

8<sup>th</sup> August 2011

Abel Tasman Foreshore Scenic Reserve Management Plan

Tasman District Council

**Submission on the Draft Abel Tasman Foreshore Scenic Reserve Management Plan (ATFSRMP)**

Yachting New Zealand (YNZ) is the national sports organisation (NSO) which represents 31,000 members in 123 yacht clubs from Taipa in the north to Bluff in the south – also affiliated are 50 class associations and 40 maritime associations. Many boaties are involved in both power and sail driven activities.

As this draft plan identifies “The Abel Tasman coast is significant in terms of its scenic values”, it is also of significant value in terms of the recreational value it holds. A very high number of YNZ clubs and sailors spend time cruising in this area and make use of the foreshore scenic reserve.

YNZ wants to ensure continued freedom of navigation in the coastal marine area and unimpeded access to sheltered bays for both enjoyment and safety.

Commercial activity (tourism) should be restricted to keep with the goals of this plan before the rights and access of the public are restricted.

**Clause 6.1.1 Access and Use**

In addition to “the public has a general freedom of entry” YNZ would like to see reflected that this includes access to estuaries as ports of refuge (safe havens) for shallow draft vessels. We also wish to see this reflected in Clause 12.5.5.

The marine environment can be unpredictable at times and can turn hostile with little notice. It is important that boaties have free access to safe havens. Many users of this area make port in the estuaries for this very reason.



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### **Clause 6.16 Camping and Overnight Stays in Vessels**

The word “visual” should be removed as an effect of vessels.

YNZ has concerns that boating activity could be unfairly restricted on this basis as has been done under the Nelson Lakes National Park Management Plan.

### **Clause 6.3.2 Vessels**

The word “visual” should be removed from the list of main effects of vessels.

YNZ has concerns that boating activity could be unfairly restricted on this basis as has been done under the Nelson Lakes National Park Management Plan.

### **Clause 12.5.5 People’s benefit and enjoyment**

YNZ does not support motorized vehicles being refused access to the Awaroa Inlet to the south of the Awaroa Vehicle Access Corridor. Many trailer yachts that would use this area and will in fact have small outboard engines. When operated at low speeds such engines are quiet.

This appears to be a case where private boating users are being restricted from enjoying this area and using it as a safe haven in adverse conditions in order to grant exclusive access to commercial groups many of whom will be non-New Zealand residents.

Yachting New Zealand also wishes to support submissions made by the Nelson Yacht Club and the New Zealand Trailer Yacht Association.

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