



Southland Hunting
Information Series
Number 1

Fiordland Hunting Information

The 1,212,000 hectare Fiordland National Park and adjacent 21,250 hectare Pyke Forest provide a wide range of hunting opportunities.

Permits for possums

An application pack is required. Allow three weeks for processing. A possum permit is valid for six months.

Permits for wapiti

Hunting of wapiti is possible throughout the year without restriction, except for the bugle period from 1 March to the end of April, when the wapiti area is subject to a ballot. There are two fortnight long ballot periods. No more than two hunting parties will be balloted a block at any one time. The wapiti area is divided up into 25 blocks for the bugle period and only parties which are successful in the ballot may hunt. Each block is limited to six hunters in total and permits for solo hunters will not be issued. See next page for Wapiti Liaison Committee contact details.

Survival Code

Tell someone where you are going and when you will be back.

- Take -
- a compass
 - minimum first aid kit
 - emergency blanket
 - cigarette lighter
 - piece of old car inner tube on hunting belt or fire starters

Remember - the weather can change rapidly

Observe the firearms safety code.

What can I hunt?

Red Deer

Red deer are found throughout Fiordland National Park, generally in low to moderate numbers. Commercial helicopter recovery is permitted throughout the year. The low lying forested lands north of Milford Sound and around Lakes Hauroko, Monowai and Poteriteri provide good opportunities for securing deer by bush hunting.

Wapiti

Wapiti are found in the area between Charles and Sutherland Sounds on the western coast, and the Doon and Worsley Valleys on the shores of Lake Te Anau.

Chamois

Chamois are found predominantly in the northern sector of Fiordland National Park.

Wild Pigs

Small, localised populations of pigs occur around the Hope Arm area of Manapouri and in the Eglinton River mouth area.

Possums

High densities of possums are found north of Milford Sound and around Lakes Te Anau, Manapouri, Hauroko and Monowai.

Applications

Applications should be made to the Department of Conservation offices in Te Anau or Invercargill. Personal, telephone or written applications should be received at least one week before the intended period of hunting. Permits will not be issued in advance of one month before the hunting period. Information supplied must include the party leader's name, address and phone number, the names of other party members, the area or areas the party wishes to hunt, starting date and intended duration.

Application forms for wapiti blocks are available from November 1 through to early January when applications close. These can be obtained by sending a stamped self addressed envelope to:

Fiordland Wapiti Trust
PO Box 555, Invercargill.
www.fiordlandwapititrust.org.nz
Carlos McDonald – Ph (03) 236 0375
email ruthcarlos@xtra.co.nz

Different types of permits

Permits for deer, chamois, pigs

Hunting permits can be issued for the whole of Fiordland National Park, excluding specially protected areas (Murchison Mountains and Breaksea Islands). Conditions will be attached to the permit.

Hunting permits may be issued for up to one year and must be signed by all members of the hunting party. There are no hunting blocks (except for the Wapiti Bugle see below). Hunters are required to fill in the hunting return section on the permit. Permits do not give the party sole hunting rights to an area and other hunters, trampers or backcountry users may be in the same area during the permitted period.

Dogs

Dogs are not permitted in Fiordland National Park.

Maps

Good navigational skills are required when hunting. Maps are available from the DOC office in Te Anau. The NZMS 260 topographical map series provide detailed information. The Parkmap indicates Park boundaries, tracks and huts.



- Find out first
Stay on established tracks and use existing facilities
Take care of your gear
Remove rubbish
Dispose of toilet waste properly
Be careful with chemicals
Respect our cultural heritage
Take only the food you need
Consider plants and animals
Consider other people
Toitu te marae a tane
Toitu te marae a tangaroa





- NEW ZEALAND ENVIRONMENTAL CARE CODE**
- Protect plants and animals
 - Remove rubbish
 - Bury toilet waste
 - Keep streams and lakes clean
 - Take care with fires
 - Camp carefully
 - Keep to the track
 - Consider others
 - Respect our cultural heritage
 - Enjoy your visit
 - Toitu te whenua (Leave the land undisturbed)

Huts

Hunters using backcountry huts are required to pay hut fees, payable in advance through the purchase of hut tickets or an annual pass, available at any DOC office. Users are expected to leave huts clean and tidy and remove carcasses and all rubbish from the huts and surrounding areas.

Mountain radios/locator beacons

Mountain radios are available from Te Anau, phone (03) 249-8363, 021 612061 (after hours) or Invercargill phone (03) 216-3751. Personal Locator Beacons are also available for hire from:

- Mobil Te Anau, ph (03) 249 7247
- Adventure Kayak and Cruise Manapouri, ph (03) 249 6626
- Borland Lodge, ph (03) 225 5464
- Tuatapere Service Station, ph (03) 226 6475

Transport

Access to hunting areas can be arranged via commercial operators – see below. They are subject to conditions for example landing permissions and operational conditions such as flooding and tides. Private owners/pilots must have a landing permit – contact the Department of Conservation.

Helicopters

South-West Helicopters Ltd

Ph: (03) 249-7402

Ph: (03) 226-6674 Tuatapere

Email: info@southwesthelicopters.co.nz

Southern Lakes Helicopters Ltd

Ph (03) 249-7167

Email: info@southernlakeshelicopters.co.nz

Fiordland Helicopters

Ph (03) 249-7575 Te Anau

Email: info@fiordlandhelicopters.co.nz

Milford Sound Helicopters

Ph. (03) 249-7845 or (03) 249-8384

Email: milford.helicopters@xtra.co.nz

Fixed Wing Aircraft

Air Fiordland

Ph (03) 249-7505

Email: reservations@airfiordland.com

Floatplane

Wings and Water Te Anau Ltd

Ph (03) 249-7405

Email: wingsandwater@xtra.co.nz

Charter Boats

Western Safaris

Ph (03) 249-7226 or 027 229 3228

Email: westfar@xtra.co.nz

Kepler Water Taxi

Ph (03) 249 8364

Email: stevsaunders@xtra.co.nz

Information and applications

For further information and permit applications contact:

Department of Conservation

Lake Front Drive, PO Box 29, Te Anau

Ph: (03) 249-7924 Fax: (03) 249-0257

Email: fiordlandvc@doc.govt.nz

Department of Conservation

Don Street, PO Box 743, Invercargill

Ph: (03) 211-2400 Fax: (03) 214-4486

Fiordland Wapiti Trust

PO Box 555, Invercargill.

www.fiordlandwapititrust.org.nz

Carlos McDonald – Ph (03) 236 0375

email ruthcarlos@xtra.co.nz

Graham Johnston (Secretary) – Ph (03) 249 7041

Jim Ridley – Ph 021 733 129

Roy Sloan – Ph (03) 235 2813

