



NATURAL CHARACTER EVALUATION TABLE

Biophysical Characteristics

Landforms | extensive sequence of coastal foothills, headlands, escarpments, coves, rocky outcrops and the sandy bead at Te Karo Bay.

Vegetation type, Cover & Patterns | contiguous cover of remnant and regenerating indigenous coastal forest giving way to coastal shrub land on more exposed slopes and extending to the shoreline.

Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies | rocky exposed eastern coastline has a strong interaction with the Pacific Ocean. A number of streams and tributaries drain from the coastal slopes, running along the base of the deep valleys and gullies to the coast.

Land Uses / Activities / Structure | coastal forest is interspersed with sporadic house sites which affect the physical and perceived naturalness of the coastal environment, but given their separation from one another and integration amongst bush remain relatively subservient to natural elements patterns and processes.

Habitat Value | diverse and expansive habitat ranging from forested gullies and ridges descending into rocky outcrops and beach areas.

Natural Processes | rugged coastal environment highly expressive of the interplay between the rocky coastline and the Pacific Ocean. Windswept vegetation and coastal erosion on steeper slopes and outcrops further reinforces the dynamic natural process at play.

Rating of Biophysical Characteristics



Perceptual Characteristics

Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness | the combination of raw landforms, remnant forest, prominent rocky coastal features and the landscapes isolation imbue this landscape with a sense of remoteness and wildness despite the presence of scattered housing.

Experiential Attributes | clearly articulated sequence of ridge and valley topography combined with forest remnants and natural coastal margins to create a very clearly structured and patterned coastal environment with a strong endemic signature.

Context / Setting | part of a broader sequence of hill country extending up to Pumpkin Hill and further north to Kohungahunga. Presence of forestry and housing atop of Pumpkin Hill affects the perceived intactness of the coastal environment.

Transient / Dynamic Attributes | coastal erosion, tidal processes, seasonal change, atmospheric conditions, and windswept vegetation combine to create a dynamic interplay between this landform and the Pacific Ocean.

Night-time Values | lighting from dwellings off Sailors Grave Road and Pumpkin Hill negatively impact on the degree of naturalness within the coastal environment.

Rating of Perceptual Characteristics



Overall Natural Character Evaluation

(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)

HIGH