



Bay of Plenty

outstanding natural features and landscapes
BAY OF PLENTY COASTAL ENVIRONMENT

Bay of Plenty

Prepared for
Environment Bay of Plenty
By
Boffa Miskell Limited
Auckland

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BOFFA MISKELL LIMITED

AUCKLAND

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APPENDIX 1

Bay Of Plenty Regional Policy Statement
Heritage Criteria Set 2: Natural Features And Landscapes

APPENDIX 2

Assessment of Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes Against Heritage Criteria
Set 2: Natural Features And Landscapes (Bay Of Plenty Regional Policy Statement)

APPENDIX 3

Maps - Refer Separate Companion A3 Document

1.0 CONTEXT OF THIS REPORT

When originally preparing its Coastal Plan, Environment Bay of Plenty made a decision to produce a Coastal “Environment” Plan which includes a land component. This extends the coastal plan policies, but not rules, inland, to provide guidance to other statutory processes such as other regional plans, district plans within the region and resource consent applications. The Bay of Plenty Regional Coastal Environment Plan (Coastal Plan) was made operative in December 2003.

During the development of the Coastal Plan, Environment Bay of Plenty commissioned research to identify the outstanding natural features and landscapes of the coastal environment. The resulting technical report, “*A Landscape Assessment of the Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment*” was prepared by Boffa Miskell Ltd in 1993.

The above report, which is one of the supporting documents to the Coastal Plan, identified natural features and landscapes at two ‘levels’ being: ‘Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes’ and ‘Regionally Significant Natural Features and Landscapes’.

The outstanding and significant natural features and landscapes identified in that report were incorporated into the Coastal Plan and are listed in the Fourth Schedule - Natural Features and Landscapes, with their locations shown on the Coastal Plan maps.

Policy and methods of implementation relating to these identified features and landscapes are contained in Chapter Five of the Coastal Plan – Natural Landscapes and Features, with management guidelines, also drawn from the 1993 Boffa Miskell report, listed in the Fifth Schedule of the Coastal Plan.

Environment Bay of Plenty as part of the process of settling appeals in relation to the proposed Regional Policy Statement (RPS) has developed ‘heritage criteria for assessing heritage values and places in the Bay of Plenty Region’. The criteria sets include, Set 2 natural features and landscapes (RPS natural features and landscapes criteria). The heritage criteria have been introduced by way of ‘Proposed Change No. 1’ to the Regional Policy Statement with final decisions released in November 2005.

This current brief for the review of the natural features and landscapes of the coastal environment requires application of the RPS natural features and landscapes criteria, to confirm or otherwise amend the already identified ‘outstanding’ and ‘significant’ natural features and landscapes and if applicable, to identify additional areas meeting the criteria.

2.0 THE BRIEF

The brief provided by Environment Bay of Plenty for this review and update project has the following listed objectives:

- Confirm location and extent of outstanding natural features and landscapes (ONF&Ls);
- Check that all ONF&Ls are still 'outstanding' relative to current tests for that value;
- Identify any other ONF&Ls not included in the Coastal Plan
- Identify outstanding sub-tidal natural features and landscapes;

As part of Boffa Miskell's initial response to the brief it was suggested that the review addressed the adoption of a single layer - outstanding natural features and landscapes - approach in line with the provisions of Section 6(b) of the Resource Management Act (1991) rather than the two tiered 'outstanding' and 'significant' levels of the original study and as adopted into the Coastal Plan (2003). This was agreed with the objective of confirming or otherwise deleting / refining the existing, as well as any new, areas of landscape significance in the Coastal Plan.

This review has assessed the natural features and landscapes of the Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment against the criteria set out in Set 2 Natural Features and Landscapes of the RPS (refer Appendix 1). Boffa Miskell Limited undertook the assessment applying all but the final three criteria; 'Shared and Recognised Values'; Maori Values; and 'Historical Associations'. This is because these criteria are not technical landscape criteria and are outside the scope of the landscape assessment brief. Environment Bay of Plenty has undertaken the assessment applying these three criteria.

2.1 Previously Identified Outstanding and Regionally Significant Natural Features and Landscapes

The previously identified Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes listed in the Coastal Plan are:

- 01 Tauranga Harbour
- 02 Mauao / Mount Maunganui, Moturiki Island and Motuotau Island
- 03 Tuhua / (Mayor) Island
- 04 Kohi Point and Otawairere Bay and catchment
- 05 Ohiwa Harbour, Moutohora Island
- 06 Moutohora (Whale Island)
- 07 Whakaari (White) Island
- 08 Waiotahi Spit and estuary mouth
- 09 Motu River mouth
- 010 Whanarua Bay
- 011 Cape Runaway.

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The previously identified Regionally Significant Natural Features and Landscapes listed in the Coastal Plan are:

- S1 Orokawa Bay
- S2 Bowentown Heads
- S3 Matakana Island
- S4 North Matakana Wetlands
- S5 Tanners Point
- S6 Ongare Point vegetated edge
- S7 Kauri Point vegetated edge
- S8 Motuhoa Island
- S9 Karewa Island
- S10 Okurei Point
- S11 Waihi Estuary
- S12 Motiti Island
- S13 Escarpment and Pohutukawa along Matata Straights
- S14 Kohioawa Beach (Otamarakau), dunefield and wetlands
- S15 Matata Wetlands
- S16 Distal point of Ohope Spit
- S17 Uretara Island
- S18 Pataua Island
- S19 Waitohi Estuary
- S20 Pohutukawa tunnels over SH at Waiotahi Beach
- S21 Tarekaha Point
- S22 Haurere Point
- S23 Haumiaroa Point
- S24 Whituare Bay
- S25 Maraenui escarpment
- S26 Whitianga Bay to Ohae Point
- S27 Motunui Island and associated reefs
- S28 Ruakokere river mouth
- S29 Oruaiti beach, offshore rocks and Waikanapanapa cliffs
- S30 Whangaparaoa dunefields and wetlands
- S31 Kopongatahi Point
- S32 Steep coastal hills between Cape Runaway and Lottin Point.

The delineation in the original study between 'outstanding' and 'regionally significant' was based on a distinction at the time between those natural features and landscapes that might be perceived to be recognised at a national level to achieve 'outstanding' status and those that were of a regional level of significance but not more nationally recognised. At the time (1992/3) there was no relevant case law, national guideline or other direction in relation to the interpretation of Section 6(b). The potential, however, for natural features and landscapes to have significance at different levels was considered appropriate and hence the two level identification – 'outstanding' for those natural features and landscapes that would (in the absence of any national policy statement, criteria or nation wide assessment) achieve status when assessed nationally and 'regionally significant' for those natural features and landscapes that met the requirements of Section 6(b) but at a lesser ' regional' level of significance.

This review has assessed the natural features and landscapes of the Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment against the criteria set out in Set 2 Natural Features and Landscapes of the RPS (Appendix 1). Boffa Miskell Limited undertook the assessment applying all but the final three criteria; 'Shared and Recognised Values'; Maori Values; and 'Historical Associations'. This is because these criteria are not technical landscape criteria and are outside Boffa Miskell's area of expertise. Environment Bay of Plenty undertook the assessment applying these three criteria as it has the necessary expertise.

2.2 Inclusion of Sub-tidal Features

The Coastal Plan notes that a specific survey of offshore sub-tidal landscapes and features had not been undertaken. However the Tauranga and Ohiwa Harbours, including their subtidal components, were identified in the 1993 landscape assessment as outstanding natural landscapes, while Waihi and Waiotahi estuaries including their subtidal components, were identified as being regionally significant landscapes.

Other sub-tidal features and landscapes of significance therefore require identification. The identification of sub-tidal features and landscapes worthy of protection for their 'outstanding' values has also formed part of this current landscape assessment brief. This information is also required by Environment Bay of Plenty to assist in the development of Aquaculture Management Areas (AMAs).

3.0 METHODOLOGY

This review covers the extent of the Bay of Plenty regional coastline from Orokawa Bay near Waihi Beach in the west (adjoining the Waikato Region) to the steep coastal hills between Cape Runaway and Lottin Point in the east (adjoining the Gisborne District). The focus is on the Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes and Regionally Significant Natural Features and Landscapes identified in the Coastal Plan Maps. The methodology involved an initial desktop assessment followed by road based ground survey and verification.

3.1 Desktop Review

The desktop review involved comparing aerial photographs (provided by Environment Bay of Plenty) from two time periods - the Coastal Plan aerials flown in the mid 1990's were compared with more recent colour aerial photographs flown in 2003. Both sets of aerials were overlaid with the boundaries of the previously identified 'outstanding' and 'significant' natural features and landscapes.

The review involved visually comparing both sets of aerials at various scales in electronic and hard copy format.

Changes within the defined areas of any identified 'outstanding' or 'significant' natural feature and landscape as well as within the context of the defined area were noted within a matrix table. This desktop review and matrix provided a focus for the subsequent process of ground survey and verification.

3.2 Ground Survey

The road based ground survey involved visiting the locality of each area and re-observing the identified 'outstanding' and 'significant' natural features and landscapes. The mapped Coastal Plan boundaries, drawn from the 1993 study, were assessed against the existing area both in terms of the extent of the defined area and a review of the previously identified area in relation to the newly established RPS Change No. 1 heritage criteria set 2 'natural features and landscapes'.

In addition to checking the 42 (10 outstanding, 32 significant) previously identified areas, potential additional ONF&Ls were identified, delineated, and subsequently assessed against the 'natural features and landscapes' criteria.

4.0 FINDINGS

Of the 43 outstanding and significant natural features and landscapes identified in the original 1993 study and subsequently listed in the Coastal Plan, twenty seven remain essentially unchanged in terms of their landward boundaries. Sixteen areas have been identified as requiring refinements to their landward boundaries. In addition the seaward boundaries of all the ONF&Ls have been extended a standard 200m offshore to capture the intertidal and immediately adjacent sub tidal areas. These areas contain numerous topographical features - rocks, reefs, islets and the like. This offshore 'zone' provides a coastal context for the land based ONF&Ls of the coastal environment.

It is positive to note that the review study has identified that adverse landscape change has not had any significant effect on the previously identified outstanding and significant natural features and landscapes. The study has not identified any adverse change within any area or within the close context of any area causing the deletion of an area from the 'list' of ONF&Ls.

In addition assessment of the previously identified 'outstanding' and 'significant' natural features and landscapes against the RPS Heritage criteria Set 2 'natural features and landscapes' has confirmed all of the original areas to be worthy of recognition as having 'outstanding' status (section 6 (b) RM Act). All areas are therefore now identified as 'ONF&Ls' of the Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment.

Finally three new ONF&Ls have been identified, defined and described as a part of the review process. These areas are described in full against the 'natural features and landscapes' criteria in the text below.

An assessment of all the ONF&Ls against the RPS Heritage criteria Set 2 'natural features and landscapes' is set out in Appendix 2.

4.1 Previously Identified Areas Modified as a Result of the Review

Listed below are the sixteen areas where landward boundary changes were considered necessary as a result of the review (i.e. those areas where only the seaward boundaries have been changed are not listed).

The ONF&Ls with modified boundaries as a result of the review (listed with their original 1993 assessment identifier) are:

- S1 Orokawa Bay
- S6 Ongare Point
- S8 Motuhoa Island
- 04 Kohi Point and Otarawaire Bay and catchment
- S16 Distal point of Ohope Spit
- O5 Ohiwa Harbour
- 09 Motu River mouth
- S23 Haumiaroa Point
- S24 Whituare Bay
- S25 Maraenui escarpment (Whituare Bay)

- S26 Whitianga Bay to Ohae Point
- S27 Motunui Island and associated reefs
- 010 Whanarua Bay
- S28 Ruakokere river mouth
- S29 Oruaiti Beach, offshore rocks and Waikanapanapa cliffs
- S30 Whangaparaoa dunefield, wetland and estuary

Note: The Matata Wetlands (S15 as identified in the 1993 study) have in part undergone a dramatic change as a result of the recent August 2005 storms. Significant mud and rubble has infilled part of the wetland on the west side of the causeway. The area to the east is however largely unaffected and retains its earlier natural landscape character and outstanding natural landscape qualities. The delineation of the Matata Wetlands outstanding natural feature and landscape has not been altered as it is anticipated that some form of natural and or assisted regeneration will occur and that the area will retain important natural character attributes.

Changes to the ONF&L boundaries have generally been made to include contiguous regenerating and mature indigenous vegetation, adjacent headlands / rocky points and Pohutukawa clad coastlines.

Some boundary adjustments have been necessitated as the existing Coastal Plan map boundary is poorly aligned with obvious cadastral boundaries reflected in significant landuse change across the boundary (generally pasture on one side of the boundary and intact indigenous vegetation on the other). There are a small number of instances where the original mapped boundary appears incorrect, generally excluding contiguous mature indigenous vegetation where this should clearly be included; these boundaries have been adjusted as part of the review. In a small number of instances changes to the boundaries have been made to exclude developed areas, or areas of cultural significance that do not contribute to the natural character attributes of the ONF&L.

It has been positive to observe the extent to which indigenous regeneration has matured to a stage where it is now a significant part of the landscape, making a definite contribution to an adjacent identified ONF&L.



Photograph: 17 September 2005, Rachel de Lambert, 50mm lens SLR camera.

