

# Application for commercial operations from a vessel to view and swim with marine mammals



Department of Conservation  
Te Papa Atawhai

New Zealand Government

## B. New permit or renewal of an existing permit

I am applying for a new permit. <b>You need to have a pre-application meeting with DOC</b> before you submit this application as there are location restrictions and consultation requirements that you need to be aware of. E-mail <a href="mailto:permissionschristchurch@doc.govt.nz">permissionschristchurch@doc.govt.nz</a> . (See public notification below)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I am applying to renew an existing permit on substantially the same terms and conditions	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am applying to renew an existing permit with an amendment. (See public notification below)	<input type="checkbox"/> Please provide a written description of the amendment(s) you are proposing:
Permit number	

### Public notification

I agree to the public notification of my application and to covering the costs of placing the notice in the paper(s) determined by DOC.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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## C. Duration of Operation

<b>Duration of operation</b>	
Record the proposed term of the operation (months and years) up to a maximum of 10 years	10 years

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## D. Pre-application meeting

Have you had a pre-application meeting with a DOC Permissions Advisor?

No

If your application is for a new permit your application will not be processed without a pre-application meeting as there are location restrictions and consultation requirements that you need to be aware of.

E-mail [permissionschristchurch@doc.govt.nz](mailto:permissionschristchurch@doc.govt.nz)

Yes

If yes, state when and who with.

April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 – DOC Christchurch - Max Clark and Michael Dine

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## A. Consistency with DOC's Conservation General Policy and statutory plans

**Note:** DOC's [Conservation General Policy](#)<sup>1</sup> and statutory planning documents can have a direct impact on your application. For example the statutory planning documents may set the specific locations or number of landings allowed.

List the [DOC's statutory planning documents](#)<sup>2</sup> relevant to your application:

**The following statutory planning documents relate to locations where we intend to operate:**

Conservation General Policy (CGP) Section 4; Auckland Conservation Management Strategy; Bay of Plenty Conservation Management Strategy; Canterbury (Waitaha) Conservation Management Strategy; East Coast Conservation Management Strategy; Hawkes Bay Conservation Management Strategy; Nelson/Marlborough Conservation Management Strategy 1996; Northland Conservation Management Strategy 2014-2024; Otago Conservation Management Strategy; Southland Murihiku Mangement Strategy; Stewart Island/Rakiura Conservation Management Strategy (CMS); Waikato Conservation Management Strategy; Wellington Conservation Management Strategy; West Coast Conservation Management Strategy.

Te Hauturu-o-Toi/Litter Barrier Island Conservation Management Plan

Te Tāpui Tokotoru Conservation Management Plan

Are you aware of any potential inconsistency your activity may have with DOC's Conservation General Policy or statutory planning documents?

No

Yes

If yes, explain why it is inconsistent with the statutory planning documents.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.doc.govt.nz/about-us/our-policies-and-plans/conservation-general-policy/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.doc.govt.nz/about-us/our-policies-and-plans/statutory-plans/>

## B. Consultation undertaken under the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011

Have you notified and sought the views of the relevant Customary Marine Title Applicants<sup>3</sup> prior to submitting this application?

No. <b>Your application will not be processed.</b> You need to speak to DOC before you can submit this application form. <sup>4</sup> E-mail <a href="mailto:permissionschristchurch@doc.govt.nz">permissionschristchurch@doc.govt.nz</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

If yes, supply details for each Customary Marine Title Applicant you have consulted with. Copy and paste the table below and complete for each Customary Marine Title Applicant. Record all attachments in section 'Q Attachments'.

Attachments may include:

- Additional pages with the required information
- Any written response to your notification from the Customary Marine Title Applicant.

<b>Customary Marine Title Applicant notified</b>	Te Whanau O Topi
<b>Name of individual you notified and sought views on your application</b>	Ricky Fife
<b>Date/s of notification and views sought</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> November, 2022, 25 <sup>th</sup> May, 2023
<b>Form of notification and means of views given (e.g. email, meeting)</b>	Email
<b>Outcome of consultation</b>	In progress – correspondence attached.

<b>Customary Marine Title Applicant notified</b>	Landowners of Ruapuke Island Group
<b>Name of individual you notified and sought views on your application</b>	Justine Inns
<b>Date/s of notification and views sought</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> November, 2022, and 25 <sup>th</sup> May, 2023
<b>Form of notification and means of views given (e.g. email, meeting)</b>	Email
<b>Outcome of consultation</b>	In progress - correspondence attached.

