



NATURAL CHARACTER EVALUATION TABLE

Biophysical Characteristics

- Landforms** | landform with medium relief comprises ridgelines, coastal slopes, hollows and valleys. An amalgam of rocky outcrops, bluffs and shoals scatter the shoreline, evidence of coastal exposure and erosion.
- Vegetation type, Cover & Patterns** | patches of regenerating native vegetation are beginning to inhabit valleys reinforcing the underlying topography. A mixture of coastal scrub, mature Pohutakawa and wilding pines occupy the steep and eroding coastal slopes.
- Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies** | the flat expanse of the Firth of Thames and Wilsons Bay amplify the relief of the landform and complexity of the coastal edge
- Land Uses / Activities / Structure** | presence of wilding pines, pasture, and fence lines are subservient to the naturalness achieved through coastal exposure and legibility of landform.
- Habitat Value** | presence of streams, variety of aspects, vegetation cover and the rocky shore provide a range of habitat types.
- Natural Processes** | the landscape is expressive of the interplay between the elevated volcanic landform, Wilsons Bay and the Firth of Thames. Evidence of this includes volcanic rock on the Wilson Bay point, Wilsons Bay beach, and the rocky shoreline.

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

Perceptual Characteristics

- Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness** | absence of built form, regenerating native forest and expressive landform provide a sense of wildness.
- Experiential Attributes** | prominence of natural processes, lack of buildings / structures and regenerating native forest impart a strong sense of naturalness.
- Context / Setting** | the unit is part of a sequence of pastoral hills with regenerating native forest in valleys. Limited presence of buildings and structures provide a sense of remoteness.
- Transient / Dynamic Attributes** | elevated landform and exposed aspect make the unit receptive to atmospheric conditions. The tidal rhythm, streams, and wildlife 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. Proximity to SH25 and nearby dwellings have an impact on the perceived intactness of the coastal environment.

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

Overall Natural Character Evaluation
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values) HIGH