4.2 Additional Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes

Three additional outstanding natural features and landscape areas have been identified and assessed. These are:

- Maketu Estuary and barrier spit
- Piripai distal spit and Whakatane River mouth
- Pehitairi Point headland

The assessment of these additional ONF&Ls against the RPS Heritage criteria Set 2 is set out under 5.2 below with a summary provided on the standard sheets in Appendix 2.

5.0 MAPS AND COMMENTARY

New maps, with boundaries overlaid on the 2003 colour aerials, delineating all the identified ONF&Ls including the extended 200m offshore boundary are compiled in a separate A3 companion document to this report (Appendix 3). These have been provided in GIS digital format to Environment Bay of Plenty for future inclusion within the Coastal Plan.

5.1 Previously Identified Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes Modified

The following describes the changes proposed to the delineation of the landward boundaries of the previously identified ONF&Ls (note those areas altered only in relation to the seaward 200m boundary extension are not described).

S1 OROKAWA BAY

Orokawa Bay is noted in the 1993 study as a ‘typical Coromandel bay, being the only one of its type in the region’. It includes an area of remnant indigenous vegetation to the north, south and west of the bay. In the west the boundary is poorly aligned with the evident cadastral boundary, the revised delineation makes an adjustment to align with the change in landuse, incorporating the indigenous forest within the delineated area.

- Outstanding natural feature and landscape adjusted to align with cadastral boundary and vegetated edge.

S6 ONGARE POINT

Currently the outstanding natural feature and landscape covers the vegetated coastal edge of the Ongare Point Headland. One area of contiguous vegetated coastline is currently excluded and requires inclusion.

- Adjust the outstanding natural feature and landscape boundary to include the pohutukawa clad coastal escarpment at the southeastern end of Ongare Point Road, through to Potu Road.

S8 MOTUHOA ISLAND

The current delineation and description includes “the entire island landscape”. The island has a good fringe of coastal Pohutukawa and other vegetation but the interior is a productive rural landscape including significant horticultural landuse with associated houses and infrastructure.

- Adjust the outstanding natural feature and landscape boundary to exclude the rural / horticultural interior landscape.

04 KOHI POINT AND OTARAWAIRE BAY AND CATCHMENT

The outstanding natural feature and landscape includes the land that forms the visual backdrop to Whakatane west to the Whakatane - Ohope Road, including

the vegetated point down to and including rocky coastal outcrops and the visual catchment of Otawairere Bay.

- Extend the outstanding natural feature and landscape boundary to include the contiguous broadly triangular area of intact indigenous bush defined by the escarpment above Muriwai Drive and the Kohi Point Walkway in the north, open farmland in the south and the Wairere Stream in the west.
- Adjust the southwestern boundary to align with the intact forest cover and cadastral boundary.
- Adjust the western boundary at the base of the escarpment to lie behind the established development along Muriwai Drive (tie to cadastral boundaries).

S16 DISTAL POINT OF OHOPE SPIT

This outstanding natural feature and landscape covers the undeveloped end of Ohope Spit east of the golf course from the ocean to the harbour.

- Expand the area to include the duneland southwest of the existing boundary, running west along the northern edge of the Ohiwa Harbour estuary, (south of the existing subdivision) and including the duneland area up to and west of, but excluding, Port Ohope.

Note: The boundary is defined by the residential zone boundary and does not include the residentially zoned land.

O5 OHIWA HARBOUR

The existing outstanding natural feature and landscape includes the entire harbour and its estuarine edge. The islands within the harbour are excluded from the ONF&L although two of the islands, Uretara and Pataua have been separately identified (S17 and S18 respectively).

- Extend the ONF&L to include the Ohiwa Spit west of the end of the vehicular access road and access track to the coastal beach.

O9 MOTU RIVER MOUTH

The existing outstanding natural feature and landscape consists of the river mouth, associated river flats extending eastward to the enclosing ridgeline, and the area of exotic forest on the northern slopes of the Whitianga Bay hillside.

- Exclude the exotic forest, bringing the northern boundary south to the edge of the forest clad headland and backdrop along the Oariki ridgeline.
- Excluded the river flats, which are currently farmed, to the southwest.
- Adjust the boundary to the north to the edge of the regenerating indigenous vegetation on the riverbank.
- Incorporate the changed edge of the river mouth to the west.

S23 HAUMIAROA POINT

This headland provides visual enclosure at the eastern end of Hawaii Bay. Currently the southwestern part of the outstanding natural feature and landscape includes a pastoral area.

- Adjust the area to exclude the pastoral area, bringing the boundary in to the northeastern edge of the intact indigenous forest at the western base of the point.

S24 WHITUARE BAY

The outstanding natural feature and landscape forms the visual catchment of Whituare Bay back to the first enclosing ridgeline. Currently the boundary is the western edge of the main road (SH35).

- Expand the area to include the eastern escarpment face above the road to the north up to the enclosing hills - Rakaukatihī ridgeline and including Maraenui Hill and the lookout.
- Expand the area to the south to include the southwestern slope of Rakaukatihī Hill, north of the Hawaii River.

S25 MARAENUI ESCARPMENT (WHITUARE BAY)

This outstanding natural feature and landscape encompasses the vegetated escarpment from Whituare Bay eastward to the modified Maraenui flats.

- Exclude the pastoral land and marae on the coastal flats from the area.
- Expand the area to the east to include the escarpment face and contiguous intact indigenous forest above the road (SH 35), towards Pukepapa Hill and in the north to SH 35.
- Adjust the boundary in the south and to the east to meet but exclude the edge of the exotic plantation forest.

S26 WHITIANGA BAY TO OHAE POINT

The outstanding natural feature and landscape, comprising land from Orangoihunui Point to Ohae Point includes examples of wave cut intertidal rock platforms with Pohutukawa on the low coastal cliffs, extending to the first enclosing ridgeline.

- Adjust the southwestern boundary of this segment of the ONL to exclude the pines, pastoral and settled area below the road.
- Include the indigenous revegetation remnant enclosed by the edges of the SH 35 at Orangoihunui Point up to Okawhiti Stream.

Note: Rename this area Orangoihunui Point and Whitianga Bay shoreline.

- Expand the area from the southern base of Ohae Point eastwards to include Pokohinui Point and to the northeast to include the western bay at Omaio.
- Adjust the area to run southeast along the base of Ohae Point to include the intact indigenous vegetation on the northern side of SH 35.

S27 MOTUNUI ISLAND AND ASSOCIATED REEFS

Currently the outstanding natural feature and landscape is defined on the Coastal Plan maps as encompassing only the small patch of indigenous vegetation on the rocky island landform.

- Expand the area to include the rocky reefs surrounding the island as well as the Pohutukawa clad shoreline to the northeast and to the southeast of Okahu Point.

010 WHANARUA BAY

The existing outstanding natural feature and landscape encompasses a series of small gravel beaches interspersed with wave-cut tidal rock platforms and extensive offshore reefs, islets, rocky headlands and bays. The bays are fringed with dense mature coastal forest and include the land back to the enclosing ridgeline.

- Expand the western edge of the area to the south and southwest to include the intact indigenous vegetation along the southern ridgeline of the hill.
- Expand the western edge north to include the islands and rocky reefs islets, rocky headlands and bays along the coast. Exclude the settled and rural area adjacent to the road, but retain the coastal bush strip along the northern coastal edge and retain the bush at the base of the hill up to and including the ridgeline.
- Exclude the motor camp and the settled area up to the edges of the regenerating bush on the margins of the western branch of the Waiti Stream.
- Exclude the rural river flats of the eastern branch of the Waiti Stream to the south and east. Retain the coastal strip at Maraehako Bay.
- Expand the area to the northeast to include the vegetated hill to the northeast to the western point at Papatea Bay.

S28 RUAKOKERE RIVER MOUTH

Currently the outstanding natural feature and landscape includes the river mouth and associated lagoon wetlands.

- Expand the area to the north, to include the coastal edge up to and including the shoreline to the west at Papatea Bay.

- Exclude the rural river flats to the northwest.
- Expand the area to the east and southeast to include vegetation on the margins, including the vegetated eastern terrace up to SH35.
- Expand the area to the south and southwest to include the river mouth and its margins, including the kahikatea remnants on the west side of the river flats adjacent to SH 35 west of the Ruokokere River Bridge.

S29 ORUAITI BEACH, OFFSHORE ROCKS AND WAIKANAPANAPA CLIFFS

Currently the outstanding natural feature and landscape includes the offshore rocks between Waihou Bay and Oruaiti Beach, the environs of Oruaiti Beach and the cliffs of Waikanapanapa.

- Expand the area to the north to include the rocky reefs and shoreline.
- Expand the area to the west of Oruaiti Beach to include the coastal edge and pohutukawa up to the road.
- Expand the area to the south east of Te Ahikehe Point to include the mouth of the Waiotuma Stream and its margins.
- Exclude the areas inland of the road including rural coastal properties.

S30 WHANGAPARAOA DUNEFIELD, WETLAND AND ESTUARY

The current outstanding natural feature and landscape includes the dunelands west of SH 35 in Whangaparaoa Bay and including Whangaparaoa River mouth and estuary.

- Adjust the area to exclude the Whangaparaoa settlement, school and marae to the north east
- Expand the area to the north to include the eastern section of the river mouth.

5.2 Additional Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes

The following additional ONF&Ls were identified during the ground survey and are recommended for addition to those already identified and confirmed as part of the review.

MAKETU ESTUARY AND BARRIER SPIT

Description

Inclusion of the Maketu Estuary including the water area, immediate 20m landward margin and the barrier spit landform is consistent with the identification of ONF&Ls elsewhere along the Environment Bay of Plenty coastline. It recognises both the natural character and landscape quality attributes of the estuary. Whilst there is considerable modification of the rural land adjacent,

namely artificial drainage / channelisation and to the urban settlement of Maketu, the estuary and barrier spit themselves remain worthy of recognition as an outstanding natural landscape. An assessment of the Maketu Estuary ONF&L against the RPS natural features and landscapes criteria is set out below and in Appendix 2.

- **Natural Science Factors**

- Representativeness*

- The Maketu Estuary and Barrier spit ONF&L is typical of the small estuary / spit natural systems along the region's coastline. Whilst modified to an extent, in terms of its edges and hydrology the estuary itself and spit landform are representative and worthy of recognition. The spit landform is relatively remote and representative.

- Research and Education*

- The estuary provides opportunities for research and education the latter also supported by proximate local community / population.

- Rarity*

- Not a rare landscape / topographical type or feature along the subject coastline.

- **Aesthetic Values**

- Coherence*

- The pattern of channels and estuary flats within the estuary as well as the form of the barrier spit are coherent and naturally derived.

- Vividness*

- The Maketu Estuary is a vivid contrast to the elevated Maketu headland and acts to complement the elevated topography adjacent through its horizontal form and changing pattern of water / land.

- Naturalness*

- Whilst influenced by adjacent modification - pasture drainage, watercourse diversion and settlement, the estuary itself remains dominated by natural processes and patterns with the presence of avian wildlife and the contrast between the outer coastal barrier spit and inner estuary waters.

- Intactness*

- The natural processes of the tidal estuary and barrier spit landform remain intact and expressive, despite adjacent modification affecting the estuary. The expression of naturalness is highly coherent and expressive of natural coastal processes.

- **Expressiveness**

The estuary and barrier spit are highly expressive of the natural processes that have formed and continue to maintain them. The cyclical tidal flows create a frequent reminder of coastal patterns and the formative processes of water.

- **Transient Values**

Estuaries typically demonstrate strong transient qualities due to frequent tidal variation and the quality of light on water / water channels. Bird life also adds to the transient qualities of the estuary with migratory influxes and daily cycles of feeding, roosting, etc.

For the above reasons and to maintain a consistency of recognition of estuary / harbour and barrier spit landforms along the region's coastline, it is recommended that the Maketu Estuary and barrier spit landforms as delineated (refer Appendix 3) are added to the list of ONF&Ls of the Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment.

PIRIPAI DISTAL SPIT AND WHAKATANE RIVER MOUTH

Description

The distal end of the Piripai Spit east of the Residential 1 Zone boundary incorporating land within the Coastal Protection Zone (CPZ) and Opihi Whangaunga Kore Urupa Cultural Heritage Site (CH92) as delineated in the proposed Whakatane District Plan Variation 2 (Map No. 32) is recommended for inclusion as an ONF&L.

The Proposed Whakatane District Plan shows the Urupa (CH92) and distal portion of the spit as an outstanding natural landscape (L7) at a District level. The proposed delineation within the Regional Coastal Plan includes the adjacent river mouth and river islets extending in line with the western Urupa boundary.

An assessment of this recommended outstanding natural feature and landscape against the RPS natural features and landscapes criteria is set out below.

- **Natural Science Factors**

- *Representativeness*

- The distal spit, river mouth and tidal inner margins of the river mouth including its island landforms are representative of the dynamic river mouth systems found along the coastline and are characteristic of the natural processes of the region's fluvial coastal influences.

- *Research and Education*

- The spit and river mouth are close to a main centre of population - Whakatane - and have the potential for observation and educational monitoring.

Rarity

Not a rare landscape type or feature within the region.

