PATERSON INLET MARINE RESERVE
STEWART ISLAND

APPLICATION

December 1994

Department of Conservation
Southland Conservancy
PO Box 743
INVERCARGILL

Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Preface

Stewart Islanders look to the sea for their living and their leisure. For both Islanders and visitors from the mainland, Paterson Inlet is the jewel in the coastal crown. It provides a beautiful natural backdrop to the town at Halfmoon Bay, an abundant recreational fishery, and opportunities for work through tourism and aquaculture.

Protecting Paterson lnlet's natural values has been mooted for years. Suggestions have been many and varied, including a 1986 MAF proposal for a marine park.

It seems the time has come to formally protect that which everyone values. In October 1994 MAF Fisheries brought in new regulations to ban commercial fishing and place special limits on recreational fishing in the lnlet; local Ngai Tahu have made an application for taiapure over a large proportion of the Inlet and the Department of Conservation is making a formal application to create a marine reserve centred on UIva Island.

This document constitutes the Department's formal application for a 1400 hectare marine reserve in the outer reaches of Paterson Inlet. The statutory process, which includes the opportunity for people to oppose or support the proposal, is outlined in Appendix 1.The Department welcomes your involvement.

New Zealand has 11 marine reserves and another five applications are currently before the Minister of Conservation. Paterson Inlet has been given the opportunity to become part of this nationwide network of reserves protecting both representative and very special coastal areas. The strong local support for this proposal is a promising sign.

Kerry Mawhinney
Regional Conservator
Southland Conservancy

Margaret Hopkins
Chairperson Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee
Stewart Island

Contents

1. Introduction

1.1 The Proposal

This document contains an application by the Director-General of Conservation for a marine reserve in Paterson Inlet, Stewart Island. It provides details of the proposal including the background to the application, and an assessment of the impacts a marine reserve may have on existing users.

The application is based on the recommendations of the Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee (PIMPC) which was set up in 1991 in recognition of the high degree of public support for protection of Paterson Inlet. The Committee's role has been to advise, the Director General on protection of the inlet's natural resources. It is a subcommittee of the Southland Conservation Board. .

1.2 Marine Reserve Act 1971

The Marine Reserves Act 1971 sets out a dual purpose for marine reserves:

- the preservation of areas of New Zealand that contain underwater scenery, natural features, or marine life, of such distinctive quality, or so typical, or beautiful, or unique, that their continued preservation is in the national interest;

- the preservation of those areas for the scientific study of marine life.

Marine reserves are established by an Order in Council made by the Governor General following the statutory process set out in Section 5 of the Act (see Appendix 1).

1.3 Consultation

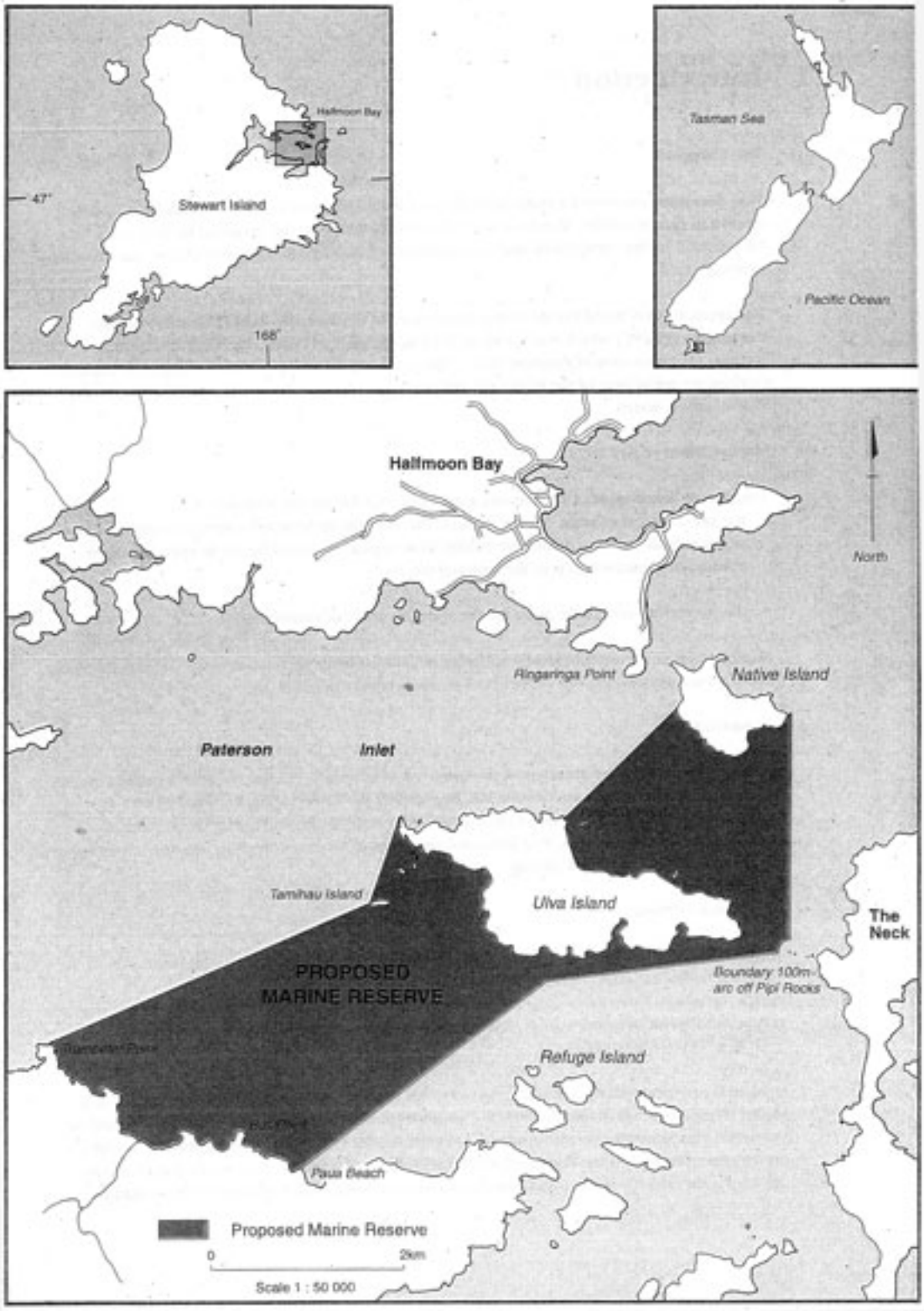
This application reflects strong general support for protection of Paterson Inlet's natural marine values. In preparing this application the Department of Conservation has worked with the Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee, local communities and crib owners, tangata whenua, commercial fishers, MAF Fisheries, recreational fishers, dive clubs, marine farmers and other affected or interested parties.

1.4 Feedback Invited

Anyone wishing to object or to make a submission in support of the proposal should do so, in writing; no later than 17 February 1995. Please forward these to :
Director-General of Conservation, C/o Regional Conservator, Southland Conservancy P O Box 743, INVERCARGILL

Under the Marine Reserves Act 1971, the Director-General of Conservation will refer any objections to the proposal to the Minister of Conservation who will decide whether these should be upheld. The Minister may also consider any submissions in support of the application which have been included in the Director-General's answer to objections. Such submissions in support may be relevant to the public interest to which the Minister is required to have regard.

Figure 1: Proposed Paterson Inlet Marine Reserve



2. The Application

2.1 Location
The proposed Paterson Inlet Marine Reserve is in the outer portion of Paterson Inlet, on Stewart Island's east coast.

