

RANGER PORTRAIT

Frédéric Debétaz Ranger in Parque Naturelle Vallée du Trient, Switzerland

Main duties:

- sensitising for compliance with conservation regulations
- · conflict management
- collaborating with the park's biologist

Why is your work important to you?

When I see how nature has changed in the last 20 years due to climate change, I simply realise that I need to act. This is very important, especially for my 9-month-old son and for all future generations.

What is your greatest motivator even when it's hard working out there?

My love for nature and the awareness of how crucial biodiversity is for human life. And the people who tell me every day that I am doing important work are particularly motivating, especially when they are locals.

Your biggest moment of luck during work?

Once, at the Émosson dam, which is part of a large hydroelectric complex linking Switzerland and France, I saw the sunset reflected in Lake Émosson as a family of ibex approached me stopping about 15 metres away. The animals with the sunset

and the lake in the background – it was truly a breathtaking moment.

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