▪ **Aesthetic Values**

Coherence

Seen in particular from across the river in Whakatane the distal spit, estuarine margins and river mouth are an important component of the aesthetic outlook from this important urban centre of the region. The existing landscape is without strongly discordant visual elements, although at a more detailed level trail biking degrades the integrity of the land cover and duneland topography and is inconsistent with the cultural values of the Urupa.

Vividness

The river mouth is a striking feature of Whakatane and the distal spit natural landform creates an important and memorable part of the outlook from Whakatane.

Naturalness

The natural hydrological and coastal processes are strongly expressed. Duneland topography is intact and remains dominant. Some vegetation cover is indigenous, although exotic species also prevail. As noted above, inappropriate use by way of trail bikes does degrade natural values.

Intactness

The combination of the spit, landform, the active and at times treacherous river mouth and the estuarine inner delta of the river mouth create an intact natural system which is highly aesthetic and has prominence as a backdrop to the urban area.

▪ **Expressiveness**

The landforms are distinctively derived from and remain actively influenced by relic features of postglacial transgression - parabolic dune formations

▪ **Transient Values**

Coastal processes introduce diurnal change coupled with avian wildlife.

Based on the above and consistent with the identification of distal spit and river mouth ONF&Ls along the Bay of Plenty coastline, it is recommended that the Piripai distal spit and Whakatane River mouth, as defined, be included in the ONF&Ls of the Bay of Plenty coastal environment.

PEHITAIRI POINT HEADLAND

Description

The Pehitairi Point headland defines the eastern end of the long sweep of Torere Bay with Haurere Point defining the western end of the approximately 4km wide bay and stony shoreline.

This headland has a distinctive profile rising from a rocky outcrop headland shoreline with a steep escarpment and saddle. The south-facing basin has remnant as well as regenerating vegetation cover, with the north facing steep coastal escarpment less well vegetated but dramatically coastal and natural. Whilst there are production / woodlot pines in the inner lands behind as well as less mature regenerating south-facing slopes, the area delineated is significant in defining the bay and has a distinctive attractive topography typical of the local coastline.

The recommended Pehitairi Headland outstanding natural feature and landscape is assessed against the RPS natural features and landscapes criteria as follows:

- **Natural Science Factors**

Representativeness

Headland landforms particularly those with significant intact indigenous vegetation are characteristic of the Bay of Plenty coastline and contribute significantly to the overall landscape character and quality of the environment. The Pehitairi Headland is representative of such defining landforms and provides an important definition to the open expanse of Torere Bay.

Research and Education

N/A

Rarity

The headland landform is not rare but the particular headland has a distinctive profile.

- **Aesthetic Values**

Coherence

Land cover is strongly tied to landform and aspect and is strongly coherent.

Vividness

The distinctive landform profile and visibility at the end of the sweep of the bay create a memorable headland landform with high aesthetic qualities distilling the generic character of coastal headland landforms.

Naturalness

The topography is unmodified and the vegetation cover largely indigenous and regenerating.

Intactness

Regeneration is rapidly clothing former modification. The interplay between topography, aspect and vegetation cover reinforce aesthetic coherence and intactness.

▪ **Expressiveness**

Prominent headland topography weathered by coastal processes. Vegetation cover strongly affected by natural processes with contrast in southern and northern vegetation cover.

▪ **Transient Values**

Predominantly relates to light and shade and coastal processes not particularly distinctive beyond typical coastal patterns.

Based on the above and consistent with the identification of headland ONF&Ls along the Bay of Plenty coastline, it is recommended that the Pehitairi Point headland as defined be included in the ONF&Ls of the Bay of Plenty coastal environment.

5.3 Off Shore Sub-tidal Features

The brief requires assistance with the identification of sub-tidal landscapes and features that could be assessed as “outstanding”. This component of the study has been desktop based, reviewing more detailed topographical mapping of the seabed and associated data, although this is not available at a consistent scale and coverage across the sub-tidal area.

Ideally, the comprehensive identification of the outstanding natural sub-tidal features and landscapes should adopt a multidisciplinary approach with coastal geomorphologists, geologists, marine ecologists, historians and tangata whenua all contributing to the identification of the understanding of the largely unseen but nevertheless significant sub-tidal assessment.

Recognising therefore that this assessment addresses a single ‘landscape’ factor and that it relies more on topographical data than a rigorous understanding of the functioning of the sub-tidal marine environment or any visual verification / survey, recommendations for a first cut of broad areas of potentially outstanding natural sub-tidal landscapes and features are set out below.

In addition to the topographical data provided, the third schedule of the Coastal Plan - Areas of Significant Conservation Value - has been drawn upon in making the following recommendations.

As a starting point, the already identified ONF&Ls include the region's offshore islands, being:

- Tuhua (Mayor Island) (03)
- Moutohora (Whale Island) (06)
- Whakaari (White Island) (07)
- Karewa Island (S9) and
- Motiti Island (S12)

Each of these island landforms has an associated underwater landscape of further elevated landforms, reefs and in some cases active volcanic field features that comprise a contiguous sub-tidal landscape worthy of inclusion within the identified ONF&Ls of the coastal environment.

The following description sets out the suggested extension to the already identified above water island ONF&Ls:

Tuhua (Mayor Island) (03, ASCV-2)

Include the area gazetted as marine reserve (Tuhua Marine Reserve) to the north of Tuhua as well as the restricted fishing area, which extends one nautical mile beyond the marine reserve within the ONF&L.

Extend area within ONF&L to encompass seabed formed as part of the rhyolitic volcano of Tuhua including ignimbrite and pumice flows.

Extend area within ONF&L to encompass localised elevated seabed extending east from Tuhua over a distance of some 25 kilometres.

Moutohora (Whale Island) (06, ASCV-10)

Northwest of Moutohora some 7 kilometres along the coast lie the Rurima Islets (Tokata, Rurima and Moutoki Islands). Together these have been identified as an ASCV and demonstrate underwater landscape values including important representative habitat types - intertidal sedimentary habitat, intertidal rocky shore, offshore reefs, offshore sedimentary habitats, shallow water gasohydrothermal vent volcanic habitat as well as the offshore islands themselves - that suggest a more comprehensive ONF&L coverage is warranted.

It is recommended that the Moutohora ONF&L be extended to encompass the Rurima Islets with the seaward boundary encompassing the range of important habitats described (refer ASCV-10).

Whakaari (White Island) (07, ASCV-14)

Whakaari is currently identified in its above water island form as an outstanding natural feature and landscape. However the extent of the sub-tidal volcanic field is significantly greater and includes highly important features.

Paepae o Aotea (Volkner Rocks) and Laisson's Pinnacle are part of this unique environment and are recognised along with Whakaari as an area

of outstanding underwater scenery. Clearly extension of the ONF&L to encompass this entire landscape is warranted.

To the south, the Calypso Vent (ASCV-11) is a mound of volcanic origin with associated gasohydrothermal vents. The topography of the seabed suggests this entire area could be incorporated within the ONF&L delineating an important volcanic sub-tidal landscape.

Karewa Island (S9, ASCV-3)

Karewa Island is located some 5 kilometres offshore from Matakana Island. It is of national significance because it is the habitat of a significant population of the nationally threatened Tuatara. The delineation of the above water island ONF&L should be extended to incorporate the seabed context for the island.

Motiti Island (S12)

Motiti Island is inhabited and farmed; it was identified as a significant landscape (S12) and is confirmed as an outstanding natural landscape as part of the review. Some 11 kilometres to the east of Motiti there are a number of features including Motukaha Island, Motunau Island and the Astrolabe Reef which suggest that as a whole the ONF&L should be widened to incorporate the subtidal landscape that connects these surface features.

The latter two features are identified as ASCV – Motunau Island ASCV-9 and Astrolabe Reef ASCV-8 – and have significance as habitat for New Zealand fur seals. Both areas are also nationally significant scenic dive sites, reinforcing their inclusion within the ONF&L.

The recommended broadened ONF&Ls incorporating significant areas of sub-tidal seabed are mapped, refer Appendix 3. These seek to encompass logical underwater landscapes, building on identified topographical / landform values as well as the already identified ASCV attributes of the areas around the island landscapes.

Given the current level of understanding of the sub-tidal landscape, its habitat, geomorphological and cultural values, the extended sub-tidal ONF&Ls as recommended represent a current best understanding of sub-tidal areas worthy of recognition and protection for their outstanding natural landscape values.

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS WITH RESPECT TO OUTSTANDING NATURAL FEATURES AND LANDSCAPES WITHIN THE REGIONAL COASTAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN

It is recommended that any future 'change' or 'variation' to the Bay of Plenty Regional Coastal Environment Plan confirms the previous 43 outstanding and significant landscape areas as 'ONF&Ls' (Section 6(b) RM Act 1991) and adopts the recommended boundary alterations as described above.

In addition it is recommended that Environment Bay of Plenty propose the three additional ONF&Ls as well as the subtidal features identified for inclusion in the coastal plan and incorporate these in the variation for public comment and confirmation.

Furthermore it is recommended that the proposed sub-tidal ONF&Ls are adopted into any plan change and / or variation and that further future consideration of sub-tidal features including potential underwater survey and more comprehensive multi-disciplinary analysis be considered to expand and / or further refine the proposed outstanding sub-tidal natural features and landscapes.

APPENDIX 1

Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement

Heritage Criteria Set 2: Natural Features and Landscapes

Natural Science Factors

Representativeness

- 2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence;
- 2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region;

Research and Education

- 2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to research and education;

Rarity

- 2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and few comparable examples exist.

Aesthetic Values

Coherence

- 2.5 The patterns of land cover and land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of land cover or land use;

Vividness

- 2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognised across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognisable and memorable qualities;

Naturalness

- 2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy;

Intactness

- 2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes;

Expressiveness (Legibility)

- 2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural process in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape;

Transient Values

- 2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognised for their transient features and the contribution these make to the landscape;

Note: the following three criteria were not assessed as part of the landscape assessment undertaken by Boffa Miskell. Environment Bay of Plenty has provided assessment of these criteria through a separate process.

Shared and Recognised Values

- 2.11 Natural features and landscapes are widely known and valued by the immediate and wider community for their contribution to a sense of place leading to a strong community association with or high public esteem for the place;

Maori Values

- 2.12 Natural features and landscapes are clearly special or widely known and influenced by their connection to the Maori values inherent in the place;

(Refer also to set 4 - Maori Culture and Traditions criteria).

Historical Associations

- 2.13 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and widely known and influenced by their connection to the historical values inherent in the place;

(Refer also to set 5 - Historic Heritage criteria).

APPENDIX 2

Assessment of outstanding natural features and landscapes against Heritage Criteria Set 2: Natural Features and Landscapes (Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement)

Note 1: The ranking system adopts a 3 level scoring system in relation to the extent to which the values of the subject ONF&L meet the particular criterion:

L = low; **M** = moderate; **H** = high.

Note 2: The tables and related maps for outstanding natural features and landscapes are numbered consecutively from west to east e.g. ONFL 1, ONFL 2 etc, followed by the original identifier number from the Regional Coastal Environment Plan 2003 maps in brackets e.g. (S1) (RCEP 2003 Identifier).

Note: The assessments provided by Environment Bay of Plenty were undertaken as follows:

- **Shared and recognised values - assessment made by council staff.**
- **Maori values – “Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes, Environment Bay of Plenty Coastal Plan Review 2006, Maori Values”, Kataraina Belshaw (refer file 5564 R01 11).**
- **Historical Associations – “Assessment of the Historical Associations of the Outstanding Natural features and Landscapes as identified by Boffa Miskell, February 2006”. InSitu Heritage Ltd, Lynda Walter, January 2007 (refer file 5564 R01 11).**

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes <i>Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes</i>				
ONF&L Name: Orokawa Bay			Coastal Plan Map Ref: 1b	
ID No: ONFL 1 (S1) (RCEP 2003 identifier)			District: Western Bay of Plenty	
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS
Natural Science Factors				
Representativeness				
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Rocky shorelines, cliffs and headlands defining sandy beach represent characteristic coastal landscape. Intact indigenous vegetation on relatively steep slopes reinforces original character of landscape.
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Little apparent modification and good representative example in the west of the Region.
Research and Education				
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A
Rarity				
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Intact highly natural coastal landscape more typical of Coromandel, good Regional example in the west.

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Orokawa Bay		Coastal Plan Map Ref: 1b
ID No: ONFL 1 (S1) (RCEP 2003 identifier)		District: Western Bay of Plenty
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING	COMMENTS

Note: The ranking system adopts a 3 level scoring system: L = low, M = moderate, H = high in relation to the extent to which the values of the subject ONF&L meet the particular criterion.

