



0 0.50 1KM

— Outstanding Natural Character Area
— High Natural Character Area



NATURAL CHARACTER EVALUATION TABLE

Biophysical Characteristics

Landforms | intact coastal foothills orientated seaward with medium to strong relief. The undulating landform displays a sequence of valleys and ridgelines expressive of formative processes.

Vegetation type, Cover & Patterns | extensive remnant and regenerating indigenous forest giving way to pasture along ridgelines. Its windswept nature provides a strong sense of exposure.

Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies | the flat expanse of the Firth of Thames amplifies the prominence and relief of the landforms.

Land Uses / Activities / Structure | despite the rural outlook comprising pasture, farm dwellings, sheds, and fences; the character unit itself is predominantly untouched imparting a sense of naturalness.

Habitat Value | diverse coastal habitat due to vegetation cover, intact coastal landform as well as the connection to the vegetated mountains of the wider Coromandel Peninsula.

Natural Processes | interplay between remnant vegetation and rural pasture reinforces landform, coastal erosion and stream entrenchment.

Rating of Biophysical Characteristics

Very Low.....Very High

Perceptual Characteristics

Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness | despite nearby dwellings, and farmland located outside the unit, the windswept nature of the vegetation and the intact state of the landform imbue a sense of wildness.

Experiential Attributes | clearly articulated hill and ridge sequence, reinforced by vegetation patterns and stream corridors.

Context / Setting | rural outlook and intrusion of wilding pines along the coastal edge has a negative effect of the perceived intactness and cohesion of the coastal environment as a whole.

Transient / Dynamic Attributes | the elevated landform and the exposed aspect make the unit highly receptive to atmospheric conditions with the upper slopes being lost to low cloud in adverse weather. The streams display ephemeral qualities which vary during seasons and weather patterns.

Night-time Values | a degree of naturalness is derived from limited exposure to lights given the absence of dwellings and structures within the unit. Proximity to dwellings at Papaaroa and Amodeo Bay does start to affect the perceived intactness of the coastal environment.

Rating of Perceptual Characteristics

Very Low.....Very High

Overall Natural Character Evaluation

(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)

HIGH