2.2 Boundaries
The boundaries of the proposed marine reserve are shown in Figure 1. These enclose sections of coastline on Native Island; Ulva Island and the southern shore of Paterson Inlet. The boundaries are defined by distinctive landmarks along these shores.

2.3 Description
Paterson Inlet has a 188 kilometre coastline and a total area of 8900 hectares. The proposed marine reserve's area is about 1400hectares and includes about 15 km of coastline. Access to the reserve is by boat only. On Stewart Island boats can be launched at the nearby settlement of Halfmoon Bay (Oban), or at Golden, Watercress and Thule bays in Paterson Inlet.

The area covered by this application creates a protected corridor just inside the entrance to Paterson Inlet, from its south shore, around most of Ulva Island, across to Native Island. The boundaries have been selected to include a representation of the variety of habitat types found in the inlet. North, south, east and west facing shores are included, each with a different substrate, slope, depth and exposure to wave action.

With the exception of mud flats at the head of the inlet, the proposed reserve represents all assemblages (collections of plants and animals co-existing in particular ways) identified through scientific research during the 22 years up to 1992 (Hare, 1992). It also contains a good cross section of different habitat types, and unusual brachiopod communities.

Three separate and distinct sections of coastline are included - on Ulva Island (9 km), Native Island (2 km) and the south shore of Paterson Inlet (4 km). Areas around the northern ends of Ulva and Native Islands have been commercially crayfished in the past but are now generally considered to be unproductive.

Shallow water habitats around the Bravo Islands and Pipi Rocks have not been included in recognition of the extent of recreational fishing in that area, including that on the adjacent Bravo Bank. This reflects the PIMPC's desire to balance the need for protection of natural marine values with the continuation of recreational fishing opportunities in the inlet.

The natural features, and cultural and historic values of Paterson Inlet are presented in Appendix 3. Its ecological values are fully discussed in "Paterson Inlet Marine Benthic Assemblages: Report on Coastal lnvestigations" by Hare (1992).

The Objective of PIMPC in recommending this area for the marine reserve is to protect a representative section of the different marine assemblages in Paterson Inlet, especially the unusual brachiopod communities.

3. Background

3.1 Origin of the Proposal

In 1986 the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, then responsible for administering the Marine Reserves Act 1971, proposed Paterson Inlet be managed as a marine park to enhance it as a recreational fishery.

The Department of Conservation (DOC) was set up in 1987 and assumed responsibility for administration of the Marine Reserves Act. It has consistently advocated for the protection of Paterson Inlet's natural values, DOC conducted surveys of the inlet's species and habitats between 1988 and 1990, Results of these surveys are contained in a paper summarising all scientific research conducted in the inlet between 1970 and 1992 (Hare, 1992).

In 1989 a DOC questionnaire revealed strong public support for marine reserves in the Otago-Southland region (134 submissions, 89 per cent in support). Paterson Inlet was highlighted as a favoured site on Stewart Island.

3.2 Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee

In November 1991 the Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee (PIMPC) was formed following two public meetings organised by DOC. lts members represent different interest groups including iwi, recreational fishers, commercial fishers and tourism operators. Ten of the original 12 members have remained actively involved. Most are Stewart Islanders with first hand knowledge of the inlet and of local interests (see Appendix 7).

As a-committee of the Southland Conservation Board, the PIMPC has a statutory responsibility to advise the Director-General of Conservation on proposals for protecting the natural marine values of Paterson Inlet. lts brief has been to consider all options for protecting and managing Paterson Inlet and develop a proposal for protection. In doing this it has involved the community and worked closely with DOC, MAF Fisheries and the Southland Regional Council.

The Committee's attention quickly focused on the waters around Ulva Island, an important and popular scenic reserve. The area had already been suggested as a marine reserve site by several groups, including the Stewart Island 1965 Fishermen's Association.

Following extensive consultation a discussion document on a proposed marine reserve was publicly released just before Christmas 1992 (Appendix 4). This was widely distributed to Stewart Island landowners and postal box holders, interested groups and individuals, and Department of Conservation offices. Submissions closed on 30 March 1993.

Of the 228 responses, 82 per cent supported a marine reserve around Ulva Island. About half (1O5) of the responses came room Stewart Island residents, with 70 per cent indicating support. An analysis of the responses is presented in Appendix 5.

Several boundary changes have been considered by the PIMPC following the community feedback to try to accommodate the concerns of the owners of private land on Ulva Island and some recreational fishing groups. With the exception of Pipi Rocks and the Bravo Bank, the committee has recommended that its original proposal in the December 1992 discussion document should stand (refer section 5.4 also).

3.3 Views of the Tangata Whenua

Regular consultation with the runanga of Southland has occurred from the beginning of marine reserve investigations (see Appendix 6).

While iwi support the concept of a marine reserve in Paterson Inlet, representatives have consistently stated their desire for taiapure or mahinga maataitai management. A draft taiapure application for the whole of Paterson Inlet, prepared in November 1993, states Ngai Tahu support for the creation of the proposed reserve is conditional on acceptance of its taiapure proposal. If approved the taiapure would surround the proposed marine reserve. The application has been submitted to the Minister of Fisheries.

No specific objections have been received from iwi to areas included in this marine reserve application.

3.4 Current Protection of Paterson Inlet

Two major statutes currently give some protection to the natural marine values of Paterson Inlet - the-Fisheries Act 1983 and the Resource Management Act 1991. New fishing regulations which come into effect on 1 October 1994 completely ban all commercial fishing in the inlet and restrict recreational fishing practices. Dredging, set nets, longlines and codpots are prohibited: daily rock lobster and blue cod limits have been reduced to two and 15 respectively (two craypots are allowed); and the scallop season has been shifted to between 1 October and 15 March, one and a half months shorter than previously. Other recreational fishing regulations remain unaltered.

3.5 Main Issues and Concerns

The following issues and concerns were raised during the consultation process leading to this application for a marine reserve. In choosing the site and location of the reserve, the PIMPC and DOC have tried to balance these concerns against the need for effective protection of the inlet's marine values.

- The impact a marine reserve will have on recreational fishing, including those areas used by local landowners.
- Whether marine reserve status is needed given recent changes to recreational and commercial fishing regulations in the inlet.
- Concern that a marine reserve will attract increased numbers of people and put pressure on Ulva Island Scenic Reserve.
- Inappropriateness of scientific study as the principal purpose for preserving areas as marine reserves.
- Concern that access to the marine reserve could be restricted or charges introduced. (see Appendix 8)
- Tangata whenua desire to have taiapure implemented at the same time as the marine reserve.
- Need for greater understanding that marine reserves protect the physical environment, marine plants and all animals above and below the water (such as sea birds and sea slugs), not just fin fish.
- Impact of reserve boundaries on private land.
- Visual impact of reserve boundary markers.

4. Justification

4.1 Meets Purposes of the Marine Reserves Act 1971

Section 3(1) of the Marine Reserves Act 1971declares that marine reserves have the:

"purpose of preserving, as marine reserves for the scientific study of marine life, areas of New Zealand that contain underwater scenery, natural features, or marine life, of such distinctive quality, or so typical, or beautiful, or unique, 'hat their continued preservation is in the national interest".

The proposed marine reserve in the outer part of Paterson Inlet meets these criteria because of:

- marine life typical of southern New Zealand waters;
- distinctive brachiopod assemblages. Brachiopods are a primitive shellfish found in fossilised rocks- up to 500 million years old. The Inlet is one of the few places in the world where brachiopods are a dominant life form at diveable depths;
- exceptional and distinctive water quality (for a New Zealand inlet);
- a high degree of naturalness. Paterson Inlet is New Zealand's only remaining easily accessible rock walled inlet to retain its natural vegetation. As a result its marine life, waters and seabed are largely unaffected by sedimentation, nutrient run-off and other consequences of land development;
- relatively easy access which makes the inlet suited to scientific research, public enjoyment, education and study;
- established importance as a site for scientific marine research.

