



NOTICE TO OPERATORS AND MASTERS OF CRUISE VESSELS AND YACHTS

You have a role in protecting New Zealand's unique marine environment – don't spread damaging marine pests in biofouling.

All vessel owners are encouraged to maintain hulls to minimise biofouling, particularly when entering areas of high marine values such as Fiordland and the Sub-Antarctic and Kermadec Islands.

All vessel operators planning to visit the Fiordland marine area should keep Fiordland as beautiful below water as it is above.

Please take some simple precautions to ensure your vessel hulls and equipment are free of biofouling organisms, including:

1. Keeping your vessel's hull and marine equipment clean and free of fouling.
2. Making sure you have a good, thorough and functioning antifoul coating.
3. Cleaning and air-drying any marine equipment and boats to be used in Fiordland waters e.g. ropes, pots, fishing gear, kayaks and tenders.

For further information on the Fiordland programme and marine biosecurity, visit: <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/fiordland>



OVERSEAS VESSELS SHOULD AVOID BRINGING HARMFUL EXOTIC MARINE SPECIES INTO NEW ZEALAND

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) requests that all vessels arriving in New Zealand have a hull that has minimal biofouling on the open hull surface and in niche areas. MPI advises that it is now monitoring the hull management of visiting vessels through questions asked on the Advance Notice of Arrival documentation.

Mandatory requirements for minimal levels of biofouling on arrival (in the form of a Border Standard for Biofouling) will be enforced in four years time following a lead-in period when compliance with this new rule is encouraged but voluntary. The new requirements will be released soon and will be available here: www.biosecurity.govt.nz/enter/ships.

A vessel's biofouling management system may be taken into account in granting approval to ply the coast and in particular to visit places that have high ecological value. These places are often visited by cruise vessels and yachts or recreational vessels when they visit New Zealand.

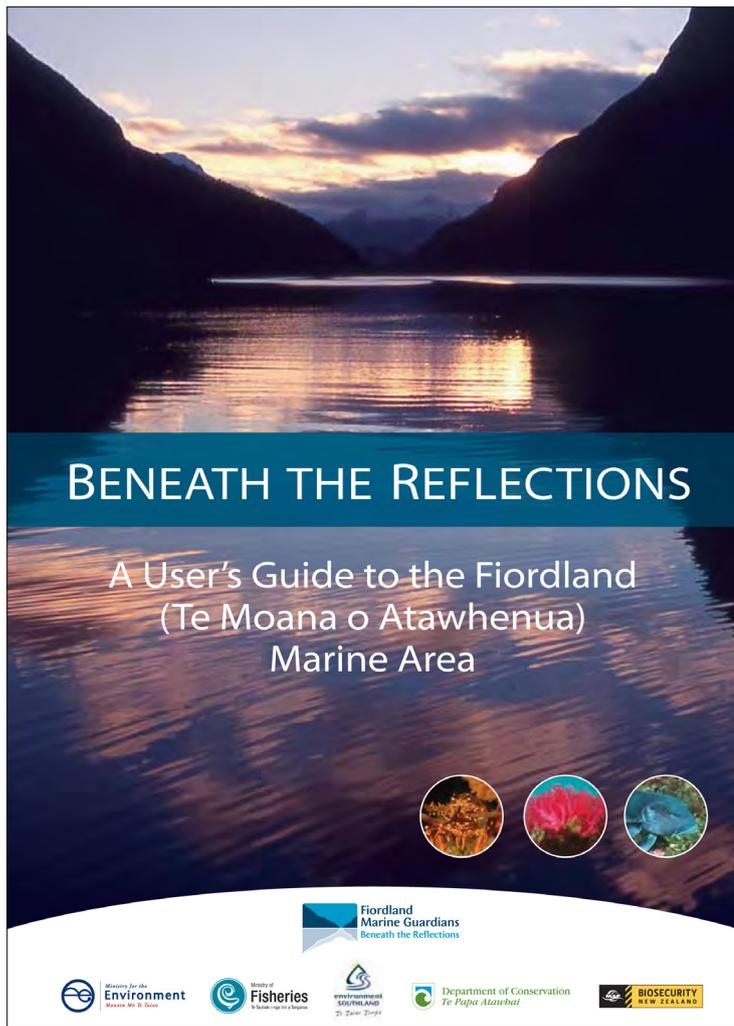
Fiordland's marine environment is an international treasure with unique but fragile marine ecosystems. It is vital this area is protected from the threat posed by introduced marine life. When marine species establish outside of their native locations, some can cause irreversible damage in the new area.

A concerted effort by government agencies and stakeholders is underway to clear the marine pest seaweed *Undaria* from a remote area of Fiordland. For this reason alone, it is vital you ensure your vessels' hull and niche areas are "clean" and free of marine pests prior to entering these pristine waters.

www.mpi.govt.nz

November 2012

HAVE YOU READ THE FIORDLAND USER GUIDE?



The fully waterproof guide is a “one-stop shop” publication containing all of the main marine regulations plus practical and interesting information about the history, the environment and the establishment of the Fiordland Marine Area to help you get the most out of your visit.

Refer to <http://www.fmg.org.nz/node/48> to download or order a copy.

VISITING THE SUB-ANTARCTIC OR KERMADEC ISLANDS? – OVERSEAS OR DOMESTIC VESSELS

You should be aware that the Department of Conservation is enforcing a new regional coastal plan for these areas. The plan's rules require vessels to undergo hull inspections in preparation for entry closer than 1000 metres to the islands. For full information on what is required prior to your visit please refer to www.doc.govt.nz/offshoreislandsrccp

PLAN AHEAD

Please help protect New Zealand's unique marine areas from damaging marine pests. Consider how you will take extra steps to manage biofouling before commencing a voyage to New Zealand or sailing into high value areas.

