

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 boats less than 6 metres and at times of increased risk on all other vessels.

Don't exceed 5 knots within:

- ◆ Specified areas.
- ◆ 50 metres of another vessel.
- ◆ 50 metres of a person in the water.

It takes three to ski – boat skipper, skier and observer (who must be 10 years of age or older).

Vessel skipper must be at least 15 years of age (unless directly supervised by an experienced person of 15 years of age or older).

Use caution and ensure you have plenty of room on the water if you are towing a biscuit.

Watch out for anyone in the water near a biscuit.

Keep to the right side of the river when you go upstream or downstream.

Take at least two means of communication with you:

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

Carry an anchor, bailer, spare fuel, torch and warm clothes.

Let someone know when you go out.

There are special rules in force in the lower Oreti River. For your own safety and for the safety of others make sure you know what to do.

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
- ◆ Exceeding 5 knots while any part of a person is extended over the fore part, bow, or side of the vessel.
- ◆ Allowing a person under the age of 15 years to operate unsupervised a vessel capable of exceeding 10 knots.
- ◆ Towing a person without an observer aged 10 years of age or older.
- ◆ Proceeding dangerously in an access lane, obstructing a person using an access lane, or using an access lane other than for declared purpose.
- ◆ Towing a person between sunset and sunrise.
- ◆ Failing to keep to starboard (right) side of a river channel, or if going upstream on a river, failing to give way to a vessel coming downstream, or operating a vessel on a river when weather conditions make it unsafe to do so.

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Navigation Safety Guidelines

LOWER ORETI RIVER



environment
SOUTHLAND
Te Taiao Tonga

Lower Oreti River



Lower Oreti River Zones

To minimise conflicts between boating activities on the lower Oreti River the following zones and restrictions are in force. Markers on-shore define the boundaries of the activity zones.

AREA A – WATER SKIING

- ◆ Water skiing is permitted in Area A only.
- ◆ Only boating activities (no fishing or swimming) are permitted within 10 metres of the shoreline, from 120 metres south-east of the Southland Water Ski and Runabout Club control tower to 160 metres north-west of the same tower.
- ◆ Speed limit of 5 knots within 10 metres of the shoreline or 50 metres of any ship, raft or person in the water.
- ◆ Unrestricted speed limit beyond 10 metres of the shoreline for all craft.

AREA C – ROWING

- ◆ Speed limit of 5 knots for all boats within 10 metres of the shoreline or 50 metres of any other boat, raft or person in the water.
- ◆ Unrestricted speed limit beyond 10 metres of the shoreline for boats only associated with rowing activities. Speed limit of 5 knots for all other craft.
- ◆ During rowing regattas and rowing race days, only boats associated with rowing activities are permitted in Area C.

AREA D – POWER BOATS

- ◆ Speed limit of 5 knots within 10 metres of the shoreline or 50 metres of any other boat, raft or person in the water.
- ◆ Unrestricted speed limit beyond 10 metres of the shoreline for all craft.

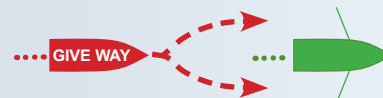
AREA B – PERSONAL WATER CRAFT (PWC OR JET SKIS)

- ◆ PWC activities are permitted in Area B only.
- ◆ Speed limit of 5 knots for all boats, including PWC within 10 metres of the shoreline or 50 metres of any other boat, raft or person in the water.
- ◆ Unrestricted speed limit beyond 10 metres of the shoreline for all craft.
- ◆ Any boat other than PWC must use Area B only for passage through that area.
- ◆ Special conditions apply during rowing regattas.

UPSTREAM OF DUNNS ROAD BRIDGE

- ◆ Speed limit of 5 knots upstream of the Dunns Road Bridge.

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