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Intact cover of indigenous vegetation reinforces landform which is varied and relatively dramatic.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Landscape defines western end of long sweep of Waihi Beach and provides contrasting focal point which is typical of Coromandel coastal landscape and memorable.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Apparent modification minimal and reducing through natural regeneration. Strong pattern of valleys and headlands with intact naturally functioning hydrological systems.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Visual quality high with low to moderate visual absorption capacity (ability to absorb change). Indigenous vegetation cover on steep coastal hills extending to rocky shoreline and beach.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Landscape is expressive of natural processes but not strongly suggestive of active processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient features not critical to identification.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Varied coastline – rocky headlands and sandy beach / bay backed by indigenous regenerating vegetation in catchment behind, typical Coromandel type coastal landscape. Vivid and intact. Backdrop and contrast with Waihi Beach.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Walking access only to Orokawa Bay. Indigenous vegetation defines the northern end of Waihi Beach. Highly recognised and valued.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa, urupa.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	<p>Connections to 19th century European gold mining. Physical evidence includes shafts driven at sea level and an adit exiting from cliff face (Bowers, L. & Phillips, K. 1998. Historic and Archaeological Survey, Orokawa Scenic Reserve. Unpublished report to Department of Conservation).</p> <p>Identified as heritage place in historic heritage inventory study for Coastal Plan (CH1; InSitu Heritage Ltd. Historic Heritage Review Project – Coastal Historic Heritage Inventory, June 2006. Report to Bay of Plenty Regional Council.).</p> <p>Landscape also contains several recorded archaeological sites of Maori origin including complex pa sites. These sites are recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), and comprise physical evidence of past human activity.</p>

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Bowentown Heads				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 2c
ID No: ONFL 2 (S2) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Western Bay of Plenty
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS
Natural Science Factors				
Representativeness				
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Volcanic headland landform creates prominent termination to low flat duneland topography of Waihi Beach.
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Some modification but land within public ownership.
Research and Education				
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A
Rarity				
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Volcanic cone landform distinctive and related to other significant features in Region.

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	<p>Modification relates to public access and facilities.</p> <p>Earlier modification by Maori reinforces strategic Harbour mouth location and prominence.</p>
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	<p>Elevated volcanic landform at end of Waihi Beach and defining Harbour mouth has prominence and strongly memorable qualities.</p>
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	<p>Good tracts of intact indigenous vegetation on strong landform. Modification relates to Maori occupation and public access.</p>
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	<p>Modification subservient to natural character and / or reinforces cultural values.</p>

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Volcanic origins apparent and contrast with adjacent landscapes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient features not critical to identification.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Prominent volcanic landforms within flat landscape of duneland spit. Legible vivid landscape features.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Prominent features. Highly visible, valued and recognised. Popular recreational area.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa (Te Kura a Maia), kainga, urupa. <i>Translation: Te Kura a Maia - training ground for young warriors.</i>
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Connections to early 20 th century European recreational activity in Anzac Bay (Bay of Plenty Times, June 3, 1891.; Typescript of Reflections on Early Bowentown, by Lance Deverall, 'Athenree' file 1065 at Katikati Archives. p 21.; Topographical Plan Being Pn. of Katikati Domain. Bowentown. 13/5/35 Held at Katikati Archives.). Landscape contains archaeological sites, including the complex and regionally representative pa Te Kura a Maia. These sites are recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), and comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Tauranga Harbour, Waimapu Estuary & Welcome Bay				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 2c,3c,5c,6c,7c,8c,10c,12c,13c	
ID No: ONFL 3 (01) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Tauranga District Council	
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)		RANKING		COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence		L	M	H	Tauranga Harbour significant to the identity of adjacent lands and this part of the Region. Waimapu Estuary significant to the identity of adjacent lands and this part of the Region. Part of wider Tauranga Harbour system.
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region		L	M	H	Indented harbour landscape defined by barrier island – Matakana.
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:		L	M	H	Potential for research and monitoring also related to proximity to population.
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.		L	M	H	Harbour land/waterscapes not rare but characteristic.

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Waterscape and harbour edge largely unmodified. Tidal channels and patterns of tidal flats strongly characteristic and contribute to identity.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Highly recognised and proximate to population. Memorable due to waterscape / tidal character and defining landforms.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Areas of significant modification – ie Port areas / City waterfront not included remaining area largely natural and influenced by natural processes.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Highly aesthetic and changing land / waterscape with high levels of coherence.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Functioning harbour system.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Tidal change and presence of avifauna (wading birds) contribute to transient values of the waterscape.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Large scale water body with generally intact natural margins defining the landscape identity of this part of the region. Natural processes intact and significant transient qualities (tidal variation / habitat).

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Nationally recognised and valued.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa, mahinga kai, waahi tapu, kainga, taunga ika.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	<p>Connections to early European settlement of the harbour area (L. Walter, pers comm.). Physical evidence includes sites recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm) such as the mission station, shipyard, wharves, reclamations and sea walls, remains of commercial buildings and military structures.</p> <p>The Strand Sea Wall and the Stone Jetty at Mount Maunganui are identified as heritage places in the historic heritage inventory study for Coastal Plan (CH5, CH6; InSitu Heritage Ltd. Historic Heritage Review Project – Coastal Historic Heritage Inventory, June 2006. Report to Bay of Plenty Regional Council.).</p> <p>Landscape contains very high concentration of recorded archaeological sites that are associated with Maori occupation and use of the harbour resources. Identified as an archaeological area in historic heritage inventory study for Coastal Plan (InSitu Heritage Ltd. Historic Heritage Review Project – Coastal Historic Heritage Inventory, June 2006. Report to Bay of Plenty Regional Council.).</p>

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: North Matakana Island Wetlands			Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 2c		
ID No: ONFL 4 (S4) (RCEP 2003 identifier)			District: Western Bay of Plenty		
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING		COMMENTS		
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Distinctive duneland wetlands located at northern end of important barrier island landform.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Intact wetland system in sensitive coastal duneland environment, high ecological values.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	Ecological values have potential for research and education.	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Important ecological values related to distinctive duneland landform. Relative island isolation also contributes to rarity.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Natural duneland wetlands related to topography and geomorphology.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Remoteness and relative lack of visibility reduce potential for memorable recognition.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Highly natural and unmodified.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Highly intact and visually coherent as wetland system.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Sensitive natural system related to original character.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient features not critical to identification.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Sensitive ecological / wetland features in duneland landscape, not highly vivid but intact ecological system and natural processes.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	No public access - remote. Major component of view from Bowentown Heads.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Mahinga kai.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	No specific historical associations identified (L. Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.).

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Matakana Island (South)			Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 3c	
ID No: ONFL 5 (S3) (RCEP 2003 identifier)			District: Western Bay of Plenty	
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS
Natural Science Factors				
Representativeness				
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Significant feature of enclosure to Tauranga Harbour. Prominent landform defining harbour.
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Barrier island landform has significance in terms of coastal geomorphology.
Research and Education				
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	Potential scientific value in relation to distinctive landform and natural processes of formation.
Rarity				
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Significant example of barrier island defining larger harbour area.

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Exotic forestry significant landuse along with farming buffer vegetation provides significant visual buffer and unity.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Distinctive feature highly recognisable and largely seen due to adjacent populations.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Landuse comprises significant modification; some areas with significant naturalness particularly around the coast edge remain.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	<p>Landform is highly intact and functions in relation to natural coastal processes.</p> <p>Buffer vegetation provides significant visual unity particularly as seen from across water.</p>

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Landform highly expressive of coastal processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient features not critical to identification.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Significant coastal landform feature expressive of coastal formation / processes, barrier spit island. Natural edges but modified interior.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Highly recognisable with large viewing audience.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa, kainga, urupa, mahinga kai.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape contains many archaeological sites of Maori origin, recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), which comprise physical evidence of past human activity. Very large single species shell middens are a particular feature of the archaeological landscape (L. Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.).

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Tanners Point				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 3c	
ID No: ONFL 6 (S5) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Western Bay of Plenty	
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)		RANKING		COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence		L	M	H	Headland landform / cliffs with fringe of coastal indigenous vegetation predominantly pohutukawa. Characteristic of high visual quality harbour edge and high natural character values. Supports amenity of associated residential environment.
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region		L	M	H	Significant remaining natural harbour edge and association of indigenous vegetation reinforcing landform / geology.
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:		L	M	H	N/A
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.		L	M	H	Characteristic rather than rare.

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Indigenous vegetation cover reinforces distinctive coastal landform. Extent defined by adjacent development.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Distinctive of local area and wider harbour landscape, highly characteristic and vivid landscape type. Landform / coastal edge associated with community and location.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Proximate to development and residential community but cliffs and vegetation cover remain intact.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Highly aesthetic and largely intact although backed by modification.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Harbour cliffs expressive of natural processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient features not critical to identification.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Remnant coastline feature - cliffs with indigenous vegetation cover in thin strip at coastal edge.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Not well known. Small viewing audience. Minimal public access.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa, kainga.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Connections to initial European settlement of area and early 20 th century recreational use of harbour (L Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.) Photographs of baches on waters edge in 1930s, now part of reclamation (<i>Katikati Advertiser</i> , February 19,1985). Landscape contains archaeological sites of Maori origin, recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), which comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Ongare Point				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 3c
ID No: ONFL 7 (S6) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Western Bay of Plenty
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS
Natural Science Factors				
Representativeness				
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Coastal cliffs with fringe of coastal indigenous vegetation predominantly pohutukawa. Characteristic of high visual quality harbour edge and high natural character values. Supports amenity of associated residential environment.
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Significant remaining natural harbour edge and association of indigenous vegetation reinforcing landform / geology.
Research and Education				
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A
Rarity				
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Characteristic rather than rare.

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Indigenous vegetation cover reinforces distinctive coastal landform. Extent defined by adjacent development.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Distinctive of local area and wider harbour landscape, highly characteristic and vivid landscape type. Landform / coastal edge associated with community and location.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Proximate to development and residential community but cliffs and vegetation cover remain intact.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Highly aesthetic and largely intact although backed by modification.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Harbour cliffs expressive of natural processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient features not critical to identification.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Remnant coastline feature - cliffs with indigenous vegetation cover in thin strip at coastal edge.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Not well known. Small viewing audience. Minimal public access.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa of Ngai Te Rangi.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	<p>Connections to early European settlement (L Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.). Physical evidence includes Martray Wharf identified as heritage place in historic heritage inventory study for Coastal Plan (CH3; InSitu Heritage Ltd. Historic Heritage Review Project – Coastal Historic Heritage Inventory, June 2006. Report to Bay of Plenty Regional Council.).</p> <p>Landscape also contains archaeological sites of Maori origin, including rock art. Sites are recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), and comprise physical evidence of past human activity.</p>

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Kauri Point				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 3c
ID No: ONFL 8 (S7) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Western Bay of Plenty
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS
Natural Science Factors				
Representativeness				
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Coastal cliffs with fringe of coastal indigenous vegetation predominantly pohutukawa. Characteristic of high visual quality harbour edge and high natural character values. Supports amenity of associated residential environment.
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Significant remaining natural harbour edge and association of indigenous vegetation reinforcing landform / geology.
Research and Education				
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A
Rarity				
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Characteristic rather than rare.

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Indigenous vegetation cover reinforces distinctive coastal landform. Extent defined by adjacent development.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Distinctive of local area and wider harbour landscape, highly characteristic and vivid landscape type. Landform / coastal edge associated with community and location.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Proximate to development and residential community but cliffs and vegetation cover remain intact.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Highly aesthetic and largely intact although backed by modification.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Harbour cliffs expressive of natural processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient features not critical to identification.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Remnant coastline feature - cliffs with indigenous vegetation cover in thin strip at coastal edge.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Not well known. Small viewing audience. Minimal public access.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	<p>Connections to early European activity. Associated with George Vesey Stewart, founder of Katikati (Typescript 'Early Goldfield Memories' Sid Fugill to Lance Deverall, in 'Athenree File' 1065 Katikati Archives. p.22; <i>Katikati Centennial Souvenir 1875 –1975</i>. published by Tauranga Historical Society;1975. p. 16).</p> <p>Landscape contains highly significant archaeological sites of Maori origin (Gumbley, W, Johns, D & Law, G. 2005. <i>Management of wetland archaeological sites in New Zealand</i>. Department of Conservation, Wellington. p. 42). These sites are recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm) and comprise physical evidence of past human activity.</p>

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Motuhua Island				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 8c	
ID No: ONFL 9 (S8) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Western Bay of Plenty	
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Island within Tauranga Harbour outstanding natural feature and landscape, Low profile landform with vegetated edge and pastoral inner lands. ONF&L relates to vegetated coastal margins.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Farmed interior but largely intact indigenous (Pohutukawa) vegetated edges and interplay with pasture / water.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Not rare but distinctive and significant island coastline within Tauranga Harbour.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Landuse – fringe of vegetation on natural coastline backed by rural landuse creates coherent composition.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Island coastline within significant harbour landscape.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Coastal edges vegetated and retain significant natural character.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Structures not dominant although landuse modified. Coastal edge visually intact.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Low profile island landscape within significant harbour waterscape.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient features not critical to identification.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Vegetated and relatively unmodified coastline of small island landscape seen across harbour.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Distinctive and significant island coastline within Tauranga Harbour
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa, urupa, traditional habitat of kaitiaki (owl, shark, kuri) and taniwha - shark.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape contains archaeological sites of Maori origin, recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), which comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Mauao /Mount Maunganui, Moturiki Island, Motuotau Island			Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 9c		
ID No: ONFL 10 (02) (RCEP 2003 identifier)			District: Western Bay of Plenty		
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING		COMMENTS		
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Distinctive volcanic cone landform defining 'termination' of extensive long sandy beach and entrance to significant harbour (and Port). Coastal fringe of indigenous vegetation with remnant pockets / regeneration. Also a significant cultural landscape.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Significant representative volcanic cone landform.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	Accessible to significant population with potential for education related to geomorphological, coastal, botanical and cultural interpretation and educational programmes.	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Distinctive in terms of combination of location and relationship to urban development.	