<sup>3</sup> A "Customary Marine Title Applicant" is a person or group who has applied for recognition of customary marine title either under section 95 or sections 100 and 103 of the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 in an area to which your application relates and where no customary marine title order or agreement applies.

<sup>4</sup> It is a statutory requirement under section 62(3) to notify and seek the views of a Customary Marine Title Applicant on your application before it is lodged with the Department.

<b>Customary Marine Title Applicant notified</b>	Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu
<b>Name of individual you notified and sought views on your application</b>	Tom Gilmour and Alice Anderson
<b>Date/s of notification and views sought</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup> November, 2022. Reached out again on May 2023.
<b>Form of notification and means of views given (e.g. email, meeting)</b>	Email
<b>Outcome of consultation</b>	In progress – correspondence attached.

**Note:** As soon as reasonably practicable after you lodge your application with DOC, you are required to notify affected iwi, hapū or whānau. We recommend you speak to DOC about this requirement prior to lodging your application.

### C. Consultation undertaken with Treaty Partners

DOC has a statutory obligation to give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. This often requires consultation with our Treaty Partner (iwi/hapū/whānau of local Maori) on your application. If you have already consulted with our Treaty Partners, DOC would like to know about it.

Have you carried out any consultation with Treaty Partners?

No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

If yes, supply details for each Treaty Partner you have consulted with. Copy and paste the table below and complete for each Treaty Partner. Record all attachments in section ‘Q Attachments’ including:

- Additional pages with any required information.
- The written response to your consultation with Treaty Partners.

<b>Whānau/hapū/iwi consulted with</b>	See Section F. We welcome opportunities to consult with additional Treaty Partners.
<b>Name of individual you consulted with</b>	
<b>Date of consultation</b>	
<b>Form of consultation (e.g. email, meeting)</b>	
<b>Outcome of consultation</b>	

Provide details of any cultural interpretation or activities that you are providing to support the cultural values of the Treaty Partners, Customary Marine Title Applicants or other interested stakeholders.

-We visit Waitangi Treaty Grounds, where we have arranged for local guides to educate guests on history and cultural heritage.

-We are working with Te Kawerau a Maki iwi to produce print material for visitors to Tiritiri Matangi that speak to the cultural significance of the site while educating guests about the history and values of Te Kawerau a Maki. The intention is to create materials that Te Kawerau a Maki can share not only onboard with our guests, but also on a wider scale with other visitors.

- Lindblad Expeditions and Master Navigator Tua Pittman are working together on a project called *Mana Moana*. Through this project, local navigators are invited onboard the *National Geographic Orion* to receive guide and navigational training in exchange for providing cultural presentations and interacting with our guests. Local navigators take this training back to their homes to share with others, and when the vessel is back in their island these navigators show us their canoes and program. In the fall of 2023, we are extending our program and will be bringing onboard three Māori navigators from Aotearoa to travel with us.

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## D. Consultation with interested stakeholders

Have you carried out any consultation with interested stakeholders?

No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>

**If yes, supply details for each Interested Stakeholder you have consulted with.** Copy and paste the table below and complete for each Interested Stakeholder. Record all attachments in section 'Q Attachments' including:

- Additional pages with any required information
- The written response to your consultation with Interested Stakeholders.

<b>Other interested stakeholders consulted with e.g. Conservation Boards or community groups</b>	
<b>Name of individual you consulted with</b>	
<b>Date of consultation</b>	
<b>Form of consultation (e.g. email, meeting)</b>	
<b>Outcome of consultation</b>	

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## E. Educational material

Provide details of the education material (including the source of the material) and education aspects of your proposed operation.

As a standard of our onboard vessel introductions, our naturalist staff onboard conduct safety and information briefings, at which time New Zealand Marine Mammal Protections will be covered. During the kayak and SUP safety briefing, Lindblad Expeditions will inform and remind guests of the required distances to be maintained from marine wildlife if spotted, as well as the proper etiquette to observe should they encounter wildlife while in a kayak or on a stand-up paddle board. DOC's *Ngā Tamariki a Tinirau Simple Rules of Interacting with Marine Mammals* poster will also be posted to the vessel bulletin boards where both guests and vessel staff have access to the information.

