



NATURAL CHARACTER EVALUATION TABLE

Biophysical Characteristics

- Landforms** | Motuoruhi Island has a steep mounded profile and is surrounded by several outlying reefs and islands. This cluster of landforms is characterised by headlands, bluffs, escarpments, coastal slopes and rocky shoals.
- Vegetation type, Cover & Patterns** | windswept native coastal vegetation covers four islands reflecting coastal exposure and underlying topography. Mature trees inhabit fertile valleys and shallow slopes giving way to coastal scrub on ridgelines and rocky crags.
- Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies** | the contrast between the flat profile of sea and the sudden rise in elevation of the islands amplify the prominence and relief of the landform. The ebb and flow of the sea and its interaction with the coast impart a strong sense of naturalness.
- Land Uses / Activities / Structure** | no human activities or structures exist or are apparent on the islands.
- Habitat Value** | a range of habits occur a result of vegetation patterns, varying exposure (due to aspect), the tidal shoreline which provides contrast between sheltered bays and exposed rocky faces.
- Natural Processes** | rocky outcrops, bluffs, and stony beaches are highly expressive of the interplay of tidal rhythm and coastal exposure.

Rating of Biophysical Characteristics □ □ □ □ ■
Very Low.....Very High

Perceptual Characteristics

- Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness** | the combination of the islands unmodified state, atmospheric conditions, isolation and expression of coastal processes heighten the raw and wild character of these islands.
- Experiential Attributes** | unmodified rocky islands which are expressive of natural processes and evoke a strong sense of being divorced from human activity.
- Context / Setting** | the open surface of sea provides a dramatic setting and defines the island landscape. Nearby marine farms are starting to impact on the perceived intactness of the coastal environment.
- 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 □ □ □ □ ■
Very Low.....Very High

Overall Natural Character Evaluation **OUTSTANDING**
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)