Aesthetic Values				
Coherence 2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.	L	M	H	Pattern of pasture provides legibility to cultural landscape and expresses volcanic landform whilst indigenous vegetation relates to 'original' character. Patterns of landcover not discordant.
Vividness 2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;	L	M	H	Exceptionally vivid and memorable landscape feature also strongly associated with Tauranga City and symbolic reference to the city. Iconic.
Naturalness 2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy	L	M	H	Modification has occurred in the past, current management relates to conservation and public access.
Intactness 2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes	L	M	H	Landform largely intact and predominant, vegetation cover varied although management seeks restoration of indigenous cover and conservation of cultural features.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Distinctive volcanic cone landform highly expressive of geomorphology.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Prominent headland feature projects into harbour mouth, significant presence of changeable tidal currents and channels.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Highly recognisable landform features of volcanic origin. Mauao iconic defining feature. Varied vegetation cover but regeneration / indigenous vegetation predominant.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Nationally known landscape feature strongly associated with Tauranga City and the Bay of Plenty. Iconic.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Cultural icon, recited in oral tradition, navigation beacon, ancient pa, ancient battle site (Kokowai), urupa, reg. archaeological site. Ancient pa (Moturiki), mahinga kai, reg. archaeological site
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Connections to historical European activity (L Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.). Physical evidence includes Stone Jetty, identified as heritage place in historic heritage inventory study for Coastal Plan (CH6; InSitu Heritage Ltd. Historic Heritage Review Project – Coastal Historic Heritage Inventory, June 2006. Report to Bay of Plenty Regional Council.). Landscape contains internationally significant archaeological landscape (Phillips K.J.S. 2003: Preliminary archaeological survey and identification of threats to archaeological resources Mauao Historic Reserve, Tauranga. Unpublished report. Prepared for Tauranga District Council). Sites are recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), and comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Maketu Estuary and Barrier Spit				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 16c
ID No: ONFL 11				District: Western Bay of Plenty
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS
Natural Science Factors				
Representativeness				
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Significant estuary in relation to adjacent headland – Okurei Point.
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Estuary demonstrates highly natural character although margins modified by drainage and land management.
Research and Education				
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A
Rarity				
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Estuaries not rare but typical and representative of natural processes. Sensitive environment.

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Waterscape and estuary edge largely unmodified. Tidal channels and patterns of tidal flats strongly characteristic and contribute to identity.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Highly recognised and proximate to population. Memorable due to waterscape / tidal character and defining landforms.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Area largely natural and influenced by natural processes.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Highly aesthetic and changing land / waterscape with high levels of coherence.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Functioning estuarine system.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Tidal change and presence of avifauna (wading birds) contribute to transient values of the waterscape.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Waterscape with barrier spit and strong pattern related to transient qualities of small estuary / habitat.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Highly visible. Significant component in defining Maketu.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Mahinga kai, tauranga waka (landing place of Arawa waka), kainga.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Identified as an archaeological area in historic heritage inventory study for Coastal Plan (InSitu Heritage Ltd. Historic Heritage Review Project – Coastal Historic Heritage Inventory, June 2006. Report to Bay of Plenty Regional Council.). Archaeological sites contain physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Okurei Point				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 16 c	
ID No: ONFL 12 (S10) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Western Bay of Plenty	
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Dramatic headland with coastal cliffs, grazing landuse. Identity strongly tied to Maketu settlement. Significant landmark headland defining long sweep of bay.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Elevated coastal headland with significant cliff escarpments and rocky shoreline.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Distinctive 'pointed' headland landform and landmark feature defining bay.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Pasture expresses landform. Cliffs distinctive and define sharp edge.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Landmark feature of coastline.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Modified by pastoral farming but landform remains largely unmodified and cliffs subject to natural processes.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Not modified by structures and pastoral farming in harmony with landform expresses topography and contrast with near vertical cliffs.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Expressive landform and landmark.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient features not critical to identification.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Prominent unmodified (un-built) headland feature on coastal cliffs, termination to long sweeping coastal beaches.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Limited public access. Prominent headland.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Waahi tapu, ancient pa, whenua taunaha.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Connections to early European settlement and activities, such as Tapsell's flax milling and trading, also 1830s Mission settlement (Tapsell, E. 2000. Historic Maketu (3 rd ed). Reed.). Landscape contains archaeological sites including regionally representative pa. These sites are recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), and comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Waihi Estuary				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 16c
ID No: ONFL 13 (S11) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Western Bay of Plenty
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS
Natural Science Factors				
Representativeness				
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Significant estuary in relation to adjacent headland - Okurei Point. Defined by Pukehina Spit with associated development (but not included).
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Estuary demonstrates highly natural character although margins modified by settlement / some reclamation, drainage and land management.
Research and Education				
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A
Rarity				
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Estuaries not rare but typical and representative of natural processes. Sensitive environment.

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Waterscape and estuary edge largely unmodified. Tidal channels and patterns of tidal flats strongly characteristic and contribute to identity.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Highly recognised and proximate to population. Memorable due to waterscape / tidal character and defining landforms.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Area largely natural and influenced by natural processes.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Highly aesthetic and changing land / waterscape with high levels of coherence.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Functioning estuarine system.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Tidal change and presence of avifauna (wading birds) contribute to transient values of the waterscape.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Waterscape with strong pattern related to transient qualities of small estuary / habitat

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Large viewing audience. Recognisable due to waterscape / tidal character and defining landforms.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Mahinga kai, kainga.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Identified as an archaeological area in historic heritage inventory study for Coastal Plan (InSitu Heritage Ltd. Historic Heritage Review Project – Coastal Historic Heritage Inventory, June 2006. Report to Bay of Plenty Regional Council.). Archaeological sites contain physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Kohioawa Beach Dunefield and Wetlands				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 18 b	
ID No: ONFL 14 (S14) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Whakatane District Council	
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Long sweep of dramatic beach, duneland, and wetlands characteristic of open beach coastline.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Strongly representative of coastal processes and fresh / salt water systems.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Not rare but representative.	

Aesthetic Values				
Coherence 2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.	L	M	H	Duneland vegetation although some exotic species and weeds.
Vividness 2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;	L	M	H	Coastal landscape with drama and open aspect to bay, presence of State Highway provides opportunity for recognition and memorability.
Naturalness 2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy	L	M	H	Dominated by natural processes including 'powerful' nature.
Intactness 2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes	L	M	H	Natural processes dominant, some modification apparent but generally subservient.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Natural process expressed in landform and land cover and remain dominant.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Diversity of seascape – powerful breakers, mist, calm waters - often influences character and transient qualities.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Long stretch of coastal duneland representative of coastline and natural processes.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	State Highway provides opportunity for recognition.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient battle site (Te Kaokaoroa).
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Connections to historical European activity, as forms part of coastal livestock droving route (L. Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.). Landscape is highly likely to contain buried archaeological sites (with no visible surface features) which are physical evidence of past human activity (L Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.).

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Escarpment and Pohutukawa along the Matata Straights				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 18b	
ID No: ONFL 15 (S13) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Whakatane District Council	
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Distinctive landward escarpment landform with patterning of wind induced erosion. Cover of pohutukawa reinforcing linear feature. Location of road creates awareness.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Geological feature with overlay of distinctive erosion.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Highly distinctive feature.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Generally highly consistent pattern, weed cover detracts some recent loss due to slips and storms.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Vivid and memorable landscape feature brought within public realm by presence of SH road alignment.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Natural feature demonstrating natural processes.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Highly intact other than by natural causes. Weed cover degrades in some stretches.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Highly expressive particularly in relation to processes of wind erosion.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Flowering of Pohutukawa reinforces transient values and seasonal change.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Inland cliff line landform feature with erosion processes (wind / rain) and areas of predominant indigenous vegetation particularly Pohutukawa.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Highly distinctive feature. State Highway means large viewing audience. The dominant aspect of the drive along this stretch of road.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa, ana koiwi, waahi tapu. <i>Ngapariwhakairo (the carved cliffs).</i>
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape contains many archaeological sites of Maori origin (dominated by pa) along the escarpment. These sites are recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), and comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Matata Wetlands			Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref:19b		
ID No: ONFL 16 (S15) (RCEP 2003 identifier)			District: Whakatane District Council		
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING		COMMENTS		
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Coastal back dune freshwater wetlands. Good cover of intact indigenous vegetation some weed species not dominant. Characteristic of original duneland landscape.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Well preserved wetland system. One area dramatically affected by 2005 storm but retained within area given potential restoration, requires monitoring.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	Opportunities to monitor process of restoration following floods and also potential for educational values for schools.	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Not rare but significant representative example.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Area largely under conservation management, vegetation primarily indigenous wetland and terrestrial margin species.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	High quality landscape feature memorable although relatively low profile.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	High natural character – although including natural effect of significant storm damage.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Other than area affected by storm damage system is intact and naturally functioning. Causeway dissects wetland.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Highly expressive of natural processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Presence of avifauna creates transient values.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Indigenous coastal wetland system, high natural character and natural processes predominating.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Wetlands provide significant component of the community identity.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Original course of Tarawera river, mahinga kai, kotuku habitat. DOC reserve & registered wet-land. Severely damaged in 2005.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	No specific historical associations identified, although flax milling activity in general vicinity (L. Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.).

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Piripai Distal Spit			Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 24b		
ID No: ONFL 17			District: Whakatane District Council		
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING		COMMENTS		
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Duneland landscape with distinctive parabolic dune formation (relic features of post glacial transgression). Dynamic river mouth.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Parabolic dunes in relatively good preservation although affected by recreational use – motorbikes in particular.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	Distinctive dune formation provides opportunity for education.	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Parabolic dunes distinctive and rare example.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Area under conservation management (area extends east from residential zone boundary).
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Spit landform enclosing Whakatane River mouth and prominent from urban area of Whakatane. Memorable and highly seen.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Vegetation cover modified and area affected by recreational activities – bikes retains significant natural character and naturalness.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Modification of vegetation cover and by recreational use however remains largely intact and with high natural landscape values.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Highly expressive of wind induced formation – parabolic dunes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	N/A Transient features not critical to identification.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Relatively unmodified distal end of spit landform remnant parabolic dune features and contrast between exposed coast and inland river mouth.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Memorable and highly seen. Significant component of the view from Whakatane.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient/sacred urupa (Opihiwhanaungakore). <i>Entire sand dune peninsula culturally significant.</i>
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape is highly likely to contain buried archaeological sites (with no visible surface features) which are physical evidence of past human activity (L Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.).

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Kohi Point, Otarawaire Bay & Catchment				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 24b	
ID No: ONFL 18 (04) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Whakatane District Council	
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Prominent headland backdrop to Whakatane and separation between Whakatane and Ohope. Landform reinforced by cover of predominantly indigenous vegetation. Rocky shoreline with intact vegetation cover extending to shoreline. Urban residential development lines western toe slopes but development subservient to scale of backdrop.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Intact feature expressive of underlying geology. Transect of natural landform/vegetative cover from rocky shoreline to bush clad slopes and valleys.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Dominant headland landform distinctive, relationship with settlement areas creates 'unique' context.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Exposed rocky headland and foreshore with bay on south side. Indigenous vegetation cover extending from shoreline fully reinforces topography.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Prominent landmark feature visually locating Whakatane settlement across plains and separating long stretches of sandy shoreline. Backdrop to the Whakatane river mouth.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Landform and vegetation relatively unmodified (vehicle access to lookout point).
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Landform and vegetation cover highly intact.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Expressive of geomorphology and contrasting geology.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient features not critical to identification.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Headland landform with rocky coastline and vegetated hinterland separating long sweeps of coastal beach. Backdrop to urban areas and strong unmodified skyline.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Backdrop to Whakatane. Highly visible. Strong community attachment.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Statutory acknowledgement associated to this site. Culturally significant to nga uri o Ngati Awa. Toka tipua (rocks imbued with spiritual and sacred qualities). Many culturally significant sites along Koohi point through to Otarawairere. Some of which include; Papa Whariki, Taumata Kahawai, Te Rae o te Tamure pa, Papaka. Ko-hi - to be ill. Named after an incident when Wairaka, Toroa's daughter became ill.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Connections to historical European activity, including European redoubt overlooking Whakatane township (L. Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.). Redoubt recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), is physical evidence of past human activity. Landscape contains several complex and archaeologically significant pa along escarpment. These sites are recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), and comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Distal Point of Ohope Spit			Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 25c		
ID No: ONFL 19 (S16) (RCEP 2003 identifier)			District: Whakatane District Council		
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Large area of relatively unmodified duneland landscape at distal end of significant coastal spit defining important harbour landscape.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Well preserved generally and significant natural character.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	Conservation management provides opportunity for education and monitoring.	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Not unique but representative. Good example.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Conservation management. Duneland landforms expressed and some indigenous species vegetation.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Significant but low profile landform feature within locality, Remote distal spit of popular coastal residential and holiday destination. Memorable but not highly vivid.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Some modification related to recreational use and altered vegetation cover.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Natural processes predominate. Intact and conservation management.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Duneland spit highly representative of formative coastal processes and dynamic nature of harbour mouth / open coastline.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Presence of avifauna related to significant habitat values of Ohiwa Harbour.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Relatively unmodified distal end of spit landform contrast between exposed coast and inland estuary edge.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Low profile. Not well recognised.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	One Turuturu Spit (Wildlife Refuge). Part of Ohiwa Harbour which is culturally significant and locally recognised by Maori, mahinga kai.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape is highly likely to contain buried archaeological sites (with no visible surface features) which comprise physical evidence of past human activity. Recorded archaeological sites immediately adjacent to identified area (L. Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.).