Additional educational information: For the purpose of conservation education, we employ naturalists who provide guests with information in the form of lectures, slide shows, power point presentation, on deck narration or interpretation while in the zodiacs throughout each voyage. Our naturalist staff provide their own unique presentations based on their specialty and research. These presentations cover marine mammals and marine conservation, along with other conservation themes. Each voyage also includes guest speakers. Guest speakers throughout the season include New Zealander Alexander Hillary, photographer and grandson of explorer Sir Edmund Hillary; and Tua Pittman, a Traditional Master Navigator of Māori, Cook Islander, and Tahitian descent who specializes in Polynesian navigation and will be training Aotearoa navigators as part of our Mana Moana program (explained in more detail in Section G above).

For all marine mammal education onboard, we are highly interested in incorporating any materials from iwi and DOC to share with guests.

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## F. Conservation, management, and the protection of marine mammals

State how your proposed operation is in the interests (advantage and benefit) of the conservation, management or protection of marine mammals?

Conservation is central to our mission at Lindblad Expeditions. We weave conservation education into every itinerary as described in Section H above, and through activities that strengthen guests' connection with the natural environment. Our goal is for guests to complete the trip with a thorough understanding of the importance of the protection of marine mammals and of wilderness areas in general.

Lindblad Expeditions has raised more than \$19 million from travellers since 1997 to protect the ocean, conserve wildlife, bolster local communities, and enable scientific research. We are a 100% carbon neutral company committed to green business operations. We have an established history of operating in ecologically sensitive areas (Antarctica, the Arctic, Alaska, Galapagos) and complying with all requirements without incident. It is of the utmost priority to us to follow protocols to protect the locations we visit and the wildlife we observe.

## G. Details of the proposed operation

This section has been designed specifically for multi-day cruises, where viewing takes place from a 'main' vessel as it travels between destinations, as well as viewing from 'ancillary' vessels, at specific locations on the voyage.

- For the purposes of multi day cruises, a 'trip' is defined as a calendar day (the 24-hour period from 0:00 am to 11:59pm)
- The 'main' vessel is the vessel used to convey passengers between destinations and is the primary accommodation for clients.
- 'Ancillary' vessels, can be described as any vessel that passengers board from the 'main' vessel, that are used to view marine mammals (i.e., zodiacs, kayaks).
- A 'sub-trip' is defined as any marine mammal viewing trip from an ancillary vessel

### Main Vessel(s)

Vessel Name	National Geographic Orion
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**Attach a map of the proposed area of operation.** It must clearly show:

- Proposed area of operation showing the boundaries and where appropriate, the specific locations where contact with marine mammals are proposed.

Map questions	Written description
Proposed base of operation	Our main cruise vessel, the NG Orion, will serve as our base of operations. Departure locations are shown on the attached map.
Proposed area of operation	Te Anau, Rakiura, and Murihiku Districts
Proposed locations for viewing contact with marine mammals	Milford Sound, Seal Rock Dusky Sound, Seal Rock & Luncheon Cove Ringaringa Passage, Half Moon Bay, Sarah Cove, Harrold Bay  See tables on following pages.

Trip duration and frequency	
Maximum duration of trips (in days for multi-day voyages) proposed	Coastal New Zealand: Auckland to Milford Sound: 16 days in New Zealand  Southern Odyssey: New Zealand and the Subantarctic Islands: 22 days in New Zealand  Roots of the Pacific: New Zealand to Melanesia: 2 days in New Zealand
Maximum number of days per year operating this vessel	101
Maximum number of vessels you propose to operate at any one time	3 (We are submitting a second application for the Subantarctic Islands on different vessels)



Location Information, proposed species and proposed viewing times:

