

August 2010

Welcome to Anchor Island, Fiordland National Park

We hope you will have an enjoyable stay on the island. To ensure that you are well prepared for your trip, please read the following carefully and follow all instructions. [This is an instruction document and a source of information.](#)

The two quarantine forms are compulsory, as they are essential to protect the islands flora and fauna.

Anchor Island, location and description

Anchor is located in the western reaches of Dusky Sound, Southwest Fiordland. The island is 1130 ha and reaches a height of 417m. The canopy below 120m is dominated by kamahi, rimu, totara, miro, rata and beech. Above this altitude vegetation is dominated by scrubby rata, beech, yellow silver pine and pink pine.

Anchor is an important lifeboat for wildlife of both marine and terrestrial species. Marine species utilising the island include titi (sooty shearwater), tawaki (Fiordland crested penguin) and kekeno (NZ fur seal). Kakapo, tieke (saddleback) mohua (yellowhead), robin and rock wren have been introduced to Anchor. Stoats were eradicated from the island in 2001/02 and the last deer (hopefully) removed in 2007. Rodents and possums have never been present on the island. Anchor is an inshore island and hence is always threatened by the return of these mammals. Traps are in place around the island and other protocols have been established to limit the chance of re-establishment.

There is a good network of tracks around the island; these can become very wet and boggy. Good boots are required; rubber boots are better for keeping dry.

There are often climbs of 40-60 minutes as you move around the island. It is an **extremely physically demanding island** that is often wet, cold and windy.

Travel planning

Travel to Anchor will be a 30-40 minute helicopter flight from Te Anau, over the southern lakes, and into Fiordland.

Do not book transport to the island yourself.

You need to report to DOC Te Anau Area Office 1 1/2 hours prior to your flight departure time.

**For KAKAPO related trips, please contact kakapo staff at least 5 days prior to your flight, to confirm flight and quarantine arrangements, and notify any dietary requirements
(ph: 03 211 2400 – Jo Ledington, e-mail: jledington@doc.govt.nz).**

For **NON KAKAPO** related trips, please contact your trip leader at least 5 days prior to your flight, to confirm flight and quarantine arrangements, and notify any dietary requirements.

Servicing of the island is on a fortnightly or monthly basis. Adverse weather may delay transport to or from the island. Keep this in mind if booking return flights from Invercargill to your base and either book a flexible return flight or delay your return flight by two days.

Facilities

The hut is situated in the north of the island on the shore. It is a solid building with hot/cold water, shower, two staff rooms and a five bed bunkroom for sleeping, kitchen equipment, food, gas cooking, a diesel heater, hydro and solar power (to be used wisely). All food is provided on the island.

Volunteers/visitors are expected to have the following prerequisite skills/attributes:

- Bush skills - you may be walking alone in the bush.
- Sound judgment
- Physically able: Depending on your visits purpose, you may require moderate to high fitness, agile (for walking on steep bush tracks) and able to carry a moderately heavy pack (10-20kg) between 4 to 8 hours a day

All visitors/volunteers are expected to provide:

- Socks
- waterproof parka
- polyprop/thermals
- walking shorts
- t-shirts
- underwear
- warm jersey
- towel/soap/toothbrush etc*
- warm sleeping bag and liner
- pillow case
- single sheet (if you wish to cover mattress)
- book
- head torch and batteries
- another pair of footwear for around the hut
- trousers, polyprop good for around hut
- personal medication, and supplies spare contacts/glasses, contact fluid
- cell phone if you want, or calling card. Telecom 027 reception only.

Depending on your visits purpose, you may also need to provide:

- sturdy boots suitable for rugged tramping and wet tracks (staff prefer the use of lace up rubber boots as they are easier to disinfect).
- overtrousers

Tracks will be muddy and you will probably get wet feet.

* The island has a grey water system which is sensitive to lots of shampoos/soaps/detergents etc. We strongly urge you to bring plant-based soaps/shampoos, as these will help keep the grey water system functioning properly. Such products can be purchased from Eco Store - www.ecostore.co.nz Kakapo staff find these products fantastic and affordable.

The Kakapo Team will provide:

- gaiters for your use - we keep these on the island to minimise import of weed seeds
- large packs for transporting all of your gear from quarantine to the

island

- day packs for use whilst on the island
- food and accommodation on the island (charges will depend on trip purpose and will be outlined by the trip organiser if applicable)
- deep end learning!

