

## P R E F A C E

Fiordland National Park is the largest national park in New Zealand. Forming part of the Te Wāhipounamu - *South West New Zealand* World Heritage Area Fiordland National Park includes some of New Zealand's most iconic and special places, such as Milford Sound / Piopiotahi, Mount Tūtoku, Astronomer Point and the Milford Track. Fiordland National Park has high cultural and historical significance together with offering a wide range of visitor opportunities from scenic viewing points to true wilderness experiences.

The Management Plan for Fiordland National Park has been reviewed in accordance with section 47 of the National Parks Act 1980. This is a statutory document and provides for the management of Fiordland National Park in accordance with the General Policy for National Parks 2005 and the Act.

This management plan contains detailed objectives and policies for the effective management of the park but does not override the provisions of primary legislation and general policy. The purpose of this plan is to express the Department of Conservation's overall management intentions for Fiordland National Park for the next 10 years. Achievement will be determined by the availability of resources, strategic and business planning and level of community and concessionaire support.

This management plan has been prepared by the Southland Conservancy of the Department of Conservation in consultation and with the support of the Southland Conservation Board and representatives from Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu. The draft plan was notified in November 2002. Stakeholder interest was considerable throughout the submissions process, with strong attendance at the 31 days of hearings and through working parties.

A total of 2107 submissions were received from individuals and organisations following public notification of the draft plan. All submissions, and hearings, were taken into account in the development of this plan.

The following stakeholders played an important role in the development of this plan:

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Environment Southland

Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand (Inc)

Fiordland Aviation Users Group

Fiordland Wapiti Foundation

Dr Kelvin Lloyd

Ministry of Tourism

Ministry of Transport

Ngāi Tahu

New Zealand Deer Hunters Association

New Zealand Fish and Game

Otago University Tramping Club

Queenstown Milford Users Group

Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc

Southland District Council

Tourism Industry Association New Zealand

West Arm / Wilmot Pass / Deep Cove Working Group

and numerous other individuals and organisations.

This plan acknowledges mana whenua and tāngata whenua status of Ngāi Tahu over their ancestral lands and waters within Fiordland National Park. It acknowledges the Crown's relationship with and obligations to Ngāi Tahu under section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987, provision of the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998, the Ngāi Tahu Deed of Settlement 1997, the Ngāi Tahu (Pounamu Vesting) Act 1997 and the Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu Act 1996.

The finalisation of this plan has been widely anticipated by all stakeholders and reflects the outstanding commitment, dedication and enthusiasm of all of these stakeholders, demonstrating the importance of the Fiordland National Park to New Zealand.

This plan will be effective for 10 years from the date of approval but may be reviewed at any time as a result of increased knowledge or changes in circumstance.

This plan was approved by the New Zealand Conservation Authority on this 21st day of June 2007.

Kerry Marshall Chairperson New Zealand Conservation Authority	Roger McNaughton Chair Southland Conservation Board	Kevin O'Connor Conservator Southland Conservancy
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