



Beneath the Reflections – guide book launched

By **AMY MILNE**

IT was a project born around the time the Fiordland Marine Guardians were established three and a half years ago, but now it's a reality.

At the Civic Theatre in Invercargill last night about 100 invited guests and officials, including Environment Minister Trevor Mallard and former Fisheries Minister Pete Hodgson, gathered for the guardians' new Fiordland Marine Area users guide book launch.

Guardians chairman Malcolm Lawson said it had been a comprehensive process to get the initial idea, sparked back in late 2004, to publication.

The 130-page guide, *Beneath the Reflections*, was written collectively

by the guardians with the Environment Ministry, Department of Conservation, Fisheries Ministry, MAF-Biosecurity and Environment Southland.

It had been peer reviewed and designed to be functional to readers.

"Because it involves things such as fishery regulations, which change over time ... we've anticipated provisions and included a sleeve in the back of the book where people can put in any updates."

Over time a second edition, to include any major changes, would be published.

Mr Lawson said communication was a major part of the guardians' work.

"We need to get the word out about how we can all protect and use the area in a sustainable way.

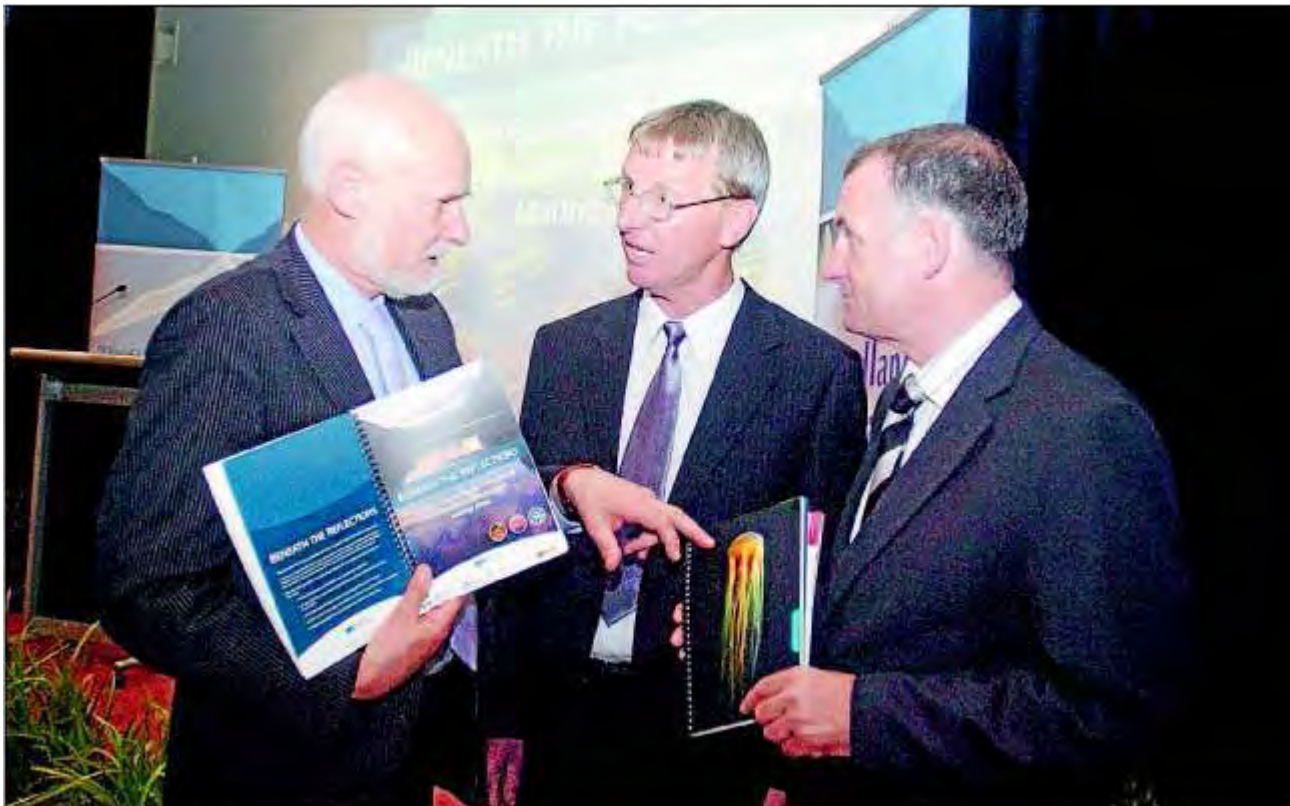
"We have our website running, new signposts around the area, a regular newsletter and now this beautiful and comprehensive guide.

Mr Mallard said the guide was a great resource.

"It's a great way to learn about the delicate marine life and the environmental balance that is required for the area to flourish," Mr Mallard said.

The guide costs \$15 and will be available from the Te Anau and Invercargill DOC offices.

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At the launch: (From left) former Fisheries Minister Pete Hodgson, Fiordland Marine Guardians chairman Malcolm Lawson and Environment Minister Trevor Mallard at the official launch of the Fiordland Marine Area users guide book.



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FIORDLAND MARINE AREA **USER'S GUIDE**

The guide includes:

- ▶ An introduction to the Fiordland marine environment
- ▶ An account of the creation of the Fiordland (Te Moana o Atawhenua) Marine Area, and how it is managed
- ▶ An introduction to the history, and physical and biological character, of Fiordland
- ▶ Practical user information about activities permitted including all of the relevant regulations
- ▶ A fiord-by-fiord guide for the Fiordland (Te Moana o Atawhenua) Marine Area