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Ohiwa Harbour				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 26c
ID No: ONFL 20 (05) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Whakatane District Council and Opotiki District Council (shared)
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS
Natural Science Factors				
Representativeness				
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Significant harbour landscape with highly indented edge harbour contributes to identity and character of locality in significant way.
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Harbour in good state of preservation although subject to siltation. Shallow harbour with numerous shoals and islands.
Research and Education				
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	Significant opportunities associated with habitat values especially related to avifauna and migratory species.
Rarity				
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Distinctive harbour formation and habitat values, high natural character.

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Harbour estuary intact and high levels of coherence.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Distinctive harbour landscape highly memorable and visually prominent in relation to Ohope population and alignment of State Highway.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Highly natural and unmodified.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Highly intact and aesthetically coherent landscape.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Indented shoreline and islands expressive of formation processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	High avifauna values contribute to transient qualities. Tidal variation provides ongoing change and interest.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Waterscape with strong pattern related to transient qualities of significant indented estuary / habitat.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Nationally recognised. Visually prominent. An icon of the eastern Bay of Plenty.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Statutory acknowledgement associated to part of the Ohiwa Harbour. Mahinga kai, tauranga waka, ancient pa, kainga, waahi tapu.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Connections to early European settlement, boat building, and trading (L. Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.) Landscape contains numerous archaeological sites, including the Tokitoki midden site which has provided the earliest evidence of human activity in eastern Bay of Plenty (Phillips, K. 1996. The Archaeology of the Eastern Bay of Plenty. Unpublished MA thesis, University of Auckland.). Sites are recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), and comprise physical evidence of past human activity. Identified as an archaeological area in historic heritage inventory study for Coastal Plan (InSitu Heritage Ltd. Historic Heritage Review Project – Coastal Historic Heritage Inventory, June 2006. Report to Bay of Plenty Regional Council.).

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Uretara Island			Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 25c		
ID No: ONFL 21 (S17) (RCEP 2003 identifier)			District: Opotiki District Council		
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Island within Ohiwa harbour significant wildlife habitat values and distinctive indented coastline.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Well preserved, conservation management.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	Significant wildlife values and scientific research / monitoring values.	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Distinctive island habitat.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Conservation management no productive landuse, vegetation cover cohesive with topography.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Not highly memorable or vivid as low profile landform in harbour landscape.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Highly natural and unmodified with high natural character values.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Highly intact and aesthetically cohesive.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Landform and vegetation cover expressive of natural processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	High avifauna values contribute to transient qualities.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Island within Ohiwa Harbour with intact vegetation and high habitat values.

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2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Relatively distinctive and significant island coastline within Ohiwa Harbour
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ngati Awa Statutory acknowledgement associated to this site. Ancient pa (Paripari & Karamea), kainga.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape contains archaeological sites of Maori origin, including significant pa. These sites are recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), and comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Pataua Island			Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 26c		
ID No: ONFL 22 (S18) (RCEP 2003 identifier)			District: Opotiki District Council		
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Island within Ohiwa harbour significant wildlife habitat values and distinctive indented coastline.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Well preserved, conservation management.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	Significant wildlife values and scientific research / monitoring values.	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Distinctive island habitat.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Conservation management no productive landuse, vegetation cover cohesive with topography.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Not highly memorable or vivid as low profile landform in harbour landscape.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Highly natural and unmodified with high natural character values.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Highly intact and aesthetically cohesive.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Landform and vegetation cover expressive of natural processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	High avifauna values contribute to transient qualities.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Island within Ohiwa Harbour with intact vegetation and high habitat values.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Not highly recognisable or visible.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Kainga (incl. middens, ovens).
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape contains archaeological sites, recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), which comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Waiotahi Estuary			Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 27c		
ID No: ONFL 23 (S19) (RCEP 2003 identifier)			District: Opotiki District Council		
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING		COMMENTS		
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Important small harbour landscape contributes to identity and character of locality. Margins relatively highly modified by drainage and pastoral landuse. Some development in west towards Ohiwa settlement including elevated sites.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Harbour in good state of preservation although subject to siltation and landward drainage. Shallow harbour with numerous shoals and central channel.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	Opportunities associated with habitat values especially related to avifauna and migratory species.	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Distinctive harbour formation and habitat values, moderate high natural character.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Harbour estuary intact and high levels of coherence. Patterns of tidal waterscape / mudflats naturalistic and coherent. Some edges modified with drainage / roads.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Harbour/ landscape memorable and visually prominent in relation to adjacent local Ohiwa road and State Highway.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Waterscape / estuary flats highly natural and unmodified. Edges modified in places.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Highly intact harbour / estuary and aesthetically coherent landscape.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Estuarine system and channel expressive of natural processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	High avifauna values contribute to transient qualities. Tidal variation provides ongoing change and interest.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Waterscape with strong pattern related to transient qualities of small estuary / habitat

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Visually prominent. State Highway runs next to it. Highly valued by local community.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Mahinga kai, ancient pa, urupa.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape contains archaeological sites including a large and complex shell midden. Sites are recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), and comprise physical evidence of past human activity. Identified as an archaeological area in historic heritage inventory study for Coastal Plan (InSitu Heritage Ltd. Historic Heritage Review Project – Coastal Historic Heritage Inventory, June 2006. Report to Bay of Plenty Regional Council.).

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Waiotahi Spit and Estuary Mouth				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 27c
ID No: ONFL 24 (08) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Opotiki District Council
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS
Natural Science Factors				
Representativeness				
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Large area of relatively unmodified duneland landscape including distal end of spit defining important harbour / estuary landscape. Little modification and lack of structures, remote beach, high natural character and visual quality.
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Well preserved duneland landscape with intact estuary and coastal edges. Significant, high natural character.
Research and Education				
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A
Rarity				
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Not unique but representative. Good example. Remote.

Aesthetic Values				
Coherence 2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.	L	M	H	Duneland landforms expressed and indigenous species vegetation present including Pohutukawa at distal end of spit - significant. Conservation management.
Vividness 2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;	L	M	H	Significant but low profile landform feature within locality. Remote beach and coastal landscape. Memorable but not highly vivid.
Naturalness 2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy	L	M	H	Limited modification very high natural character.
Intactness 2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes	L	M	H	Natural processes predominate. Intact landform and vegetation cover - conservation management.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Duneland spit highly representative of formative coastal processes and dynamic nature of harbour mouth / open coastline.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Presence of avifauna related to significant habitat values of estuary / harbour.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Relatively unmodified distal end of spit landform contrast between exposed coast and inland estuary edge.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Visually prominent. State Highway runs next to it. Highly valued by local community.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Mahinga kai, ancient pa, urupa.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Connections to historical European activity, as forms part of former cattle droving route (L. Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.). Landscape contains archaeological pa sites, recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), which comprise physical evidence of past human activity. Landscape is also highly likely to contain buried archaeological sites (with no visible surface features) (L. Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.).

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Pohutukawa tunnels over State Highway 2 at Waiotahi				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 27c
ID No: ONFL 25 (S20) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Opotiki District Council
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS
Natural Science Factors				
Representativeness				
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Landscape feature creating distinctive indigenous character along State Highway corridor. Highly location specific and high quality landscape feature.
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Significant mature indigenous species trees - Pohutukawa
Research and Education				
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	No significant education or research value
Rarity				
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Highly uncommon landscape feature creating distinctive environment, valued natural feature of road environment.

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Trees reinforce road corridor as tunnel.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Creates highly memorable section of highway (important tourist as well as local route).
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Trees create natural feature enveloping roadway corridor.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Trees highly naturalistic, linear road corridor 'man made' contrast part of the aesthetic composition and character.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Not particularly expressive of natural processes, more representative of contrast between nature and culture / infrastructure.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Flowering of Pohutukawa on mass gives strong seasonal transient qualities.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Small scale landscape / vegetative feature with strong transient qualities defining road corridor.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Iconic section of road for local community and tourists. Well known and recognised.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Pa incl ditches, terraces, transient values - cultural indicator of readiness of kaimoana (when Pohutukawa in bloom).
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape contains archaeological sites on cliff top above road. These sites are recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), and comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Tarakeha (Opape)				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 29b	
ID No: ONFL 26 (S21) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Opotiki District Council	
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Prominent headland landform - Tarakeha - defining eastern end of long open beach coastline east of Opotiki. Immediate backdrop to settlement of Opape. Intact indigenous vegetation extending from rocky shoreline to ridgeline. Discrete vegetated hillock landform on coastline.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Unmodified natural landform feature - headland hillock - with intact and regenerating cover of indigenous vegetation. Representative of typical coastal headland landscape feature which typifies eastern coastline.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Not rare but typical and distinctive.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Entire landform feature – headland hillock intact and covered with indigenous vegetation patterns fully in harmony and highly aesthetic.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Memorable feature at end of long coastal beach, part of a series of rocky shoreline headlands along eastern coastline.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Unmodified prominent landform feature with intact cover of regenerating vegetation. Not compromised by structures or infrastructure.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Intact naturally functioning system. Highly aesthetic and significant in defining termination of long open beach.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Intact landform and vegetative sequence rocky shoreline to hillock ridge top, expressive of natural processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient values not significant in delineation.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Vegetated headland landform defining sweep of coastline with rocky shoreline, backed by indigenous vegetation.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Prominent feature. First impression of elevated indigenous vegetation along this section of State Highway.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Connections to historical European activity, as forms part of former East Coast coach road. Physical evidence of road includes cuttings visible around headland (L. Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.). Landscape contains several archaeological sites of Maori origin located on the headland, including a complex pa. These sites are recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), and comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Haurere Point			Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 29b		
ID No: ONFL 27 (S22) (RCEP 2003 identifier)			District: Opotiki District Council		
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Prominent headland landform - Haurere Point - defining western end of Torere Beach. Intact indigenous vegetation extending from rocky reef / shoreline to ridgeline. Part of discrete east / west ridgeline landform extending out to coastline as distinctive headland feature.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Relatively unmodified / regenerating natural landform feature - headland hillock - with intact and regenerating cover of indigenous vegetation. Representative of coastal headland landscape feature which typifies eastern coastline.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H		
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Not rare but typical and distinctive.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Coastal portion of landform feature – headland ridge intact and covered with indigenous vegetation patterns fully in harmony and highly aesthetic. Vegetation on south side of ridge more established than north facing coastal faces.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Memorable feature defining western end of Torere beach, part of a series of rocky shoreline headlands along eastern coastline.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Unmodified prominent landform feature with intact cover of regenerating vegetation. Not compromised by structures or infrastructure.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Intact naturally functioning system. Highly aesthetic and significant in defining termination of small bay (to west) and open beach (to east).

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Intact landform and vegetative sequence rocky reef / shoreline to ridge top, expressive of natural processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient values not significant in delineation.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Vegetated headland landform defining sweep of coastline with rocky / reef shoreline, backed by indigenous vegetation.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Visible from State Highway. Defines southern end of Torere Beach.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Mahinga kai, urupa.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape is highly likely to contain buried archaeological sites (with no visible surface features) which are physical evidence of past human activity (L. Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.).

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Pehitairi Point				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 29b	
ID No: ONFL 28				District: Opotiki District Council	
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Prominent headland landform - Pehitairi Point - defining eastern end of Torere Beach. Intact indigenous vegetation extending from rocky reef / shoreline to ridgeline.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Relatively unmodified / regenerating natural landform feature - headland - with intact and regenerating cover of indigenous vegetation. Representative of coastal headland landscape feature, which typifies eastern coastline.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Not rare but typical and distinctive.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Coastal portion of distinctive profile headland ridge landform feature - intact and covered with indigenous vegetation patterns fully in harmony and highly aesthetic. Vegetation on south side of ridge more established than north facing coastal faces which have more scattered cover.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Memorable feature defining eastern end of Torere beach, part of a series of rocky shoreline headlands along eastern coastline. Backdrop to Torere settlement.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Largely unmodified prominent landform feature with intact cover of regenerating vegetation. Not compromised by structures or infrastructure.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Intact naturally functioning system. Highly aesthetic and significant in defining termination of open beach.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Intact landform and vegetative sequence rocky reef / shoreline to ridge top, expressive of natural processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient values not significant in delineation.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Headland landform defining sweep of coastline with rocky shoreline, backed by regenerating indigenous vegetation.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Backdrop to Torere settlement. Typical landform of this stretch of coast.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape is highly likely to contain buried archaeological sites (with no visible surface features) which are physical evidence of past human activity (L. Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.).

