wellington office: 301 Evans Bay Parade, Greta Point, Wellington, with support from our Māori Environmental Research Team, Te Kūwaha.



What will you do during the summer?

In this role you can expect to:

- Develop collection management laboratory and database skills working in a nationally significant marine natural history collection.
- Enhance and/or expand knowledge of different species of marine species
- Develop employer-valued skills such as teamwork, communication and attention to detail.



What are the details?

Preference will be given to new applicants that are uri of Te Āti Awa, Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika, Ngāti Toa Rangatira and currently studying biology or ecology at tertiary level.

Working hours of 37.5 hours per week (5 days), Monday–Friday, 9am–5pm (7.5 hrs per day), but 30 hours per week as a minimum (4 days).

Remunerated at the living wage (\$28.95 per hour) + holiday pay and kiwisaver if relevant.

Start and end dates negotiable, but for a duration of 3 months between November 2025–February 2026.

Christmas period break 23 December 2025–4 January 2026

How do I apply?

Apply by sending a letter of interest and CV to:

Sadie Mills, Collection Manager sadie.mills@niwa.co.nz

Applications close **Monday 6 October, 5 pm**

