

Say No to Monorail: Fast Facts

1. The monorail would not go to Milford Sound. It would not go to Te Anau. The company would be Queenstown based.
2. The monorail would go to the developer's hotel/restaurant complex at Te Anau Downs (30km North of Te Anau). The developer holds the exclusive licence to occupy National Park land at Te Anau Downs and intends that site to become the tourist hub for this area. Te Anau and other towns would be bypassed.
3. The proposed monorail would be just one of three legs (boat, bus, monorail) of a journey from Queenstown to Te Anau Downs. It would not reduce the travel time to Milford Sound due to the number of times people would need to embark/disembark the different vehicles. Then add another 1^{1/2} hrs by bus to Milford.
4. The monorail and permanent road would cut through the Snowdon Forest Conservation Area which was specifically included in the South West NZ Te Wahi Pounamu World Heritage Area. The Snowdon Forest is recognised for its backcountry values that NZ'ers and visitors cherish, its "Outstanding Landscapes", and rare and endangered plant and animal species.
5. A conservative estimate of 20,000⁺ beech forest trees would be destroyed in wide swathes, kilometres long, by the initial construction period alone. Significant numbers of old growth (hundreds of years old) red beech trees would be felled. A fully formed permanent construction/maintenance road would be dozed adjacent to the monorail through the remote forests and river valleys. This, with its numerous side roads would exceed 30 km in length.

The proposed developer does not like to mention any of these details.