



NATURAL CHARACTER EVALUATION TABLE

Biophysical Characteristics

Landforms | a sequence of headlands, cliffs, bluffs, escarpments, rocky shoals and islands. Motukokopu Island is a volcanic island, highly weathered and the degree of exposure is reinforced by low growing vegetation which clings to rocky faces.

Vegetation type, Cover & Patterns | pockets of remnant bush. Windswept and pioneering vegetation species cling to coastal cliffs further reflecting the exposed nature of the character unit.

Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies | strong orientation towards the Pacific Ocean providing dramatic engagement with the water. Elevated landform provides contrast to the flat expanse of the Ocean.

Land Uses / Activities / Structure | pastoral land cover in places is subservient to the remoteness, legibility of formative processes and interactions with the Pacific Ocean.

Habitat Value | low modification, landform including exposed coastal slopes, and the rock lined Coastal Marine Area provide habitat opportunities.

Natural Processes | the steep volcanic coastline is highly expressive of coastal exposure and tidal interaction evident through, sheer cliffs, exposed eroding slopes, rocky beaches, outcrops, shoals and islands.

Rating of Biophysical Characteristics



Perceptual Characteristics

Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness | orientation seaward and the exposed nature of the unit provide a strong sense of isolation and wilderness.

Experiential Attributes | exposure and vulnerability to harsh conditions provide a strong sense of naturalness.

Context / Setting | adjacent coastal foothills flanked in indigenous vegetation enhance the sense of naturalness. Similarly strong orientation seawards provides a connection to the wider Pacific Ocean.

Transient / Dynamic Attributes | exposure to the Ocean makes the unit highly receptive to atmospheric conditions. Seasons, changes in weather patterns and the ebb and flow of the tide enhance the naturalness of the unit.

Night-time Values | a high degree of naturalness is derived from limited exposure to lights given the lack of dwellings and roads within the unit and the orientation towards the sea.

Rating of Perceptual Characteristics



Overall Natural Character Evaluation

(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)

HIGH