Southland District Council

Freedom Camping Bylaw
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Document Revision

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Pursuant to the Freedom Camping Act 2011 the Council makes the following bylaw:

1. **Title and Commencement**

   (a) This Bylaw is the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2015.
   (b) This Bylaw comes into force on 12 December 2015.
   (c) The Camping Control Bylaw 2012 is consequently repealed.

2. **Definitions**

   In this bylaw unless the context otherwise requires:

   - **Camping Ground** has the meaning given by Section 5 (3) of the Act.
   - **Council** means the Southland District Council or any person delegated by it to act on its behalf.
   - **Designated area** means any area shown on the maps in Schedule 2 where freedom camping is permitted subject to the specified conditions.
   - **District** means the district of the Council.
   - **Freedom Camp** has the meaning given by Sections 5 (1) and (2) of the Act.
   - **Local Authority Area** means any part of land in the district that is controlled or managed by the Council under any enactment but does not include land that is permanently covered by water.
   - **Prohibited area** means any area specified in Schedules 1 and 2 where freedom camping is prohibited.
   - **Self-contained vehicle** means a vehicle designed and built for the purpose of camping which has the capability of meeting the ablutionary and sanitary needs of occupants of that vehicle for a minimum of three days without requiring any external services or discharging any waste and complies with New Zealand Standard 5465:2001, as evidenced by the display of a current self-containment warrant issued under New Zealand Standard Self Containment of Motor Caravans and Caravans, NZS 5465:2001.
   - **Urban Zone** means those local authority areas depicted as urban zones in the planning maps of the Southland District Plan.

3. **Local Authority Areas Where Freedom Camping Permitted**

   Any person may freedom camp in any local authority area unless it is restricted or prohibited by:
   
   (a) This bylaw.
   (b) Any other enactment.

4. **Restrictions on Freedom Camping in a designated area**

   Any person may freedom camp in a designated area for a maximum of seven nights in any 30 day period, or such other period as is specified in Schedule 2 for that designated area.
5. Restrictions on Freedom Camping in local authority areas

Notwithstanding any other provision of this bylaw a person must not freedom camp in any local authority area for more than one month in any three months.

6. Prohibitions against Freedom Camping

A person must not freedom camp in a prohibited area without the prior consent of the Council granted in accordance with clause 7.

7. Consent of the Council to Freedom Camping

Any person may at least 10 days in advance apply in writing to the Council:

(a) To freedom camp in a prohibited area identified in Schedule 1 or 2.
(b) Waive or modify any specified restriction in respect of any local authority area in Schedule 1 or 2.

The Council may grant consent with or without conditions.

8. Offences

Every person commits an offence against this bylaw who freedom camps or prepares to freedom camp in any local authority area in breach of any restriction or prohibition in this bylaw.

9. Penalties for breach of Bylaw

Every person who commits an offence against this bylaw is liable to the penalties prescribed by any regulations made under the Act.
General Freedom Camping Rules

This Schedule contains general freedom camping rules that apply across the Southland District.

1. **Prohibited areas**

Except as provided in Schedule 2, freedom camping is prohibited in the following:

(a) Urban zones; and

(b) Council-controlled car parks; and

(c) Council-controlled boating areas (including any wharf, jetty, boat ramp, boat marshalling area); and

(d) Playgrounds; and

(e) Sports grounds; and

(f) Cemeteries; and

(g) Walking tracks; and

(h) Signposted lookouts; and

2. **Signposted picnic areas**

Except as provided in Schedule 2, a person must not freedom camp in any signposted picnic area for more than three days in any 30 day period.

3. **Fire safety at designated sites**

The following fire safety rules apply to all designated freedom camping sites in Schedule 2:

(a) Open fires are prohibited, except in a safe fire facility provided by Council.

(b) During a fire ban only gas cookers or gas barbeques are permitted.

(c) Conditions of use of safe fire facilities provided by Council:

(i) Fires must be supervised at all times; and

(ii) Have water available to control fire escape; and

(iii) Fire is to be extinguished prior to departure; and

(d) Gas cookers or barbeques - permitted at all times.

*Note: For convenience Urban Zones are shown on the maps in Schedule 2. For technical reasons other areas that are referred to above cannot be shown.*
Local Community Freedom Camping Rules

This Schedule contains freedom camping rules specific to a local community that are in addition to the freedom camping rules in Schedule 1.
Camping Prohibited (camping allowed only in camping ground)
Camping Permitted for not more than 3 days in any 30 day period

Rules apply only to Council controlled land.

D3 - Dunsdale
E1 - Edendale

Self-contained Camping Areas
Camping Restricted: non self-contained camping prohibited. Self-contained camping permitted for a maximum of 3 days in any 30 day period.

Rules apply only to Council controlled land.
G1 - Garston

Camping Prohibited

Rules apply only to Council controlled land.
Camping Prohibited
Camping Restricted

Rules apply only to Council controlled land.

Self and non self-contained camping areas
Camping restricted: non self-contained camping prohibited. Self-contained camping permitted for a maximum of 3 days in any 30 day period.
Overnight camping permitted in self-contained vehicles only in any 30 day period

Rules apply only to Council controlled land.
Camping Permitted for not more than 28 days per calendar year
Camping Permitted for not more than 4 days in any 30 day period

Camping Prohibited
O4 - Otautau

Self-contained Camping Areas
Camping Restricted: non self-contained camping prohibited. Self-contained camping permitted for a maximum of 5 days in any 30 day period.

Rules apply only to Council controlled land.
Camping Permitted for not more than 28 days per calendar year

Camping Prohibited (Playground)

T2 - Thombury

Rules apply only to Council controlled land.
INSET MAP

Self-contained camping up to 7 nights in any 30 day period

Camping Prohibited

SEE INSET MAP

W1 - Waikaia

Self-contained Camping Areas
Camping Prohibited

Rules apply only to Council controlled land.

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