

Safety Information

Wear a Personal Flotation Device

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

Let someone know where you're going and when you'll be back. Contact Bluff Fishermen's Radio on VHF Ch 61.

You must be at least 15 years of age to drive a powered vessel that can go faster than 10 knots.

Take at least two means of communication with you:

- ◆ VHF radio
- ◆ Cellphone in a plastic bag
- ◆ Flares
- ◆ EPIRB Carry essential

Carry essential equipment when you go out – communications, an anchor, ropes, bailer, oars, spare fuel, torch, first aid kit and warm clothes.

Don't block access to the wharves or boat ramps.

No jumping, diving or swimming from wharves or boat ramps.

Fly the Diver's Flag when you have a diver in the water.

Don't go out in an unseaworthy boat.

Carry out regular maintenance and make sure everything is working before you leave.

Check the weather forecast – if in doubt don't go out

If you have an accident you must advise Maritime New Zealand and the Southland Harbourmaster within 48 hours.

Avoid alcohol when boating.

Infringement Fees

You are liable for an infringement fee for offences against the Southland Regional Council Navigation Safety Bylaws 2009, including:

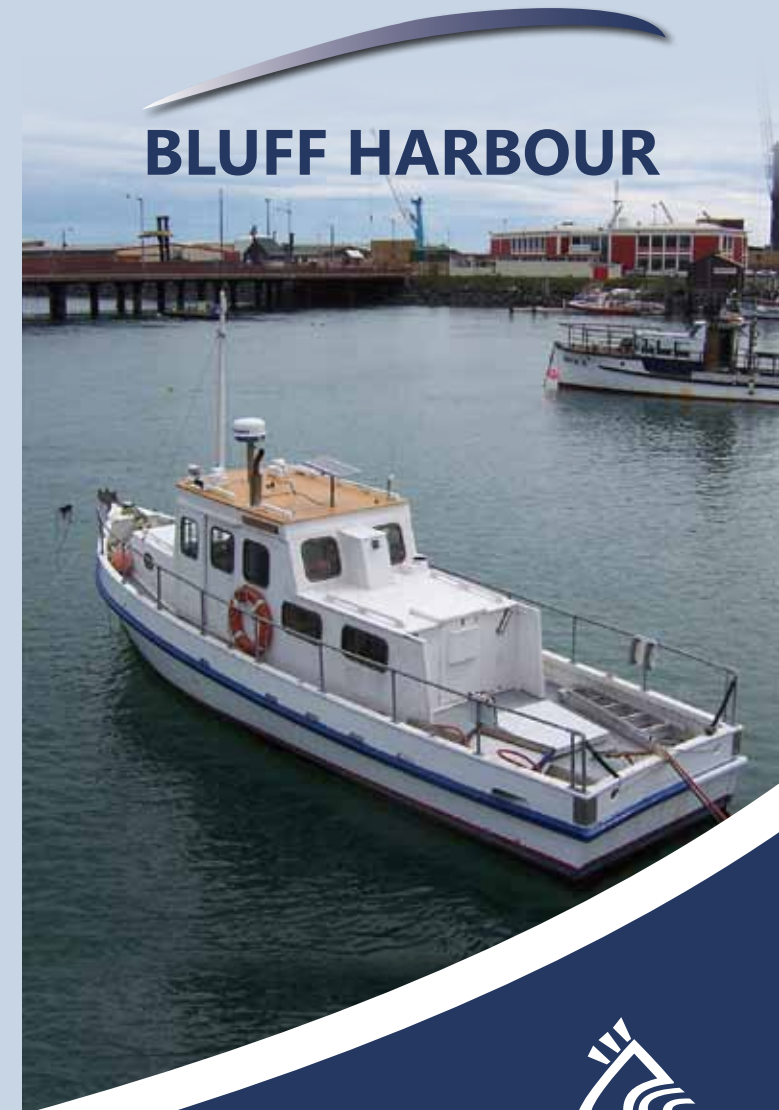
- ◆ Failing to identify a vessel with appropriate markings.
- ◆ Failing to wear a personal flotation device on a vessel under 6 metres, or to ensure persons onboard a vessel wear personal flotation devices during certain conditions.
- ◆ Exceeding 5 knots in certain conditions:
 - ◆ Within 50 metres of any other vessel, or person in the water;
 - ◆ Within 200 metres of shore, or of any structure;
 - ◆ Within 200 metres of any vessel, or raft that is flying Flag Alpha.
- ◆ Failure by a master to display Flag Alpha when diving is in operation.
- ◆ Diving or swimming near wharves or boat ramps.
- ◆ Obstructing navigation of a waterway or access to a wharf or boat ramp.
- ◆ Allowing a person under the age of 15 years to operate unsupervised a vessel capable of exceeding 10 knots.
- ◆ Failing to notify a collision or accident to the Harbourmaster.
- ◆ Operating an unseaworthy vessel.
- ◆ Securing a vessel to a navigational aid without prior permission of the Harbourmaster.