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Haumiaroa Point				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 30	
ID No: ONFL 29 (S23) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Opotiki District Council	
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Small headland landform - Haumiaroa Point - defining eastern end of Hawai Beach. Intact indigenous vegetation extending from rocky reef / shoreline to top of knoll and inland across SH35 to encompass intact area of indigenous vegetation (defined by edge of exotic forest).	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Relatively unmodified / regenerating natural landform feature - headland - with intact and regenerating cover of indigenous vegetation extending inland across SH corridor. Representative of coastal headland landscape feature, which typifies eastern coastline.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Not rare but typical and distinctive.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Small coastal headland knoll landform feature - intact and covered with indigenous vegetation, patterns fully in harmony and highly aesthetic. Vegetation on south side of ridge and inland of SH more established than north facing coastal faces, which have more scattered cover.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Memorable feature defining eastern end of Hawaii beach, part of a series of rocky shoreline headlands along eastern coastline. Backdrop to Hawaii settlement.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Largely unmodified coastal landform feature with intact cover of regenerating vegetation. Not compromised by structures or infrastructure.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Intact naturally functioning system. Highly aesthetic and significant in defining termination of open beach.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Intact landform feature and vegetative sequence rocky reef / shoreline to ridge top, expressive of natural processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient values not significant in delineation.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Vegetated headland landform defining sweep of coastline with rocky shoreline / reef, backed by extensive indigenous and regenerating vegetation.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Memorable feature defining eastern end of Hawaii beach. Highly visible from State Highway.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape contains archaeological sites, recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), which comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Whituare Bay				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 30	
ID No: ONFL 30 (S24) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Opotiki District Council	
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Small stony beach bay defined by headlands to west and east (Haumiara and Maraenui both separately identified outstanding natural features and landscapes) with intact fringe of indigenous vegetation at back of beach predominantly Pohutukawa. Includes regenerating cover of predominantly indigenous vegetation extending up to enclosing ridgeline. Cultivated paddocks on terrace contribute 'cultured nature landscape qualities and do not detract from overall values. SH corridor traverses area.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Typical stony beach defined by intact headlands. Representative of coastal processes and indigenous regeneration.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Not rare but representative and low level of modification distinctive in region.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Small coastal beach / bay landform feature - intact and supporting indigenous vegetation extending inland to define coastal environment. Patterns fully in harmony and highly aesthetic. Cultivated paddocks reinforce terrace landform / topography and contribute aesthetic 'cultured nature' qualities.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Memorable enclosed bay feature well defined by significant headlands, part of a series of stony shoreline beach / bays along eastern coastline.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Largely unmodified bay and coastal backdrop with intact cover of regenerating vegetation. Pattern of rural cultivation reinforces topography. Not compromised by structures or infrastructure.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Largely intact naturally functioning system some rural landuse. Highly aesthetic.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Intact bay / stony beach landscape exhibiting natural coastal processes. Backdrop largely intact and regenerating.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient values not significant in delineation.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Typical bay landform with backdrop of indigenous vegetation and more extensive regenerating catchment behind. Mix of productive rural landuses on terrace above coast contained by strong framework of indigenous natural character.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	State Highway runs through feature – highly visible. Typical of this coastline.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa, kai mataara.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape contains archaeological sites, recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), which comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Maraenui Escarpment (Whituare Bay)				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 30,31	
ID No: ONFL 31 (S25) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Opotiki District Council	
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Extensive coastal headland landform including Maraenui hill escarpment and Parinui Point and the rocky stony shoreline - Te Uritukituki Beach - between. Area extends inland to encompass vegetated coastal ridgeline south of SH road corridor. Intact indigenous vegetation extending from rocky reef / shoreline to ridgeline. Part of discrete east / west ridgeline landform extending out to coastline as distinctive headland feature.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Relatively unmodified / regenerating natural landform feature – headlands beach / bay and ridgeline - with intact and regenerating cover of indigenous vegetation. Representative of coastal headland landscape feature which typifies eastern coastline.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Not rare but typical and distinctive.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Coastal portion of landform feature – headlands, beach / bay and coastal ridge intact and covered with indigenous vegetation patterns fully in harmony and highly aesthetic.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Memorable feature defining western end of Houpoto / Maraenui beach, part of a series of rocky shoreline headlands along eastern coastline.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Unmodified prominent landform feature with intact cover of regenerating vegetation. Not compromised by structures or infrastructure other than SH corridor which dissects.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Intact naturally functioning system. Highly aesthetic and significant in defining termination bay to east.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Intact sequence of coastal landform – headlands, bay / beach and vegetative sequence rocky shoreline to ridge top, expressive of natural processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient values not significant in delineation.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Vegetated headland landforms defining sweep of coastline with rocky shoreline and bay, backed by regenerating and remnant indigenous vegetation extending inland on elevated ridgeline.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Typical but significant in defining the sense of place on this stretch of State Highway.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape contains archaeological sites, recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), which comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Motu River Mouth			Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 31c		
ID No: ONFL 32 (09) (RCEP 2003 identifier)			District: Opotiki District Council		
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING		COMMENTS		
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Highly distinctive and recognisable large scale river mouth, dynamic and subject to constant cumulative as well as dramatic change. Braided river system with associated natural values and aesthetic qualities. Includes vegetated catchment to east and immediate river flats to west as well as Tokata Point headland defining eastern side of river mouth.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Characteristic of natural processes, well preserved natural system.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	Potential for monitoring of natural processes and river dynamics.	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Not rare but significant example of type due to scale and dynamic forces.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Area defined includes small areas of pastoral landuse related to river flats remaining area active braided river and dynamic river mouth as well as regenerating intact indigenous vegetation cover.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Distinctive and memorable landscape also associated with Motu River and wider upper catchment landscape.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Highly natural and dynamic river system.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Largely intact and highly aesthetic with high natural character values. Rural landuses and road make small impacts on dominant natural system.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Dynamic braided river and river mouth highly expressive of fluvial processes and force of nature. Intact vegetated catchment also expressive of natural regeneration.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Change in river channels and form of river mouth contribute important transient values.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Dynamic river mouth with headland backdrop to northeast and west draining indigenous remnant and regenerating catchment.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Highly recognised and valued feature.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa, urupa, mahinga kai, taunga ika.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Strong historic association with mass drowning tragedy in 1900 (Binney, J & Chaplin, G. 1986. Nga Morehu: The Survivors. Auckland University Press. p 56). Landscape contains archaeological sites, recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), which comprise physical evidence of past human activity. Identified as an archaeological area in historic heritage inventory study for Coastal Plan (InSitu Heritage Ltd. Historic Heritage Review Project – Coastal Historic Heritage Inventory, June 2006. Report to Bay of Plenty Regional Council.).

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Orangoihunui Point and Whitianga Bay, Whitianga Bay to Ohae Point				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 32b
ID No: ONFL 33 (S26) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Opotiki District Council
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS
Natural Science Factors				
Representativeness				
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Extensive largely intact coastal headland / bay landform extending from Tokata Point (part of Motu River Mouth ONF&L) including the immediate rocky stony shoreline of Whitianga Bay, Puketapu Point, Otehirinaki Point, Ohae Point and Pokohinu Point headlands. Area extends inland to encompass part of vegetated coastal ridgeline between Waihapokopoko and Waioria Streams. Intact indigenous vegetation extending from rocky reef / shoreline to ridgeline.
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Relatively unmodified / regenerating natural landform feature - headlands beach / bay and ridgeline - with intact and regenerating cover of indigenous vegetation. Representative of coastal headland landscape feature, which typifies eastern coastline.
Research and Education				
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A
Rarity				
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Not rare but typical and distinctive.

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Coastal landform sequence - headlands, beach / bay and coastal ridge intact and covered with indigenous vegetation patterns fully in harmony and highly aesthetic.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Highly memorable and aesthetic sequence of coastal landscape, part of a series of rocky shoreline headlands along eastern coastline.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Unmodified series of landform features with intact cover of regenerating vegetation. Not compromised by structures or infrastructure other than SH corridor, which in part dissects. Area excludes more settled area of Whitianga Bay.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Intact naturally functioning system. Highly aesthetic and significant in defining Omaio bay to east.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Intact sequence of coastal landform – headlands, bay / beach and vegetative sequence rocky shoreline to ridge top, expressive of natural processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient values not significant in delineation.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Sequence of vegetated rocky headland / bay landforms with rocky shoreline, backed by indigenous coastal fringe and more extensive areas of indigenous vegetation.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Highly valued and recognised sequence of coastal landscape, part of a series of rocky shoreline headlands along eastern coastline.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Mahinga kai, taunga ika.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape contains archaeological sites, recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), which comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Motunui Island and Associated Reefs				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 32b, 33	
ID No: ONFL 34 (S27) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Opotiki District Council	
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Small rocky island with patch of indigenous vegetation - Pohutukawa - partially attached to rocky shoreline. Area extends to incorporate rocky shoreline and intertidal area west to Omaio Bay and east to Waiorere. Includes fringe of coastal vegetation at back of shoreline predominantly Pohutukawa, but does not extend into cultivated terrace top paddocks. Highly representative of typical high amenity and high natural character shoreline and sequence of headlands and rocky bays.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Relatively unmodified / regenerating coastal fringe – headlands and bays - with intact cover of indigenous vegetation (Pohutukawa). Representative of rocky coastal landscape sequence, which typifies eastern coastline.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Not rare but typical and distinctive.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Rocky shoreline landform sequence - headlands and bays with fringe of indigenous vegetation. Patterns fully in harmony and highly aesthetic.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Highly memorable and aesthetic sequence of coastal landscape, part of a series of rocky shoreline headlands along eastern coastline.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Unmodified series of landform features with intact edge of indigenous vegetation. Not significantly compromised by structures or infrastructure.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Intact coastal edge with modified pastoral backdrop. Highly aesthetic and extensive sequence of shoreline.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Intact sequence of coastal landscape - headlands and bays with fringe of indigenous vegetation, expressive of natural processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Flowering of Pohutukawa along coastal fringe introduces transient values.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Small attached 'island' with extensive sequence of rocky shoreline / reefs, backed by indigenous coastal fringe.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Highly valued and recognised sequence of coastal landscape, part of a series of rocky shoreline headlands along eastern coastline.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa, urupa.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape contains archaeological sites, recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), which comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Whanarua Bay			Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 34b		
ID No: ONFL 35 (010) (RCEP 2003 identifier)			District: Opotiki District Council		
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING		COMMENTS		
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Sequence of coastal landscape incorporating rocky inter-tidal reefs and rocky shorelines, headlands, rocky bays and small stony beaches. Area extends inland to enclosing ridgeline and regenerating dissected catchment in the east. Area excludes settled areas in Whanarua Bay but does include some areas of pasture where patterns reinforce topography. Representative of coastal landscape sequence and inland regenerating catchment.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Relatively unmodified / regenerating natural landform features - inter-tidal reefs, rocky shorelines and headlands beaches and bays extending inland to include intact and regenerating cover of indigenous vegetation. Representative of coastal headland and indigenous backdrop landscape , which typifies eastern coastline.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Not rare but typical and distinctive.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Coastal landform sequence – inter-tidal reefs, headlands, beach / bay and coastal ridge / backdrop intact and covered with indigenous vegetation, patterns in harmony and highly aesthetic. Some rural landuses within area but not strongly discordant, more settled areas excluded.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Memorable and aesthetic sequence of coastal landscape and inland backdrop, part of a series of rocky shoreline headlands and vegetated / regenerating backdrop along eastern coastline.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Relatively unmodified series of landform features much with intact cover of regenerating vegetation. Area excludes more settled area of Whanarua Bay but does include some areas of rural landuse.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Largely intact naturally functioning system. Significant areas of natural regeneration. Some pastoral farming but not strongly discordant.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Largely intact sequence of coastal landform - inter-tidal reefs, rocky headlands, bays, beaches and vegetative sequence from rocky shoreline to ridge top, expressive of natural processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient values not significant in delineation.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Sequence of vegetated rocky headland / bay landforms with rocky shoreline / reefs, backed by indigenous coastal fringe and more extensive areas of regenerating and remnant indigenous vegetation.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Highly valued and recognised sequence of coastal landscape, part of a series of rocky shoreline headlands along eastern coastline.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa, kainga, mahinga kai, urupa, ana taonga.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape contains archaeological sites, recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), which comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Ruakokere River Mouth			Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 35c, 36c		
ID No: ONFL 36 (S28) (RCEP 2003 identifier)			District: Opotiki District Council		
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Distinctive river mouth, lagoon and stony shoreline beach dynamic and subject to constant cumulative as well as dramatic change. Braided river system with associated natural values and aesthetic qualities. Representative of dynamic river mouth system and associated open beach landscape.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Characteristic of natural processes, well preserved natural system.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	Potential for monitoring of natural processes and river / coastal dynamics.	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Not rare but significant example of type due to scale and dynamic forces.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	<p>Area defined includes small areas of pastoral landuse related to coastal and river flats and remnant patches of Kahikatea, active braided river and dynamic river mouth and lagoon as well as regenerating intact indigenous vegetation cover.</p> <p>Landcover reinforces topography and dynamic nature of the natural system.</p>
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	<p>Distinctive diverse and memorable landscape.</p>
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	<p>Highly natural and dynamic river and coastal system.</p>
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	<p>Largely intact and highly aesthetic with high natural character values. Rural landuses and road make small impacts on dominant natural system.</p>

