

The Department recommends that you contact the Department of Conservation permissions office listed below to discuss your application prior to completing the application forms.

This form is to be used when applying for a new permit or the renewal of an existing permit, and where the proposed activity involves viewing marine mammals from a vessel at sea. Examples may include viewing from kayaks, scenic tours which include marine mammal watching, or specific targeted marine mammal viewing trips. This form is to be completed in conjunction with Applicant Information Form 8.

Note:

- If your application also involves marine mammal viewing which is land-based please also fill in Form 8b.
- If your application also involves marine mammal viewing which is aircraft-based please also fill in Form 8c.
- If your application also involves swimming with marine mammals please also fill in Form 8e.
- If you seek a minor amendment to a current permit (i.e. a new boat or new staff member), please fill in the application Form 8f. If you seek an amendment that is more than minor, please contact the office below.

Please complete this application form, providing all information requested in as much detail as possible. Attach **Form 8** and any other applicable forms and information, and send to permissions@doc.govt.nz.

Note:

- Under regulation 10 of the Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992, the Department must determine whether or not the application is acceptable and may require the application to be amended. The Department will advise applicants if, and what, amendments are required before this application can be processed by the Department.
- If the application is approved, it is deemed to form part of the permit which is issued and must be complied with accordingly. Your application, therefore, must be clear, complete and accurate.

The Department will process the application and issue a permit if it is satisfied that the application meets all the requirements for granting a permit under the Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992.

A. Applicant name (as per Form 8)

EZIFISH CHARTERS LTD

B. Proposed operation

Species

Specify the marine mammals you propose to encounter:

- all species of whales (including orca and pilot whales)*
- all species of dolphins (excluding orca and pilot whales)*
- all species of seals*

Excluding:

Or

- the following specified species*

* Please inform yourself as to the current list of moratoria and species or locations of concern prior to making your application.

Location information (refer to Appendix 1 for detailed guidance)

Base of operation:

Careys Bay, Dunedin

Departure location (if different to base of operations):

Proposed area of operation:

Otago Harbour

Specific locations where contact with marine mammals is proposed:

Taiaora Head, Lighthouse Bay, Pilots Bay, Aramoana, Heywood point, Harrington point

Tour route:

You must attach a map of the proposed area of operation; it must clearly show the boundaries of the area, any specific locations where contact with marine mammals is likely, and expected routes.

Trip details (refer to Appendix 1 for detailed guidance)

Frequency - proposed months of operation:

12

Frequency - number of trips per annum:

36

Frequency - number of trips per day:

1 (Business will only operate 3 trips per month to start with totalling 36 trips per year)

Duration of trips:

8 hours – Fishing charter will be 8 hour trips

Maximum number of vessels operating at any one time:

1

Maximum number of passengers:

8

Type and number of vessels to be used (refer to Appendix 1 for detailed guidance)

Vessel 1 description:

Vessel name: Mistral	Make: Pelin
Model: Pelin	Size: 11 metres
Carrying capacity: 8 pax plus 2 crew	Colour: White
Motive power: Engine	Construction and hull design: Glass over Ply, Pelin hull
Planing hull: <input type="checkbox"/> Pelin Hull	Displacement hull: <input type="checkbox"/> 9mt
Noise levels above sea: low to moderate	Noise levels below sea: low
Maximum speed: 15kts	Normal cruising speed: 9kts

Vessel 2 description:

Vessel name:	Make:
Model:	Size:
Carrying capacity:	Colour:
Motive power:	Construction and hull design:
Planing hull: <input type="checkbox"/>	Displacement hull: <input type="checkbox"/>
Noise levels above sea:	Noise levels below sea:
Maximum speed:	Normal cruising speed:

Vessel 3 description:

Vessel name:	Make:
Model:	Size:
Carrying capacity:	Colour:
Motive power:	Construction and hull design:
Planing hull: <input type="checkbox"/>	Displacement hull: <input type="checkbox"/>
Noise levels above sea:	Noise levels below sea:
Maximum speed:	Normal cruising speed:

Masters, skippers, guides and other relevant staff (refer to Appendix 1 for detailed guidance)

Please fill in for every staff member who may come into contact with marine mammals throughout the course of the proposed operation.

Full Name: Ricky James Fife

Job Title: Director/Skipper

Has this person had any convictions or prosecutions for offences against the Act or any other Act involving the mistreatment of animals?

Yes

No

If "yes", please provide details:

Relevant experience with marine mammals: 3 years skippering for Monarch Wildlife Cruises

Relevant knowledge of the local area and sea conditions: 3 years working with the Monarch and fishing charters from Dunedin for 2 years

Proposed term

You can apply for up to 10 years. However, in some situations a permit may be restricted to a shorter term for the purposes of the conservation, protection or management of marine mammals.