Ancillary Vessels (Zodiacs)									
Location	Maximum number of ancillary vessels actively viewing marine mammals at any one time	Maximum number of days operating per year	Proposed Area of Operation	Proposed Locations for Contact with Marine Mammals (as shown on map)	Species	How long, in minutes, will the ancillary vessel spend viewing the proposed species per individual encounter? (individual encounter)	How long, in minutes, will the ancillary vessel spend viewing the proposed species per day? (cumulative encounter)	Taking into account the previous two columns, what is the maximum number of encounters you propose to have with each species per day?	Location specific additional information (exclusions etc)
Fiordland	2 Zodiacs at a time viewing. Up to 12 Zodiacs a day.	8	Milford Sound District: Te Anau	Seal Rock	<input type="checkbox"/> All species of whales (including orca and pilot whales)				Minimum vessel distance from water's edge: 20m  The proposed viewing levels comply with the Fiordland marine mammal viewing guidelines (see appendix L).
					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All species of seal	5 minutes  6 individual encounters of 5 minutes each. Two zodiacs per encounter.	30 minutes	Operating two separate rounds of Zodiac cruises per day.  Round 1: 6 Zodiacs divided into three pairs. Viewing encounter of 5 minutes per pair. Total of 15 minutes.  Round 2: 6 Zodiacs divided into three pairs. Viewing encounter of 5 minutes per pair. Total of 15 minutes.	
					<input type="checkbox"/> All species of dolphin (excluding orca and pilot whales)				
					<input type="checkbox"/> Specific Species (please list below): New Zealand Sea Lion				
	2 Zodiacs at a time viewing. Up to 12 Zodiacs a day.	8	Dusky Sound District: Te Anau	Seal Rock & Luncheon Cove	<input type="checkbox"/> All species of whales (including orca and pilot whales)				Minimum vessel distance from water's edge: 20m  The proposed viewing levels comply with the Fiordland marine mammal viewing guidelines (see appendix L).
					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All species of seal	5 minutes  6 individual encounters of 5 minutes each. Two zodiacs per encounter.	30 minutes	Operating two separate rounds of Zodiac cruises per day.  Round 1: 6 Zodiacs divided into three pairs. Viewing encounter of 5 minutes per pair. Total of 15 minutes.  Round 2: 6 Zodiacs divided into three pairs. Viewing encounter of 5 minutes per pair. Total of 15 minutes.	
					<input type="checkbox"/> All species of dolphin (excluding orca and pilot whales)				
					<input type="checkbox"/> Specific Species (please list below):				

In the Marlborough Sounds (Motuara Island, Meretoto/Ship Cove, Resolution Bay), guests may carry out unguided kayaking and stand-up paddleboarding. A permit is not required for these un-guided activities, and guests will be provided with educational material to inform them of appropriate behaviour around marine mammals

## H. Vessel type – motorised vessel(s) and manually propelled watercraft

Describe the ‘main’ vessel that you are going to use in your proposed operation.

This application is for viewing marine mammals from ancillary vessels (Zodiacs, kayaks, and paddleboards), not from the main vessel.

Vessel Name	M/V National Geographic Orion
Year built	2003
Classification	Det Norske Veritas (DNV)
Colour	White,blue,and yellow
Length	LOA 102.7m; lbp 92.2m
Beam	14.0m
Gross Tonnage	3984 GT
Engines/propulsion type	Main engines: MAK 8M25 (2400KW/3264 HP) Turbo Chargers: KBB R5-3 177 Clutch & Gear Box: LAF 3445 K61 PTO Propeller: Single, Controllable Pitch Propeller, Left Hand Bow Thruster: Jastram BU60F (400kW) Stern Thruster: Jastram BU50F (325kW)
Noise above/below water (if known)	Most machinery is resiliently mounted, and most machinery resilient mounts have been renewed since 2017 starting with a new engine block. Insulation has been added to reduce noise in many areas over the years.
Maximum speed	14.5 knots
Cruising speed	14 knots
Maximum number of passengers	106
Auxiliary craft onboard	13 Zodiac Mark V (capacity 15 passengers) 24- two-person inflatable kayaks 48- Stand-up paddle boards  Emergency use only- 2 Fassmer Tender boats- 27 passengers 2 Fassmer Lifeboats- 49 passengers 2 Global Davit GLp. FPh. 70 2 Global Davit GLpFPh 60 4 Viking 2DKF Life-rafts (25 passengers)

## I. Background of proposed operator

State the applicant's experience operating with marine mammals (e.g. the number of years the company / business has been operating around marine mammals).

Lindblad Expeditions has been operating eco-tours in the whale rich waters of Antarctica for over 50 years following the IAATO Marine Mammal Wildlife Watching Guidelines. For 45 years, by special permission, we have been visiting Mexico's Bahia Magdalena, the nursery of the California Grey Whale, where with caution and respect we are able interact with the mothers and calves. Finally, we have been operating in Alaska for 40 years, having completed both of the following trainings: 1) the NOAA reviewed training in whale recognition, behaviour and collision avoidance, and 2) Glacier Bay National Park's training for whale watching, maintaining whale safe speeds, and maintaining the proper viewing distance from mammals.