The Quarantine Process

All visitors to the island pose a threat to the biodiversity values as they could (unwittingly) introduce disease or unwanted pests such as rodents or weed species. This occurs via dirty clothes and gear, and poorly packed bags. The island is rodent-free and has a minimal number of introduced weeds and invertebrates - we want it to stay that way.

The quarantine process has 3 steps:

- 1) before you leave home
- 2) at the quarantine store
- 3) upon arrival on the island

Before you leave home

Begin this 2-3 days in advance

- **Before** departure from home your clothes for the island need to be laundered, and all gear cleaned of dirt, insects, soil, seeds and plant material. Pay particular attention to boot soles and inners; pockets; and Velcro. Raincoats and overtrousers should be thoroughly sponged down. No dirty gear is to be taken to the island. Note that the requirement for laundering clothes may affect your choice of garments taken to the island, e.g. you may not want to take 'down jackets'.
- Make sure that you empty out your pack/suitcase/bag entirely before packing it - *vacuum it out* including any side pockets. The bottoms of packs are notorious for collecting seeds and insects, and this can transfer to your clean gear. Pack your bag after laundering clothes using a clean pack liner if possible. (you do not need to take a pack or day pack to the island, they will be supplied. The gear you bring will be transferred into a 'quarantine bag' at the quarantine store).
- Please pack raincoat/jacket, footwear, leggings and socks on top so they can be checked easily by staff.
- Once your gear is cleaned and checked, please keep it sealed in rodent and insect proof plastic bags or containers, and away from sources of contamination, e.g. birds, pets, seeds.
- **Complete Form B (attached), and bring it and Form A with you to quarantine.**
- Field trips or excursions, or staying with friends where you will be in close contact with captive or farmed birds enroute to Te Anau are not encouraged unless you have Trigene™ with you, and have facilities to launder your clothes on arrival in Te Anau before the day of departure to the island.
- If you are getting to Te Anau in your car, make arrangements for vehicle storage, and ensure the vehicle is stored **before** you meet DOC staff. There is not enough time during the quarantine process to deal with vehicle parking and storage; and once you have passed through quarantine, you will be taken to meet the aircraft in a DOC vehicle, so that quarantine is not compromised.

STOP, THINK – DO YOU OWN OR WORK WITH BIRDS?

Recently diseases have arrived in New Zealand that could devastate the kakapo population if they get on the islands. e.g. parrot pox and Psittacine Beak and Feather Disease (PBFD).

- 1) Do you work with wild, pet or captive birds?
- 2) Do you own pet birds?
- 3) Do you have any birds at home? e.g. chickens/aviary birds (not wild birds)
- 4) Have you had close contact with birds in the last 18 months? e.g. friend's pet birds, previous work with birds, behind the scenes visit to an aviary. If you are unsure - please clarify with Jo Ledington or other kakapo staff on 03 211 2400.
- 5) Has any of your equipment had close contact with birds in the last 18 months? Remember to consider items such as raincoats, hats, gaiters, boots, backpack, gloves, jackets, pocket knives, head torches, notebooks etc

If you have answered 'YES' to any of the above, you pose a higher risk of transporting disease. In this situation you need to ensure you have a hot shower and wash hair; and your clothes, boots and equipment need to be cleaned with *Trigene*TM ***after your last contact with birds, and before traveling to the island.*** Let kakapo staff know in advance that you have had contact with birds in the last 18 months (phone or email Jo Ledington on 03 211 2400, jledington@doc.govt.nz as soon as possible who will send you trigene). You also need to have your sleeping bag dry-cleaned before traveling to the island - you must bring the receipt with you as proof.

If you do not dry clean your bag you may be issued with a bag once on the island and yours will stay behind. If you have difficulty with these instructions, please contact Jo Ledington or other kakapo staff on 03 211 2400.

The Quarantine Store – Te Anau DOC Workshop, Caswell St, Te Anau.

At the Quarantine store

- At the store:
 - Your gear will be inspected
 - You will transfer all the contents of your pack into "quarantine bags".
 - Form B will be checked, and Form A talked through with you, and the declaration signed.
 - You will be transported to the aircraft hangar in a DOC vehicle
- Be prepared:
 - If you discover dirt/plant material on your gear at the hangar/Quarantine Store, please dispose of it in small containers in the quarantine area, or in rubbish bins provided, so it does not get picked up again in boot soles etc.
 - Transfer all your gear into a 70 litre "Quarantine bag" supplied at the Store. These bags have been designed specially for ease of cleaning, and transporting in the small aircraft. When your gear is transferred, your own pack will be stored at the quarantine store during your trip - please ensure your pack is labeled clearly with your name. There are other day packs on the island for your use.