These and other factors contribute to making the continued preservation of this area a matter of national interest.

Scientific interest in Paterson Inlet is long established and ongoing. It has attracted the attention of the New Zealand Oceanographic Institute, international scientists, various scientific agencies involved in monitoring the effects of the salmon farms on the environment, the Marine Sciences Department of Otago University, and the Department of Conservation.

The proposed reserve provides excellent opportunities for the scientific study of marine life in a relatively undisturbed and unmodified environment. This is in the national interest to help in understanding the impact of human activities on marine ecosystems.

Ulva Island Scenic Reserve is a popular day-trip destination because of the abundance of native birds. The creation of a marine reserve can only enhance people's experience. Sydney Cove has the potential to become a focus for interpretation, education, study and enjoyment of the reserve area.

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4.2 Meets other Legislative Criteria

Section 4(1) of the Marine Reserves Act 1971 prohibits the creation of a marine reserve in any area where a lease or licence has been issued under the Marine Farming Act 1971. No such lease or licence is currently held within the area of the proposed reserve.

4.3 Public Support

Response to the Department's discussion document released in December 1992, and other consultation, shows a marine reserve in Paterson Inlet has strong public support (see Section 1.3)

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5. Implications

5.1 Recreational Users

Fin fishing and the gathering of shellfish are two of the main reasons why people visit Paterson Inlet. Nearly two-thirds of the 228 responses to the PIMPC's discussion document (1992) carne from people who fish in the inlet. Of these, 71 per cent indicated support for the marine reserve proposal. (Appendix 5).

Some parts of the proposed marine reserve are popular for both fin and shellfish gathering. In setting the proposed boundaries (Figure 1) the PIMPC tried to minimise disruption to traditionally favoured sites. It is acknowledged that some disruption will occur.

Following consultation Pipi Rocks and Bravo Bank were removed from the proposal - these are important areas for gathering paua, kina, oysters and mussels. Alternative sites also exist elsewhere within and outside the inlet. The most popular scallop beds appear to be outside the proposed area.

The proposed reserve does cover some favoured fin fishing sites, particularly for blue cod. Fin fish are caught throughout the inlet and alternative fishing sites are available both within and beyond the inlet.

The Southland Recreational Marine Fishers Association is concerned the size of the reserve may increase recreational fishing pressure on other areas in the inlet. This concern is addressed to some extent by the new Fisheries Regulations for Paterson Inlet (1994) which prohibit shellfish dredging, set nets, longlines and cod pots, and lower the daily limits for lobster and blue cod. A build up of fish numbers within a no-take marine reserve may also spill-over and augment fish stocks outside the area. A recent literature review on this subject suggested this is likely to occur (Rowley, 1992).

The Marine Fishers Association also argues that adequate protection for the inlet is provided through the new Fisheries Regulations. However, these only apply to fin fish, shell fish and rock lobster. They afford no protection to the natural features, habitat, marine plants and other animals living in the proposed reserve area.

Visitors to Paterson Inlet enjoy a variety of recreational activities besides fishing, including walking, snorkelling and scuba diving, boating, picnicking and swimming. A marine reserve is therefore likely to increase the appeal of Paterson Inlet and UIva Island for visitors. Diving especially is likely to be enhanced by an increase in the abundance and approachability of marine life within the reserve.

Currently four charter fishing vessels regularly use Paterson Inlet and about six visit less frequently. A reserve can provide opportunities for non-fishing nature tourism activities.

Further information on recreational and commercial fishing is presented in the Draft Fisheries Plan for Paterson Inlet, Stewart Island (MAF Fisheries South, September 1993).

5.2 Tangata Whenua

Kaimoana is gathered by crib owners and Maori owners of land adjacent to Paterson inlet. The inlet is not used for the collection of kaimoana for marae use during hui or tangi. A small number of Ngai Tahu crib owners and land owners who currently collect kaimoana from the proposed reserve area will be affected. However, alternative sites for collecting all species are readily available both outside and inside the inlet. No specific objections have been received from iwi to areas included in the marine reserve application. .

5.3 Commercial Fishers and Marine Farming

The marine reserve proposal has the support of the Stewart Island 1965 Commercial Fishermen's Association.

From October 1994 Fisheries Regulations ban all commercial fishing in Paterson Inlet.

Since 1981 salmon farms have been operating in Big Glory Bay, a semi-enclosed arm in the south-east of Paterson Inlet. It is outside the proposed area. Two companies farm salmon. Mussels are also farmed commercially. The proposed reserve should have no effect on existing marine farms.

5.4 Adjacent Landowners

Concern has been expressed by the owners of private land on UIva Island that ready access to fishable water in westerly weather will be lost; that the potential increase in public use of the island will impact on the character of Ulva Island and possibly detract from the family's enjoyment of its property; and that existing Fisheries Regulations are adequate. These landowners oppose the marine reserve in general, but if it proceeds they would prefer that all of Sydney Cove is excluded from within its boundaries.

DOC proposed that part of Ringaringa Beach could be included in the proposed marine reserve, to improve public access and educational values. But that area is considered to be important as a traditional source of kaimoana for locals, and opposition from iwi, an adjacent landowner and commercial fishers lead to it being left out of the reserve.

5.5 Others

Paterson Inlet has a natural beauty which attracts many visitors. A significant number of the estimated annual 30,000 visitors to Stewart Island visit Ulva Island Scenic Reserve. A marine reserve in Paterson lnlet would allow people to learn about the marine environment and its flora and fauna, through first-hand experience complemented by written and visual interpretation.

The proposed marine reserve will not adversely affect boating enthusiasts, swimmers, or others who visit the area for its scenic and natural values. The experience for divers is likely to be enhanced.

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Protection within Paterson Inlet will provide important opportunities for the scientific study of marine features in a natural and relatively undisturbed state.

References

Ballantine, WJ. (1991): Marine Reserves for New Zealand. Leigh Laboratory Bulletin No. 25, University of Auckland.

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MAF Fisheries South. (1993): Draft Fisheries Plan for Paterson Inlet, Stewart Island. Paterson Inlet Fisheries Management Working Group. 35 pp.

Rowley, RJ. (1992): Impacts of Marine Reserves on Fisheries: A Report and Review of the Literature. Science and Research Series No. 51. Department of Conservation Wellington. 50 pp.

Acknowledgements

The. work of the Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee has been invaluable in creating this application for a marine reserve.

This document was prepared by Tim Higham and edited by Marieke Hilhorst. Application documents for Nelson/ Marlborough Conservancy's Tonga Island and Westhaven (Whanganui lnlet) marine reserves and Hawkes Bay Conservancy's proposed Te Angiangi marine reserve provided helpful guidelines and information.

Many DOC staff contributed advice, support and constructive criticism, notably Lindsay Chadderton, , Rob Davidson, Greg Lind, Glen Lauder, Wayne Costello, Peter Lowen, Alan Gray, Perry Ferguson, Anita Pillai, Jane Turnbull, Phil Doole, Andrew Baxter, Sarah Edwards, and Warren Sisarich.

Contributions of MAF Fisheries, Ken Grange and Andrew Penniket are also gratefully acknowledged.

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Cover photographs were supplied by Denis Pagé (F/22Photography), Simon Hayes, and Darryl Torckler.

