



NATURAL CHARACTER EVALUATION TABLE

Biophysical Characteristics

Landforms | dynamic coastline characterised by headlands, escarpments, rocky shoals, outcrops and the stony beach of Goat Bay. These rugged features are backed by the broad ridgelines and valleys of the coastal foothills which connect to the wider Moehau Range.

Vegetation type, Cover & Patterns | pastoral land cover gives way to large tracts of regenerating and remnant vegetation in valleys and on hill slopes, reflective of the underlying topography. Pohutakawa scatter the coastal edge, valley floor and steep coastal slopes adding to a strong sense of naturalness.

Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies | the complex coastal edge and steep relief of the landform engage strongly with the ebb and flow of the ocean. The flat waters of Goat Bay and the eastern Hauraki Gulf amplify the sudden rise in landform.

Land Uses / Activities / Structure | with absence of dwellings and structures the pastoral land use is subservient to the intact nature of the landform and indigenous vegetation patterns.

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

Natural Processes | natural qualities are clearly evident in the legible landform, native vegetation patterns and their relationship with the Hauraki Gulf contributing to the sense of remoteness.

Rating of Biophysical Characteristics



Perceptual Characteristics

Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness | limited modification, isolation, intactness of landform and the expressive nature of the vegetation provide a strong sense of wilderness.

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

Context / Setting | pastoral landcover is subservient to the backdrop of the wider forest flanked foothills and mountains of the Moehau Range. Strong connection with the Hauraki Gulf.

Transient / Dynamic Attributes | the elevated landform and the exposed aspect make the unit highly receptive to atmospheric conditions with upper slopes being lost to cloud in adverse weather. 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 lack of structures within the unit. Proximity to Port Jackson Road will have minimal effect on night-time values.

Rating of Perceptual Characteristics



Overall Natural Character Evaluation
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)

HIGH