

# **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR BALLOT HUNTERS**

## **Briefing Times and Dates.**

All briefings will be held at the Te Anau Rugby Club, Dusky street.

- First briefing Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> of March at 6.00pm
- Second briefing Monday the 29<sup>th</sup> of March at 6:00pm
- Third briefing Thursday the 8<sup>th</sup> of April at 6.00pm
- Fourth briefing Sunday the 18<sup>th</sup> of April at 6.00pm

There will be a Foundation meeting at 4.30pm on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March, at the Te Anau Club. All welcome.

Please note all hunters must attend the briefing. **Failure to attend the briefing may result in your block being allocated to another party.** You must have photo ID.

**Any parties that withdraw after the 20<sup>th</sup> of February or simply do not turn up will be stood down from future ballots. In fairness to all other parties on the waiting list if you are not intending to take up your block please go on-line and withdraw prior to the 20<sup>th</sup> of February or as soon as possible.**

It is a legal requirement that all hunters must sign their hunting permit. If hunters fail to sign their permit their block will be reallocated to another group who will be on standby.

**All hunters must come to the briefing with this Department of Conservation hunting permit.**

This is your responsibility - no permit – no Wapiti Block permit. Follow the attached link select tick Fiordland National Park excluding Wapiti area and complete the form.

<https://huntingpermits.doc.govt.nz/huntingpermits/start>

## **Party Changes**

1. We will not be accepting any changes to hunting parties on the day of the briefing. If you have any unforeseen circumstances out of your control and need to change a member of your party you must contact Roger Foote on 0274998702 well in advance then the change will be taken under consideration by the Wapiti Committee. Party changes will attract an administration fee of \$100.00. If you turn up to the briefing with non notified changes to your party they will not be accepted and your ballot may be reallocated.
2. If all of your hunting party that are on your original party list do not turn up to the briefing to sign their permit they will be replaced by other hunters. Example-

if you are a party of six and only four of you attend the briefing to sign your permit you will only be given a permit for four hunters, the committee will place another party of two in your block. Same scenario will apply with similar situations.

Sorry because of the popularity of the Wapiti area we are forced to ensure the process is fair and reasonable for all hunters

### **Data/Permit Returns.**

When you sign your permit your party will be given a data return form. We cannot stress enough how important this return is to the management of the Wapiti herd. We believe this is the best tool we have to determine animal densities, Female to Male ratio and it helps us set the following year's harvest. **No data return and you and all members of your party will be excluded from future ballots.**

Please Note that all data returns must be filled out correctly and returned to the Fiordland Wapiti Foundation no later than **30 days** after the last day of **your** ballot period ending. Failure to do so will result in automatic disqualification from the next year's ballot for all party members.

A key point to remember. When we ask for data from the animals you shoot we mean all animals, female, males, red deer or wapiti.

The FWF has invested a lot of time and money employing Landcare New Zealand to research best management strategies for the herd. Data returns play an important part in this. This over time we feel will result in a better trophy herd for all hunters. Therefore your help and understanding is very much appreciated.

So this is your chance to play your part in managing the Wapiti herd - ensure you return your hunting permit.

### **Kea survey:**

It looks like the Kea are in real trouble - population is declining fast. The FWF have partnered with the Kea Conservation Trust to gather information about Kea population in Fiordland. We really encourage hunters to fill the Kea survey in. The Kea work that we are doing in the wapiti area will be the largest survey of its kind in NZ. The FWF are very proud to have hunters involved and leading the way in this area. Once we gather more information we believe we will be in a good position to progress into Kea protection and help these birds.

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### **Personal Safety.**

We encourage the use of a Mountain Radio and or a Personal Locator Beacon.

Mountain Radio's can be booked via-

Stewart Burnby -03 249 8363 or 021 612061 or by emailing  
[stewart@mountainradio.co.nz](mailto:stewart@mountainradio.co.nz)

Personal Locator Beacon can be booked through the Mobil Service Station Te Anau 03  
249 7247

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**The team at the Fiordland Wapiti  
Foundation wish you luck in the Wapiti  
ballot.**

**REMEMBER**

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**NO PERMIT - NO EXCEPTIONS**