

Application for commercial operations from a vessel to view and swim with marine mammals



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

New Zealand Government

Is this the right application form for me?

This application form is for new and renewal applications for commercial operations from a vessel; including both powered vessels and manually propelled vessels (e.g. kayaks or paddle boards) to:

View marine mammals, including:

- All species of whales (including orca and pilot whales)
- All species of seal
- All species of dolphin (excluding orca and pilot whales).

Swim with:

- Adult dolphins (excluding orca and pilot whales)
- Seals.

Note: It is illegal to swim with whales (including orca and pilot whales).

Update staff member and vessel

If you have a permit for a commercial operation to interact with marine mammals complete [Application Form 8f Commercial Operations involving Marine Mammals Update staff member, vessel, vehicle, or aircraft](#)¹ to apply for:

- Any new staff member – pilot, master, skipper, guide or other staff member – who will have contact with marine mammals as part of your commercial operation; or
- Any new vessel which will be used to undertake your permit.

How do I complete this application form?

- If you are applying for a **new permit** e-mail permissionschristchurch@doc.govt.nz for a pre-application meeting before lodging your application. There is location, species and treaty partner consultation information that the Department of Conservation (DOC) needs to make you aware of.
- Complete all sections of this form.
- DOC encourages electronic applications (e.g. email a typed Word document), rather than handwritten applications. Electronic applications are easier to read and less likely to be returned to you for clarification.
- If you require extra space, attach or include extra documents and label them according to the relevant section. Record all attachments in Section 'Q Attachments'.

Personal and sensitive information (e.g. criminal convictions or criminal charges pending before the court relating to the mistreatment of animals) will be managed by DOC confidentially. For further information check [DOC's privacy and security statements](#)².

¹ <https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/about-doc/concessions-and-permits/marine-mammal-permits/update-staff-member-8f.doc>

² <https://www.doc.govt.nz/footer-links/privacy-and-security/>

Have you considered DOC's Conservation General Policy and statutory planning documents?

Your permit must not be inconsistent with DOC's [Conservation General Policy](#)³ and [relevant statutory planning documents](#)⁴, as they set out how DOC and our Treaty partners manage public conservation land. Statutory planning documents can have a direct impact on your application, with conservation management strategies identifying where human interactions with marine mammals should be managed to avoid or minimise adverse effects on populations and individuals.

Have you undertaken Treaty Partner consultation?

DOC has a responsibility to give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi and may consult with our Treaty Partners about your permit application.

Contact permissions@doc.govt.nz for further information about consultation.

Have you undertaken Customary Marine Title consultation?

If you are applying for a new permit to view marine mammals, under the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011, you must:

- Notify the Customary Marine Title Applicants about your application.
- Seek the views of the Customary Marine Title Applicants.

If you need some help, where do you get more information?

- Check the DOC [interacting with marine mammals](#)⁵. This page includes information on the types of permits available, fees, reporting, and processing timeframes.
- Read [sharing our coasts with marine mammals](#)⁶.
- Become a DOC [Sustainable Marine Mammal Actions in Recreation and Tourism \(SMART\)](#) operator⁷.
- Arrange a pre-application meeting (either face to face or over the phone) by contacting the Christchurch Permissions team permissionschristchurch@doc.govt.nz.

How do I submit my application?

Email your completed application, and any attachments (recorded in section 'Q Attachments') to: permissions@doc.govt.nz

What happens next?

Your application will be assessed by DOC. If it is complete, DOC will begin processing the application.

If it is incomplete or requires amendment it will be returned to you for you to amend and incorporate the matters that DOC has specified in writing.

Why does DOC ask for this information?

³ <https://www.doc.govt.nz/about-us/our-policies-and-plans/conservation-general-policy/>

⁴ <https://www.doc.govt.nz/about-us/our-policies-and-plans/statutory-plans/>

⁵ <https://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/apply-for-permits/interacting-with-marine-mammals/>

⁶ <https://www.doc.govt.nz/sharingcoasts>

⁷ <https://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/smart-operator-programme/>

The questions in this application form are designed to cover the requirements set out in DOC's conservation legislation. Your answers allow us to assess:

- The details of your proposed operation against the requirements in sections 6 and 7 of the Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992.
- The effects of your proposed operation (including proposed encounter times with marine mammals) and your proposed methods to avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects.
- Your qualifications and resources (e.g. vessel, skills and experience) to adequately conduct the proposed operation in marine areas.
- The educational material you will be using in your proposed operation.

Your application will also assist us in undertaking consultation with our Treaty Partners.

Once your application is approved it will form part of the permit that is issued to you.

Your creditworthiness is a factor in determining whether DOC should extend credit to you and set up a DOC customer accounts receivable credit account. To make this assessment DOC will supply your information to a credit checking agency.

Note: Information collected by DOC will be supplied to a debt collection agency in the event of non-payment of fees.

What fees will I pay?

You may be required to pay a processing fee for this application regardless of whether a permit is granted or not. You may request an estimate of the processing fees after your application has been submitted. If you request an estimate, DOC may require you to pay the reasonable costs of the estimate prior to it being prepared. DOC will not process your application until the estimate has been provided to you. In addition, if you are granted a permit, you may be required to pay annual research or management fees. These fees are listed on the [interacting with marine mammals](#)⁸ page of the DOC website.

If you are applying for a new permit, see information in the 'Will my application be publicly notified?' section below.

DOC will invoice your processing fee after your application has been considered. If your application is large or complex, DOC may undertake billing at intervals periodically during processing until a decision has been made on your application. If you withdraw your application DOC will invoice you for the costs incurred up to that point.

Will my application be publicly advertised?

Your application will be **publicly advertised**⁹ on the DOC website and appropriate newspapers if:

- the application is for a new permit
- the application is for a renewal of a permit (and the renewal is not substantially the same as the existing permit) or an amendment to an existing permit.

Publicly advertising may increase the time and cost of processing of your application.

If you believe public advertising may be required for your application email: permissionschristchurch@doc.govt.nz to arrange a pre-application meeting.

⁸ <https://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/apply-for-permits/interacting-with-marine-mammals/>

⁹ Marine Mammals Protection Regulation 1992 section 11.

What does an approved DOC permit include / require?

A permit approved by DOC (in accordance with section 10(2) Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992):

- Includes your 'Application for commercial operations from a vessel to view and swim with marine mammals'.
- Requires you to comply with all the information supplied in your 'Application for commercial operations from a vessel to view and swim with marine mammals'.

Note: It is a condition of this permit that DOC retains the right to suspend or revoke this permit, or restrict the operation authorised by the permit, where the information on which the permit was granted contained material inaccuracies.

A. Applicant details

Legal status of applicant (tick)	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual (Go to ①)			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Registered company (Go to ②)		<input type="checkbox"/> Trust (Go to ②)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Incorporated society (Go to ②)		<input type="checkbox"/> Other e.g. Educational institutes (Go to ②)	

①	Applicant name (individual)			
	Phone		Mobile phone	
	Email			
	Physical address			Postcode
	Postal address (if different from above)			Postcode

②	Applicant name (full name of registered company, trust, incorporated society or other)		Real Journeys Limited	
	Trading name (if different from applicant name)		Realnz	
	NZBN if applicable (to apply go to: https://www.nzbn.govt.nz)	9429040267098	Company, trust or incorporated society registration number	154923
	Registered office of company or incorporated society (if applicable)		14 Captain Roberts Road, Te Anau 9600	
	Company phone	0800656501	Company website	www.realnz.com
	Contact person and role		Fiona Black	
	Phone	0800656501	Mobile phone	
	Email			
	Postal address		Postcode	
	Street address (if different from postal address)	14 Captain Roberts Road, Te Anau	Postcode	9600

B. New or renewal (with a major amendment) of an existing permit

I am applying for a new permit.

You need to have a pre-application meeting with DOC before you submit this application as there are location restrictions and consultation requirements that you need to be aware of.

E-mail permissionschristchurch@doc.govt.nz.

☐

I am applying to renew an existing permit with a major amendment.

☒

Permit number

48703-MAR

C. Pre-application meeting

Have you had a pre-application meeting with a DOC Permissions Advisor?

No

If your application is for a new permit your application will not be processed without a pre-application meeting as there are location restrictions and consultation requirements that you need to be aware of.

E-mail permissionschristchurch@doc.govt.nz

☒

Yes

☐

If yes, state when and who with.

D. Consistency with DOC's Conservation General Policy and statutory plans

Note: DOC's [Conservation General Policy](#)¹⁰ and statutory planning documents can have a direct impact on your application. For example, the statutory planning documents may set the specific locations or number of landings allowed.

List the [DOC's statutory planning documents](#)¹¹ relevant to your application:

[Southland Murihiku Conservation Management Strategy \(CMS\) 2016; Stewart Island Rakiura CMS and Rakiura National Park Management Plan 2012 and Fiordland National Park Management Plan 2007](#)

¹⁰ <https://www.doc.govt.nz/about-us/our-policies-and-plans/conservation-general-policy/>

¹¹ <https://www.doc.govt.nz/about-us/our-policies-and-plans/statutory-plans/>

Are you aware of any potential inconsistency your activity may have with DOC's Conservation General Policy or statutory planning documents?

No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
If yes, explain why it is inconsistent with the statutory planning documents.	

E. Consultation undertaken under the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011

Have you notified and sought the views of the relevant Customary Marine Title Applicants¹² prior to submitting this application?

No. Your application will not be processed. You need to speak to DOC before you can submit this application form. ¹³ E-mail permissionschristchurch@doc.govt.nz	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

If yes, supply details for each Customary Marine Title Applicant you have consulted with. Copy and paste the table below and complete for each Customary Marine Title Applicant. Record all attachments in section 'Q Attachments'.

Attachments may include:

- Additional pages with the required information
- Any written response to your notification from the Customary Marine Title Applicant.

Customary Marine Title Applicant notified	Te Whanau o Topi; and Landowners of Ruapuke Island Group; Justine Inns C/o Oceanlaw New Zealand justine@oceanlaw.co.nz Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu; maca@ngaitahu.iwi.nz The Pohio Whanau: C/o Natalie Pohio Karaitiana Npkaraitiana@gmail.com
Name of individual you notified and sought views on your application	

¹² A "Customary Marine Title Applicant" is a person or group who has applied for recognition of customary marine title either under section 95 or sections 100 and 103 of the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 in an area to which your application relates and where no customary marine title order or agreement applies.

¹³ It is a statutory requirement under section 62(3) to notify and seek the views of a Customary Marine Title Applicant on your application before it is lodged with the Department.

Date /s of notification and views sought	6 May 2025
Form of notification and means of views given (e.g. email, meeting)	Email
Outcome of consultation	TBC

Note: As soon as reasonably practicable after you lodge your application with DOC, you are required to notify affected iwi, hapu or whanau. We recommend you speak to DOC about this requirement prior to lodging your application.

F. Consultation undertaken with Treaty Partners

DOC has a statutory obligation to give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. This often requires consultation with our Treaty Partner (iwi/hapū/whānau of local Maori) on your application. If you have already consulted with our Treaty Partners, DOC would like to know about it.

Have you carried out any consultation with Treaty Partners?

No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>

If yes, supply details for each Treaty Partner you have consulted with. Copy and paste the table below and complete for each Treaty Partner. Record all attachments in section 'Q Attachments' including:

- Additional pages with any required information.
- The written response to your consultation with Treaty Partners.

Whānau/hapū/iwi consulted with	
Name of individual you consulted with	
Date of consultation	
Form of consultation (e.g. email, meeting)	
Outcome of consultation*	

Provide details of any cultural interpretation or activities that you are providing to support the cultural values of the Treaty Partners, Customary Marine Title Applicants or other interested stakeholders.

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G. Consultation with interested stakeholders

Have you carried out any consultation with interested stakeholders?

No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Yes

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If yes, supply details for each Interested Stakeholder you have consulted with. Copy and paste the table below and complete for each Interested Stakeholder. Record all attachments in section 'Q Attachments' including:

- Additional pages with any required information
- The written response to your consultation with Interested Stakeholders.

Other interested stakeholders consulted with e.g. Conservation Boards or community groups	
Name of individual you consulted with	
Date of consultation	
Form of consultation (e.g. email, meeting)	
Outcome of consultation*	

H. Educational material

Provide details of the education material (including the source of the material) and education aspects of your proposed operation.

See attached for a copy of Real Journeys' Milford Sound Piopiotahi and Doubtful Sound Patea visitor guides which are printed in multiple languages. Milford Sound Piopiotahi guides (9 languages) - English, German, Japanese, French, Chinese, Spanish, Korean, Thai and Portuguese. Doubtful Sound Patea guides (7 languages) - English, German, Japanese, French, Chinese, Spanish, and Portuguese.

For staff training the company also has extensive interpretation manuals and resources, which include marine mammals. Further, we also receive regular Marine Mammal research updates from the Department as part of the Fiordland Marine Mammal Liaison Group and this information is passed on to our nature guides and skippers.

The following information is supplied to our nature guides in our Nature Guide interpretation manuals.

New Zealand Fur Seal

New Zealand fur seals (or kekeno) are found around NZ and its offshore islands, and southern Australia.



When Polynesians arrived about 1300 AD, fur seals (*Arctocephalus forsteri*), became an important source of food. By the time Europeans arrived in the late 1700s the seals had been all but wiped out, save for colonies in the Catlins. Pakeha sealers finished off the remaining few for their pelts and the oil rendered from their blubber.

Their prey is fish, cephalopods such as squid and octopus, and crustacea including krill. Most dives last one or two minutes. Fur seals will forage up to 200 kilometres beyond the continental slope, often diving as deep as 200 metres.

The seals breed on steep boulder beaches with plenty of crevices and tidal pools. Their layer of fat and thick fur coats, which enable them to endure long periods in water, can cause overheating on land. Crevices provide shade and tidal pools a place to cool off.

