

# Quarantine procedures for visiting Maud Island

Help keep our islands free of predators, weeds and disease



**Congratulations – You are fortunate to spend some time on a predator free island.**

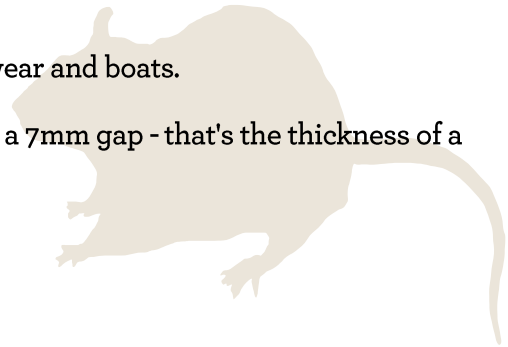
## Did you know?

Pests can and do hitch rides on or in bags, clothing, footwear and boats.

Rats can squeeze through a 12mm gap, and mice through a 7mm gap - that's the thickness of a slice of bread!

Insect pests and mice can hide in your bags.

Weed seeds and soil cling to clothing and shoes.



The Department of Conservation (DOC) administers island sanctuaries for the benefit of all New Zealanders to provide a refuge for some of New Zealand's most threatened species and ecosystems. One of the greatest threats to the endemic species living on these islands is the introduction of pest animals, plants, or diseases that do not naturally occur on the island. Rodents, insects, (e.g. invasive ants or white-tailed spider) and diseases that affect birds or reptiles can be easily transported on footwear, clothing and equipment taken to islands by people.

To prevent these threats reaching our islands staff will check your jackets, footwear and camera bags before landing on the island. Please make this process simple for everyone by ensuring that your gear is checked and cleaned before leaving home. Dirty gear will not be allowed on the island.

## How to check your gear and what to look for

### **Bags:**

Packs are an extremely good way of transporting weed seeds. They often contain numerous flaps, pockets, straps and cavities that are difficult to thoroughly clean. Because of this bags will NOT be allowed on the island.



**Footwear:**

Before arriving at the wharf please clean your footwear thoroughly.

Fungal diseases that affect frogs and lizards have been shown to be able to be transported on dirty footwear. Scrub the soles of your footwear thoroughly with soapy water

Weed seeds can also be carried on footwear. These are most commonly found attached to laces and at the base of the tongue where it joins the body of the shoe/boot. Check this area thoroughly. Remember to lift any inner soles and check for seeds and dirt here as well.

**Socks:**

Like footwear weed seeds are commonly found embedded in socks. Your socks should be clean and checked for seeds.

**Rain coats/jackets/over trousers and outer clothing (e.g. fleece tops):**

Weed seeds and insects can be found in jacket pockets, flaps, seams and velcro fastenings. Thoroughly check that your pockets are clean and empty. Also remove any traces of soil from these items. Vacuum inside all pockets.

**Clothing:**

All clothing should be clean. Pay particular attention to pockets and velcro closures for weed seeds.

**Food:**

Rodents and insects can be carried amongst food. Food will NOT be allowed on the island. You may take your drink bottle.

**Many thanks for your cooperation. Have a great time, and enjoy this unique experience.**

