

CONSERVATION JOBS



Questions by **Sam** (age 6) and **Tom** (age 9)

Jordan Munn

COMMERCIAL HUNTER

Jordan is the Director at Trap and Trigger. He leads a team of 16 hunters who are all young people aged under 30. They are hired to help with big pest mammals, like deer and goats, but also do jobs focused on smaller pest mammals.

We asked Jordan your questions:



Me with the dogs.

Q: What is commercial hunting and how is it different from other hunting?

A: Hunting that is done for recreation (for sport or as a hobby) or for personal reasons is done so that people can collect meat and trophies. Hunting that is done commercially is for conservation reasons. It is to protect native species and their habitats.

Q: Do you hunt every day? Is your day always the same?

A: Someone in our team is hunting every day, but no one day will be the same. We are always in a different place or different part of the forest. Sometimes we are working out of helicopters, and other times we are walking a long way into the forest.

When we are hunting on the ground, we have our dogs by our sides and a pack with food, survival equipment, ammunition, and a knife in it. We work in the daytime and night-time for about eight hours at a time (that's two hours longer than a day at school). Depending on the job, we might hunt as individuals, pairs, or a team.

Q: Who do you work with and where do you work?

A: We work with government agencies like DOC, and regional and local councils. We do jobs all over the country, from the top of the North Island all the way down to Stewart Island.

Q: What is your favourite bit of hunting kit?

A: My favourite piece of clothing is my Skye Suit. It ties into helicopters, keeps me warm, and keeps me visible while working in helicopters.

Our thermal imaging system is pretty cool kit. When we use it, we can see through the forest.



What a view!

Q: What do you like most about your job?

A: I like my job because I get to work with my dog, and my dog and I get to travel around and see awesome places, like Fiordland. Most importantly, though, the work we do is meaningful. I feel happy and satisfied to know that I am helping endangered species, like kiwi, kākāpō, and kōkako, to grow in numbers.

Q: Why don't you just get rid of all the pests at once?

A: We are trying to. That's our aim. We can be limited (held back) by dense forest, steep cliffs, and big mountains, and also funding (how much money there is to do the job).



In our Skye Suits.



With our thermal imaging system. It's a special type of camera that "sees" heat rather than light.



Our Trap and Trigger team.



Some of our vehicles.