The dominant male mates with numerous females, so many males do not get a chance to breed in every season. Inter-male competition has promoted the evolution of large males, weighing up to 185 kilograms (an average female weighs 40 kilograms).

Females arrive from foraging at sea in late November, and give birth to a single pup (conceived the year before) by early January. About eight days later she will mate. Pups are weaned in July or August, and the pregnant females go to sea to fatten once again. The young pups then head out to sea, coming ashore at times. Females start breeding at around four years.

After fertilisation, the embryo's growth is suspended for two to four months. It then implants in the mother's uterus, and development resumes. This enables females to give birth and then mate during the same episode ashore, while still allowing for a normal gestation of about nine months. The female can therefore recover from rearing one pup before developing the next. The pup's birth is also synchronised with the female's return to the breeding ground the next season.

The longest known life span of a New Zealand fur seal is 15 years.

NZ Sealion

The New Zealand sea lion is also previously known as Hooker's Sea Lion and to Māori as whakahao.



Its main food is fish and cephalopods such as squid and octopus.

The males of the sea lions (*Phocarctos hookeri*) are much larger than fur seals and have a distinctive blunt nose. Dark brown, with a mane of thick hair about the neck and shoulders, they can tip the scales at over 400 kilograms. Females weigh about half that, and are creamy yellow.

The main breeding grounds are in the Auckland Islands. A small number breed on Campbell Island, the Snares Islands and in isolated cases on the Otago coastline.

The sea lions like sandy beaches, of which there are plenty, but 95% of the population breeds on three beaches in the Auckland Islands. Such a concentration makes them vulnerable: in 1998 a mystery illness killed over half that year's pups and perhaps 20% of the adults. A squid fishery, which started around the islands in the 1980s, has killed thousands of them in trawl nets, and continues to do so. They are the world's most threatened sea lion species, with fewer than 12,000 individuals remaining.

While sea lions have long hauled out (rested) along the Otago–Southland coastline, it is encouraging that females have also begun pupping on the Otago Peninsula and in the Catlins.

When not breeding, sea lions can be found scattered around the coasts of the islands where they breed, but at any time a large part of the population will be away at sea.

The breeding pattern of sea lions is very similar to that of fur seals, with males arriving in November to set up territories. Pregnant females arrive a month later, and mate 7–10 days after giving birth. Pups may be weaned anywhere from nine months to over a year. Females start mating at four years, and males later.

The maximum recorded age is 23 years for males and 18 for females.

Seals versus Sealions

Seals and sealions are similar and are closely related, but they have several physical differences, and because of this we can tell them apart

Differences between fur seals and sea lions	
Sea lions	Fur seals
Blunt nose	Pointed nose
• Blunt nose, short whiskers.	• Pointy nose, long whiskers.
Larger (max 400kg)	Smaller (max 200kg)
• Males: 350 –500 kg; brown/black.	• Males: 90 –150 kg; dark brown.
• Females: 100 –160 kg; cream/silver.	• Females: 30 –50 kg; dark brown.

Generally unafraid of people	Generally afraid of people (except territorial breeding males and may also become habituated)
Hind flippers move independently	Hind flippers move together
Coarser, less dense hair	Finer, denser hair
Marked colour variation between the sexes	Little colour variation between the sexes
Prefer sandy beaches	Prefer rocky shores
Adult males have mane of longer hair around neck and chest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adult males have no mane
Feed over continental shelf	Feed at edge of continental shelf or beyond

Sealing

First European sealers

It was perhaps bad luck for seals that in 1773 Captain James Cook spent time in Dusky Sound, where numbers of fur seals still survived. Cook's men shot or clubbed the seals for food, and used their skins for repairing rigging, and their oil for lamps. Their potential as a trading item was especially noted in Sydney – from 1788 merchants in the new convict settlement were seeking ways of paying for imports. The London firm of Sam Enderby and Sons, who were active in transporting convicts to Sydney and had a licence from the East India Company, arranged for the *Britannia* to drop a sealing gang in Dusky Sound in November 1792. They were to procure skins for the China market as payment for tea. When the men were picked up in September 1793 they had collected 4,500 skins, and had also built New Zealand's first sailing ship. However, the opening of Australia's Bass Strait rookeries (as seal colonies were known) in 1797 diminished the attraction of New Zealand.

The next wave of visitors drawn to the remote southwest coast and Stewart Island/Rakiura were European sealing gangs. In 1803, following the collapse of the Bass Strait seal fishery, Australian sealers turned to southern New Zealand and the sub-Antarctic islands for fresh stocks to exploit, initially supplying the lucrative Chinese market, and also America and Europe.

The New Zealand fur seal (kekeno) was the main species hunted, along with the less valuable New Zealand sea lion (whakahao), also known as Hooker's sea lion or the hair seal. The industry reached a frenzied peak in 1809–1810, quickly decimating stocks. In 1809, the Governor Bligh returned twice to Sydney with 10,000 Fiordland skins on each occasion. The following year it returned from Doubtful Sound/Patea with a further 10,000 skins.

Most shore-based sealing gangs relied on small wooden whaleboats to access remote seal colonies along the outer coast, and for fishing. Their ability to find food made the difference between success and failure. Sealers subsisted on fish, shellfish and seal meat, as well as birds' eggs, sea birds and woodhens (weka) to augment their dry stores and salted pork and beef rations.

In the 10 years following the first boom and bust bonanza, Fiordland's fur seal numbers slowly rebuilt to allow a short-lived sealing revival in the early 1820s, before collapsing again. In little more than 30 years, this industry had all but exterminated the fur seal, killing more than one million animals for their valuable skins.

Despite diminished fur seal numbers and falling demand and returns, some isolated sealing persisted. The Seal Fisheries Act 1873 and regulations set an annual four-month open killing season until 1894, when the Government finally gave the fur seal full protection. Even so, occasional limited open seasons were declared, with the last in 1946. That year, the Bluff-based MV Kekeno (captained by Harry Roderique) brought back 4,000 skins from

southwest Fiordland and Solander Island. In one 15-day expedition during June and July, 1,181 seals were killed while the Kekenno was based in Luncheon Cove, Dusky Sound.

Below is the written information supplied to our Discovery Expedition passengers with respect to NZ Sea Lions and NZ Fur seals



SEALS

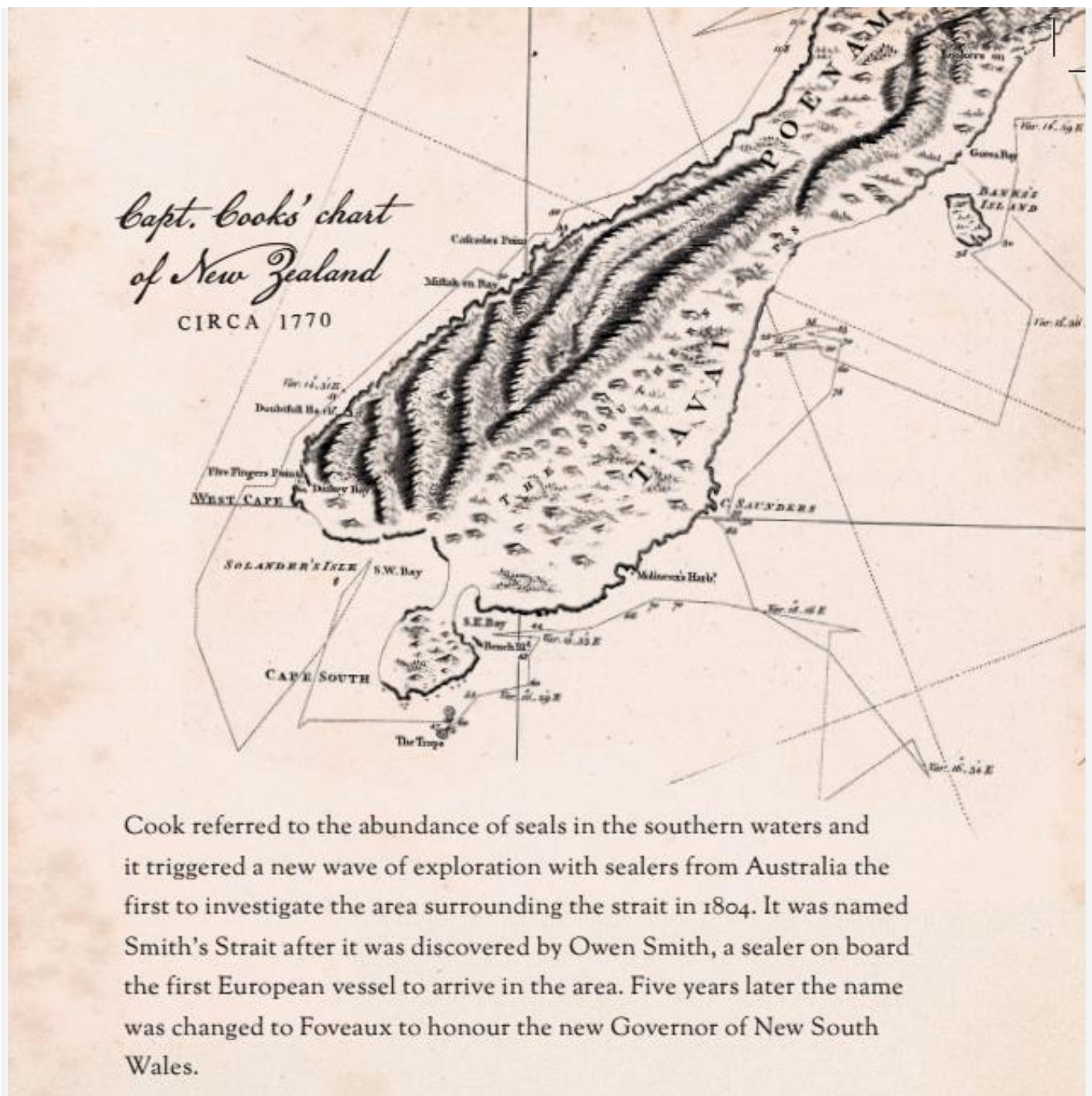
New Zealand fur seals were finally protected in 1946 but from the late 1700s until that time they had undergone a mass slaughter and numbers have been slow to recover. There are numerous breeding colonies around Rakiura/Stewart Island and its many off shore islands with the bulk of pups born in December and raised by the females. They feed mostly at night and are capable swimmers being recorded at depths of up to 230m (754ft).

Other species which may be observed in the region are elephant and leopard seals. Elephant seals breed in the sub-Antarctic waters and throughout the Arctic regions and are occasionally seen on the New Zealand coast in spring and summer. The name comes from the seal's limp snout which, when inflated, acts like an echo chamber as bulls roar at one another.

Leopard seals, distinctive because of their spotted markings, breed solely on the Antarctic ice pack and are rarer visitors to Rakiura/Stewart Island than their elephant counterparts.

SEA LIONS

The New Zealand sea lion is commonly found in Port Pegasus. They usually breed on the Auckland and Campbell Islands and along with a similar Australian species are the rarest in the world and were almost hunted to extinction in the early 1800s.



I. Conservation, management, and the protection of marine mammals

Real Journeys provides opportunities for New Zealanders and overseas visitors opportunities to view and experience the Fiordland coastal marine area (CMA) / Te Mimi o Tu Te Rakiwhānoa; Foveaux Strait Te Ara-a-Kiwa and Rakiura Eastern inlets this enables the public to have a positive social experience of the natural environment of the CMA. A Department of Conservation (DOC) study found that many New Zealanders have a strong connection to their lands and waters, and this fosters pro-environmental behaviours.¹⁴ However, future support for conservation cannot be taken for granted, given the increasing ethnic diversity; the aging population in New Zealand; and the concentration of the country's population in urban areas, distant from much of the public conservation land and waters (PCLW). Therefore, the opportunities Real Journeys creates, to enable people to connect with, and experience the natural environment, has the benefit of developing

¹⁴ Visitors as Advocates, A review of the relationship between participation in outdoor recreation and support for conservation and the environment, Michael Harbrow, 2019.

stronger connections with the natural environment and promoting a greater conservation awareness of Marine Mammals.

