

To The Director General of Department of Conservation.

Attention Ellanor Babbage Permissions Advisor.

2/2/2025.

Re the application by Fiordland Lobster Company to further restrict access to F.N.P.

I have no problem closing off the wharf whilst using the forklift, for safety reasons, but oppose any more expansion of the current fenced off area.

If they are so concerned with Health and Safety why are the pots stacked so high which is a safety concern for everybody re staff, fishermen etc.

Have all the fishermen got a licence to operate the forklift?

The wharf does get used by recreational fishermen to load and unload the larger boats and also by disabled people to board boats, plus load water, fuel, diesel, supplies etc.

The Department of Conservation or Fiordland Lobster Co shall have to provide a floating pontoon or wharf for such access which would have to be connected to the shore, should this proposal go ahead.

The Whitehouse is a public facility as is the boat ramp, which Department of Conservation would have to duplicate for recreational users.

(Question) Does the septic Tank at the Whitehouse get emptied? It is not hooked up to the Milford sewerage system. Sanitary hazard? In F.N.P.?

Fiordland Lobster Co application states this is a "small area".

It is a large area considering it is a confined space.

The proposed boundary incorporating the fuel tank does not leave enough room to turn and reverse into the ramp with the Kayakers and trailer boats all together. The fuel tanker does not visit that often and does not seem to have any problems filling the tank as I have witnessed. If Fiordland Lobster Co require more area they could fill in the backwater adjacent to the causeway?

As the lease was granted in 2016 it has no legal standing as the F.N.P. Management Plan was in 2007, not reviewed in 2017 as required, so the lease is invalid, considering the Ombudsman finding re landings on Ngapunatorua Plateau having to revert back to the 2007 Plan.

Milford is the only place in F.N.P. that fishermen have permission to store cray pots?

It seems odd that "Real Journeys" Real N.Z. still have a container taking up space which is no longer in use?

Fiordland Lobster Co photo's of coach, could be dropping off supplies to a fishing boat who is associated with the driver of that coach?

Their leased area is a disgrace now which is not a good look for the tourists who are boarding for walk on the Milford Track, and the hundreds of kayakers.

The D.O.C ramp is unusable at low tide and with over 100 users on some days it is just chaos now. Health & safety?

With all the tourist vehicles and kayakers vehicles parked in the area now, there is a much smaller area for boat trailer parking.

As Fiordland Lobster state, they are a Multi Million Dollar Company, I do not see this as a reason to close off access to New Zealand boating citizens. There is a large unutilized area between the causeway and the sewerage plant which has hard based gravel underneath the foliage which could be utilized by Fiordland Lobster for pots and gear storage, which if you state their lease is legal you could transfer it to there? It would be out of sight by the majority.

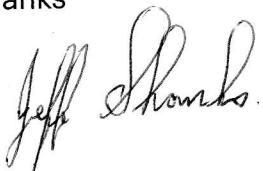
In closing I oppose this application for the reasons above.

Their fenced off area now is acceptable, but extending it is not in the public's interest.

I wish to be heard in support of my submission

Regards.

Jeff Shanks

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeff Shanks". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the printed name.