



NATURAL CHARACTER EVALUATION TABLE

Biophysical Characteristics

Landforms | medium to low relief reinforced by indigenous vegetation patterns. Intact landform comprises a sequence of ridges, valleys, streams and hollows. The coastal edge is characterised by headlands, coastal slopes, bays, escarpments and shoals extending from Oahuru Bay to Hautapu Point.

Vegetation type, Cover & Patterns | extensive endemic vegetation cover comprising regenerating coastal forest connecting to the wider forests of the Coromandel Peninsula. Vegetation patterns reinforce the underlying topography.

Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies | the area of water on the eastern side of the Hautapu Channel has a strong engagement with the coastal edge. The flat nature of the sea amplifies the relief of the intact landform.

Land Uses / Activities / Structure | aside from the presence of marine farm the character area is relatively unmodified imparting a strong sense of naturalness.

Habitat Value | low modification, vegetation cover, the rocky shore, tidal bays and landform including valleys and coastal slopes provide varied habitat.

Natural Processes | landform is expressive of the interplay of tidal rhythm and coastal exposure with headlands, rocky shoals, and small sandy beaches.

Rating of Biophysical Characteristics



Perceptual Characteristics

Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness | the tidal interactions, vegetation cover and the landforms engagement with the Hautapu Channel imbue a sense of remoteness and wilderness.

Experiential Attributes | prominence of natural processes, limited presence of structures/buildings and endemic vegetation patterns impart a strong sense of naturalness.

Context / Setting | Orientation towards the Hautapu Channel provides engagement with this section of the Hauraki Gulf. The unit imparts a high degree of naturalness due to connection to the wider forest landscape of the Coromandel Peninsula, despite adjacent marine farms and farmland to the north.

Transient / Dynamic Attributes | the coastal edge of the landform directly engages with the ebb and flow of the ocean. The ocean and streams display ephemeral qualities resulting from atmospheric conditions, variations of day / year, tide and wildlife.

Night-time Values | an outstanding degree of naturalness is derived from limited exposure to lights given the absence of dwellings and structures within the unit.

Rating of Perceptual Characteristics



Overall Natural Character Evaluation

(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)

OUTSTANDING