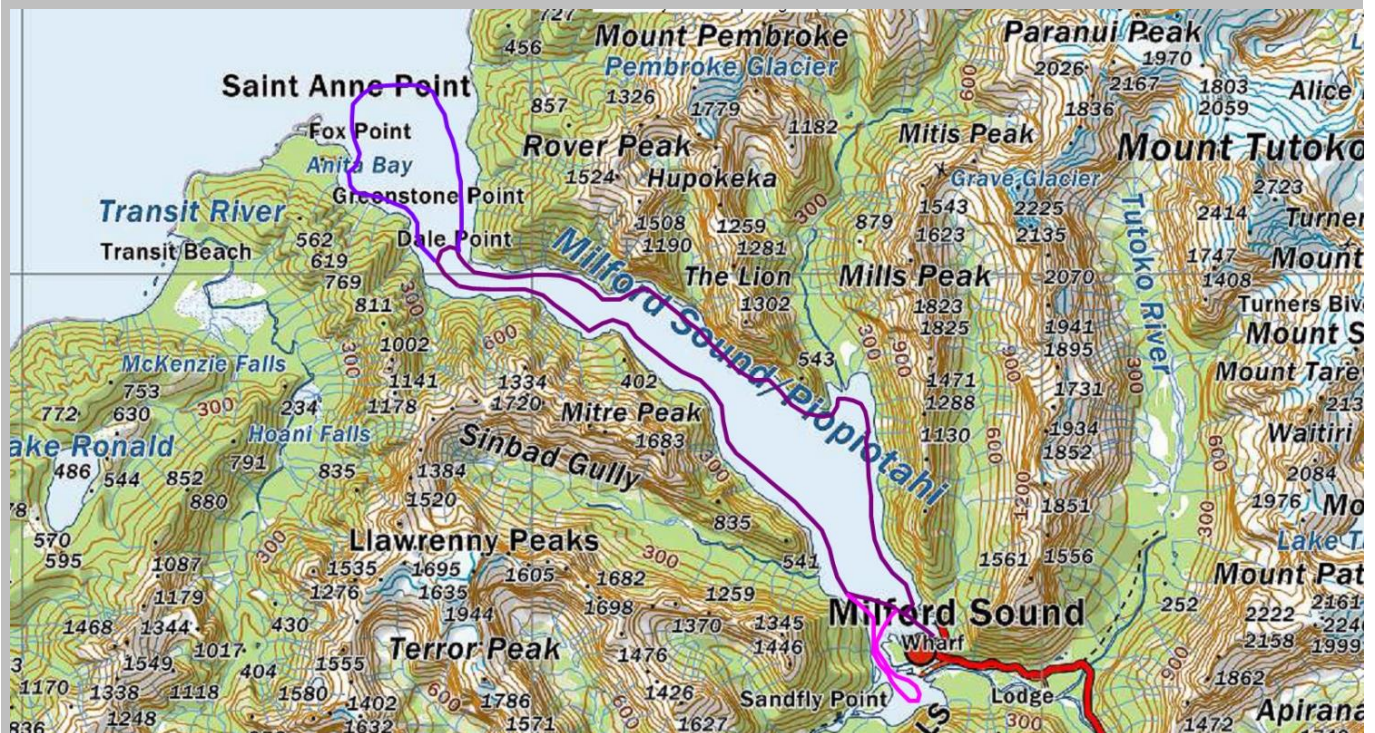
Real Journeys is an active participant in the Fiordland Marine Mammal Liaison Group and through this group Real Journeys is supplied with up-to-date Fiordland related Marine Mammal research which enables Real Journeys nature guides to provide Real Journeys passengers with in-depth interpretation regarding Marine Mammals. Interpretation is delivered when marine mammals are sighted. In addition, during Real Journeys overnight cruises and Discovery Expeditions Real Journeys nature guides undertake evening talks regarding the heritage (historic and natural) of the area including further background on the Marine Mammals found in the area of operation and their recovery since being nearly hunted by whalers and sealers. Hence Real Journeys contends that its vessel operations across the CMAs of Fiordland / Te Mimi o Tu Te Rakiwhānoa; Foveaux Strait Te Ara-a-Kiwa and Rakiura Eastern inlets in directly contribute to the conservation and protection of Marine Mammals.

J. Details of the proposed operation

1 Proposed base and area of operation

Map questions	Written description
Proposed base of operation	Freshwater Basin, Milford Sound Piopiotahi
Proposed area of operation	Milford Sound Piopiotahi
Proposed locations for viewing contact with marine mammals	Milford Sound Piopiotahi most frequently – NZ Fur Seals on ‘Seal Rock’ on occasion Bottlenose Dolphins anywhere in the fiord and migrating whale species mainly near the entrance
Proposed locations for swimming contact with marine mammals	Nil

Figure 1 – map showing Milford Sound / Piopiotahi typical cruise route (days cruise / overnight cruise) ex Freshwater Basin



Key

Usual route of “Milford Monarch”, “Milford Sovereign” – 1-hour 40mins

“Milford Mariner” and “Milford Wanderer” (when doing nature cruises 2-2½ hours) , “Milford Haven” – 2 hours and “Sinbad” - 2¼ hours (Milford Sound Premium Cruise & Milford Sound Business Class - cruise right out to the entrance as well. “Milford Mariner” and “Milford Wanderer” mooring overnight in Harrison Cove for the summer season.

During the overnight cruises (18-hours) “Milford Mariner” and “Milford Wanderer” sometimes cruise into Deepwater Basin to access Sandfly Point end of the Milford Track.

Vessels can encounter marine mammals anywhere within the fiord, however the main places we view New Zealand Fur Seals is north of Copper Point and on “Seal Rock” on the Northern side of the Fiord.

NB: All Milford Sound Piopiotahi cruise vessels cruise around the Fiord in a clockwise direction as governed by the “Code of Practice for Commercial Vessels Operating Within Milford Sound Harbour Limits”.

2 Proposed base and area of operation

Attach a map of the proposed area of operation. It must clearly show:

- Proposed base (vessel departure location) of operation
- Proposed area of operation showing the boundaries and where appropriate, the specific locations where contact with marine mammals are proposed.
- Proposed locations where swimming with marine mammals will take place (if applicable)

Map questions

Proposed base of operation

Written description

Deep Cove Taipaririki, Doubtful Sound Patea

Proposed area of operation	Doubtful Sound Patea Complex
Proposed locations for viewing contact with marine mammals	Doubtful Sound Patea Complex
Proposed locations for swimming contact with marine mammals	Nil

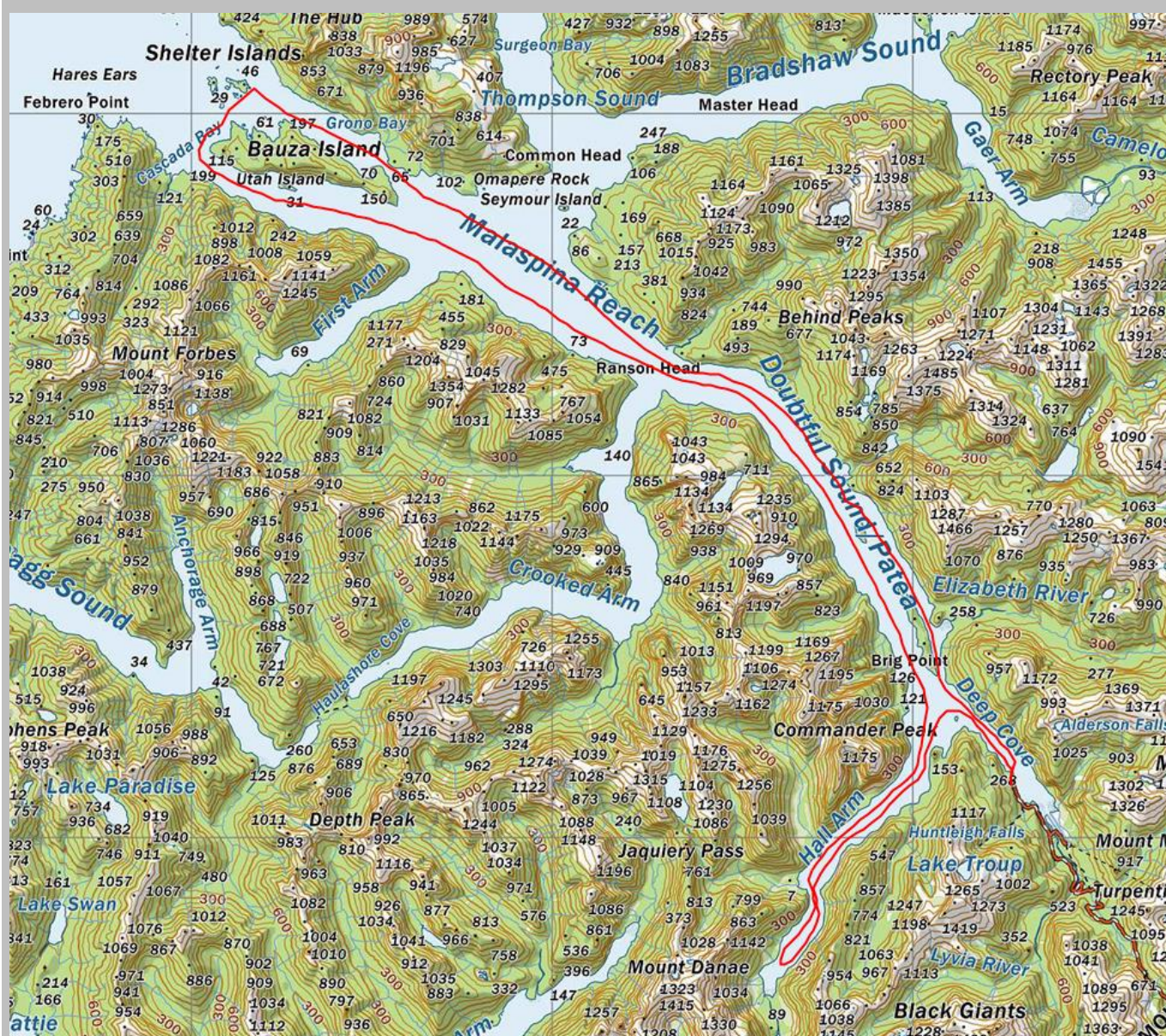
Figure 2 - Approx. route of “Fiordland Navigator” in Doubtful Sound (Patea) for overnight cruises (19½ – 44 hours)
The route taken varies daily with the sea &/or weather conditions and the skipper



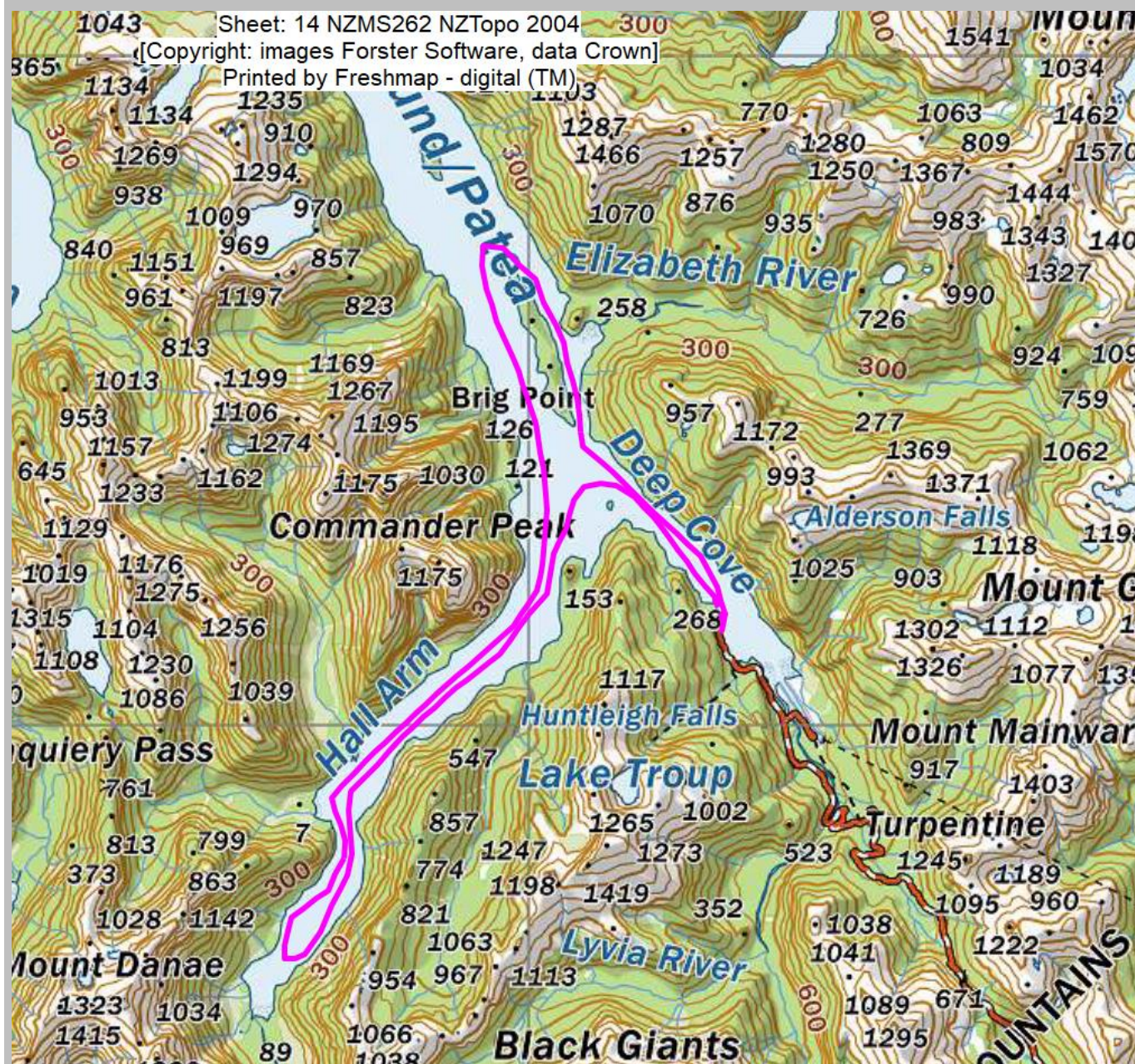
Figure 3 - Approximate "Milford Wanderer" overnight cruise route (19–43 hours) (usually Nov – April).
 The route taken varies daily with the sea &/or weather conditions and the skipper
 During longer day light hours "Milford Wanderer" will be able to overnight in First Arm otherwise will overnight in Crooked Arm either at Turn Point or Haulashore Cove.
 In adverse weather "Milford Wanderer" will overnight in Blanket Bay



Figure 4 - Approximate day cruise (*Wilderness Cruise*) route of "Patea Explorer" (2-2½ hours)
(or route when another vessel is operating in the place of "Patea Explorer")



5 - Route of Inner Fiord Day Cruise (2 hours) undertaken by "Milford Wanderer" or "Fiordland Navigator" or "Patea Explorer"



③ Proposed base and area of operation – Discovery Expeditions

Attach a map of the proposed area of operation. It must clearly show:

- Proposed base (vessel departure location) of operation
- Proposed area of operation showing the boundaries and where appropriate, the specific locations where contact with marine mammals are proposed.
- Proposed locations where swimming with marine mammals will take place (if applicable)

Map questions	Written description
Proposed base of operation	Deep Cove Taipaririki, Doubtful Sound Patea
Proposed area of operation	From Doubtful Sound Patea to and from Rakituma Preservation Inlet
Proposed base of operation	Halfmoon Bay Kairākau
Proposed area of operation	East coast of Rakiura

Figure 6 - Map showing approximate location of Discovery Expeditions (5 days) to and from Doubtful Sound Patea and Tamatea Dusky Sound



