DESCRIPTION OF SECTORS

Sector One - Catamaran

The first sector is across Lake Wakatipu from Queenstown to Mt Nicholas Station by Catamaran. A medium-speed catamaran is particularly suited to this proposal, as it offers speed, comfort and safe handling in a variety of conditions. Catamarans are used extensively in New Zealand for tourism and transport purposes. A good example of a range of catamarans currently operating in New Zealand is the Fuller's fleet which has been plying the Hauraki Gulf since 1987. The Fullers' boats range from a 21m catamaran able to carry 150 passengers to a 41m boat with a capacity of 600 passengers. Catamarans are also operated by Tourism Holdings Limited at Milford Sound/Piopiotahi.

The exact catamaran specifications will be confirmed with a supplier after the concession application is completed however indications are as follows:

Capacity 160 to 240 passengers plus crew

Length 21 - 25m

Speed 24 knots average (44kph)

Sector Distance 20km

Sector Travel Time 27 min (includes 3 minutes manoeuvring time)

The catamaran would depart from a central Queenstown wharf and travel directly across to Mt Nicholas Station. Passengers would be provided with outstanding views across Lake Wakatipu and west to Mt Earnslaw. The passengers would disembark at an upgraded or new wharf facility at or near the existing wharf site and then board the next sector of the journey.

Another boat would be added if the demand for the trip increased beyond the capacity of one boat.

Sector Two - All Terrain Vehicle up the Von River Valley

The second sector travels along the existing road from the shore of Lake Wakatipu up the Von River Valley, the Oreti River Valley to the Mararoa River Valley and to the Kiwi Burn Terminus.

The all terrain vehicles (ATV's) would be specifically designed and built for this journey. Utilizing appropriate technology, the vehicles would include features appropriate for the route and the theme of the experience. Features such as large tyres, air conditioning, good quality bus seats and abundant windows to ensure good visibility would provide a comfortable and interesting trip along this sector.

Each group of 160 passengers would require four 40 seater vehicles plus a driver. Alternatively these vehicles could be articulated to make two large 80 seater units. As this sector has a trip time longer than the catamaran sector two sets of plant are required to minimise intermodal transfer times. Additional ATVs would be added as necessary to meet increases in passenger numbers.

These vehicles would travel up the gravel road of the Von River Valley climbing above the Von Gorge crossing the saddle into the Oreti River Valley then the Oreti/Mararoa saddle and turnaround at the Kiwi Burn Terminus.

The dimensions of these vehicles would be finalised after the concession application is completed. The following information is indicative:

Capacity 160 plus drivers
Length 12.6 metres
Width 2.5 metres
Maximum Speed 100kph
Average Speed 62kph
Sector Distance 45km
Sector Travel Time 43 min