

Fiordland: A model for future integrated marine management?



Hall Arm, Doubtful Sound 2003 Dave Rundgren



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Te Papa Atawhai

Seachange 05
22 November 2005

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BACKGROUND

- § 1800 km of coast
- § 15 fiords
- § av length 21 km
- § Mountains 2000 m
- § Fiords 400 m
- § Up to 7 m of rain



BACKGROUND

Fiordland

- § Fiordland recognised as a globally unique
- § Over 450,000 visitors annually
- § Important commercial and recreational fisheries – notably blue cod and rock lobster



BACKGROUND

The Guardians and the Strategy

- § Locals concerned about declining catches in Fiordland and pressures from increasing use of the area prompted the formation of The Guardians
- § The Guardians established in 1995 – commercial and recreational fishers, charter boat and tourist operators, scientists, community representatives, environmentalists and tangata whenua (Ngai Tahu)
- § 1996 – 2000 - focus on information gathering from 'new and old codgers':
 - historical
 - scientific
 - uses and resources of the area



BACKGROUND

The Guardians and the Strategy cont.

- § 2000-2003 development of ideas
- § Guardians held many information and consultation meetings, debated ideas and negotiated and developed management suggestions
- § 'Gifts and gains'
- § Produced the Fiordland Marine Conservation Strategy (the Strategy)

*Beneath
the
Reflections*



BACKGROUND

The Guardians and the Strategy cont.

- § In September 2003 - Guardians presented the Strategy to Ministers of Environment & Fisheries
- § Government undertook to implement the Strategy by September 2005
- § November 2003 - Investigative group appointed
- § Mix of legislation used along side non-statutory measures



NEW MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Statutory

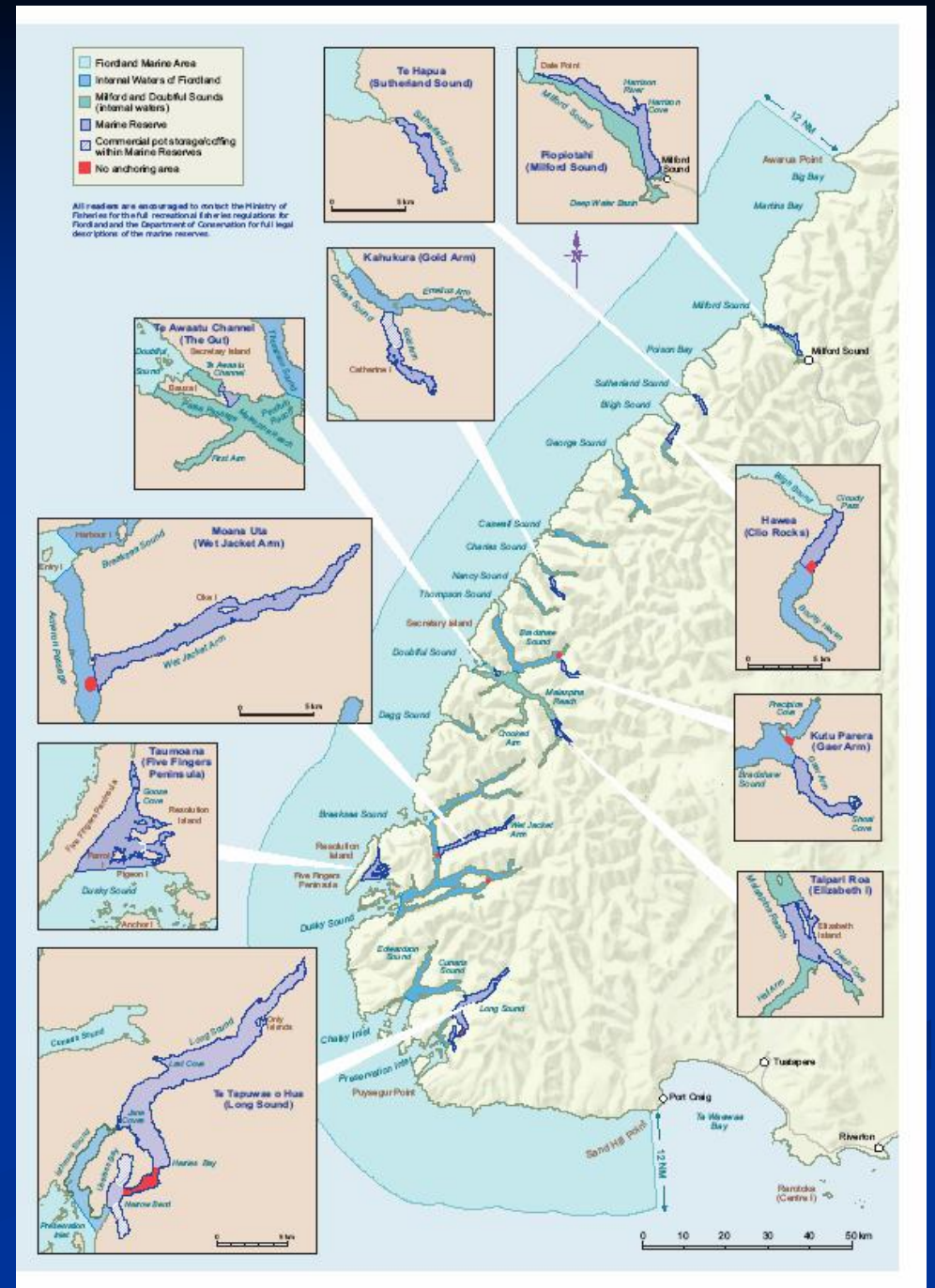
The Fiordland (Te Moana o Atawhenua) Marine Management Act 2005 (the Act) became law on 21 April 2005.