Figure 7. Map showing approximate location of Discovery Expedition activities (7 days) to and from Doubtful Sound Patea and Puysegur Point Tawhitiwhiti-roto

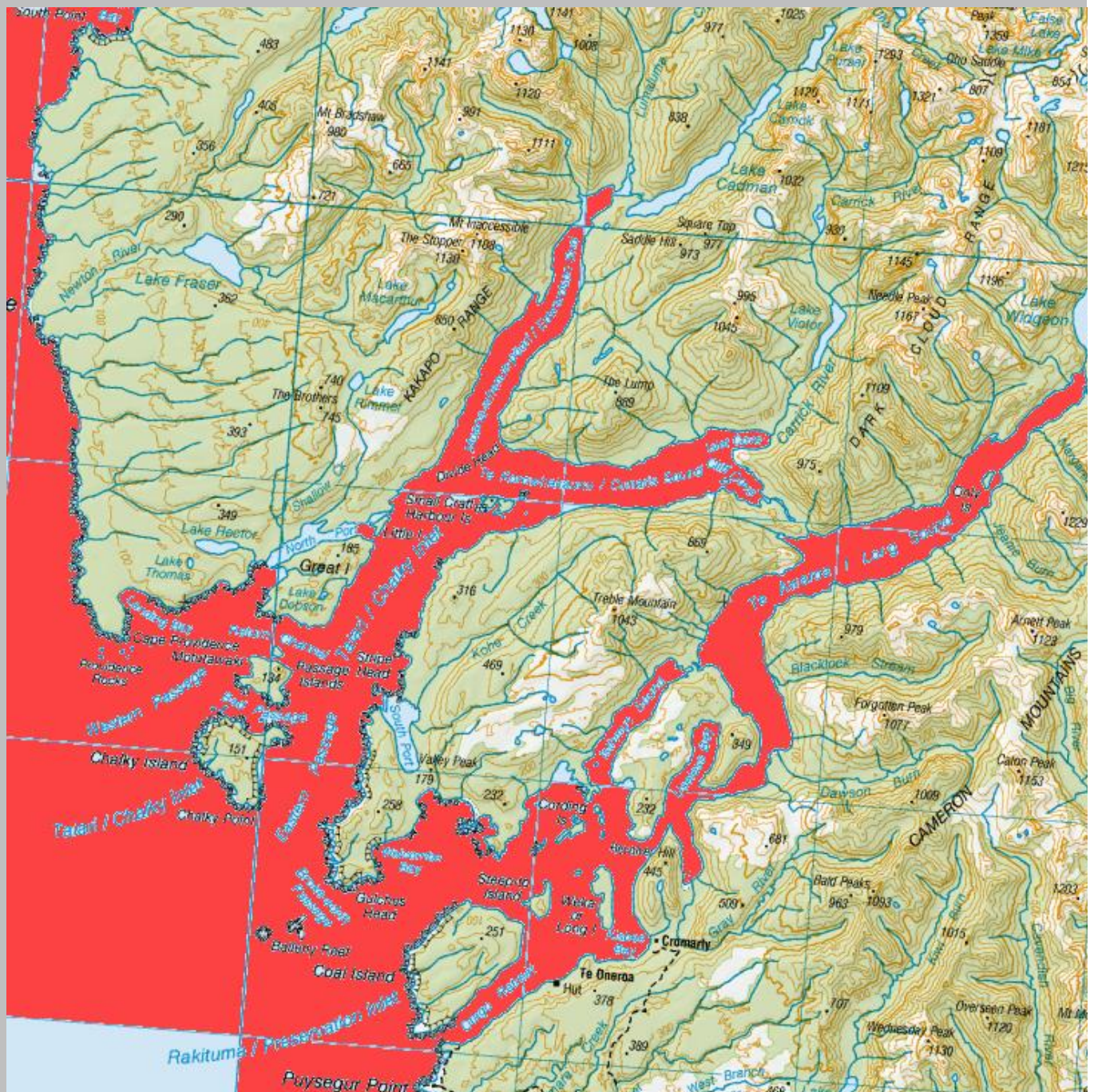
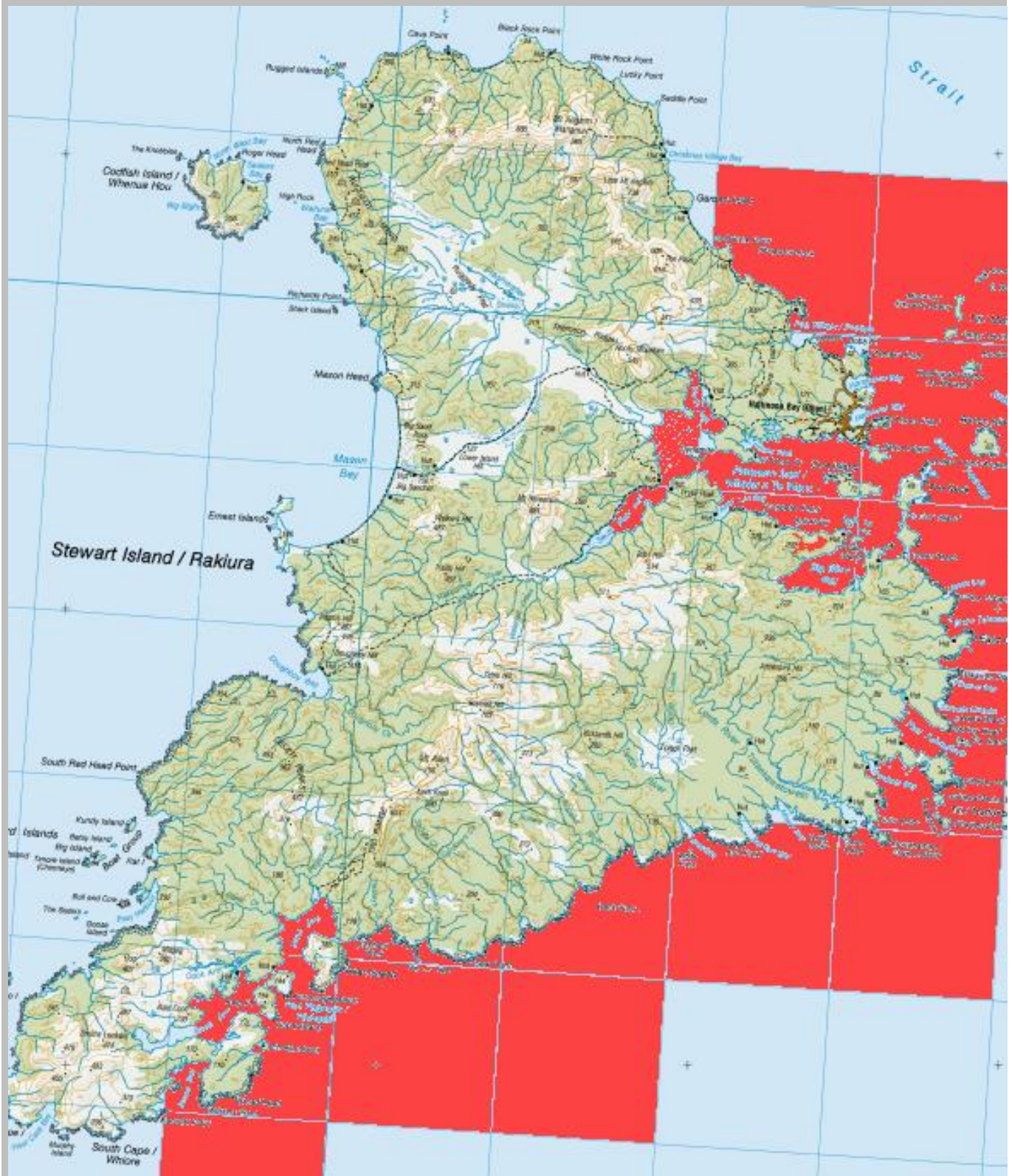


Figure 8 - Map showing approximate location of Discovery Expedition activities (4-6 days) on the east coast of Rakiura



④ Proposed base and area of operation – [Stewart Island Ferries](#)

Attach a map of the proposed area of operation. It must clearly show:

- Proposed base (vessel departure location) of operation
- Proposed area of operation showing the boundaries and where appropriate, the specific locations where contact with marine mammals are proposed.
- Proposed locations where swimming with marine mammals will take place (if applicable)

Map questions	Written description
Proposed base of operation	Bluff and Halfmoon Bay Kairākau
Proposed area of operation	Foveaux Strait Te Ara-a-Kiwa
Proposed locations for viewing contact with marine mammals	Anywhere across Foveaux Strait Te Ara-a-Kiwa

Figure 9 – approximate route of Stewart Island Rakiura Ferries (1 hour each way)



5 Proposed base and area of operation – Rakiura day trips / evening trips

Attach a map of the proposed area of operation. It must clearly show:

- Proposed base (vessel departure location) of operation
- Proposed area of operation showing the boundaries and where appropriate, the specific locations where contact with marine mammals are proposed.
- Proposed locations where swimming with marine mammals will take place (if applicable)

Record your map details in section 'Q Attachments'.

Map questions	Written description
Proposed base of operation	Halfmoon Bay Kairākau
Proposed area of operation	Day cruises to and from Ulva Island (1½ hours), and Lowrys Beach (1½ hours) and evening cruise to and from Glory Cove (2 hours)
Proposed locations for viewing contact with marine mammals	Anywhere on route to and from the above locations

Figure 10 – approximate route to and from Halfmoon Bay Kairākau; Ulva Island, Glory Cove, and Lowrys Beach Wharves



2 Duration of operation

Record the proposed duration of operation (months and years) is currently up to a maximum of three years.	5 years
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Foveaux Strait Te Ara-a-Kiwa and Paterson Inlet Whaka a Te Wera Marine Mammal Viewing

3 Trip duration and frequency	
Duration of trips (in hours or days if multi-day trips) proposed	Stewart Island Ferries (1 hour each way) Day cruises to and from Ulva Island (1½ hours), and Lowrys Beach (1-1½ hours) and evening cruises to and from Glory Cove (2 hours)
Maximum number of trips proposed per day	Stewart Island Ferries 6 x one-way trips per day year round Day cruises to and from Ulva Island 2x per day – year round (1 day trip in winter months May – Sep) Day cruises to and from Lowrys Beach 2x per day (currently summer months only Oct-April) Evening cruise to and from Glory Cove 1x per day (Daily October to April)
Maximum number of vessels you propose to operate at any one time	Three currently however may increase to four if trips to Lowry's beach increase
4 Species of marine mammal you seek to view or come in contact with from a vessel	
All species of whales (including orca and pilot whales)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
All species of seal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
All species of dolphins (excluding orca and pilot whales)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Species specific encounters you seek to view and come in contact with from a vessel (list species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5 Proposed viewing or contact times with marine mammals	
Whales viewing or contact	
Not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/>
Individual viewing or contact time in minutes	5-10 minutes
Cumulative viewing or contact time per trip in minutes	15 minutes
Dolphins viewing or contact	
Not applicable	
Individual viewing or contact time in minutes	5-10 minutes
Cumulative viewing or contact time per trip in minutes	15 minutes
Seals viewing or contact	
Not applicable	

Individual viewing or contact time in minutes	5-10 minutes
Cumulative viewing or contact time per trip in minutes	15 minutes
Specific species viewing or contact	
Not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/>
Specific species viewing or contact (list species)	NZ Sea Lions whakahao
Individual viewing or contact time in minutes	5-10 minutes
Cumulative viewing or contact time per trip in minutes	15 Minutes

The species to be viewed as per the conditions of Real Journeys existing vessel based marine mammal permit (48703-MAR) – detailed below –.

Species	Seals Dolphins Whales: all species excluding Southern Right Whale, Humpback Whale and Orca in Milford Sound .
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<p>Maximum duration of contact with any marine mammal or group of marine mammals per trip¹</p>	<p><u>Seals</u></p> <p>30 minutes at any location</p> <p><i>Appendix 1 shows location of viewing zones described below.</i></p> <p><u>Milford Sound</u></p> <p>Viewing of Humpback Whales, Southern Right Whales and Orca is prohibited.</p> <p><i>All other cetacean species: maximum of 2 x 5-minute encounter per individual / group.</i></p> <p><u>Rest of Fiordland (Internal waters)</u></p> <p><i>Bottlenose Dolphins: cumulative viewing time of 15 minutes.</i></p> <p><i>Orca: cumulative viewing time of 15 minutes.</i></p> <p><i>Humpback Whales: cumulative viewing time of 15 minutes.</i></p> <p><i>Southern Right Whales: cumulative viewing time of 15 minutes.</i></p> <p><i>All other cetacean species: cumulative viewing time of 30 minutes per individual / group of marine mammals.</i></p>
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Outer Coast (External waters) or Stewart Island

Bottlenose Dolphins: cumulative viewing time of 15 minutes.

Orca: cumulative viewing time of 15 minutes.

All other cetacean species: cumulative viewing time of 30 minutes per species.

Cumulative Viewing for Rest of Fiordland and Outer Coast combined

Bottlenose Dolphins: cumulative viewing time of 15 minutes.

Orca: cumulative viewing time of 15 minutes.

All other cetacean species: cumulative viewing time of 30 minutes per species.

Vessel-based marine mammal viewing limits Murihiku (mainland South Island)

Seals (including sealions):

Interaction time limit:

30 minutes at a location

Minimum vessel distance from haul out when viewing seals/sea lions on shore from a vessel:

20 metres

Swimming with dolphins and seals (including sealions):

No swimming with marine mammals. <i>Note: it is prohibited to swim with whales under MMPR.</i>

Bottlenose dolphins

Open waters - Foveaux Strait	Permit viewing up to a cumulative maximum viewing time of 30 mins per trip
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Hectors dolphins

Open waters - Foveaux Strait	Permit viewing up to a cumulative maximum viewing time of 30 mins per trip
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Southern Right Whales

Bluff Harbour	Permit viewing up to a cumulative maximum viewing time of 15 mins per trip.
Open waters - Foveaux Strait	Permit viewing up to a cumulative maximum viewing time of 30 mins per trip

Other Dolphin and Whale species

Bluff Harbour	Permit viewing up to a cumulative maximum viewing time of 15 mins per specie per trip.
Open waters Foveaux Strait	Permit viewing up to a cumulative maximum viewing time of 30 mins per species per trip

Cumulative viewing across all species

All viewing activities for all species outside of any designated Marine Mammal Sanctuaries between Sandhill Hill Point and Omaui, to remain 1 NM from all coastlines.

