



NATURAL CHARACTER EVALUATION TABLE

Biophysical Characteristics

Landforms | intact dynamic hill country characterised by an assemblage of prominent ridgelines, coastal facing slopes, hollows and steep valleys flanked by extensive indigenous forest. The landform exhibits strong relief and lies on the coastal edge of the greater Moehau Range.

Vegetation type, Cover & Patterns | extensive indigenous coastal forest reinforces the underlying landform. The wind swept nature of the vegetation coupled with the complexity of plant communities impart a high degree of naturalness.

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

Land Uses / Activities / Structure | the unit is devoid of built form and therefore imparts a high degree of naturalness.

Habitat Value | low modification, extensive forest cover and landform including valleys, ridgelines, streams and coastal slopes provide varied habitat.

Natural Processes | the underlying landform is expressive of formative processes coupled with natural erosion.

Rating of Biophysical Characteristics

 Very Low.....Very High

Perceptual Characteristics

Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness | the extensive vegetation cover and the legibility of the underlying landform imbues a sense of wildness.

Experiential Attributes | the scale and dramatic vertical relief of the landform flanked by extensive indigenous forest impart a high degree of naturalness.

Context / Setting | while adjacent pasture and farming activities are noticeable they remain subservient in the context of the wider landscape.

Transient / Dynamic Attributes | the elevated landform and the exposed aspect make the unit highly receptive to atmospheric conditions. The streams display ephemeral qualities which vary during seasons and weather patterns.

Night-time Values | a high degree of naturalness is derived from limited exposure to lights given the absence of dwellings and structures within the unit. Proximity to Port Jackson Road starts 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