10 years

C. Additional information (refer to Appendix 1 for detailed guidance)

Maximum time to be spent with marine mammals per individual encounter:

Approx. 10 minutes per mammal encounter

Maximum cumulative time for all encounters with marine mammals during trip:

1 hour focused tour, the rest of the time spend fishing where wildlife may come to us (up to 8 hours per day)

Nature of the contact with marine mammals:

Primary purpose – One package I offer will include a trip around the wildlife colonies of Taiaroa head so this will be a joint primary activity with fishing

Secondary purpose – During regular fishing charters we will encounter wildlife throughout the trip so this is therefore a secondary activity

Speeds when approaching and viewing marine mammals:

<5kts or at a speed of idle or "no wake" or no faster than the slowest mammal

Behaviour of vessel and orientation of approach relative to marine mammals:

Operate my vessel in such a way to not disrupt marine mammals.

Slow moving on approach with minimal engine noise, main approach would be from a side aspect as opposed to from behind or front on approach

Position of vessels relative to marine mammals while viewing:

Primary position on the vessels quarter so that the open sea is still visible to wild life. I will have my vessel in neutral whilst viewing mammals or if my vessel is in an area where I can turn off my vessel engine, I will do so.

Distances to each species:

Whales: no closer than 50 meters at any time (except if it is a female with calf in which case no closer than 200m). Only approaching within 300m if it is okay under the 3 vessel rule (in which case appropriate boating behaviour / speeds will be used).

Dolphins: when within 300m of a dolphin or a pod of dolphins, the 3 vessel rule will be followed and appropriate speed / behaviour will be used.

Distance to the water's edge (for seals or sea lions hauled out on shore):

Seals: no closer than 20 meters at any time (when within 300m the 3 vessel rule will be followed and appropriate speed / behaviour will be used).

Behaviour around calves or pups:

I will not operate my vessel in a way that will disturb the Maine mammal. If signs show distress I will abandon the area to allow the mammal(s) to regulate their typical behaviour patterns

Speed of departure:

<5kts or at a speed of idle or "no wake" or no faster than the slowest mammal

Behaviour of vessel and departure route relative to marine mammals:

Minimal disturbance including slow speeds, proposed departure routine would be propelling astern and backing away with a wide berth from wildlife. Once over 300 metres away I can increase noise and speed

What other actions you will take to minimise disturbance of the marine mammals:

No feeding of wildlife, no loud speakers or commentary while up close to wildlife, advise passengers that noise is to be kept to a minimum when approaching, viewing and departing wildlife.

With dolphin sightings, I will not stream my vessel through a pod of dolphins

Where applicable, how will groups of kayaks (or similar manually propelled watercraft) be managed in the vicinity of marine mammals?

How kayaks will be positioned relative to each other during approaches and departures:

N/A

How kayaks will be grouped together while viewing:

N/A

D. Educational material (refer to Appendix 1 for detailed guidance)

Any educational material would be spoken to clients from boat crew. Wildlife encounters is only a secondary activity to EZIFISH commercial operation. Main activity is fishing charters

APPENDIX 1

GUIDANCE INFORMATION FOR FILLING IN THE FORM

Location information

“Base of operation” - specify the port, marina, or launching site where passengers would board the vessel (note: this may not necessarily be the same location where the booking office is located).

“Proposed area of operation” - provide a written description of the general extent of the operation – please specify the boundaries (e.g. key landmarks) and the location as it is generally known; e.g. Pelorus Sound or Otago Harbour.

“Specific locations where contact with marine mammals is proposed” – you need to list any particular sites you will visit where marine mammals are known or expected to be encountered; e.g. seal colony sites and/or specific localities where dolphins are known to occur.

Trip details

Clearly identify where there are seasonal differences in the trip details.

Type and number of vessels to be used

If you have more vessels than the spaces provided please copy the fields and paste to the bottom of the table in the section.

Masters, skippers, guides and other relevant staff

If you have more staff members than the spaces provided please copy the fields and paste to the bottom of the table in the section.

Additional information

Please be specific for each class of marine mammal or for individual species.

Maximum time spent with marine mammals per individual encounter:

“Encounter” means being less than 300 metres from a marine mammal.

Nature of the contact with marine mammals:

“Primary purpose” means the operation’s main focus is to seek out and encounter marine mammals e.g. whale- watching tours and swim-with-dolphin tours.

“Secondary purpose” means that viewing marine mammals is not the operation’s main focus but will still be viewed if encountered; e.g. certain scenic cruises, water taxis.

Educational material

Please briefly describe the educational aspects of the proposed operation and supply any proposed educational material, copies of brochures or information booklets as an attachment (note, these may be returned if requested).

WILDLIFE PERMIT MAP AND AREAS OF OPERATION



KEY:

Yellow – My expected area of harbour operation

Red – my anticipated route I will take my vessel to view wildlife

Blue - Main areas I expect to see wildlife