Trips less than 3 hours	No limit
Trips greater than 3 hours	No limit

It is considered that cumulative time across all species will be self regulating due to trip length/itinerary constraints and weather/sea conditions.

Vessel-based marine mammal viewing limits Rakiura/Stewart Island

Fur seals & sealions:

Interaction time limit:

30 minutes at any location
No fishing activities to be undertaken concurrently or within 30 mins either side of viewing

Minimum vessel distance from haul out when viewing seals/sea lions on shore from a vessel:

20 metres

Swimming with, dolphins and seals (including sealions):

No swimming with marine mammals. <i>Note: it is prohibited to swim with whales under MMPR.</i>

Dolphins (all species)

Paterson Inlet / Whaka a Te Wera	Permit viewing up to a cumulative maximum viewing time of 15 mins per trip
Port Pegasus/Pikihati	Permit viewing up to a cumulative maximum viewing time of 15 mins per trip
Remainder of Rakiura coastline/open water including natural harbours and Foveaux Strait	Permit viewing up to a cumulative maximum viewing time of 30 mins per trip
Tidal areas (including SW Arm, North Arm, Head of Paterson Inlet)	Permits seeking this activity will be declined

Orca

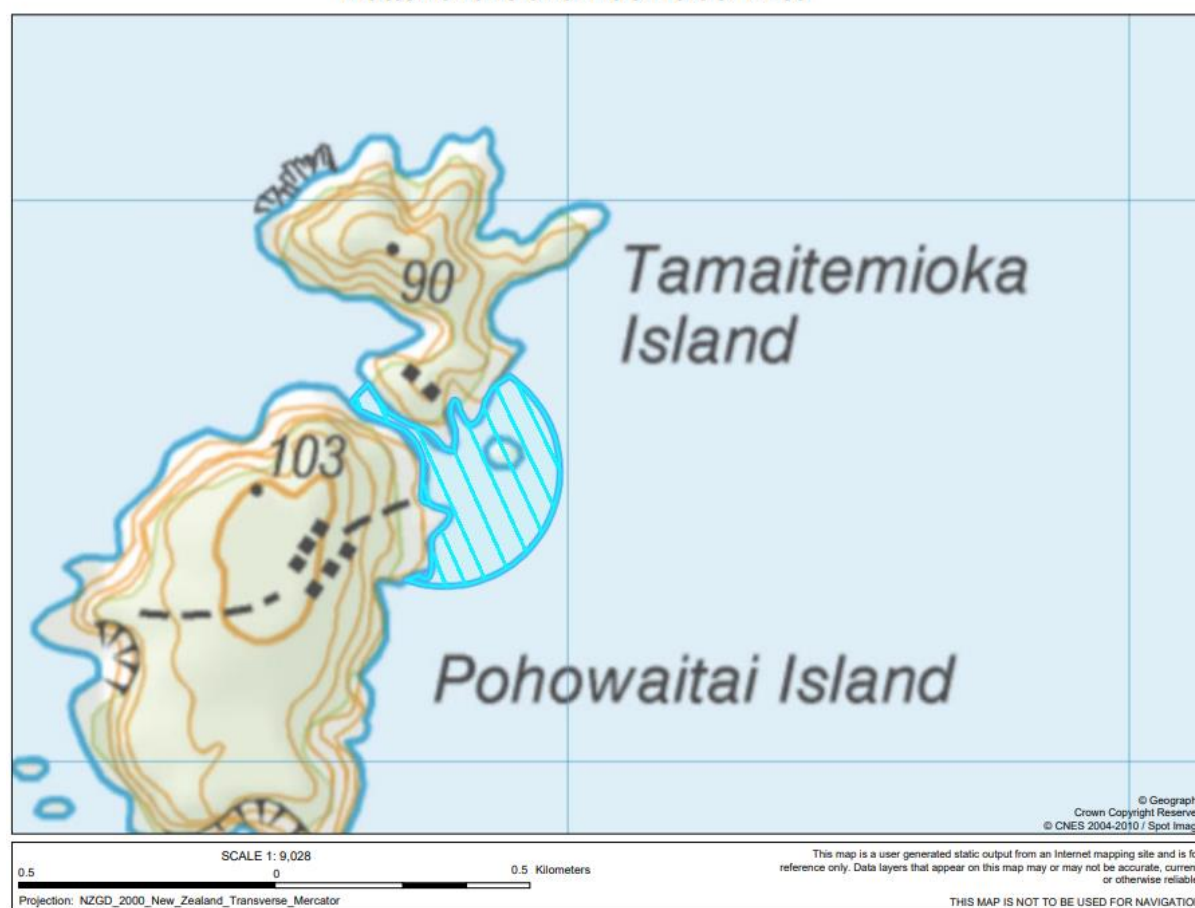
Paterson Inlet / Whaka a Te Wera (Excluding tidal areas – see below)	Permit viewing up to a cumulative maximum viewing time of 15 mins per trip
Paterson Inlet / Whaka a Te Wera	Permit viewing up to a cumulative maximum viewing time of 15 mins per trip
Port Pegasus/Pikihati	Permit viewing up to a cumulative maximum viewing time of 15 mins per trip
Tidal areas (including SW Arm, North Arm, Head of Paterson Inlet)	Permits seeking this activity will be declined

Whales (all species)

Remainder of Rakiura coastline/open water including natural harbours and Foveaux Strait	Permit viewing up to a cumulative maximum viewing time of 30 mins per trip.
Paterson Inlet / Whaka a Te Wera	Permit viewing up to a cumulative maximum viewing time of 15 mins per trip
Port Pegasus/Pikihaiti	Permit viewing up to a cumulative maximum viewing time of 15 mins per trip
Tidal areas (including SW Arm, North Arm, Head of Paterson Inlet)	Permits seeking this activity will be declined

It is considered that cumulative time across all species will be self regulating due to trip length/itinerary constraints and weather/sea conditions.

Muttonbird Island Title Holder Area



The Title-Holder Area for the Tītī Islands, held by the Rakiura Tītī (Beneficial Islands) Committee (source: [Marine and Coastal Area Register | Toitū Te Whenua - Land Information New Zealand](#))

6 Species of marine mammal you seek to swim with from a vessel

Not applicable as swimming won't take place



All species of seal	<input type="checkbox"/>
All species of dolphins (excluding orca and pilot whales)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Specific species (list species) sought to swim with	

Swimming with dolphins

Not applicable as swimming won't take place	✓
Individual encounter in minutes	
Cumulative encounter per trip in minutes	
Number of swim drops per trip	
Time spent in the water per swim drop per trip in minutes	
Cumulative time spent in the water per trip in minutes	

Swimming with seals

Not applicable as swimming won't take place	✓
Individual encounter in minutes	
Cumulative encounter per trip in minutes	
Number of swim drops per trip	
Time spent in the water per swim drop per trip in minutes	
Cumulative time spent in the water per trip in minutes	

Swimming with specific species

Not applicable as swimming won't take place	✓
Swimming with specific species (list species)	
Individual encounter in minutes	
Cumulative encounter per trip in minutes	
Number of swim drops per trip	
Time spent in the water per swim drop per trip in minutes	
Cumulative time spent in the water per trip in minutes	

7 Swimming process of entering the water, boat position and encounter of calves and pups

How will swimmers enter the water?	N/A
What will the position of boat be relative to the location and movement of marine mammals when swimmers enter the water?	
What will the placement of swimmers be relative to the location and movement of marine mammals?	
What actions will be taken should dolphin calves or seal pups be encountered?	

8 Cumulative encounter times of viewing/contact and swimming

Cumulative time spent in the water per trip in minutes	N/A
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K. Vessel type – motorised vessel(s)

Describe the vessel type you are going to use in your proposed operation.

If your operation involves two or more vessels, copy and paste the table below and complete for each vessel. Alternatively attach additional pages with the required information and record all attachments in section 'Q Attachments'.

Not applicable as only using manually propelled vessels



Motorised vessel No. 1 description:



Vessel name	Milford Haven
Vessel make	N/A
Vessel model	N/A
Vessel size (length)	36.95m
Vessel colour	Blue & White

Motive power	Scania V8's (DI 16 0804) 2x 257 KW @ 1800 REVs
Construction and hull design	Purpose built multi chine mono hull
Displacement hull	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Normal cruising speed	11 knots
Maximum speed	13 knots
Maximum number of passengers	414
Describe any information you have on vessel noise levels (above and below water)	85 dB LAE at 25 metres at cruising speed
How will the effects of vessel noise be mitigated?	<p>When our vessels are within 300 metres of swimming marine mammals, they are operated at no wake speed which is quieter than cruising speed reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p> <p>When within 200 metres of the shore; vessels are required by maritime regulations to reduce speed to five knots hence our vessels are operating at no wake speeds which is quieter than cruising speed when adjacent rocks where New Zealand Fur seals bask reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p>

Motorised vessel No. 2 description:



Vessel name	<i>Milford Mariner</i>
Vessel make	N/A
Vessel model	N/A
Vessel size (length)	40m
Vessel colour	Navy & cream
Motive power	twin Yanmar diesel engines (485 KW)
Construction and hull design	Designed along the lines of a traditional New Zealand coastal trading scow, the vessel is also equipped with 22 kayaks, and two 6.3 metre tender craft (currently powered by Honda / Mercury outboards) soon to be replaced by battery powered (EV) tender crafts used for sightseeing during overnight cruises.
Displacement hull	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Normal cruising speed	10 knots

Maximum speed	12 knots
Maximum number of passengers	150
Describe any information you have on vessel noise levels (above and below water)	84 dB LAE @ 25 metres cruising speed + 80 dB LAE @ 25 metres no wake speed
How will the effects of vessel noise be mitigated?	<p>When our vessels are within 300 metres of swimming marine mammals, they are operated at no wake speed which is quieter than cruising speed reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p> <p>When within 200 metres of the shore; vessels are required by maritime regulations to reduce speed to five knots hence our vessels are operating at no wake speeds which is quieter than cruising speed when adjacent rocks where New Zealand Fur seals bask reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p>

Motorised vessel No. 3 description:



Vessel name	<i>Milford Monarch</i>
Vessel make	N/A
Vessel model	N/A
Vessel size (length)	39.0m
Vessel colour	Black and white
Motive power	Main engines twin Yanmar diesel engines (485 KW)
Construction and hull design	Purpose built traditional hard chine steel mono hull motor vessel
Displacement hull	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Normal cruising speed	10 knots
Maximum speed	12 knots

Maximum number of passengers	393
Describe any information you have on vessel noise levels (above and below water)	83 dB LAE @ 25 metres cruising speed + 70 dB LAE @ 25 metres no wake speed
How will the effects of vessel noise be mitigated?	<p>When our vessels are within 300 metres of swimming marine mammals, they are operated at no wake speed which is quieter than cruising speed reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p> <p>When within 200 metres of the shore; vessels are required by maritime regulations to reduce speed to five knots hence our vessels are operating at no wake speeds which is quieter than cruising speed when adjacent rocks where New Zealand Fur seals bask reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p>

Motorised vessel No. 4 description:



Vessel name	<i>Milford Sovereign</i>
Vessel make	N/A
Vessel model	N/A
Vessel size (length)	40m
Vessel colour	Black and white
Motive power	twin Yanmar diesel engines (485 KW)
Construction and hull design	Purpose built traditional hard chine steel mono hull motor vessel
Displacement hull	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Normal cruising speed	10 knots
Maximum speed	12 knots
Maximum number of passengers	400
Describe any information you have on vessel noise levels (above and below water)	79 dB LAE @ 25 metres cruising speed + 75 dB LAE @ 25 metres no wake speed
How will the effects of vessel noise be mitigated?	<p>When our vessels are within 300 metres of swimming marine mammals, they are operated at no wake speed which is quieter than cruising speed reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p>

When within 200 metres of the shore; vessels are required by maritime regulations to reduce speed to five knots hence our vessels are operating at no wake speeds which is quieter than cruising speed when adjacent rocks where New Zealand Fur seals bask reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.

