



0 0.25 0.5KM
— Outstanding Natural Character Area
— High Natural Character Area



NATURAL CHARACTER EVALUATION TABLE

Biophysical Characteristics

Landforms | prominent ridgeline characterised by a rocky shore, escarpments, and rocky outcrops. The tidal flats of Colville Bay and Wangaahi Bay provide contrast with the moderate relief of the landform.

Vegetation type, Cover & Patterns | prominent headland flanked in mature Pohutakawa and Manuka with underlying coastal scrub. Large trees inhabit gullies giving way to coastal scrub on steep rocky escarpments, highly expressive of the underlying landform.

Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies | the extensive intertidal nature of Colville Bay comprises scattered mangroves and mudflats which are expressive of the dynamic interaction with the Hauraki Gulf. The contrast between the flat profile of the Bay and the sudden rise in elevation of the peninsula amplify the prominence and relief of the landform.

Land Uses / Activities / Structure | unmodified with the exception of two discreetly located dwellings, imparting a strong sense of naturalness.

Habitat Value | high diversity of habitat types with low modification of the coastal environment. It includes expansive estuarine environments, rocky shorelines, and remnant and regenerating coastal forest.

Natural Processes | steeply eroding slopes and the rocky shoreline are highly expressive of coastal processes and exposure; whilst the shallow tidal flats are expressive of the dynamic interaction between the nearby Maurea, Kairaumati and Umangawha Streams and the ebb and flow of the ocean.

Rating of Biophysical Characteristics

Very Low.....Very High

Perceptual Characteristics

Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness | the patterns of vegetation and the landforms engagement with the vast intertidal flats imbue a sense of rawness and wilderness to the coastal environment.

Experiential Attributes | evident coastal processes associated with the exposed nature of the headland and interaction with the more enclosed dynamic tidal variations of the bays impart a sense of naturalness.

Context / Setting | the landform has a strong connection to the wider indigenous forest of the Coromandel Peninsula enhancing the sense of naturalness. The nearby areas of modification including the road network, dwellings at Whanaahei, production forestry and pastoral land start to affect the perceived integrity of the coastal environment as a whole.

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

Night-time Values | the proximity of the road network and the presence of a number of dwellings, within and nearby to the unit, start to have an effect on the perceived intactness of the natural environment due to light pollution.

Rating of Perceptual Characteristics

Very Low.....Very High

Overall Natural Character Evaluation

(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)

HIGH