

Boating is a popular activity for many Southlanders and there are a number of areas ideally suited to boating activities. We want everybody to enjoy their time on the water, but there are a few navigation safety rules that apply to ensure everyone stays safe.

Safety information

Wear a lifejacket

All vessels must have suitable lifejackets, easily accessible, for each person on board. They must be worn at all times on vessels 6 metres and under and at times of increased risk on all other vessels.

Communication

Make sure somebody knows where you are going and when you are expected back. Contact Bluff Fishermen's radio on VHF Ch 63. Take at least two forms of communication with you – VHF radio, flares, cellphone in a waterproof bag, EPIRB.

Be prepared

Make sure you have the necessary equipment – anchor, bailer, oars, spare fuel, torch, first aid kit and warm clothes.

Take care

Use caution and ensure you have plenty of room on the water when towing. Watch out for anyone in the water. Lake swimming is becoming more popular in all seasons, so be aware.

Avoid alcohol when boating.

Know the rules

- ▶ All vessels, including jet skis, cannot exceed 5 knots within 200 metres of shore. Buoys are in place on Lake Te Anau to mark the 5 knot area.
 - ▶ Be aware of the take-off and landing of floatplanes – it is your responsibility to keep out of their way.
 - ▶ It takes three to ski – a boat skipper, skier and an observer (who must be 10 years or older).
 - ▶ A person under 15 years of age is not permitted to operate a vessel capable of exceeding 10 knots unsupervised.
 - ▶ Keep to designated ski access lanes. Move in an anti-clockwise direction in the ski access lanes.
 - ▶ To ensure the area is kept free for everybody to enjoy, don't park your vessel in the ski access lane.
 - ▶ Access to waterways, wharves or boat ramps must be kept clear.
 - ▶ Keep to the starboard (right) side of a river channel and if going upstream on a river, give way to a vessel coming downstream.
 - ▶ If you are involved in a collision or accident, you must notify the harbourmaster and Maritime New Zealand.
 - ▶ It is your responsibility to ensure you know the navigation safety rules. You may be subject to an infringement fee for offences against the *Southland Regional Council Navigation Safety Bylaws 2009* (revised 2015) for breaching any of the rules.
- Full details can be found at www.es.govt.nz**

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Navigation Safety Guidelines

Lakes Te Anau & Manapouri



Waterski lanes

- ▶ Waterski access lanes on Lake Te Anau at Blue Gum Point, Dock Bay and Brod Bay are marked with black and orange posts on the shore and buoys on the lake.
- ▶ Waterski access lanes on Lake Manapouri at Surprise Bay and Frazers Beach are marked with black and orange posts on the shore and buoys on the lake.

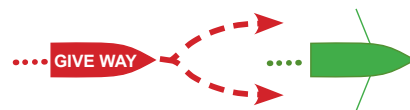
Floatplanes

- ▶ Watch out for floatplanes taking off and landing on Lake Te Anau.

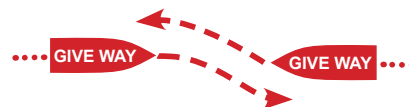


BOATING NAVIGATION TIPS

Vessels overtaking: Every overtaking vessel gives way, including sailing boats.



Power vessels head on: Both alter to starboard (right).



Power vessels crossing: Power vessels give way to others on their starboard (right) side. Give way boats should cross behind (sailing boats have different rules).



5 KNOTS Speed limits

Watch your speed near the shore, wharves and jetties. Do not exceed 5 knots within:

- ▶ 200m of the shore or any structure
- ▶ 50m of another vessel
- ▶ 50m of a person in the water

Waiau River – Between Lakes Te Anau and Manapouri

- ▶ 5 knots from The Outlet to 1.6km downstream.
- ▶ From 1.6km downstream of Lake Te Anau to Lake Manapouri from sunrise to sunset – speed uplifting.

Waiau River – Downstream of Lake Manapouri

- ▶ 5 knots from Pearl Harbour to the Mararoa Weir.

Lake Te Anau

- ▶ Slow through the Dome Islands – 5 knots.