Motorised vessel No. 5 description:



Vessel name	<i>Sinbad</i>
Vessel make	N/A
Vessel model	N/A
Vessel size (length)	21.0m
Vessel colour	Black and white
Motive power	2 x MTU Series 60
Construction and hull design	Purpose built alloy mono-hull motor vessel
Displacement hull	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Normal cruising speed	10 knots
Maximum speed	12 knots
Maximum number of passengers	99
Describe any information you have on vessel noise levels (above and below water)	83 dB LAE @ 25 metres cruising speed + 76 dB LAE @ 25 metres no wake speed
How will the effects of vessel noise be mitigated?	<p>When our vessels are within 300 metres of swimming marine mammals, they are operated at no wake speed which is quieter than cruising speed reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p> <p>When within 200 metres of the shore; vessels are required by maritime regulations to reduce speed to five knots hence our vessels are operating at no wake speeds which is quieter than cruising speed when adjacent rocks where New Zealand Fur seals bask reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p>

Motorised vessel No. 6 description:



Vessel name	Milford Wanderer
Vessel make	N/A
Vessel model	N/A
Vessel size (length)	30m
Vessel colour	Navy and cream
Motive power	twin 6V92 Detroit diesel engines (397KW)
Construction and hull design	Purpose built steel motor vessel, designed along the lines of a traditional New Zealand coastal trading scow, the vessel is also equipped with 28 kayaks, and a 6.3 metre tender craft (powered by a Honda / Mercury outboard) used for sightseeing during overnight cruises and Discovery Expeditions
Displacement hull	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Normal cruising speed	8 knots
Maximum speed	10 knots
Maximum number of passengers	150
Describe any information you have on vessel noise levels (above and below water)	69 dBa @ 25 metres
How will the effects of vessel noise be mitigated?	<p>When our vessels are within 300 metres of swimming marine mammals, they are operated at no wake speed which is quieter than cruising speed reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p> <p>When within 200 metres of the shore; vessels are required by maritime regulations to reduce speed to five knots hence our vessels are operating at no wake speeds which is quieter than cruising speed when adjacent rocks where New Zealand Fur seals bask reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p>

Motorised vessel No. 7 description:



Vessel name	<i>Fiordland Navigator</i>
Vessel make	N/A
Vessel model	N/A
Vessel size (length)	40m
Vessel colour	Navy and cream
Motive power	twin Yanmar diesel engines (485 KW)
Construction and hull design	Purpose built steel motor vessel, designed along the lines of a traditional New Zealand coastal trading scow, the vessel is also equipped with 30 kayaks, and two 6.3 metre tender craft (powered by Honda / mercury outboards) used for sightseeing during overnight cruises.
Displacement hull	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Normal cruising speed	12 knots
Maximum speed	12 knots
Maximum number of passengers	150
Describe any information you have on vessel noise levels (above and below water)	79 dB LAE @ 25 metres cruising speed + 73 dB LAE @ 25 metres no wake speed
How will the effects of vessel noise be mitigated?	<p>When our vessels are within 300 metres of swimming marine mammals, they are operated at no wake speed which is quieter than cruising speed reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p> <p>When within 200 metres of the shore; vessels are required by maritime regulations to reduce speed to five knots hence our vessels are operating at no wake speeds which is quieter than cruising speed when adjacent rocks where New Zealand Fur seals bask reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p>

Motorised vessel No. 8 description:



Vessel name	Patea Explorer
Vessel make	N/A
Vessel model	N/A
Vessel size (length)	31.60 m
Vessel colour	Black and white
Motive power	twin C32 Caterpillar diesel engines (1940KW)
Construction and hull design	purpose-built high-speed alloy catamaran
Planing hull	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Normal cruising speed	19-21 knots
Maximum speed	24 knots
Maximum number of passengers	192
Describe any information you have on vessel noise levels (above and below water)	Cruising east – 68 dBa @ 25 metres Cruising west - 69 dBa @ 25 metres
How will the effects of vessel noise be mitigated?	<p>When our vessels are within 300 metres of swimming marine mammals, they are operated at no wake speed which is quieter than cruising speed reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p> <p>When within 200 metres of the shore; vessels are required by maritime regulations to reduce speed to five knots hence our vessels are operating at no wake speeds which is quieter than cruising speed when adjacent rocks where New Zealand Fur seals bask reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p>

Motorised vessel No. 9 description:



Vessel name	<i>Foveaux Express</i>
Vessel make	N/A
Vessel model	N/A
Vessel size (length)	23m
Vessel colour	grey
Motive power	Two 610kw v12 MTU engines
Construction and hull design	Alloy purpose-built catamaran
Planing hull	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Normal cruising speed	20-22 knots
Maximum speed	25 knots
Maximum number of passengers	100
Describe any information you have on vessel noise levels (above and below water)	unknown
How will the effects of vessel noise be mitigated?	<p>When our vessels are within 300 metres of swimming marine mammals, they are operated at no wake speed which is quieter than cruising speed reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p> <p>When within 200 metres of the shore; vessels are required by maritime regulations to reduce speed to five knots hence our vessels are operating at no wake speeds which is quieter than cruising speed when adjacent rocks where New Zealand Fur seals bask reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p>

Motorised vessel No. 10 description:



Vessel name	<i>Southern Express</i>
Vessel make	N/A
Vessel model	N/A
Vessel size (length)	19.90m
Vessel colour	Grey
Motive power	Two 610kw v12 MTU engines
Construction and hull design	Alloy purpose-built catamaran
Planing hull	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Normal cruising speed	20-22knots
Maximum speed	25knots
Maximum number of passengers	99
Describe any information you have on vessel noise levels (above and below water)	unknown
How will the effects of vessel noise be mitigated?	<p>When our vessels are within 300 metres of swimming marine mammals, they are operated at no wake speed which is quieter than cruising speed reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p> <p>When within 200 metres of the shore; vessels are required by maritime regulations to reduce speed to five knots hence our vessels are operating at no wake speeds which is quieter than cruising speed when adjacent rocks where New Zealand Fur seals bask reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p>

Motorised vessel No. 11 description:



Vessel name	Rakiura Explorer or replacement vessel
Vessel make	Kingfisher Boats & Powercats
Vessel model	Kingfisher 1150 Ferry Powercat
Vessel size (length)	11.90m
Vessel colour	Black and white
Motive power	Twin Yanmar 6LPA-STP2 (315 Horsepower)
Construction and hull design	aluminium catamaran
Displacement hull	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Normal cruising speed	16-18 knots
Maximum speed	25 knots
Maximum number of passengers	40
Describe any information you have on vessel noise levels (above and below water)	unknown
How will the effects of vessel noise be mitigated?	<p>When our vessels are within 300 metres of swimming marine mammals, they are operated at no wake speed which is quieter than cruising speed reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p> <p>When within 200 metres of the shore; vessels are required by maritime regulations to reduce speed to five knots hence our vessels are operating at no wake speeds which is quieter than cruising speed when adjacent rocks where New Zealand Fur seals bask reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.</p>

Motorised vessel No. 12 description:

Real Journeys tender craft with petrol powered outboard



Real Journeys new battery powered tender craft (Milford Mariner)



Vessel name	N/A – tender crafts (5x)
Vessel make	Stabicraft / Kiwicraft
Vessel model	N/A
Vessel size (length)	6 -7m
Vessel colour	grey
Motive power	Mercury / Honda Outboard (4 stroke 115 / 120 Horsepower)
Construction and hull design	Aluminium pontoon style
Planing hull	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Normal cruising speed	16-18 knots
Maximum speed	20 knots
Maximum number of passengers	18 passengers + 1 crew
Describe any information you have on vessel noise levels (above and below water)	78 dB LAE @ 25 metres cruising speed + 71 dB LAE @ 25 metres no wake speed

How will the effects of vessel noise be mitigated?

These tender crafts are utilised to undertake sightseeing tours during overnight cruises and to transfer Discovery Expedition passengers ashore for guided walks. Most of these activities occur within 200 metres of the shore accordingly the tender crafts are operated at 5 knots or less which is quieter reducing the noise effects on marine mammals.

L. Vessel type – manually propelled vessels (watercraft)

Describe the manually propelled vessel (watercraft) type and number of vessels you are going to use.

Not applicable as only using motorised vessels

☐

Manually propelled vessel description

Single kayak

☒

Number of single kayaks

80 across three vessels (*Fiordland Navigator*, *Milford Mariner* and *Milford Wanderer*)

M. Background of proposed operator

State the applicant's experience operating with marine mammals (e.g. the number of years the company / business has been operating around marine mammals).

Real Journeys Limited has been operating in Fiordland National Park and on the Fiordland Te Mimi o Tū Te Rakiwhānoa coast for over 71 years. Hence Real Journeys has extensive knowledge of the local area including the marine mammals that inhabit the area or traverse through the area on a seasonal basis.

In the last 5 years the some of our coastal skippers and nature guides have attended SMART (Sustainable Marine Mammal Actions in Recreation and Tourism) course either in Te Anau or Milford Sound Piopiotahi.

Real Journeys also has its own Maritime Operator Safety Plan and a Maritime Transport Operator Certificate, which ensures Real Journeys vessels and equipment are maintained and operated to the highest safety standards.

State the applicant's knowledge of operating within the local area, and of the sea and weather conditions (e.g. number of years' experience operating within the area).

Real Journeys Limited has been operating in Fiordland National Park and on the Fiordland Te Mimi o Tū Te Rakiwhānoa coast for over 71 years and in Foveaux Strait and around Rakiura for 32 years. Hence Real Journeys has extensive knowledge of the local area and the vagaries of Southern New Zealand's sea and weather conditions.

Many of Real Journeys skippers have been working in Fiordland coastal marine area Te Mimi o Tū Te Rakiwhānoa and on Foveaux Strait and around Rakiura in excess of 20 years; consequently, they have extensive knowledge of the Fiordland Te Mimi o Tū Te Rakiwhānoa and Rakiura environment including weather. Moreover, many of these skippers worked in Fiordland Te Mimi o Tū Te Rakiwhānoa and Rakiura prior to their employment with Real Journeys so they have a substantial understanding of the conditions in Southern New Zealand.

Has the applicant been convicted of any offence involving the mistreatment of animals?

No

☒

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
If "yes", provide details	

Does the applicant have any current criminal charges pending before the court involving the mistreatment of animals?

No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
If "yes", provide details	

Does the Applicant agree to DOC undertaking a check of their criminal convictions or pending current criminal charges involving the mistreatment of animals?

Note: DOC may require the proposed operator to fill out and sign a form that allows DOC to receive their criminal conviction history to enable the Director-General of DOC to be satisfied that the proposed operator does not have convictions for offences involving the mistreatment of animals.

No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

N. Background experience of individual staff members

Complete the table below for every staff member who may come into contact with marine mammals during the operation. If there are two or more staff members, copy and paste the table and complete for each staff member. Alternatively attach additional pages with the required information and record all attachments in section 'Q Attachments'.

	Surnames	Given names (required in full)	Has this person had any convictions or prosecutions for offences against the Act or any other Act involving the mistreatment of animals?	Relevant Experience with Marine Mammals:	Relevant knowledge of the local area and sea conditions:	Attended SMART course
1	Allen	David Michael Ernest	No	Dave has worked in the area for Real Journeys since 1998 now his main role is <i>Fiordland Navigator</i> skipper consequently Dave has a great deal of experience of working around the marine mammals (mainly NZ fur seals, and Bottlenose Dolphins) found on the Fiordland coast especially Doubtful Sound Patea.	Dave has worked in the area for Real Journeys since 24.9.98. Accordingly, Dave has extensive knowledge of the Fiordland coastal marine area and sea conditions.	✓
2	Birnie	Stuart William	No	Stuart has worked for Real Journeys for three years and has limited experience of working around the marine mammals.	Stuart has worked for Real Journeys for three years and has limited experience of Fiordland coastal marine area and sea conditions however Stuart is an experienced skipper.	
3	Bujgoi	Calin	No	Calin has at least 5 years' experience working around mainly NZ Fur seals, Bottlenosed Dolphins in Milford Sound Piopiotahi.	Calin commenced working for Real Journeys in 2004 as <i>Milford Mariner</i> team leader, then Calin qualified as a launch master working as a skipper in Milford Sound Piopiotahi.	

	Surnames	Given names (required in full)	Has this person had any convictions or prosecutions for offences against the Act or any other Act involving the mistreatment of animals?	Relevant Experience with Marine Mammals:	Relevant knowledge of the local area and sea conditions:	Attended SMART course
					for two years before travelling overseas to work as a super yacht skipper until returning to work in Milford Sound in 2023 to work as a day cruise skipper. Therefore, Calin has good knowledge of the local area and sea conditions.	
4	Campbell	Mark Henry	No	Mark has about 10 years' experience working as a skipper in Doubtful Sound Patea working around the marine mammals (mainly NZ fur seals, and Bottlenose Dolphins).	Mark commenced working for Real Journeys in 2006 as a skipper initially on Lake Manapouri and Lake Te Anau and in the last decade in Doubtful Sound Patea as a <i>Patea Explorer</i> day cruise skipper. Hence Mark has extensive knowledge of the local area and sea conditions.	
5	Cowley	Graham Edward	No	Graham has at least 20 years' experience working around the marine mammal species found around Rakiura and Foveaux Strait such as NZ fur seals, NZ sea lions, bottlenose dolphins and transitory whale species.	Graham has worked for the company since 2004 when the company bought into the Stewart Island ferry business. Consequently, Graham has extensive knowledge of Rakiura and Foveaux Strait area and sea conditions.	
6	Dawson	Timothy Stuart	No	Tim has at least 20 years' experience working around the marine mammal species found around Rakiura and Foveaux Strait such as NZ fur seals, NZ sea lions, bottlenose dolphins and transitory whale species.	Tim has worked for the company since 2004 when the company bought into the Stewart Island ferry business. Consequently, Tim has extensive knowledge of Rakiura and Foveaux Strait area and sea conditions.	
7	Gibb	Dean Robert	No	Dean has at least 22 years, experience working around marine mammal species found around the Fiordland, Rakiura and Foveaux Strait coastal marine areas such as NZ fur seals, NZ sea lions, bottlenose dolphins and transitory whale species.	Dean has worked for Real Journeys since 2003 initially as a day cruise skipper in Milford Sound Piopiotahi. For the last 17 years Dean has worked mainly as an overnight cruise skipper in Milford Sound Piopiotahi. Dean has also worked as a Doubtful Sound Patea overnight cruise skipper; Discovery Expedition mate; Stewart Island Ferry skipper including day cruise excursion skipper. Therefore, Dean has an extensive knowledge of the area from Milford Sound Piopiotahi right down south to Port Pegasus.	✓
8	Hardwick	Christopher James	No	Chris significant, experience working around marine mammal species found around the Fiordland, Rakiura and Foveaux Strait coastal marine areas such as NZ fur seals, NZ sea lions, bottlenose dolphins and transitory whale species.	Chris worked for Real Journeys from 2006 until 2020 initially as a day cruise skipper in Milford Sound Piopiotahi, then more latterly as Stewart Island Ferry skipper including day cruise excursion skipper. Chris was laid off in 2020 due to the fallout from COVID-19 but has recommenced working for Real Journeys in 2024.	
9	Hartshorne	Keaghan	No	Keaghan has worked for Real Journeys for three years and	Keaghan has worked for Real Journeys for three years and has	