Appendix 1

Summary of the statutory process for establishing a marine reserve (see Section 5 of the Marine Reserves Act 1971 for detail).

Application is made to the Director General of Conservation (DG)

↓

Application does not satisfy S.3(1): Application does not proceed ← Applicant satisfies DG that the application satisfies S.3(1) Marine Reserves Act 1971

↓

After consultation with DG public notification of intention to apply for an Order in Council declaring the area a marine reserve; applicant notifies other persons and organisations where necessary.

↓

2 month objection period

↓

1 month for applicant to answer objections (optional)

↓

Refers application, objections and answers to Minister of Conservation

↓

Minister of Conservation before considering the application, considers the objections and applicant's answer to these (if supplied).

↓

Minister of Conservation may call for independent report in any case where the DG is the applicant.

↓

Any objection upheld: Application does not proceed ← Minister decides whether or not any objection should be upheld; applicant and objectors notified of Minister's decision, together with the grounds, in writing

↓

If no objections upheld Minister of Conservation considers application

↓

Concurrence withheld: Application does not proceed ← If Minister of Conservation is satisfied the application fits the criteria of the Act concurrence is sought from the Minister of Fisheries and Transport

↓

If concurrences granted Minister of Conservation recommends the Governer General make an Order in Council to establish the Marine Reserve

↓

Order in Council made and notified in Gazette. Order declaring Marine Reserve comes into force 28 days after notification.

Appendix 2

Copy of Formal Notice of Intention to Apply for a Marine Reserve in Paterson Inlet, Stewart Island.

PATERSON INLET MARINE RESERVE PROPOSAL

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 5
MARINE RESERVES ACT 1971

Pursuant to section 5 of the Marine Reserves Act 1971 I hereby give notice of my intention to apply for an Order in Council declaring an area of sea in Paterson Inlet, Stewart Island, a marine reserve. The proposed name of the reserve is Paterson Inlet Marine Reserve.

The area covered by this application comprises approximately 1400 hectares of Paterson Inlet between Native Island and the south shore of the Inlet. On the western side the boundary extends from Native Island to Flagstaff Point on Ulva Island, and from the western tip of Ulva Island, via Tamihau Island to Trumpeter Point. The eastern boundary extends from Native Island to just west of Pipi Rocks, then across to Paua Beach on the southern shore of the inlet (excluding the Bravo Bank).

A plan of the proposed reserve showing all tidal waters coloured blue, the boundaries and the extent of the area sought to be declared a marine reserve may be inspected free of charge at the Department of Conservation offices at Halfmoon Bay (Stewart Island), Te Anau, Queenstown, Dunedin and Christchurch, and at the public libraries at Invercargill, Gore, Balclutha, Riverton and Bluff.

The full application document can also be viewed at the above offices and other DOC Conservancy offices throughout the country.

Any person or organisation may object to the making of an Order in Council establishing the marine reserve by specifying the grounds of the objection in writing and submitting it to the Director-General, Department of Conservation, whose address for service is given below, within two months from the date of the first publication of this notice.

The date of the first publication of this notice is 17 December 1994. (The period for submitting objections closes on 17 February 1995).

This notice of intention to apply for a marine reserve is given by the applicant, the Director-General of Conservation, whose address for service is at the offices of the Regional Conservator, Department of Conservation, Don St, P.O. Box 743, Invercargill.

The proposal in connection with this application was developed in cooperation with the Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee (a committee of the Southland Conservation Board).
Bill Mansfield
Director-General of Conservation.

Appendix 3

The Natural Features, Cultural and Historic Values of Paterson Inlet

Natural Features

Paterson Inlet is an almost completely enclosed body of water, 18 kilometres long, which opens onto southeastern Foveaux Strait. It encloses 89 square kilometres of water and several islands, the largest of which is Ulva Island. The shoreline is principally composed of granite and diorite broken rock and platforms; along the southern shore there is a zone of crushed schist. Pocket beaches of sand and tidal estuaries with eelgrass are common. At the inlet's head two rivers, the Freshwater and the Rakeahua, converge; here there are extensive intertidal mudflats crossed by narrow tidal channels. The shores of the inlet are surrounded by podocarp forest and on coasts exposed to the prevailing west and southwest winds, scrub. The inlet is a ria - an ancient drowned river system that has been submerged. The depth of the seafloor in mid-inlet averages about 20 metres.

Paterson Inlet is the only easily accessible, large, rock-walled inlet in New Zealand that has remained almost completely surrounded by natural vegetation. The rivers carry minimal loadings of silt and the low sedimentation rate is thought to have an important influence on the inlet's marine life, which has a richness of habitats and communities. The marine algae of Paterson lnlet is very diverse; 70 percent of Stewart Island's 380 known species of seaweed have been recorded there. The inlet is also an important habitat and nursery area for marine fish. Fifty six fish species have been recorded.

Seven major community types are present in Paterson Inlet:

- Large brown seaweed communities (bull kelp and bladder kelp) make up about 10 percent of the shoreline in the outer inlet, north east Ulva Island, Native Island, Ringaringa and The Neck. These seaweeds provide habitat and food for a diverse range of invertebrates and fish. Cod, moki, butterfish and shellfish such as kina and paua can all be found sheltering and feeding amongst the weed.
- Sand bed communities on the seafloor of the inlet entrance and between Ulva and Native Islands constitute 18 percent of the inlet seafloor. These are habitat for various invertebrates such as scallops and fishes such as opal fish, ling, skates and electric rays.
- The scour channel community off the eastern tip of Ulva Island makes up less than four per cent of the inlet area and is characterised by strong tidal currents. This area provides important habitat for juvenile fish.
- In the relatively calm waters of the inner inlet, rock wall communities cover 50-60 per cent of the shoreline. These areas are home to reef fishes such as cod, wrasse and moki. Kina and paua can also be found sheltering in the reef structure.
- Much of the inlet's seafloor is a mud-sand sediment. Meadows of small red seaweeds cover about a third of the inlet to approximately 20m depth, with a patchy distribution on sand-silt. This weed is important shelter for a number of invertebrates, including scallops. Furthermore, the weed provides a surface for spat and larval-settlement and shelter for juvenile shellfish and wrasse. Brachiopod communities are a dominant component of much of this area, especially in the outer part of the inlet, south and east of Ulva Island.

- In the shallows of small sheltered bays such as Kidney Fern and Kaipipi, unattached forms of seaweed are found - rafts of the brown seaweed Neptune's Necklace on the tidal flats and bladder kelp floating in the water column. These are not well studied and their contribution as fish habitat or a food source is unknown.
- Tidal flats make up 10 per cent of the inlet and are formed by the deltas of the Freshwater and Rakeahua at the head of the inlet. Smaller flats occur in Big Glory Bay, North Arm, Kaipipi, Kidney Fern and Abrahams Bay.

Several features of Paterson Inlet's marine life have been recognised as being distinctive: Lenormandia chauvinii red algae meadows; the abundance of echinoderms throughout the inlet in habitats of differing sediment and exposure types; the brachiopod communities (Hare, 1992); and large tubeworm “reefs" of up to five species of tubeworms (Andrew Penniket in a letter to the Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee, 30/7/93). These "reefs” resemble boulders but are formed by aggregations of the calcareous tubes of polychaete worms, up to 1 metre across. They occur on the soft-sediment seafloor in depths of approximately 10 metres, at the western end of Ulva, off the Bravo and Groper Islands, and in Big Glory Bay. Elsewhere in New Zealand tubeworm reefs are known from parts of the Marlborough Sounds and in Wellington Harbour. They are regarded as unusual in the New Zealand context (Geoff Read, NIWA Wellington, pers. comm.)