On arrival on Anchor Island

1. All visitors will be briefed on hazards and risks, and hazard ID sheets provided and visitors are required to sign off on the Hazard Plan
2. All visitors to be briefed on reserve rules, hut rules, and activities that are not permitted
3. All visitors to be briefed on procedures and equipment

If you find any seeds, soil etc on your gear (you shouldn't but it may happen) please dispose of in the rubbish container (which is taken back to the mainland for dumping) or in the fireplace when the fire is on. Do not throw it away outside the hut.

General rules

Most people have no difficulty living within the guidelines below. Make sure you can – failure to do so will result in a self-funded flight off the island. If you have any questions while on the island please feel free to discuss with the ranger.

- Smoking - is only permitted on the hut decks, nowhere else on the island. Butts are to be disposed of in the designated areas (KR will advise).
- Recreation - The island is part of the Fiordland National Park, so you are able to explore it in your free time. Please make sure you fill out the intentions board, and check with the KR's before you leave. Some areas (such as the petrel colonies and seal areas) could be sensitive to disturbance. In addition, kakapo are nearly impossible to see, and could be anywhere, so it is **very** important that you stay on the tracks!
- Please be aware and respectful of the archaeological Maori and Pakeha sites on the island.
- Wildlife - have the right of way and should not be disturbed or handled. Maintain at least 5m from all wildlife - camera ownership is not an exemption.
- Security - be careful who you tell about the Kakapo program - detailed information could directly jeopardise Kakapo security. Do not speak to the media without first clearing it with the Programme Manager of the Kakapo Team, Southern Islands Area.
- Plants, rocks, feathers, dead things etc - please leave them where they are. Remember, you will be in a National Park, and the National Parks Act applies. [However, if you see a dead bird that you think might be a stoat predation, please note the location and inform the KR.] Feel free to bring beach rubbish back to the hut for disposal. Don't touch dead things - you may spread diseases to the kakapo.
- Living is communally based; everyone is expected to take their turn. Please tidy up after yourself.

Safety

The island is entered at your own risk, however we require you to comply with these safety rules.

- Helicopters - do not approach unless instructed by the pilot.
- Fire - contain or extinguish small fires if you can do so safely. Otherwise raise the alarm and assemble all people on the rocks in front of the hut. Familiarise yourself with the emergency procedures and the location and operation of fire extinguishers.
- Only KRs are to change the gas bottles.
- Wear steel capped gumboots when using slashers etc.
- Diesel heater - please follow lighting and cleaning instructions.
- Out of bounds - the chainsaw, boat, power tools, battery bank and battery charging facilities. The KR will look after these.
- Intentions - Write your intended route and estimated time of return on the board, and stick to it. A search will be instigated when you are 1½ hours overdue.
- Compulsory equipment you must carry with you at **all times** a raincoat, warm jumper (wool, fleece), warm hat, gloves and leggings. Also spare food eg muesli bars. A first aid kit will be issued.

House-keeping

- Due to the remoteness of the island, there is no cellphone reception. We do have a satellite internet connection which allows us to make “Skype” internet phone calls (you will need your own account and credit for skype to phone calls, skype to skype is free. During busy times e.g. breeding seasons this may be restricted to kakapo related calls due to its bandwidth requirement). People cannot call us from a regular phone.
- The bay in front of the hut is a safe and interesting place for snorkeling and fishing - bring your own gear (please note that during a breeding season space on the helicopters is very limited so you may unfortunately not be able to bring any gear - sorry!)
- The island, if we do say so ourselves, is very photogenic so bringing a camera is highly recommended.
- The hut does have a power supply so you will be able to charge the likes of a camera. There is also a stereo so bring your Ipod/MP3 player if you like.

Remember

- Take all completed forms and your dry cleaning receipt with you to the store.
- Be on time and have all your gear cleaned to the required standards
- If you have any questions ring the kakapo team or your trip leader early so they can help ensure you have a smooth and enjoyable visit.

Enjoy your time on the island - it is a very special place.