	Surnames	Given names (required in full)	Has this person had any convictions or prosecutions for offences against the Act or any other Act involving the mistreatment of animals?	Relevant Experience with Marine Mammals:	Relevant knowledge of the local area and sea conditions:	Attended SMART course
				has limited experience of working around the marine mammals.	limited experience of Fiordland coastal marine area and sea conditions.	
10	Hishon	Christopher Michael	No	For over a decade Chris has worked as a Discovery Expedition (<i>Milford Wanderer</i>) skipper. Therefore, Chris has extensive knowledge working around marine mammal species found around the Fiordland, Rakiura and Foveaux Strait coastal marine areas such as NZ fur seals, NZ sea lions, bottlenose dolphins and transitory whale species.	Chris has worked for Real Journeys since 1992 Accordingly, Chris has extensive knowledge of the Fiordland and Rakiura coastal area and sea conditions.	
11	Hishon	Travis Christopher	No	Working as Discovery Expedition (<i>Milford Wanderer</i>) mate since 2021 and <i>Milford Wanderer</i> skipper in Doubtful Sound for 24-25 summer Travis has a good knowledge of working around mainly NZ fur seals and bottlenose dolphins in the Fiordland coastal marine area.	Travis has worked as Discovery Expedition (<i>Milford Wanderer</i>) mate since 2021, and prior to this Travis was vessel crew in Milford Sound Piopiotahi. however Travis has been brought up in Fiordland therefore, Travis has good knowledge of the local area and sea conditions.	✓
12	Johnson	Deon Alistair	No	Deon has at least 17 years, experience working around marine mammal species found around the Fiordland, Rakiura and Foveaux Strait coastal marine areas such as NZ fur seals, NZ sea lions, bottlenose dolphins and transitory whale species.	Deon commenced working for Real Journeys in 2008 as Stewart Island ferry crew, then skipper transferring to work in Milford Sound Piopiotahi as a day cruise skipper and more latterly as an overnight cruise skipper. Deon has also worked as a Doubtful Sound Patea overnight and day cruise skipper; Discovery Expedition mate; continues to work intermittently as a Stewart Island Ferry skipper including day cruise excursion skipper. Therefore, Deon has an extensive knowledge of the area from Milford Sound Piopiotahi right down south to Paterson Inlet.	✓
13	Johnstone	Ian David	No	Ian has about 5 years' experience working as a skipper in Doubtful Sound Patea working around the marine mammals (mainly NZ fur seals, and Bottlenose Dolphins).	Ian commenced working for Real Journeys in 2007 as a skipper initially on Lake Manapouri and Lake Te Anau and in the last five years in Doubtful Sound Patea as a <i>Patea Explorer</i> day cruise skipper. Hence Ian has extensive knowledge of the local area and sea conditions.	
14	Kepa	Alicia	No	Alicia has worked for Real Journeys for three years and has limited experience of working around the marine mammals.	Alicia has worked for Real Journeys for three years and has limited experience of Fiordland coastal marine area and sea conditions.	
15	Little	Ryan James	No	Ryan has good experience working around marine mammals found in the Foveaux	Ryan commenced working for Real Journeys as a Lake Whakatipu skipper. However, over the last	

	Surnames	Given names (required in full)	Has this person had any convictions or prosecutions for offences against the Act or any other Act involving the mistreatment of animals?	Relevant Experience with Marine Mammals:	Relevant knowledge of the local area and sea conditions:	Attended SMART course
				Strait and Rakiura coastal marine area (mainly NZ fur seals, NZ Sea Lions and Bottlenose Dolphins and transitory whale species).	decade Ryan has worked mainly has a Rakiura skipper (Stewart Island Ferries, and Day cruises). Therefore, Ryan has good knowledge of Foveaux Strait and Rakiura coastal marine area and sea conditions.	
16	Loader	Aaron David	No	Aaron has good experience of working around mainly NZ Fur seals, Bottlenosed Dolphins in Milford Sound Piopiotahi.	Aaron commenced work for Real Journeys in 2011 as crew on the <i>Milford Mariner</i> , then qualified as a skipper and worked as a skipper in Milford Sound Piopiotahi for the last 10 years. Hence Aaron has good knowledge of Milford Sound Piopiotahi coastal marine area and sea conditions.	
17	Lundman	Leif Mikael	No	Mike has valuable experience of working around marine mammal species found around the Fiordland, and Rakiura coastal marine areas such as NZ fur seals, NZ sea lions, bottlenose dolphins and transitory whale species.	Mike commenced work for Real Journeys in 2010 as crew on the <i>Fiordland Navigator</i> , then qualified as a skipper and worked as a skipper on Lake Manapouri, then as mate on the <i>Milford Wanderer</i> (Discovery Expeditions). Mike left the company but returned two years ago to work as a Milford Sound Piopiotahi skipper. Thus, Mike has a good knowledge Fiordland coastal marine area and sea conditions.	✓
18	Mariu	Josie Hannah McKenzie	No	Josie has worked for Real Journeys for five years as a skipper and has limited experience of working around the marine mammals.	Josie has worked for Real Journeys for five years as a skipper and has decent experience of Fiordland coastal marine area and sea conditions.	
19	Marshall	Brent William	No	Brent has useful experience of working around marine mammal species found around the Fiordland, (especially Milford Sound Piopiotahi coastal marine areas such as NZ fur seals, NZ sea lions, bottlenose dolphins and transitory whale species).	Brent commenced working for Real Journeys in 2014 as Fiordland's chief launch master leading many of the vessel transfers to and from Bluff maintenance facilities. Yet in the last 12 months Brent has transitioned to being a <i>Milford Mariner</i> skipper. Thus, Brent has an extensive knowledge Fiordland coastal marine area and sea conditions.	✓
20	Marshall	Nicolas Richard Cameron	No	Nick has good experience working around marine mammals found in the Foveaux Strait and Rakiura coastal marine area (mainly NZ fur seals, NZ Sea Lions and Bottlenose Dolphins and transitory whale species).	Nick commenced work for Real Journeys as crew on the <i>Milford Mariner</i> , then qualified as a skipper in 2018 and now works as a Stewart Island / Rakiura skipper therefore Nick has good knowledge of the Foveaux Strait and Rakiura area and sea conditions.	
21	McGimpsey	Phillip Douglas	No	Phil has good experience working around marine mammals found in the Foveaux Strait and Rakiura coastal marine area (mainly NZ fur	Phil commenced work for Real Journeys in 2019 as Stewart Island Ferry crew, but now works as a Stewart Island / Rakiura skipper therefore Phil has good knowledge	

	Surnames	Given names (required in full)	Has this person had any convictions or prosecutions for offences against the Act or any other Act involving the mistreatment of animals?	Relevant Experience with Marine Mammals:	Relevant knowledge of the local area and sea conditions:	Attended SMART course
				seals, NZ Sea Lions and Bottlenose Dolphins and transitory whale species).	of the Foveaux Strait and Rakiura area and sea conditions.	
22	Murdoch	Andrew Joseph	No	Andrew has about 10 years' experience working as a skipper in Doubtful Sound Patea working around the marine mammals found in the fiord (mainly NZ fur seals, and Bottlenose Dolphins).	Before working for Real Journeys Andrew worked as a Milford Sound / Piopiotahi skipper for over a decade. Andrew commenced working for Real Journeys in 2006 as a skipper initially on Lake Manapouri and Lake Te Anau and in the last ten plus years in Doubtful Sound Patea as a <i>Patea Explorer</i> and <i>Fiordland Navigator</i> Day-cruise skipper. Hence Andrew has extensive knowledge of the Fiordland's local area and sea conditions.	✓
23	Pascoe	Kate Anne	No	Kate has worked for Real Journeys as a skipper since 2020 and has decent experience of working around the marine mammals.	Kate has worked for Real Journeys as a skipper since 2020 and has decent experience of Fiordland coastal marine area and sea conditions.	✓
24	Peters	Gilbert	No	Gil has worked for Real Journeys for two years and has limited experience of working around the marine mammals.	Gil has worked for Real Journeys for two years and has limited experience of Fiordland coastal marine area and sea conditions however Gil is an experienced skipper.	
25	Popham	Logan	No	Logan has worked for Real Journeys for three years and has limited experience of working around the marine mammals.	Logan has worked for Real Journeys for three years and has limited experience of Fiordland coastal marine area and sea conditions.	
26	O'Connor	Oisin	No	Oisin has worked for Real Journeys as a skipper for four years but has good experience of working around the marine mammals.	Oisin has worked for Real Journeys as a skipper for four years however prior to working for Real Journeys Oisin worked for Southern Discoveries in Milford Sound Piopiotahi. Hence Oisin has good experience of Fiordland coastal marine area and sea conditions.	✓
27	Ramsay	Ruby	No	Ruby has worked for Real Journeys for four years and has limited experience of working around the marine mammals.	Ruby has worked for Real Journeys for four years and has limited experience of Fiordland coastal marine area and sea conditions.	
28	Reid	Blake John	No	Blake has valuable experience working as a skipper in Doubtful Sound Patea working around the marine mammals found in the fiord (mainly NZ fur seals, and Bottlenose Dolphins).	Prior to working for Real Journeys Blake was a kayak guide in Milford Sound Piopiotahi before qualifying as a skipper. Blake commenced working for Real Journeys as a skipper in 2012 working as a day cruise skipper in Milford Sound Piopiotahi. After a period working as crew on a Cray Fishing Boat Blake recommenced working for Real Journeys and is currently a <i>Fiordland Navigator</i> skipper in	✓

	Surnames	Given names (required in full)	Has this person had any convictions or prosecutions for offences against the Act or any other Act involving the mistreatment of animals?	Relevant Experience with Marine Mammals:	Relevant knowledge of the local area and sea conditions:	Attended SMART course
					Doubtful Sound Patea. Hence Blake has extensive knowledge of the Fiordland's local area and sea conditions.	
29	Rutherford	Glen Peter	No	Glen has worked as Milford Sound Piopiotahi, Doubtful Sound Patea and Discovery Expedition skipper. Therefore Glen has extensive experience working around marine mammals found in the Fiordland, Foveaux Strait and Rakiura coastal marine areas (mainly NZ fur seals, NZ Sea Lions and Bottlenose Dolphins and transitory whale species).	Glen has worked for Real Journeys since 1996. Accordingly, Glen has extensive knowledge of the Fiordland coastal area and sea conditions.	✓
30	Striednig	Simone	No	Simone has worked for Real Journeys as a skipper for three years and has limited experience of working around the marine mammals.	Simone has worked for Real Journeys as a skipper for three years and has limited experience of Fiordland coastal marine area and sea conditions.	
31	Stephen	Dayle Graeme	No	Dayle has good experience of working around mainly NZ Fur seals, Bottlenosed Dolphins in Milford Sound Piopiotahi.	Dayle has worked as a Real Journeys Milford Sound Piopiotahi day cruise skipper since 2016. Hence Dayle has good knowledge of Milford Sound Piopiotahi coastal marine area and sea conditions.	✓
32	Thompson	Dean Ivan	No	Dean has good experience of working around mainly NZ Fur seals, Bottlenosed Dolphins in Milford Sound Piopiotahi.	Dean has worked as a Real Journeys Milford Sound Piopiotahi day cruise skipper on and off since 2006. Also crewing many of the vessel transfers to and from Bluff maintenance facilities. Hence Dean has good knowledge of Milford Sound Piopiotahi coastal marine area and sea conditions.	
33	Thomas	Eve Louise	No	Eve has valuable experience working as a skipper in Doubtful Sound Patea working around the marine mammals found in the fiord (mainly NZ fur seals, and Bottlenose Dolphins).	Prior to working for Real Journeys Eve was a kayak guide in Doubtful Sound / Patea and Milford Sound Piopiotahi. When Eve commenced work for Real Journeys, she was a coach driver and in more recent years has qualified as a skipper mainly working on Lakes Manapouri and Te Anau from 2014 along with Doubtful Sound Patea in more recent years. Hence Eve has good knowledge of Fiordland coastal marine area and sea conditions.	✓
34	Wilson	Kelvin John	No	Kelvin has valuable experience working as a skipper in Doubtful Sound Patea working around the marine mammals found in the fiord (mainly NZ fur seals, and Bottlenose Dolphins).	Kelvin commenced work for Real Journeys as crew on the <i>Fiordland Navigator</i> , then worked as a skipper on Lakes Manapouri and Te Anau from 2018. More recently Kelvin also works as Doubtful Sound Patea day cruise skipper. Thus, Kelvin has a good knowledge Doubtful Sound /	✓

	Surnames	Given names (required in full)	Has this person had any convictions or prosecutions for offences against the Act or any other Act involving the mistreatment of animals?	Relevant Experience with Marine Mammals:	Relevant knowledge of the local area and sea conditions:	Attended SMART course
					Patea coastal marine area and sea condition.	

O. Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992

Tick the following boxes to confirm you will operate in accordance with each of the following behaviours as required under Part 3 of the Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992.