Much of the outer inlet contains a brachiopod assemblage of Neothyris lenticularis, Terebratella sanguinea and Terebratella sanguinea which lie atop the soft sediment, often in very dense numbers. These brachiopods are of considerable scientific interest because of their importance in marine evolutionary studies and because they are located in relatively shallow waters (they can be studied in situ using SCUBA). The brachiopod communities in Paterson Inlet (and Port Pegasus where they are less abundant) comprise species which are widespread elsewhere but usually at greater depths. They are of considerable scientific interest as there is debate on the nature of the substrate and sedimentation rate, and because little is known about the reproduction rate of Neothyris. These brachiopod communities need to be protected from the impact of salmon farming and substrate disturbance. The ribbed black brachiopod Notosaria nigricans is also common in Paterson lnlet (Hare, 1992).

Cultural and Historic Values

The area covered by this application forms part of an area known as Te Whaka a Te Wera. The long Ngai Tahu presence in Paterson Inlet is witnessed by the number of archaeological sites, named features and urupa in the area. Settlements such as Te Wehe a Te Wera (The Neck) were an important part of pre-European Maori communities in the area, and later in the development of the integrated Maori/ European communities.

The name - literally Te Wera's Harbour - reflects the influence of the Ngai Tahu chief, Te Wera. This important fighting chief from the Ngai Te Ruahikihiki hapu lived in the area for several years prior to the arrival of the first whalers and sealers.

The annual muttonbirding season, carried out on Titi Islands in Foveaux Strait and around Stewart Island, serves to continue the Ngai Tahu relationship and involvement with Rakiura (Stewart Island), its environs and the natural resources of the area.

Much of the early European use of the inlet centred on the Neck and Ulva. From the early days of exploitation of

Foveaux Strait's whale and seal grounds, European vessels visited the northern end of The Neck and a mixed European-Maori settlement was formed. Ulva Island was settled in 1870 by Charles Traill, who opened a general store and post office, the first for Stewart Island. This building still stands. Ulva Island contains one of the country's oldest Pinus radiata trees, planted by Traill in 1872. A Traill family cemetery is sited on the island.

From 1861 several sawmills operated around Paterson Inlet's northern shore and later at Big Glory and Hapuatuna. Small boat building activities were common around this time also. A more recent venture, between 1926 and 1932,was the use of Prices Inlet as a repair and over wintering base for Antarctic whale chaser ships.

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Appendix 4

"Paterson Inlet: A Protection Plan and Marine Reserve" .
Discussion document of the Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee, December 1992.

Who is the Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee?
The Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee was formed in November 1991 following two public meetings organised by the Department of Conservation on Stewart Island. These meetings showed there is substantial concern in the local community about the need to protect the natural values of Paterson Inlet for the future.
The committee is made up of 12 members. The majority are Stewart Islanders with a good first hand knowledge of the inlet. The Southland Conservation Board and local iwi interests are also represented. The committee was established as a committee of the Southland Conservation Board, giving it the statutory responsibility to advise the Director-General of Conservation on proposals for protection of the natural marine values of Paterson Inlet.
Within its delegated role, the committee has identified the need for an integrated protection plan, and is now advocating this approach for future management of the inlet.
The committee is serviced by the Department of Conservation. It has liaised closely with DOC, MAF Fisheries and the Southland Regional Council: these being the three principal agencies with resource management responsibilities in Paterson Inlet.

Paterson Inlet
Paterson Inlet, has a special place in the lives of Stewart Islanders and their visitors: it provides a beautiful natural backdrop to the town of Oban, a recreational fishery, and jobs through aquaculture and tourism. Paterson Inlet is a drowned river valley, inundated by the sea since sea levels rose at the end of the last Ice Age.
Its waters cover 89 square kilometres, about the same size as Wellington Harbour, and Queen Charlotte Sound in Marlborough. It shares with these inlets - and smaller ones like Otago, Akaroa and Lyttelton harbours - deep waters and rock wall sides. It is the only accessible, rock walled inlet in New Zealand that has remained largely surrounded by natural vegetation. Because of this, the inlet's waters and seabed have not been affected by silt from erosion, fertiliser run-off or other consequences of land development.
Varied underwater topography and the mixing of two major ocean currents outside the inlet have created a diverse range of marine habitat types within Paterson Inlet. Some of these are shown on the accompanying map.
Seaweeds grow in great profusion - about 270 species make the inlet a showcase for rich and diverse seaweed communities. Bull kelp and Macrocystis forests cling to the rocky shores of the outer inlet, harbouring reef fish like blue cod, moki and greenbone.
In the inlet's sheltered middle reaches small, red Rhodymenia seaweeds cover muddy bottoms, coexisting with brachiopods. These primitive shellfish have been found in fossilised rocks up to 500 million years old and Paterson Inlet is one of the few places in the world where they are a dominant life form in diveable depths.

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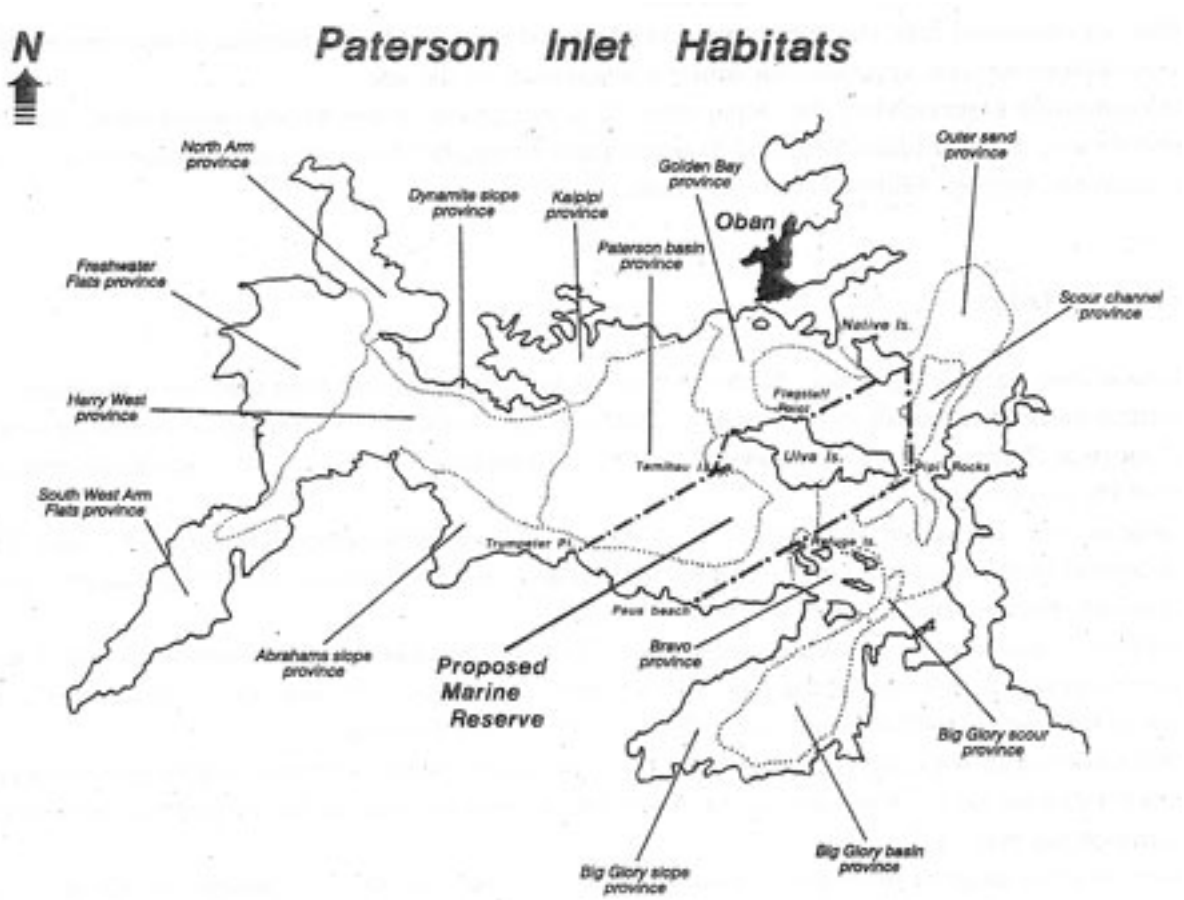
In shallower waters are extensive beds of another red seaweed, Lenormandia, which provide homes for a wide range of worms, shellfish, sea squirts, sponges and scallops. The estuarine mud flats at the head of the inlet farm important nursery areas for fishes and are feeding grounds for many wading bird species, some of them endangered. The inlet also provides nesting areas for yellow-eyed penguins, little blue penguins, shags and sooty shearwaters, and is regularly visited by bottle-nosed dolphins and fur seals. Most of the marine communities of Paterson Inlet have remained relatively unmodified. Their wellbeing depends on the balance of water, nutrients, sediment and biotic materials which flow in and out of the inlet according to tidal or seasonal activity. Some activities such as aquaculture, land clearance, dredging, and trawling of the sea bottom, have the potential to affect this balance through sedimentation of the addition of nutrients.