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Form A: Quarantine Self Audit Check Sheet

- Complete the relevant sections and have this form with you to hand to the Quarantine Officer.
- **One form to be completed by every person travelling to islands**

Departure Date: / /20		Departure Time: am/ pm	
Name:		Departure point:	
		Destination:	
Items being transported	Items have been: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrubbed clean of all soil, seeds and vegetation, • checked for the presence of rodents and invertebrates. • Treated with Trigene antiviral disinfectant if necessary as detailed on Form B 		Date Inspected: / /20
			Who inspected?
	Tick if in compliance	Inspected by island biosecurity person	Comments
Boots			
Other footwear			
Socks			
Clothing			
Raincoat			
Jacket/Swandri/Down Jacket			
Head torch			
Field equipment (boxed)			
Field equipment (unboxed)			
Sleeping bag (drycleaned if required, see box on page 4)			
Other items of extra risk			
SIGNED:		SIGNED:	
Person travelling		Staff member responsible for island biosecurity.	

FORM B: DISEASE QUARANTINE QUESTIONNAIRE

- Please fill out this questionnaire honestly – your answers won't stop you going to the island, they will just help you to protect kakapo from disease.

Section One	Yes	No
Do you work with wild, pet or captive birds?		
Do you own pet birds?		
Do you have any birds at home? eg. chickens/aviary birds (do not include wild birds)		
Have you had close contact with birds in the last 18 months? eg. friend's pet birds, previous work with birds, behind the scenes visit to an aviary		
Has any of your equipment had close contact with birds in the last 18 months? Remember to consider items such as raincoats, hats, boots, gloves, jackets, pocket knives, head torches, notebooks etc.		

- If you have answered YES to any of the above, complete Section Two.
- If you have answered "no" to ALL of the above please complete section three.

Section Two	Yes	No
Have you showered including washing your hair <u>since your last contact</u> with birds?		
Are your clothes anti-viral treated (eg with Trigene™), or new, and <u>never worn</u> in the presence of birds since being antiviral treated?		
Has all of your gear and equipment which may have been in contact with birds been washed or soaked in an anti-viral disinfectant such as Trigene™? Has your sleeping bag been drycleaned?		

DIDYMO QUESTIONNAIRE

Section Three	Yes	No
Have you been in contact with any waterways that may have contained Didymo recently?		
Is there a chance that any of your clothing and/or equipment may be contaminated with Didymo?		

- If you answered yes to either of the above questions, then we will need to ensure that any contaminated equipment has been adequately cleaned and dried.

VISITOR'S DECLARATION

- I declare that the above information is a true and accurate account of my association with wild, pet, or captive birds.
- I understand that visitors to the island can pose serious risk to bio-diversity because of the transport of diseases via micro-organisms, and pests via small seeds.

Signature of Volunteer/Visitor Date/...../.....

Name.....

FORM C: INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISINFECTION:

- To protect the kakapo from viral infections found on the mainland, please ensure you follow these instructions carefully. If unsure, contact the kakapo staff for further information (see box on page 1).
- Trigene™ will be mailed out to you if you require it. If you have not received trigene a week out from your trip please contact Jo at jledington@doc.govt.nz , (03 211 2400) or for non kakapo trips, contact your trip leader.
- All disinfectants work best where excess dirt has been washed off BEFORE applying the disinfectant.

How to Use: TRIGENE™ Antibacterial and Anti-viral Disinfectant

For clothing:

Add 50mL of Trigene™ per load of washing instead of laundry detergent. Use a normal wash cycle, no soaking is required.

If clothes are very dirty, put them through a normal wash first.

Then rewash as above.

Don't forget to treat your hats, jackets, gloves etc.

For boots:

Clean boots thoroughly using a brush and water to remove dirt, mud, seeds etc.

Pour diluted Trigene™ (10mls trigene to 1 Litre of water) over the outside of the boots and leave the soles to soak in the solution for 30 minutes. Rinse off with water.

For other items (eg head torch, field equipment):

Clean all surfaces thoroughly with damp cloth to remove dirt, mud, seeds etc.

Make up a 1% trigene solution (10mls trigene to 1 Litre of water). Wipe down all surfaces with the solution, leave to dry.

☺ Thanks for following these instructions and helping us keep the island fauna safe from disease!

Trigene™ - Ethical Agents Ltd, 54 Hobill Ave, Wiri, South Auckland – ph 0800 800 624