Tick

Marine mammals will not be disturbed or harassed



Best endeavours will be used to operate the vessel in a way that the normal movement or behaviour of any marine mammal is not disrupted



Contact with any marine mammal shall be abandoned at any stage if it becomes or shows signs of becoming disturbed or alarmed



Marine mammals are not to be separated from a group of marine mammals, or caused to scatter



Rubbish or food is not to be thrown near or around any marine mammal



No person shall make any loud or disturbing noises around any whale, dolphins or seals



No sudden or repeated changes in the speed or direction of the vessel shall be made except in the case of an emergency



Where the vessel stops to enable the passengers to watch any marine mammal, the engines are to be either placed in neutral (*preferred*) or be switched off within a minute of the vessel stopping



A person or vessel shall not cut off the path of a marine mammal or prevent a marine mammal from leaving the vicinity of the vessel



The skipper of a vessel less than 300 metres from any marine mammal shall use his or her best endeavours to move the vessel at a constant slow speed no faster than the slowest marine mammal in the vicinity, or at idle or "no wake" speed



When departing from the vicinity of any marine mammal, the vessel shall proceed slowly at idle or "no wake" speed until the vessel is at least 300 metres from the nearest marine mammal



The vessel is not to approach within 300 metres of any whale, pod of dolphins or herd of seals for the purpose of enabling passengers to view, if the number of vessels or aircraft, already positioned to enable passengers to watch is three or more



Where two or more vessels or aircraft approach an unaccompanied whale, dolphin or seal, the skipper concerned shall co-ordinate their approach and manoeuvres



Whale specific behaviours

Tick

Tick that you understand and will operate in accordance with each of the following species-specific behaviours as required under Part 3 of the Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992.	
The vessel is not to approach within 50 metres of a whale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If a whale approaches the vessel, the skipper of the vessel shall, wherever practicable: (i) manoeuvre the vessel so as to keep out of the path of the whale; and (ii) maintain a minimum distance of 50 metres from the whale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The vessel is not to approach within 200 metres of any female baleen or sperm whale that is accompanied by a calf or calves	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The vessel shall approach a whale from a direction that is parallel and slightly to the rear	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Dolphin specific behaviours Tick that you understand and will operate in accordance with each of the following species-specific behaviours as required under Part 3 of the Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992.	Tick
The vessel may exceed idle or “no wake” speed in order to outdistance the dolphins but must increase speed gradually, and shall not exceed 10 knots within 300 metres of any dolphin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The vessel is not to proceed through a pod of dolphins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The vessel shall approach a dolphin or pod of dolphins from a direction that is parallel and slightly to the rear	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Swimming specific behaviours Tick that you understand and will operate in accordance with each of the following species-specific behaviours as required under Part 3 of the Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992.	Tick
Swimmers will not be in the water with juvenile dolphins or a pod that includes juvenile dolphins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
An airhorn may be used to call swimmers back to the boat or to the shore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

P. Operational best practice based on recommended DOC guidelines

Tick that you understand and will comply with the following conditions relating to seals and sea lions’ specific behaviours	Tick
Not applicable as not applying to view seals and sea lions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
When seals and sea lions are hauled out on shore or rocks, the vessel will remain 20m or more from water’s edge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
When seals and sea lions are hauled out on shore or rocks, swimmers will remain 5m or more from water’s edge.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tick that you understand and will comply with the following conditions relating to location specific best practice. <i>You will have been given information on best practice recommendations when you contacted permissionschristchurch@doc.govt.nz prior to making your application. If any location specific best practices apply to your area of operation, attach the relevant schedule.</i>	Tick

Not applicable as there is no location specific best practice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Location specific best practices for my area of operation are attached and recorded in section 'Q Attachments'	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
All proposed operations will be undertaken in accordance with the best practice guidelines for the area of operation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Tick that you understand and will comply with the following conditions relating to Manually propelled vessels e.g. kayaks and paddle boards practices.	Tick
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Not applicable as not operating a manually propelled vessel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Up to seven kayaks (or other manually propelled watercraft) are to be grouped closely together* for the purpose of viewing marine mammals <i>*Manually propelled watercraft are to be within two paddle lengths of each other to form 'one distinct vessel'. No vessel (including a group of seven manually propelled vessels) shall approach closer than 300m to a marine mammal if there are already three vessels (including a group of seven manually propelled vessels) or aircraft, or both, present.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kayaks (or other manually propelled watercraft) are not to be banged, or paddles slapped against the water in the presence or marine mammals.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No person shall touch a marine mammal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No person is to chase a marine mammal, instead let the mammal approach the manually propelled watercraft	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Where practical the operator's guide is to remain between the clients and any seals or sea lions on shore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

Real Journeys launch masters' comply Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992 and Doubtful Sound Patea Marine Mammal (and other wildlife) Code of Management, and Milford Sound Piopiotahi Marine Mammal (and other wildlife) Code of Practice.

How the vessel contact with dolphins and whales is initiated depends on the location. In Doubtful Sound Real Journeys skippers abide by the Doubtful Sound Patea Marine Mammal (and other wildlife) Code of Management; which requires encounters with Bottlenose Dolphins are not to be initiated by our vessels or kayakers plus vessel activity in the Dolphin Protection Zones are restricted.

Encounters with bottlenose dolphins in fords will not be sought, with the exception of Milford Sound

A maximum of three approaches per vessel per marine mammal or group of marine mammals will be undertaken

If any marine mammal(s) chooses to leave the stationary or moving vessel, that vessel shall not attempt to re-establish contact with the marine mammal(s)

No touching or feeding of marine mammals

All rubbish disposed of on board

All practical steps are taken to avoid adverse noise effects

The vessel Launch Masters are not obliged to interact with marine mammals to deliver on passenger expectations; when such interactions could adversely impact on the species.

Q. Attachments

Attachments should *only* be used if there is:

- A specific question that requires an attachment e.g. map of the proposed base and area of operations
- Not enough space on the form to finish your answer
- Additional information that supports your answer
- An additional request you wish to make of DOC regarding the application.

Label each document clearly and complete the table below.

Section of the application form the attachment relates to	Document title	Document format	Description of attachment
E	Milford Sound Piopiotahi Insider Guide	PDF	Interpretation info for passengers – English version
E	Doubtful Sound Patea Insider Guide	PDF	Interpretation info for passengers – English version
K	Noise Report Acoustic Engineering Services	PDF	Vessel noise measurements

R. Checklist

Application checklist	Tick which apply
I have completed all sections of this form relevant to my application and understand that the form will be returned to me if it is incomplete.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I certify that the information provided in this application form and any attached additional forms and information is, to the best of my knowledge, true and correct.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I have supplied a map with the departure location, boundaries of operation, expected tour routes of operation specific locations where viewing of marine mammals are likely, and if applicable specific location where swimming with marine mammals are likely as required in and section 'Q Attachments'.	<input type="checkbox"/>
I have appropriately recorded all attachments in section 'Q Attachments'.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I understand that in accordance with Regulation 10(2) of the Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992, this application shall form part of any permit issued and shall be complied with accordingly.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

S. Terms and conditions for a credit account with the Department of Conservation

Have you held an account with the Department of Conservation before?	Tick
No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If "yes", under what name:	Real Journeys Limited

In ticking this checklist and placing your name below you are acknowledging that you have read and agreed to these terms and conditions for an account with the Department of Conservation

Terms and Conditions		Tick
I/We agree that the Department of Conservation can provide my/our details to the Department's credit checking agency to enable it to conduct a full credit check.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I/We agree that any change which affects the trading address, legal entity, structure of management or control of the applicant's company (as detailed in this application) will be notified in writing to the Department of Conservation within 7 days of that change becoming effective.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I/We agree to notify the Department of Conservation of any disputed charges within 14 days of the date of the invoice.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I/We agree to fully pay the Department of Conservation for any invoice received on or before the due date.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I/We agree to pay all costs incurred (including interest, legal costs and debt recovery fees) to recover any money owing on this account.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I/We agree that the credit account provided by the Department of Conservation may be withdrawn by the Department of Conservation, if any terms and conditions (as above) of the credit account are not met.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I/We agree that the Department of Conservation can provide my details to the Department's debt collection agency in the event of non-payment of payable fees.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Applicant Name/s (of authorised person/s)		Date 27 June 2025

Email your completed application, and any attachments (e.g. recorded in section 'Q Attachments') to: permissions@doc.govt.nz

For Department of Conservation use			
Credit check completed			
Comments :			
Signed:		Name	
Approved (Tier 4 manager or above)		Name	

Detail of number of Real Journeys vessel trips for 119792-MAR

Vessel	Cruise duration	# trips per day Summer	# trips per day Winter	# trips / Year	Maximum Vessels Operating at one time	Individual viewing or contact time in minutes	Cumulative viewing or contact time per trip in minutes	Comments
Milford Sound Piopiotahi Day Cruises								
Milford Monarch	1 hour 40 minutes	3x	1 vessel operating 2 trips per day (May – Oct)	730	Six (6)	2x 5 minutes	Seals 30 minutes; Bottlenose Dolphins 15 minutes; and other cetacean species (except Humpback, Southern Right Whales & Orca) 30 minutes	These vessels substitute for each other to cover vessel maintenance & survey
Milford Sovereign	1 hour 40 minutes	3x		730				These vessels substitute for each other to cover vessel maintenance & survey
Milford Haven	2 hours	3x	1 vessel operating 2 trips per day (occasionally 3 trips per day) (May – Oct)	730				These vessels substitute for each other to cover vessel maintenance & survey
Milford Mariner	2-2½ hours	2x		548				Currently operating in Doubtful Sound Patea in the Summer but may return to cruise in Milford Sound Piopiotahi during the next 5 years
Milford Wanderer	2-2½ hours	2x (Nov-April)		346				
Sinbad	2-2½ hours	2x (Oct- April)	Occasionally 1 trip per day in May & Sept	480				
Milford Sound Piopiotahi Overnight Cruises								
Milford Mariner	18 hours	1x (Sept – May)	Intermittently 1 trip per day	300	Two (2)	15 minutes		
Milford Wanderer	18 hours	1x (Nov-April)		182				Currently operating in Doubtful Sound Patea in the Summer months therefore these trips are not currently being undertaken but may return to cruise in Milford Sound Piopiotahi during the next 5 years
Doubtful Sound Patea Day Cruises								
Patea Explorer - Wilderness Cruise	2-2½ hours	Usually, 2x but up to 3x (approx. 26 Dec – 15 Jan)	1 vessel operating 1 trip per day	660	Three (3)	5-10minutes	Seals 30 minutes; Bottlenose Dolphins 15 minutes; Humpback, Southern Right Whales & Orca 15minutes; and Other cetacean species 30minutes	
Fiordland Navigator - Wilderness cruise	2-4 hours							Fiordland Navigator is substituted for the Patea Explorer when on survey for 6-8 weeks per year, but is much slower so either undertakes an inner Fiord Cruise or a much longer Wilderness cruise
Patea Explorer – Inner Fiord Cruise	2 hours	School Cruises on demand (usually approx. 1x or 2x per week during school terms)		40				
Fiordland Navigator – Inner Fiord Cruise	2 hours	1x per day approx. 26 Dec – 15 March		80				

Vessel	Cruise duration	# trips per day Summer	# trips per day Winter	# trips / Year	Maximum Vessels Operating at one time	Individual viewing or contact time in minutes	Cumulative viewing or contact time per trip in minutes	Comments
Milford Wanderer -Inner Fiord Cruise	2 hours	On occasion 1 per day		20				
Doubtful Sound Patea Overnight Cruises								
Fiordland Navigator	19½ hours (1 night)	1x (Sept – April)	Intermittently 1 trip per day	243	Two (2)	5-15 minutes		
Fiordland Navigator	44 hours (2 night)	3x per week May & August		30				
Milford Wanderer	19 hours (1 night)	1x Nov-March		152				
Milford Wanderer	43 hours (2 night)	3x per week Oct & April		30				These trips are not undertaken if Milford Wanderer is undertaking Discovery Expeditions during these months
Discovery Expeditions								
Milford Wanderer	Doubtful Sound Patea - Tamatea Dusky Sound 4-5-day trip		6-4 trips in May, Sept, Oct (but sometimes incl April & November)	Up to 6	One (1)	5-15 minutes	Seals 30 minutes; Bottlenose Dolphins 15 minutes; Humpback, Southern Right Whales & Orca 15 minutes; and other cetacean species 30 minutes	
	Doubtful Sound Patea – Rakituma Preservation Inlet – 7-day trip		24 trips in May, Sept, Oct (but sometimes incl April & November)	24				
	Port William Pānui-o-Hau – Port Pegasus Pikihatiti - 4–6-day trip		5 trips in June – August	5		5-15 minutes	Seals 30 minutes; NZ Sea Lions 30 minutes; Bottlenose Dolphins 30 minutes; Hectors Dolphins 30minutes; Humpback, Southern Right Whales & Orca 15minutes; and other cetacean species 15 minutes	
Stewart Island Ferries								
Southern Express	1 hour one-way	3x (Dec – March)	2x (April – Nov)	854	Two (2)	5 -10minutes	Seals 15 minutes; NZ Sea Lions 15 minutes; Bottlenose Dolphins 15 minutes; Hectors Dolphins 15 minutes; Humpback, Southern Right Whales & Orca 15 minutes; and other cetacean species 15 minutes	
Foveaux Express	1 hour one-way	3x (Dec – March)	2x (April -Nov)	854				
Rakiura Day Trips								
Rakiura Explorer – TBC Ulva Island Explorer	1½ hours return (Halfmoon Bay – Ulva Is)	1x (but can operate 2 for Cruise ships Oct-March)	1x	420	Three (3)	5-10 minutes	Seals 15 minutes; NZ Sea Lions 15 minutes; Bottlenose Dolphins 15 minutes; Hectors Dolphins	The proposed new wharf for Ulva Island is to have a 15-tonne limit (for the size of vessel) therefore

Vessel	Cruise duration	# trips per day Summer	# trips per day Winter	# trips / Year	Maximum Vessels Operating at one time	Individual viewing or contact time in minutes	Cumulative viewing or contact time per trip in minutes	Comments
							15 minutes; Humpback, Southern Right Whales & Orca 15minutes; and other cetacean species 15 minutes	an alternative may be introduced.
<i>Southern Express</i> - Wild Kiwi Experience	2 hours return (Halfmoon Bay – Glory Cove)	1x Oct - April	Occasional one-off trip	220				
Vessel – TBC Stewart Island Wilderness Walk	1-1½ hours return (Halfmoon Bay – Lowrys Beach)	1x Oct – April (likely to increase to 2x in the next 5 years)	Occasional one-off trip	220				We need a shallower draft vessel to operate out of the Lowrys Beach Wharf at all tides hence an alternative vessel may be introduced.

