



NATURAL CHARACTER EVALUATION TABLE

Biophysical Characteristics

Landforms | distinctive island with a steep mounded profile characterised by coastal slopes, escarpments and rocky shoals. Dynamic interaction with the ocean on the south and west sides with shallow bays separated by small headlands and rocky shoals.

Vegetation type, Cover & Patterns | windswept native coastal vegetation covers the island. Large Pohutakawa and Kanuka inhabit the more fertile shallow slopes and hollows giving way to coastal scrub on the ridgelines and steep escarpments. Vegetation patterns reflecting exposure and underlying topography.

Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies | the contrast between the flat profile of the Waimate Channel and the sudden rise in elevation of the island amplify the prominence and relief of the landform. The ebb and flow of ocean and its dynamic interaction with the coast impart a strong sense of naturalness.

Land Uses / Activities / Structure | the island is devoid of modification imparting of strong sense of naturalness.

Habitat Value | a range of habitats occur a result of vegetation patterns, varying exposure (due to aspect), the dynamic tidal shoreline and the varied coastline which provides sheltered bays and exposed rocky faces.

Natural Processes | rocky outcrops, bluffs, and stony beaches are highly expressive of the interplay of tidal interaction and coastal exposure.

Rating of Biophysical Characteristics



Perceptual Characteristics

Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness | the combination of the islands unmodified state; remoteness and expression of coastal processes impart a strong sense of naturalness and wildness.

Experiential Attributes | evident coastal processes associated with the exposed nature of the island, atmospheric conditions and interaction with the sea impart a sense of naturalness.

Context / Setting | Motutapere Island forms part of a larger group of volcanic remnants which scatter this part of the Hauraki Gulf providing a strong sense of isolation.

Transient / Dynamic Attributes | the island directly engages with the ebb and flow of the ocean and displays ephemeral qualities resulting from atmospheric conditions, variations of day / year, tide and wildlife.

Night-time Values | a high degree of naturalness is derived from limited exposure to lights given the absence of dwellings and structures and isolation from the mainland.

Rating of Perceptual Characteristics



Overall Natural Character Evaluation

(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)

OUTSTANDING