

Hunter's Responsibilities & Code of Conduct

- Get the appropriate permit for hunting on DOC Public Reserves.
- Always ask for permission from private landowners.
- Know the boundary of areas hunted.
- Hold a license if using firearms.
- Dose dogs monthly (praziquantel pills).
- Do not feed dogs raw pork (can spread sarcocystosis) or mutton/goat (can spread sheep measles / hydatids) unless it has been frozen at -10 degrees for 10 days.
- Notify local community if dogs are lost.
- Releasing deer or pigs into the Sounds is an Offence and could introduce bovine TB.
- Be aware some areas of the Sounds have ticks—check your dogs after hunting.
- Be aware it is an Offence to hunt on Fore-shore Reserves and public roads.
- It is illegal to spotlight on Public Reserves.
- Personal Safety—tell someone where you are and your expected time home.
- Community safety—there are camp-grounds, baches, boats & people throughout the sounds. Know your firing zone!
- Be responsible dog owners.

NOTE: Wild pork from the sounds cannot be sold to game processors due to possible high levels of brodifacoum in the carcass. This secondary poisoning of pigs occurs when they scavenge poisoned possums and rats.

Dog Owner Legal Responsibilities

- All dogs over 3 months must be registered.
- All dogs except for farm working dogs must be micro-chipped.
- Dogs must be kept under control.
- Dogs must not scare, injure or endanger people, stock, domestic animals or protected wildlife.
- Dog Fouling at marinas and other public places must be cleaned up

For further information contact—

- Animal Control—03 520 9033

Safe Hunting in the Marlborough Sounds

Sponsored By

- Marlborough District Council
- Department of Conservation
- Sounds Hunting Competition
- Kenepuru & Central Sounds Residents Assn.

Arms Code

Seven Basic Rules

1. Treat every firearm as loaded.
2. Always point firearms in a safe direction.
3. Load a firearm only when ready to fire.
4. Identify your target beyond all doubt.
5. Check your firing zone.
6. Store firearms & ammunition safely.
7. Avoid alcohol or drugs when handling firearms.

Offences With Firearms that are especially applicable in the Sounds.

- Carrying a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle on any road.
- Discharging a firearm in or near a dwelling house or public place so as to endanger property or to endanger, annoy or frighten any person.

Notes from Local Police

- It is also illegal to shoot or spotlight from a boat into any public space (e.g. Foreshore Reserve) or private property without permission.
- The Police have the power to confiscate any gear used in illegal hunting activities, impose fines and prosecute offenders.

For more information or to report illegal activities contact -

- Havelock Police - 03 574 2011
- Picton Police - 03 520 3120

Department of Conservation Hunting Guidelines

Permits are required for hunting on all Public Reserves, and can be obtained from all DOC offices or online at:

<https://huntingpermits.doc.govt.nz:444/apply>

Hunters must check all the standard and special conditions of their permit, and follow the responsible hunting code.

Hunting is not permitted on the Foreshore Reserves in the Sounds, nor spotlighting on any Public Reserve.

Hunters using dogs must get a separate dog permit also from DOC.

There is a closed hunting season in all the Marlborough Sounds Public Reserves over the summer period between sunset on the 22th December and sunrise on the 9th February.

Hunters should also check with DOC on any poisoning programmes that may be happening in the area.

NOTE: - WEKA

The Marlborough Sounds is a final stronghold for the weka which is a protected native bird. Dogs are one of the biggest threats to these birds, so please keep them under control. DOC occasionally run 'Weka Aversion' courses to make your dog weka safe .

For further info contact -

Picton DOC Office at 03 520 3002

Community & Landowner Concerns

A lot of the Sounds is privately owned and landowners expect hunters to always ask first before hunting, to know the boundaries, and make contact with adjoining landowners promptly if dogs cross boundaries or get lost.

Landowner's Main Concerns

- **Fire**
A permit is required at all times for any open fire in the Sounds. Contact Picton DOC Office at 03 520 3002 or MDC at 03 520 7400 for more information.
- **Tuberculosis (TB)**
The Sounds is a TB free area and this could be endangered by the release of pigs or deer into the wild from outside areas.
- **Sheep Measles / Hydatids**
Un-dosed dogs can introduce and spread disease.
- **Stock-worrying from lost dogs**
Any dog seen worrying stock can be destroyed under the Dog Control Act.
- **General safety of the community**
Hunters spotlighting and/or hunting in areas they are unfamiliar with pose a threat to our community.
- **OSH**
Landowners need to warn hunters of any poisoning programmes, livestock issues or other dangers that may be present.