



0 0.25 0.5KM

— Outstanding Natural Character Area
— High Natural Character Area



NATURAL CHARACTER EVALUATION TABLE

Biophysical Characteristics

Landforms | intact land form with medium relief is reinforced by vegetation patterns. The hill country lies on the edge of the Moehau Range and includes ridge lines, hollows and valleys.

Vegetation type, Cover & Patterns | regenerating indigenous pioneer species flank the hills behind Port Charles, highly expressive of the underlying landform.

Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies | the flat expanse of the waters and tidal flats of Port Charles contrast with the landform, amplifying the elevation.

Land Uses / Activities / Structure | devoid of dwellings and structures, the unit is expressive of natural processes.

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

Natural Processes | coastal landforms. Indigenous vegetation reinforces coastal exposure and stream entrenchment.

Rating of Biophysical Characteristics

Very Low.....Very High

Perceptual Characteristics

Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness | proximity to Port Charles, Port Charles Road and Sandy Bay remove the sense of isolation from human activity; however the setting provided by orientation towards the ocean and backdrop of the Moehau Range means a sense of wildness is retained.

Experiential Attributes | naturalness is experienced through intact landform flanked by indigenous vegetation cover.

Context / Setting | orientation towards the ocean and backdrop of the wider Moehau range impart a sense of naturalness, despite proximity to Port Charles and Sandy Bay.

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 degree of naturalness is derived from limited exposure to lights given the absence of dwellings and structures within the unit. Proximity to Port Charles and Sandy 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