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Navigation Safety Guidelines

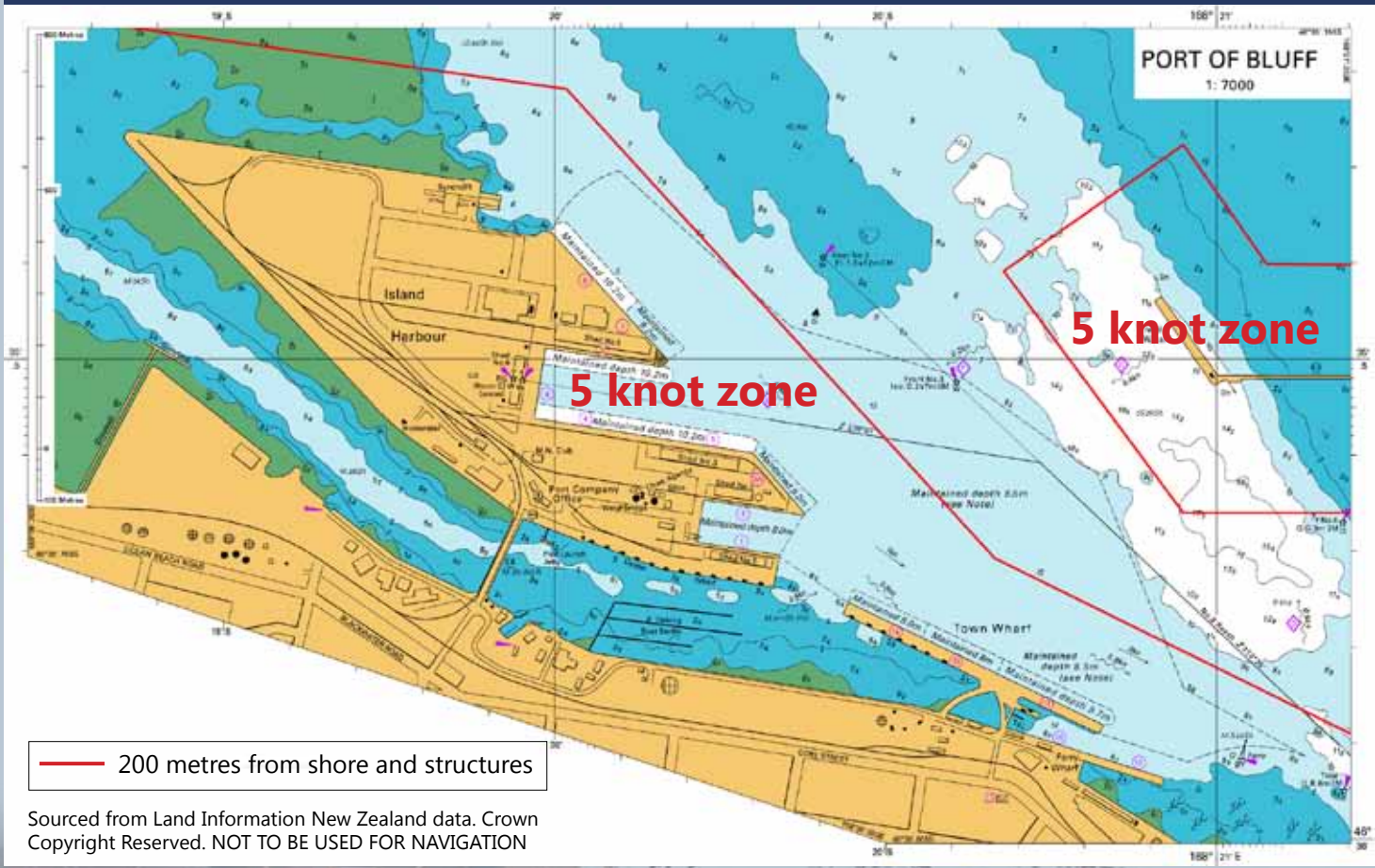
BLUFF HARBOUR



environment
SOUTHLAND

Te Taiaro Tonga

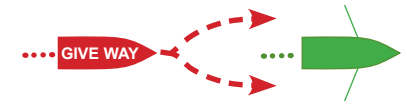
Bluff Harbour



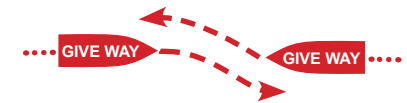
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Tips on Boating Safety

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



Power vessels head on: Both alter to starboard.



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).



Phone 0800 SOUTHLAND (76 88 45) for help or to report infringements to the Harbourmaster

Speed Limits

Watch your speed close to the shore and wharves/jetties.

Don't exceed 5 knots within:

- ◆ 200 metres of the shore or any structure
- ◆ 200 metres of any vessel flying Flag Alpha (diver's flag)
- ◆ 50 metres of another vessel
- ◆ 50 metres of a person in the water

