



NATURAL CHARACTER EVALUATION TABLE

Biophysical Characteristics

Landforms | steep vegetated slopes overlook the Otahu River estuarine environment – includes the immediate intertidal harbour flats, sandbanks and channels.

Vegetation type, Cover & Patterns | isolated patch of indigenous vegetation covers the hill slope giving way to pasture and wilding pines in places.

Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies | the landform has strong interaction with the tidal margins and cyclic action of the Otahu River estuary.

Land Uses / Activities / Structure | devoid of buildings and structures; although presence of wilding pines and nearby development impacts on the intactness of the coastal environment.

Habitat Value | a sequence of regenerating indigenous coastal forest to tidal estuarine environment.

Natural Processes | steep vegetated slopes combined with the immediate cyclical and ever changing harbour environment is highly expressive of natural coastal processes.

Rating of Biophysical Characteristics



Perceptual Characteristics

Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness | the combination of indigenous vegetation and direct connection with the estuarine margins of the River imbue this landscape with a sense of remoteness and wildness despite the presence of nearby development.

Experiential Attributes | the landforms interaction with the harbours tidal flats impart a high degree of naturalness.

Context / Setting | isolation from indigenous forest and proximity to development negatively affects the perceived naturalness of the coastal environment as a whole. Outlook over the wider intertidal flats of the Otahu River add to an overall sense of naturalness.

Transient / Dynamic Attributes | interplay of land and harbour including variation resulting from atmospheric conditions, time of day / year, tide and wildlife. Wading and sea birds prevalent.

Night-time Values | absence of dwellings and lighting imbue the coastal environment with a sense of naturalness.

Rating of Perceptual Characteristics



Overall Natural Character Evaluation

(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)

HIGH