State the applicant's knowledge of operating within the local area, and of the sea and weather conditions (e.g. number of years' experience operating within the area).

Lindblad Expeditions began operating the National Geographic Orion in New Zealand waters in December 2022. The company has extensive experience operating in Antarctica and the Arctic. Leif Skog, our Vice President of Marine Operations, has over 40 years of experience in polar waters, has been training all our captains in these waters, and wrote our Polar Water Operation Manual. He was deeply involved in IAATO and developed many of their marine operation guidelines (including the IAATO Marine Mammal Wildlife Watching Guidelines). He has operated as Captain in the Ross Sea and visited the NZ Sub-Antarctic islands with the Explorer and other vessels. He is confident that our ships and crew are very well prepared to operate in the Ross Sea and New Zealand waters.

**Has the applicant been convicted of any offence involving the mistreatment of animals?**

No



Yes



If "yes", provide details

**Does the applicant have any current criminal charges pending before the court involving the mistreatment of animals?**

No



Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
If "yes", provide details	

**Does the Applicant agree to DOC undertaking a check of their criminal convictions or pending current criminal charges involving the mistreatment of animals?**

**Note:** DOC may require the proposed operator to fill out and sign a form that allows DOC to receive their criminal conviction history to enable the Director-General of DOC to be satisfied that the proposed operator does not have convictions for offences involving the mistreatment of animals.

No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## J. Background experience of individual staff members

Complete the spreadsheet attached ("Staff list") for every staff member who may come into contact with marine mammals during the operation. Attach this as additional pages with the required information, and record all attachments in section 'Q Attachments'.

Note: Due to the seasonal nature of our planned operations, the staff list will be provided to the Department of Conservation at the start of each cruise season and updated as required.

## K. Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992

Tick the following boxes to confirm you will operate in accordance with each of the following behaviours as required under Part 3 of the Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992.	Tick
Marine mammals will not be disturbed or harassed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Best endeavours will be used to operate the vessel in a way that the normal movement or behaviour of any marine mammal is not disrupted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Contact with any marine mammal shall be abandoned at any stage if it becomes or shows signs of becoming disturbed or alarmed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Marine mammals are not to be separated from a group of marine mammals, or caused to scatter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rubbish or food is not to be thrown near or around any marine mammal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No person shall make any loud or disturbing noises around any whale, dolphins or seals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No sudden or repeated changes in the speed or direction of the vessel shall be made except in the case of an emergency	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Where the vessel stops to enable the passengers to watch any marine mammal, the engines are to be either placed in neutral ( <i>preferred</i> ) or be switched off within a minute of the vessel stopping	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A person or vessel shall not cut off the path of a marine mammal or prevent a marine mammal from leaving the vicinity of the vessel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The skipper of a vessel less than 300 metres from any marine mammal shall use his or her best endeavours to move the vessel at a constant slow speed no faster than the slowest marine mammal in the vicinity, or at idle or “no wake” speed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
When departing from the vicinity of any marine mammal, the vessel shall proceed slowly at idle or “no wake” speed until the vessel is at least 300 metres from the nearest marine mammal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The vessel is not to approach within 300 metres of any whale, pod of dolphins or herd of seals for the purpose of enabling passengers to view, if the number of vessels or aircraft, already positioned to enable passengers to watch is three or more	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Where two or more vessels or aircraft approach an unaccompanied whale, dolphin or seal, the skipper concerned shall co-ordinate their approach and manoeuvres	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Whale specific behaviours</b> <b>Tick that you understand and will operate in accordance with each of the following species-specific behaviours as required under Part 3 of the Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992.</b>	<b>Tick</b>
The vessel is not to approach within 50 metres of a whale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If a whale approaches the vessel, the skipper of the vessel shall, wherever practicable: (i) manoeuvre the vessel so as to keep out of the path of the whale; and (ii) maintain a minimum distance of 50 metres from the whale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The vessel is not to approach within 200 metres of any female baleen or sperm whale that is accompanied by a calf or calves	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The vessel shall approach a whale from a direction that is parallel and slightly to the rear	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Dolphin specific behaviours</b> <b>Tick that you understand and will operate in accordance with each of the following species-specific behaviours as required under Part 3 of the Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992.</b>	<b>Tick</b>
The vessel may exceed idle or “no wake” speed in order to outdistance the dolphins but must increase speed gradually, and shall not exceed 10 knots within 300 metres of any dolphin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The vessel is not to proceed through a pod of dolphins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The vessel shall approach a dolphin or pod of dolphins from a direction that is parallel and slightly to the rear	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## L. Operational best practice based on recommended DOC guidelines

