



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



NATURAL CHARACTER EVALUATION TABLE

Biophysical Characteristics

Landforms | Intact prominent headland (Motuhua Point), steep coastal escarpments, craggy cliffs and rock platforms which provides a strong backdrop to the western end of Otama Beach

Vegetation type, Cover & Patterns | sequence of regenerating to mature coastal forest cover, giving way to pioneer coastal shrub lands on ridgelines and exposed coastal slopes which reinforce underlying topography.

Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies | exposed aspect and interaction with the Pacific Ocean amplifies the relief and steepness of the coastal slopes.

Land Uses / Activities / Structure | devoid of buildings and structures – adjacent road corridor and forestry impacts on the cohesion and naturalness of the coastal environment

Habitat Value | varied forest habitat benefiting from low modification, extensive indigenous vegetation cover and exposed coastal landform.

Natural Processes | highly expressive landform and strong elevated relief reinforced by indigenous vegetation patterns. Wind swept vegetation and coastal erosion reinforce the exposure and interaction with the sea and rawness of the coastal environment.

Rating of Biophysical Characteristics □ □ □ **□** □
Very Low.....Very High

Perceptual Characteristics

Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness | the extensive vegetation cover and landform engagement with the Pacific Ocean impart a sense of wildness.

Experiential Attributes | very dramatic landform, with exposed slopes that dynamically interact with the Pacific Ocean and impart a high degree of naturalness – relative absence of dwelling and structures reinforce a sense of remoteness.

Context / Setting | part of a broader sequence of ridges and hill country rising up to Black Jack Hill – dwellings, farming, and forestry are apparent in close proximity to the unit and impact of the cohesion and intactness of the coastal environment.

Transient / Dynamic Attributes | highly atmospheric interaction with Pacific Ocean, affected by weather and light conditions, time of year / day. Apparent coastal birdlife.

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

Rating of Perceptual Characteristics □ □ □ **□** □
Very Low.....Very High

Overall Natural Character Evaluation
 (Biophysical and Perceptual Values) **HIGH**