

## **NOHOANGA SITE INFORMATION SHEET**

### **ŌKĀRITO LAGOON / RIVER, TE TAI POUTINI**



#### **Location**

- The site is in the Ōkārito community in the big, open grassed space between the road and estuary / river.
- From SHW6 (Franz Josef Hwy) turn off at Forks-Okarito Road and continue to the Ōkārito township/community, about 10 minutes / 10km from SHW6.
- The site is just on the right of the road as you come in.
- The site is not signposted or marked.



### **Physical description**

- The nohoanga is a large and open site, relatively flat with occasional undulating areas.
- The seaward / river boundaries are lined with large flax and gorse bushes offering some shelter from the sea breeze. There is no other shelter or shade on the site.
- The ground can be quite mossy and boggy in places, especially after heavy or prolonged rainfall.



### **Vehicle access and parking**

- There is all vehicle access onto the site and plenty of space for parking.
- After heavy or prolonged rainfall there may be issues getting some vehicles in and out of the site.
- There is parking available off the site itself but if parking off site please take care not to obstruct any public access.



### **Facilities and services**

- There are no facilities at the Ōkārito Lagoon / River nohoanga site itself. Site users need to provide their own toilet (portaloos or chemical toilet) and shower facilities.
- Nohoanga site users are required to provide their own water supplies.
- There are public toilets located a short way up the road from the nohoanga site.
- There is a Department of Conservation camping ground located a short distance from the nohoanga site. The camping ground has toilets, showers (coin operated, \$2 coin only for 4mins hot water), water, and BBQ (\$2 for 20mins cooking time).
- The Ōkārito Ice Cream Cart (selling real fruit ice cream, smoothies, coffee, boil in bag meals, souvenirs and polished stones) operates from the Department of Conservation camping ground 1pm-5.30pm daily. This may only be over the summer months.
- There are numerous walking tracks around Ōkārito, including the Ōkārito Wetland Walk, Ōkārito Trig Walk and Three Mile Pack Track & Car Park. At low tide there are beach walks to 3 Mile and 5 Mile.
- Ōkārito has a Historic Site, a Kayak operator and Nature Tours as well as being an important birding area with kiwi and other birds.
- Franz Josef is 20km south.
- There is minimal cell phone reception.
- All rubbish and waste must be removed on departure. See key contacts below for details of refuse and dumping stations.



### **Hazards**

- Visit the Ngāi Tahu website [www.ngaitahu.iwi.nz/environment/nohoanga](http://www.ngaitahu.iwi.nz/environment/nohoanga) for up to date information regarding hazards.
- The nohoanga site, as with the community of Ōkārito, is prone to flooding at times. Generally flooding occurs with heavy or prolonged rainfall, or if the estuary backs up with water. Controlled routine openings of the river mouth / estuary are in place to reduce this type of flooding. Check weather forecasts before going to Ōkārito Lagoon / River nohoanga site and should be prepared to leave quickly should unexpected heavy rainfall occur or sea storms. There is a dangerous undertow in the locality. Extra caution is to be taken when carrying out activities in the proximity to water (i.e., whitebaiting, fishing). It is recommended that people should let someone know where they would be and how long they would take, dress appropriately and ensure the area of the river was one they could safely access.
- There is an airstrip located next to the nohoanga site, the end of the strip is located at the north-western corner of the nohoanga boundary. It is marked by white painted boundary markers on the ground. Caution should be taken if aircrafts are using the airstrip.

**Site restrictions**

- No domestic animals (including pets) are permitted.
- Fire restrictions may apply to this area. Please contact the Department of Conservation Area Office in Hokitika, before using this site to assess the situation.
- **Note** – by using the Ōkārito Lagoon / River nohoanga site you are agreeing to these conditions.



**Key contacts**

Emergency Services	Phone 111 (Police, Fire, Ambulance)
Police Station	<p>Franz Josef Police 13 Main Road, Franz Josef 03 752 0044</p> <p>Whataroa Police 43 Scally Road, Whataroa 03 756 1070</p> <p>Hokitika Police 50 Sewell Street, Hokitika 03 756 8310</p>
Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu	<p>Te Whare o Te Waipounamu 15 Show Place, Addington 8024 PO Box 13-046 CHRISTCHURCH</p> <p>0800 NOHOANGA <a href="mailto:nohoanga@ngaitahu.iwi.nz">nohoanga@ngaitahu.iwi.nz</a></p>
Department of Conservation	<p>Hokitika Area Office 10 Sewell Street, Hokitika 03 756 9100 <a href="mailto:hokitika@doc.govt.nz">hokitika@doc.govt.nz</a></p> <p>Westland Tai Poutini National Park Visitor Centre Co-located with Franz Josef I-SITE 69 Cron Street, Franz Josef Glacier 03 752 0360 <a href="mailto:westlandnpvc@doc.govt.nz">westlandnpvc@doc.govt.nz</a></p>

Westland District Council	36 Weld Street, Hokitika 03 756 9010 0800 474 834
West Coast Fish and Game (fishing licence outlets)	Airport Drive, Hokitika 03 755 8546
Hospital / Doctors	West Coast DHB – South Westland Area Practice 97 Cron St, Franz Josef 03 751 0836  Westland Medical Centre 54A Sewell Street, Hokitika 03 755 8180  Grey Base Hospital, Greymouth 71 Water Walk Road, Greymouth 03 769 7400
Dumping Stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Franz Josef Glacier Motors Mobil D/S</li> <li>• Greymouth Public D/S New World car park</li> <li>• Greymouth Public D/S Cobden Bridge</li> <li>• Greymouth Public D/S Caltex</li> <li>• Haast Public D/S Marks Road</li> <li>• Hokitika Public D/S Sewerage ponds, SH6</li> <li>• Nelson Creek Public D/S</li> <li>• Nelson Creek Domain</li> <li>• Pleasant Flat SH6 DOC Camp D/S</li> <li>• Ross Information and Heritage Centre D/S Aylmer Street</li> <li>• Runanga Public D/S Runanga Working Men's Club</li> <li>• Westport Public D/S Countdown</li> <li>• Westport Public D/S New World</li> </ul>
Transfer Stations	Whataroa Transfer Station Franz Josef Transfer Station