<b>Tick that you understand and will comply with the following conditions relating to seals and sea lions specific behaviours</b>	<b>Tick</b>
Not applicable as not applying to view seals and sea lions	<input type="checkbox"/>
When seals and sea lions are hauled out on shore or rocks, the vessel will remain 20m or more from water's edge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<b>Tick that you understand and will comply with the following conditions relating to location specific best practice.</b> <i>You will have been given information on best practice recommendations when you contacted <a href="mailto:permissionschristchurch@doc.govt.nz">permissionschristchurch@doc.govt.nz</a> prior to making your application. If any location specific best practices apply to your area of operation, attach the relevant schedule.</i>	<b>Tick</b>
Not applicable as there is no location specific best practice	<input type="checkbox"/>
Location specific best practices for my area of operation are attached and recorded in section 'Q Attachments'	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
All proposed operations will be undertaken in accordance with the best practice guidelines for the area of operation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<b>Tick that you understand and will comply with the following conditions relating to Manually propelled vessels e.g. guided kayaks and paddle boards practices.</b>	<b>Tick</b>
Not applicable as not operating a manually propelled vessel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Up to seven kayaks (or other manually propelled watercraft) are to be grouped closely together* for the purpose of viewing marine mammals <i>*Manually propelled watercraft are to be within two paddle lengths of each other to form 'one distinct vessel'. No vessel (including a group of seven manually propelled vessels) shall approach closer than 300m to a marine mammal if there are already three vessels (including a group of seven manually propelled vessels) or aircraft, or both, present.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kayaks (or other manually propelled watercraft) are not to be banged, or paddles slapped against the water in the presence or marine mammals.	<input type="checkbox"/>
No person shall touch a marine mammal	<input type="checkbox"/>
No person is to chase a marine mammal, instead let the mammal approach the manually propelled watercraft	<input type="checkbox"/>
Where practical the operator's guide is to remain between the clients and any seals or sea lions on shore	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Clarifications**

In the section above, we have ticked the box "Not applicable as not operating a manually propelled vessel." To clarify this point, guests will be kayaking, but we will not be guiding any kayaking tours to see marine mammals. For this reason, we have indicated "Not applicable."

**Note that this permit application does NOT include marine mammal viewing in the Subantarctic Islands.** We will be applying for a separate Marine Mammal Viewing Permit for the Subantarctic Islands

**Any other actions you will take to minimise disturbance of the marine mammals:**

*Planned encounters:* Lindblad Expeditions intends to observe marine mammals in only a few select locations (as indicated in the above application) and in accordance with New Zealand Marine Mammal Protections.

*Unplanned encounters:* Outside of any locations where we intend to observe marine mammals, there is the possibility we will encounter marine mammals by chance. When we encounter marine mammals outside of the propose locations, the vessels will not stop to view them.

*Zodiac operations:* While conducting landings from the ship to the shore and back by zodiac boats, marine mammals may be encountered enroute. In this case, the zodiacs drivers will stop to avoid any interactions with the marine mammals (and to view them from a safe distance).

*Staff training:* We are working with DOC’s SMART Programme to plan virtual trainings for our staff regarding marine mammal protections in New Zealand. These trainings will likely take place in August or September, as the voyages will commence in November.

*Educational materials for staff:* In addition to the above, our Marine Operations department is currently developing a global Marine Mammal Management Plan for Lindblad Expeditions and will integrate information gained through the SMART Programme into this management plan.

## M. Attachments

Attachments should *only* be used if there is:

- A specific question that requires an attachment e.g. map of the proposed base and area of operations
- Not enough space on the form to finish your answer
- Additional information that supports your answer
- An additional request you wish to make of DOC regarding the application.

Label each document clearly and complete the table below.

Section of the application form the attachment relates to	Document title	Document format (e.g. Word, PDF, Excel, jpg etc.)	Description of attachment
F	Consultations	PDF	A PDF including in-progress email consultations
K	Maps	Word	Map showing our proposed area of operation for each itinerary, along with specific locations for marine mammal viewing