- § Recognises the local, national and international importance of Fiordland's marine environment
- § Creates the Fiordland Marine Area 928,000-hectares
- § Establishes the Fiordland Marine Guardians
- § Amends the Southland Regional Coastal Plan
- § 8 new marine reserves – 13% of inner fiords



Fiordland Marine Area

- § The Fiordland Marine Area - Awarua Point to Sand Hill Point
- § 12-Nmile Territorial Sea Limit
- § Approx. 928,000 ha



NEW MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Statutory

Regulations under the Fisheries Act 1996 include:

- § Internal waters - no commercial fishing (46,000 ha)
- § Reduced daily limits of some species
- § No accumulation of fin fish
- § Ban on set nets
- § Milford Sound and Doubtful Sound closed to fishing blue cod until 2007



NEW MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Non-Statutory

In addition, non-statutory measures include:

- § A marine resource monitoring plan
- § A compliance and enforcement plan
- § An information and education programme
- § A plan to address marine bio-invasion



SUCCESS

- § The full package of management measures delivered on time
- § Community support and buy in
- § Enhanced the sustainable management and protection of the area:
 - Marine reserves increased to 13%
 - Significant changes to fishing regulations
 - Increased provisions for biosecurity
- § Early days



RELEVANCE ELSEWHERE?

Can a Guardians type process or elements of it be successfully applied elsewhere in New Zealand?

- n Remote
- n Access limited
- n Low localised population



KEY INGREDIENTS FOR SUCCESS

- n Community-driven
- n A vision shared
- n Shared knowledge
- n Passionate and committed individuals
- n A skilled facilitator
- n Sufficient time
- n Support - Professional administration,
Government funding, Technical support,
Political support



ADDITIONAL INGREDIENTS

In addition, from the outset consider:

- n Government policy requirements fully explained and national context provided
- n Ensure community groups/planning forums involve all stakeholders
- n Putting all the 'cards' on the table at the beginning of the process



POTENTIAL CHALLENGES

- n Statutory tools have different objectives, different consultation processes and timeframes
- n No guarantee that negotiated plans will be implemented in full



SUMMARY

- n The Guardian's process in general was effective - it was locally driven and had governmental support at all levels
- n Future processes should:
 - n Factor in key ingredients which contributed to the success of the Guardians initiative;
 - n Improve on the community/stakeholder process; and
 - n Look at the potential for greater statutory integration of fisheries, conservation and RMA marine management tools



Team work – many thanks

- § The Guardians
- § The Ministers
- § Submitters though the process
- § Ngāi Tahu and especially Oraka/Aparima Runaka
- § The Agencies - Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Fisheries, Department of Conservation, Biosecurity New Zealand, Environment Southland



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