Species within the inlet interact with one another, depend on others for food and shelter, and may utilise different habitat areas of the inlet at different times of their life cycles. Extraction of one species can have flow-on effects up or down the food chain. Some commercially and recreationally caught fish and shellfish have declined markedly from previous levels; crayfish, groper and paua for example.

The inlet is currently closed to the commercial take of all shellfish, excluding crayfish (rock lobster). The inlet is used by recreational fishers seeking species such as blue cod, scallops, moki, greenbone, crayfish, paua, mussels, kina and flounder. Several commercial fishers use cod pots in the inlet. Salmon and mussels are farmed within Big Glory Bay.



The provinces shown can be differentiated by depth, slope, substrate, wave action and origin. Each province comprises a different habitat type. Large, brown seaweed forests, sand/brachiopod beds and coral communities are associated with the outer provinces. Inner provinces support rock wall communities, small red seaweed meadows and driftweed shallows. On the tidal flats are found extensive shell banks.

A Protection Plan:

The Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee has sought to formulate a plan which would achieve maximum protection of the natural values of Paterson Inlet, but cause minimum disruption to traditional human activities.
In this process it has tried to identify activities which may harm marine environments or life in the inlet. The committee has considered the management options available and believes that a combination of three types of legislation is the best way to achieve its goal.

1 Resource Management
The district plan and regional coastal plan set the framework for use of the Paterson Inlet area. The committee will feed into the local authorities planning processes and will present the results of the attached questionnaire.

2 **Fisheries Management**
Management of the fish resources is an essential part of maintaining the natural values of Paterson Inlet. MAF Fisheries has recently set up a separate working group to address fisheries issues in Paterson Inlet, and formulate a fisheries management plan for areas outside the proposed reserve. The Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee will work closely with this group and there is a high degree of cross-membership.

3 **Marine Reserve**
The Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee believes there is an important need for a marine reserve in Paterson Inlet. A marine reserve offers permanent, statutory protection, not easily changed by political whim. A reserve in Paterson Inlet would act as a control area. Comparison of areas inside and outside the reserve would establish whether the other protection mechanisms in the inlet were working, and help gauge the health of marine ecosystems elsewhere in the region. The committee will advise the Director-General of Conservation of this marine reserve proposal if public support is forthcoming.
The Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee believes that together these mechanisms form an effective, practical protection pian.

Resource Management issues

The committee would like to see the district plan and regional coastal plan address the potential threats of land and sea based development in the inlet.
An increase in, or diversification of, recreational or commercial activity in the inlet could disturb wildlife, affect scenic values or tranquillity.
The committee would like to see currently - used marine farming practices kept within Big Glory Bay and the designated, temporary refuge areas.
Because aquaculture has the potential to impact on natural values - through sedimentation, nutrient inputs, introduction of feral stock, and new structures, servicing vessels and equipment - any new technological developments need to be rigorously assessed.
These views will be put to the regional and district councils, along with the results of the public questionnaire attached with this document.

Fisheries issues

Because Paterson Inlet is such an attractive place for recreation and fishing it is vulnerable to overuse. Already specific fishing regulations apply to the inlet. However, the Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee believes that more needs to be done in order to conserve the recreational fishing resource, and to maintain the diversity of marine life in the inlet.
The committee supports the action being taken by MAF Fisheries to ban dredging and trawling in the inlet, because of the damage these methods cause to seabed communities. A full review of other fishing methods is also advocated. Set nets, for example, can kill non-target species and numbers of fish in excess of bag limits. Changeable weather in the inlet means nets are sometimes unretrieved or lost.. There is also concern that the current bag limits for some species are not sustainable. For depleted fish species, a temporary closure may be the best way to allow stocks to recover.
The committee is also aware of widespread support among commercial fishers on Stewart Island to have the current ban on commercial shellfish extraction in Paterson Inlet extended to cover all species.

Taiapure

Local iwi have firm intentions to propose a Taiapure –Local Fishery in Paterson Inlet. Taiapure are areas of estuaries or coastal waters where the fishery is managed with special recognition of its significance to Maori as a source of food or for spiritual or cultural reasons. Taiapure are open to all people, but special fishing rules may apply.
If a taiapure is established in Paterson Inlet - following a public consultation process similar to that for a marine reserve - a management committee would be formed. Representatives of the local Maori community would provide nominations to the Minister of Fisheries, who .would then, after consultation with the Minister of Maori Affairs, appoint all committee members. This committee would make recommendations to the Minister of Fisheries for the conservation and management of all fisheries within the taiapure.'
Current indications from iwi are that their intentions would not conflict with the marine reserve proposal.
Fisheries issues, including taiapure, will be considered by the MAF Fisheries working group.

What is a marine reserve?

Similar to scientific reserves on land, marine reserves are established primarily for the scientific study of marine habitats in their natural state.
They may contain underwater scenery, natural features, or marine life, of such distinctive quality, or so typical, or beautiful, or unique, that their preservation is of national interest.
As well as acting as scientific control areas, other benefits of marine reserves may include:

- recovery or enhancement of fish stocks and other marine life
- new nature tourism opportunities
- an improvement in recreational fishing outside the reserve
- an increase in recreation and enjoyment of the sea
- a guarantee something will be left for future generations to observe and appreciate.

There are no restrictions on access or navigation in marine reserves. Swimming, boating and diving, and scientific, education and recreational activities, are allowed and encouraged as long as they do not unduly disturb or endanger plants and animals. Recreational fishing can be allowed in a marine reserve, but is usually prohibited because it would conflict with the aims of protecting the marine life and preserving the reserve area in a completely natural state. Marine reserves shall not be established if they would cause undue interference with existing rights of navigation, commercial fishing, existing recreational usage, interests in adjoining land, or otherwise be contrary to the public interest.

