

## SAVE FIORDLAND Inc. Newsletter #2 - September 2012



We have been busy during September even though it's not necessarily obvious. And by 'we', we mean all of you as well. Below is just some of what is currently being done, to ensure that things are done right for the future of our land and its inhabitants, in Fiordland and New Zealand and the World Heritage areas for which we all have responsibility.

We continue to focus on the facts involved with the monorail and tunnel proposals involving as they do applications to have exclusive private commercial use of public conservation World Heritage land:

- the processes used by the Department and Minister of Conservation in arriving at the 'approval in principle' and 'intention to grant' concessions decisions, including financial viability of projects and applicants
- the environmental impacts on the World Heritage areas
- the social effects on communities and other users.

### LEGAL WORK:

- investigating the initial decision-making process applied by the Department of Conservation that ignored the legislative structure and management documents we have helped build
- working through all the reports, submissions and hearing notes re the two proposals
- using the Official Information Act to help build our case should we end up having to go to judicial review or be involved with an appeal on the part of the applicants
- identifying potential expert witnesses
- understanding the meeting of our UNESCO obligations
- gathering signatures for two petitions that will be presented to the House of Representatives to go to select committee as a last resort if all else fails, but we need those signatures to be gathering now - download from the website (instructions incl.), print them, gather as many signatures as you can and post them back to us.

### FUNDRAISING:

Save Fiordland is an incorporated society, fully accountable, working with **WHK**, who are sponsoring James Hennessy as our auditor. To date, for example, people have given us or helped with:

- donations, membership fees, raffles, trade me auctions
- fundraisers such as
  - silent art auction - including book sales of Roger Wandless's book *Fiordland*
  - Yakel documentary - a NZ first cinema screening from Speargrass Films Ltd, a gala event, tickets sold out
  - Save Fiordland silicon wristbands for sale at \$2.00 each - Bev Young is the contact

And you will have seen in the news that the national body of Federated Mountain Clubs has donated \$1000.00 and pledged a further \$14000.00 should we have to go to judicial review. Such national commitment is significant and crucial.

### COMMUNICATIONS:

- check the website - [www.savefiordland.org.nz](http://www.savefiordland.org.nz)
- check the facebook page - [www.facebook.com/SaveFiordland](http://www.facebook.com/SaveFiordland)
- creating and using media opportunities to inform the public, e.g. WOW week in Wellington
- meeting with and speaking to interested groups e.g. Rotary, Lions, Golden Age, Women's Group
- regular press releases; letters to the editor; articles

### LOBBYING:

- meeting with politicians of all colours to present our very serious concerns - next week is Labour's turn
- questions in Parliament being asked re the two proposals and the processes involved
- communicating with Conservation Boards and NZ Conservation Authority
- working with NZ tourism industry groups - Motel Assoc, Tourism Industry Assoc, Tourism Export Council NZ
- working with like minded groups e.g. Federated Mountain Clubs, Forest & Bird, Fish & Game members.

Thank you to everyone working so hard, including the legal and professional experts who are assisting us and providing their expertise pro bono because they understand the precedents that may be set and the implications for all of New Zealand.

### Note:

Save Fiordland is a not-for-profit incorporated society made up of volunteers and assisted by a very broad range of people from local communities giving their own time, energy and money, through to professionals providing their expertise pro bono, through to international travellers, etc. all of whom are similarly concerned about the issues surrounding the tunnel and monorail proposals. We thank everyone involved.