The marine reserve proposal

The Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee believes Paterson Inlet is of such distinct quality and so beautiful that at least part of it warrants marine reserve status. It also has many unique features such as the almost-complete forest surrounds and extensive, shallow brachiopod beds. The committee has given careful consideration to the reserve boundaries it is proposing around Ulva Island.
The proposed area covers a wide range of the habitat types of the inlet. It is sufficiently large to provide protection for many fish and shellfish species. The character of the area -its siting near the mouth of the inlet, the tidal flows and habitat type - make it suitable for the recruitment of new stocks.
The reserve is intended as a total no-fishing zone.
Ulva Island is renowned for its diversity of native birds and is a popular day-excursion by boat. The proposed marine reserve boundaries are continuous with reserves on land, which adds to its scientific value and integrity.
The proposed area includes favoured diving locations around Native and Ulva Islands. Although some favoured fishing spots are included in the proposed reserve, the degree of disruption to traditional fishing patterns is not thought to be excessive. The closure is not likely to exclude access to any particular species within Paterson Inlet.
The boundaries are easily identifiable from prominent landmarks.
The committee would welcome suggestions on boundary changes but they need to be backed up with good reasons.

Please tell us what you think

The Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee would like to know whether you support its protection plan and proposed marine reserve around Ulva Island in Paterson Inlet.
The committee will only recommend a formal marine reserve application if a firm basis of support is shown. Write us a letter and/or complete the questionnaire enclosed by March 30, 1993. Additional copies of the questionnaire are available from Department of Conservation offices on Stewart Island and in Invercargill.
If you would like further information, or a member of the Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee to talk to your group, please contact:
Margaret Hopkins
Chairperson of the Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee
PO Box 743 Invercargill
Phone (03) 219-1126 .

Appendix 5

"Paterson Inlet: A Protection Plan and Marine Reserve".

An analysis of submissions on the discussion document prepared by the Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee.

The discussion document titled "Paterson Inlet: “A Protection Plan and Marine Reserve" was widely circulated just prior to Christmas 1992 and responses to the document and the enclosed questionnaire were called for by March 30 1993.

A total of **228** submissions were received.

Question 1 asked respondents how often they visited Paterson Inlet.
96 visited often
124 visited occasionally
4 had never visited.

Question 2 asked about the relationship of the respondent to Paterson Inlet.
105 were island residents or land owners
100 were regular or occasional visitors
10 were overseas visitors
13 were others who defined themselves as New Zealand visitors, tour operators and sea kayakers

Question3 asked respondents how they spent their time in Paterson Inlet.
136 went recreational fishing
125 went boating
167 went swimming, picnicking and tramping
5 went commercial fishing
82 went diving
30 did other activities
Other activities included hunting (6), natural history (6),botanizing (4), photography (2), aquaculture (2), conservation work (2), tour guide (2) and camping, delivering hunters, safe anchorage, filming and rest and relaxing.

Question 4 asked respondents if they supported or opposed the proposed marine reserve around Ulva Island in Paterson Inlet.

187 indicated they were in support of the proposed marine reserve around Ulva Island in Paterson Inlet.
41 indicated they were opposed to the proposed marine reserve.

Of the 187 respondents who indicated they supported the proposed marine reserve:
105 indicated support for the proposal in its current form
6 indicated support for the proposal, or a larger (undefined) area
58 indicated support for the proposal and suggested changes to increase its size
12 supported the proposal and suggested changes to decrease its size
6 indicated support for the proposal but suggested alternative sites in Paterson Inlet.

Of the 41 respondents who indicated they opposed the proposed marine reserve:
19 indicated opposition to any marine reserve in Paterson Inlet
16 indicated opposition to the proposal and suggested a smaller alternative
6 indicated opposition to the proposal and suggested alternative sites in Paterson Inlet.

Combining the support and opposition responses reveals:
105 like the proposal in its current form
64 would like to see the reserve made bigger
28 would like to see the reserve made smaller
12 would like to see a reserve but in another place in Paterson Inlet
19 would not like to see a marine reserve in Paterson Inlet.

The Support Group

Why Bigger?
The following general reasons were given by the 64 respondents wanting to make the proposed marine reserve bigger:

- more effective and sustainable if large, continuous and well buffered
- national significance because of lack of sedimentation and modification.
- international significance because of the dominance of shallow-water brachiopods.
- protection should extend over all habitat types.
-

How Much Bigger?
All of Paterson Inlet (8 respondents)

- Paterson Inlet should be seen as an ecological whole.
- sediment free, unique in New Zealand, must rate highly on a world scale.
- preserving water quality is pivotal and is best achieved if whole system is a reserve.
- tourism benefits likely from having inlet preserved in a natural state.
- whole inlet should act as a marine breeding ground for adjacent areas.
- two proposed that recreational fishing be allowed in some areas of inlet reserve.
-

Include Bravo group islands (28 respondents)

- wider range of habitats.
- Breeding grounds for yellow-eyed penguins.
- more definable boundary.
- interesting diving.
- Significant brachiopod beds, scallop beds and red algae beds included.
- unusual and unique tube worm reefs off Bravo Island.
- nursery habitat for many fish species.
- scallops and paua stocks around all these islands threatened.

Mudflat areas at head of inlet (26 respondents)

- used by wide variety of land and sea birds - vulnerable to over use at low tide.

- important breeding grounds and nursery areas for whole inlet.
- such natural mudflats are rare in New Zealand.
- feeding area for threatened New Zealand dotterel.
- if development/ disturbance occurred it will affect all other habitats in the inlet.
- valuable study area.
- gives access to reserve from Rakiura track.
- Complete Ulva Island shoreline (5 respondents)
- more definable boundary.

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Native Island and Ringaringa Beach (5 respondents)

- access to reserve without boat
- opportunities to dive on reef areas.
- includes outer coast; possibly important for recruitment of crayfish and groper into reserve.
- provides opportunities for people to see results of protection.

Kaipipi Province (4 respondents)

- this type of ecosystem not represented in the proposed reserve.
- beautiful islands, peninsulas, sheltered bays and richness of marine life.
- accessible from the Rakiura Track.
- scallops beds depleted in area.

Support - but make smaller (12 respondents)
Encircle Ulva Island (8 respondents)

- better natural borders and more definable for compliance.
- leaving part unprotected creates a possible legal loophole.
- including scallop beds puts pressure on other areas.
- unnecessary duplication of habitat types.

The Oppose Group

The following general reasons were given by the 19 respondents who indicated they opposed any marine reserve:

- imposing fishing restrictions would multiply pressure on the rest of the inlet.
- data should be collected to confirm the cause of depleting fish numbers before implementation of marine reserve.
- instead ban all commercial fishing, set nets and dredging, and reduce recreational fishing bag limits.

Oppose but make smaller (i6 respondents)
Encircle Ulva Island (7 respondents)

- current boundaries too complex
- current proposal would have too big an impact on recreational fishers.
- smaller area easier to police.

What Stewart Island residents and land owners think:

Of the 105 respondents who identified themselves as either island residents or land owners, 74 indicated they supported he proposed reserve and 31 indicated they opposed it.

What the Ulva Island land owners think:
15 responses were received from extended family members of the owners of a private section and holiday home on Ulva Island. While 4 indicated support and 11 indicated opposition for the proposed reserve, all wanted changes to enable them to catch fish in rough or westerly weather. Most suggested an area around Sydney Cove be excluded from the reserve.

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Other management mechanisms:

Question 6A - Marine Farming
177 respondents thought it was necessary to restrict current marine farming practices to Big Glory Bay and the designated, temporary refuge areas.
17 thought it was not necessary.
16 were undecided.

Key points: Should be no further development and expansion in Big Glory Bay (11). Should be close monitoring of present marine farming (4).

Question 6B - Water-borne development .
194 respondents thought it was necessary to restrict water-borne activities that involve new structures, non-sustainable extraction of materials, discharges or are noisy and conflict with the enjoyment of other users. 10 thought it was not necessary.
9 were undecided.

Key points: Family motor boats or small outboards are acceptable but not jet skis etc (2). No water ski lanes for boats or jet skis.

Question 6C –Land-based development
177 respondents thought it was necessary to restrict land-based activities that involved clearing of vegetation, discharges of material, or building houses or structures which impact on the inlet's natural values.
26 thought it was not necessary.
11 were undecided.

Key points: No commercial building (6). Low key housing acceptable if scenic value is maintained (4): Care should be taken not to infringe on the rights of land owners (4). Ban land clearance. Protect water-quality.

Question 6D - Fishing Regulations
189 respondents thought changes to the current fishing regulations were necessary to ensure fish resources are maintained or enhanced.
15 thought changes were not necessary.
7 were undecided.

Key points:
No commercial fishing in Paterson Inlet (37)
Ban set nets/ fish nets (30)
No cod pots (24)
No crayfish pots (4)
No trawling (17)
No dredging (14)

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Key points:
Hand gathering of shellfish only/no use of tanks (21)
Brachiopods classed as a prohibited species (5)
Reduced bag limits necessary (32)

- 5 paua per person per day (5)
- 10 fish per day (7)

Tighter control on catches from charter boats (5)
Better policing needed (9)
Better use of honourary wardens (4).

Question 7 asked respondents about the importance of implementing a combination of marine reserve and management mechanisms at the same time.
189 said it was very important.
56 said it was preferable but not essential.
24 said it was not important.

Miscellaneous issues:

The marine reserve area needs to be clearly marked (8).
Public awareness of reserve and fisheries regulations is important.
The public want to be kept informed (5). '
Those using Paterson Inlet should have a voice in its management.

Support for the marine reserve proposal was received from Ministry of Transport Maritime Transport Division subject to there being no restriction on navigation within and passage through the reserve area.

A letter of congratulations on the approach of the Paterson Inlet marine Protection Committee was received from Marion Miller, Chairman of the Southland Regional Council. .

Analysis of submissions undertaken by Nina Lightfoot on contract to the Department of Conservation.

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Appendix 6

Resume of consultation with iwi:

June, July 1990	DOC staff and iwi representatives meet to discuss taiapure and marine reserves.
November 91	Stewart Island public meetings held. Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee appointed. Paddy Gilroy states iwi interest in the process.
12/2/92	Harold Ashwell and George Ryan appointed to committee; responsible for liaising with Rakiura Maori Land and the Murihiku Runanganui. Ngai Tahu Peter Goomes and Phil Smith appointed to committee to represent the interests of recreational fishers and charter boat operators.
10/11/92	Committee chairperson Margaret Hopkins attends Runanganui meeting at Harold Ashwell's invitation to update members.
12/11/92	Paterson Inlet progress raised in He lka meeting.
4/6/93	Harold Ashwell provides written report from Awarua Runanga meeting. The runanga wants a taiapure in the inlet but have no objection to a marine reserve as well.
8/8/93	Committee attends hui at Te Rau Aroha marae, Bluff, to explain proposal. Attended by members of Murihiku runanga, owners of private Maori land and cribs in the area. Much support for the need for marine reserve protection and the work of the committee.
26/11/93	Marti Nepia attends as interested party. George Ryan tables a draft taiapure application for area outside of proposed marine reserve.
Apri194	Paddy Gilroy attends meeting in George Ryan and Harold Ashwell's absence. Sees no specific problems with boundaries. Again raises expectations of tino rangatiratanga through taiapure.

Summary
Harold Ashwell and George Ryan have been actively involved in information gathering and decision making, and have carried out liaison with iwi. Information on traditional use and values of Paterson Inlet has been provided but never raised as a point of conflict with the reserve.

The issue for iwi has consistently focused on aspirations for taiapure; support for a marine reserve is subject to achieving this aspiration.

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Appendix 7

Membership of the Paterson Inlet Marine Reserve Protection Committee

Margaret Hopkins - Committee Chairperson
Stewart Island resident
Southland Conservation Board member

Stewart Island Community Board chairperson
Family interests in commercial fishing, Foveaux Express ferry service, salmon farming services.

Barbara AngIem
Southland Conservation Board member up to August 1993

Penny Hutchins
Southland Conservation Board member

Phillip Smith
Stewart Island resident
Charter boat operator
Representing charter boat operators
Rakiura Ngai Tahu

Philip CIarke
Stewart Island resident
Fisherman
Representing commercial fishers

Harold Ashwell
Representing Rakiura Maori Land and iwi interests

George Ryan
Representing the Murihiku Runanganui and iwi interests

Bill Hamilton
Stewart Island resident
Salmon farmer
Representing community interests

Peter Goomes
Stewart Island resident
Builder
Representing recreational fishers

Ann Pullen
Stewart Island resident
Tourism and visitor services
Representing Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society

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Appendix 8

Management of the Proposed Marine Reserve

The marine reserve application proposes a totally protected area in which no extraction or disturbance of marine life is permitted. People will be encouraged to explore the reserve, and observe marine life above and below the water, but activities which damage, disturb or remove organisms, or their habitat will not be permitted.

Concern has been expressed about the possibility that rights of navigation in the proposed reserve may be restricted in future.

Freedom of access is provided under Section 3(2)(d) of the Marine Reserves Act 1971:
"subject to the provisions of this Act and to the imposition of such conditions and restrictions as may be necessary for the preservation of the marine life or for the welfare in general of the reserves, the public shall have freedom of access and entry to the reserves, so that they may enjoy in full measure the opportunity to study, observe, and record marine life in its natural habitat".

Section 23 of the Act also preserves rights of access and navigation at all times subject to any regulations that might be made. Regulation 5(1) of the Marine Reserves Regulations 1993 provides that *"subject to the Act and to subclause (2) of this regulation any person may anchor in any part of a reserve in such a manner that damage to the reserve does not occur or is kept to a minimum practicable level".* Reg 5 (2) relates to areas closed for scientific study.

The Department of Conservation recognises the recreational and educational benefits of first-hand experience of a marine reserve and will actively promote the use of the reserve for such purposes. Education and advocacy aimed at generating respect for the area and an understanding of the rules will aid compliance. This will include signs at boat launching areas, on-site interpretation and a brochure.

DOC intends to mark the boundaries with land-based markers. There are no plans to mark the 300 metres seaward boundary as this is easily judged using landmarks. Not marking this boundary should not compromise the reserve because cod fishing opportunities occur closer to the shore and not in the immediate vicinity of the boundary line.

Policing the reserve will be the responsibility of the Department of Conservation. However, because the ultimate success of the reserve depends on community support, assistance will be sought from local residents, charter boat operators, fishing organisations and MAF Fisheries staff. Honorary marine reserve rangers are likely to be appointed.

DOC intends to conduct monitoring to establish baseline quantitative information on the distribution and abundance of selected species found within and outside the reserve. These species and sites would be periodically resurveyed to provide comparative data. DOC also intends to encourage other scientific and educational institutions to participate.

The Department of Conservation endorses community involvement in the management of marine reserves. A group similar in composition to the Paterson Inlet Marine Protection Committee is likely to be set up to advise the Department on management issues. This committee could have delegated authority from the Southland Conservation Board, similar to the PIMPC, and contain representative from iwi and major user groups of the inlet.