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Dynamic braided river, river mouth / lagoon and beach highly expressive of fluvial and coastal processes and force of nature. Intact vegetated landforms and remnant pockets of vegetation also expressive of natural regeneration.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Change in river channels and form of river mouth / lagoon contribute important transient values.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Coastal beach and dynamic river mouth / lagoon backed by duneland and pockets of indigenous vegetation along inland river margins.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Highly valued and recognised. Strong community connections. Visible from State Highway.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa, mahinga kai, taunga ika, urupa.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Connections to historical shore whaling activity (L. Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.). Identified as an archaeological area in historic heritage inventory study for Coastal Plan (InSitu Heritage Ltd. Historic Heritage Review Project – Coastal Historic Heritage Inventory, June 2006. Report to Bay of Plenty Regional Council.). Landscape is highly likely to contain buried archaeological sites with no visible surface features (L. Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.). Archaeological sites comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Oruaiti Beach, offshore rocks and Waikanapanapa cliffs				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 36c, 37b	
ID No: ONFL 37 (S29) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Opotiki District Council	
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Area extends from rocky shoreline west of Oruaiti Beach to incorporate beach and associated dunes, rocky headland of Te Ahikehe Point and shoreline east of Waikanapanapa includes rock shelves and inter-tidal reefs. Includes fringe of coastal vegetation at back of shoreline predominantly Pohutukawa, but does not extend into cultivated terrace top paddocks. Highly representative of typical high amenity and high natural character shoreline and sequence of headlands, beaches and rocky shorelines.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Relatively unmodified / regenerating coastal fringe – headlands, beach and bays - with intact cover of indigenous vegetation (Pohutukawa). Representative of rocky coastal landscape sequence, which typifies eastern coastline.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Not rare but typical and distinctive.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Rocky shoreline and beach landform sequence - headlands and bays with fringe of indigenous vegetation. Patterns fully in harmony and highly aesthetic.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Highly memorable and aesthetic sequence of coastal landscape, part of a series of rocky shoreline headlands and beaches along eastern coastline.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Unmodified series of landform features with intact edge of indigenous vegetation. Not significantly compromised by adjacent landuse, structures or infrastructure.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Intact coastal edge with modified pastoral backdrop. Highly aesthetic and extensive sequence of shoreline.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Intact sequence of coastal landscape – headlands, rocky reef platforms, beach and bays with fringe of indigenous vegetation, expressive of natural processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Flowering of Pohutukawa along coastal fringe introduces transient values.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Sequence of vegetated rocky headland and more open bay landforms with rocky shoreline / reefs, backed by fringe of indigenous coastal vegetation.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Highly valued and recognised sequence of coastal landscape, part of a series of rocky shoreline headlands along eastern coastline.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa, kaimataara, urupa.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape contains archaeological sites, recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), which comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Whangaparaoa dunefield, wetland and estuary			Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 37b, 38b		
ID No: ONFL 38 (S30) (RCEP 2003 identifier)			District: Opotiki District Council		
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Extensive coastal duneland with intact cover of vegetation, wetlands stream and river system backing long open beach. Remote highly natural landscape representative of original duneland landscape.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Duneland with limited modification large intact area including freshwater wetlands and stream/river.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	Potential for monitoring of natural duneland system and associated education.	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Large extent and lack of modification of landform makes relatively rare.	

Aesthetic Values				
Coherence 2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.	L	M	H	Minimal modification and no active landuse.
Vividness 2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;	L	M	H	Memorable remote landscape.
Naturalness 2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy	L	M	H	Very limited modification highly natural and naturally functioning system.
Intactness 2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes	L	M	H	

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Natural system with high natural character and highly expressive of dynamic coastal and fluvial processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Change in river channels and form of river mouth contribute important transient values.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Long sweep of coastal beach with extensive duneland landform backdrop, northern river mouth. Intact coastal vegetation and habitat.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Recognised and valued.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Mahinga kai, tauranga waka, urupa. <i>(landing place of the Tainui waka).</i>
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape is highly likely to contain buried archaeological sites (with no visible surface features) which are physical evidence of past human activity (L. Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.).

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Kopongatahi Point				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 38b	
ID No: ONFL 39 (S31) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Opotiki District Council	
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS	
Natural Science Factors					
Representativeness					
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Sequence of coastal landscape extending from rocky shoreline inland to incorporate distinctive conical hillock and regenerating indigenous backdrop. Located east of Whangaparaoa River mouth.	
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Regenerating landscape with some pastoral farming but also regenerating naturally.	
Research and Education					
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A	
Rarity					
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Distinctive landform feature within coastal landscape sequence.	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Regenerating pattern of vegetation interspaced with pastoral grazing.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Distinctive conical landform feature contributes to memorability of coastal landscape sequence.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Some modification of landcover due to farming but largely intact and regenerating.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Visually intact and highly aesthetic with pattern of pastoral farming contributing 'cultured nature' without degrading more natural landscape values.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Distinctive landform feature and expressive of regeneration processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient values did not contribute significantly to identification.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Rocky coastline and reefs with inland distinctive, memorable, conical landform feature. Land cover largely regenerating indigenous vegetation (some pasture).

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Visible for State Highway. Distinctive.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape contains archaeological sites, recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), which comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Cape Runaway				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 38b
ID No: ONFL 40 (011) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Opotiki District Council
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS
Natural Science Factors				
Representativeness				
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Significant headland landform defining Bay of Plenty. Includes rocky shoreline and reefs, Otarawhata Island and intact landform feature including highpoints of Paparinga and Tikirau as well as series of coastal headlands and bays. Regenerating cover of indigenous vegetation and grasslands.
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Landform well preserved vegetation cover regenerating.
Research and Education				
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A
Rarity				
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Place in defining Bay of Plenty contributes to significance.

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Past pastoral farming and clearance has been replaced by significant revegetation and regeneration. Patterns largely responsive to topography, orientation to sun and coastal influences.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Highly vivid and distinctive landscape feature.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Former modification for pastoral farming largely restored through natural regeneration.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Patterns of regeneration highly natural and related to underlying landscape.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Landscape expressive of natural processes including indigenous regeneration.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient values did not contribute significantly to identification.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Large and significant headland landform defining the Bay of Plenty coastline, memorable landscape feature with rocky coastline / reefs and regenerating cover of indigenous vegetation (formerly pastoral landscape).

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Highly recognised and valued feature.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa, kainga, urupa.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape contains many archaeological sites of Maori origin, including stone rows and evidence of extensive gardening activity. Sites are recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), and comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Steep Coastal Hills between Cape Runaway & Lottin Point				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 38b, 39b
ID No: ONFL 41 (S32) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Opotiki District Council
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS
Natural Science Factors				
Representativeness				
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Distinctive steep coastal hill face running to rocky shoreline. Grazed pasture with some remnant pockets of vegetation and individual / grouped trees.
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Historical clearance for pastoral farming has laid landform bare and distinctive.
Research and Education				
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	N/A
Rarity				
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Distinctive in region with steep coastal hills extending to rocky shoreline.

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Largely denuded of indigenous vegetation through pastoral framing some vegetation remains in gullies and above shoreline contributing to character.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Highly vivid and distinctive. Open pasture expresses topography with contributes to vividness.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Modification relates to past clearance for pastoral farming. Remnant vegetation reinforces natural character.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Pastoral landscape but dominated by coastal environment and dramatic landform. Other than grazing minimal modification exists and area is without infrastructure – eg public roads or structures.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Highly expressive of natural processes and dominated by nature.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient values did not contribute significantly to identification.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Coastal landform from top of ridge down to shoreline, extensive sequence of rocky shoreline, exposed dramatic coastal landform with pastoral and regenerating land cover.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Strong local connection to feature but not highly visible.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape contains many archaeological sites of Maori origin, including stone rows and evidence of extensive gardening activity. Sites are recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), and comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Karewa Island and sub-tidal context			Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 43
ID No: ONFL 42 (S9) (RCEP 2003 identifier)			District:
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING		COMMENTS
Natural Science Factors			
Representativeness			
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H
Research and Education			
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H
Rarity			
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Highly coherent natural patterns and high aesthetic and natural character values.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Small scale and offshore location as well as low habitation of Matakana island reduce vividness or public awareness. Highly vivid when known.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	High natural character and significant wildlife values supporting nationally threatened species.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Highly unmodified original landscape.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Intact expression of natural processes and significant habitat.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Presence of nationally threatened species and naturalness contribute to transient qualities.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Island landform with significant habitat values.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Highly recognised and valued.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Taunga ika, mahinga kai. Gazetted 4.11.1965 as a Wildlife Reserve.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Connections with early European activity (L. Walter pers comm.). Physical evidence includes the wreck of the <i>Taranaki</i> , identified in historic heritage inventory study for Coastal Plan (CH12; InSitu Heritage Ltd. Historic Heritage Review Project – Coastal Historic Heritage Inventory, June 2006. Report to Bay of Plenty Regional Council.). Landscape contains archaeological sites, recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), which comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Tuhua (Mayor Island) including sub-tidal landscape/ seascape features			Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 40b		
ID No: ONFL 43 (03) (RCEP 2003 identifier)			District:		
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING		COMMENTS		
Natural Science Factors					
<p>Representativeness</p> <p>2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence</p>	L	M	H	<p>Island landscape / sub-tidal area includes area gazetted as marine reserve (Tuhua Marine Reserve) to the north of Tuhua as well as the restricted fishing area which extends one nautical mile beyond the marine reserve. Area also encompass seabed formed as part of the rhyolitic volcano of Tuhua including ignimbrite and pumice flows as well as localised elevated seabed extending east from Tuhua over a distance of some 25 kilometres.</p> <p>Distinctive island landscape and associated sub-tidal features / seabed and protected areas comprising extensive complex worthy of recognition and appropriate protection.</p>	
<p>2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region</p>	L	M	H	<p>Volcanic landform features and intact complex.</p>	
<p>Research and Education</p> <p>2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:</p>	L	M	H	<p>Opportunities for research and monitoring of marine reserve and sub-tidal features / landscape.</p>	
<p>Rarity</p> <p>2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.</p>	L	M	H	<p>Distinctive volcanic complex.</p>	

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Mayor Island wildlife sanctuary protected indigenous landscape and marine reserve highly original landscape without patterns of landuse.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Mayor island vivid and recognisable island landscape and feature.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Essentially unmodified.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Highly intact.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Highly expressive of volcanic processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Wildlife, vegetation cover and marine life contribute to transient qualities.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Island landform and associated sub tidal features intact. Significant habitat values and distinctive memorable landform.

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2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Highly recognised and valued.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Mahinga ka, taunga ika, kainga.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Connections to early development of recreational big-game fishing (L. Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.). Landscape contains many archaeological sites. These sites are recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), and comprise physical evidence of past human activity. Island is source of distinctive type of obsidian which is found in archaeological sites throughout New Zealand (L. Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.).

Assessment provided by Environment Bay of Plenty

Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Motiti Island and associated islands / reefs and shoals as well as sub-tidal context				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 45b
ID No: ONFL 44 (S12) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District:
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS
Natural Science Factors				
<p>Representativeness</p> <p>2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence</p>	L	M	H	<p>Motiti Island is a farmed rural landscape but retains significant landscape values expressive of 'cultured nature. Associated island features include Motukaha Island, Motunau Island, Astrolabe Reef Brewis Shoal and Okaprau Reef which form part of a wider complex of island features the area has been defined to encompass these features within one complex including the sub-tidal landscape that connects these surface features.</p> <p>Motunau Island is identified as ASCV-9 and Astrolabe Reef ASCV-8 they and have significance as habitat for New Zealand fur seals. Both areas are also nationally significant scenic dive sites.</p>
<p>2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region</p>	L	M	H	<p>Motiti is farmed but has a significant coastline and associated features. The associated islands and reefs / shoals are highly natural with significant habitat values.</p>
<p>Research and Education</p> <p>2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:</p>	L	M	H	<p>Potential for scientific research and monitoring.</p>
<p>Rarity</p> <p>2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.</p>	L	M	H	<p>Islands with significant habitat values rare as are small farmed island landscapes.</p>

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	High values of aesthetic coherence, particularly in relation to small island landscape features.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Highly vivid when known.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Motiti less natural but context and islands / reefs / shoals highly natural. Coastline has high natural character.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Motiti less intact other features highly intact.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Generally highly expressive of natural processes.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Island features with high natural and habitat values express high transient values.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Grouping of island landforms and associated sub tidal reef features intact. Main island – Motiti - inhabited, rural landscape but others less modified and with significant habitat values.

Assessment provided by Boffa Miskell Ltd

2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Highly recognised and valued.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Kainga, mahinga kai, taunga ika.
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Landscape contains many archaeological sites, recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), which comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

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Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Moutohora Island (Whale Island) (Note: Sub-tidal outstanding natural features and landscapes extends identified area beyond landward extent of island)				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 21b
ID No: ONFL 45 (06) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District: Western Bay of Plenty
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS
Natural Science Factors				
Representativeness				
2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence	L	M	H	Significant off shore island clearly visible from mainland. Landmark feature associated with Whakatane and Bay of Plenty coastline. Distinctive topography and volcanic formation.
2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region	L	M	H	Volcanic landform unmodified island landscape with intact cover of indigenous vegetation.
Research and Education				
2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:	L	M	H	Scientific values, Department of Conservation management.
Rarity				
2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.	L	M	H	Distinctive landform profile and prominence to shoreline create unique combination of landscape qualities and identity.

Aesthetic Values				
<p>Coherence</p> <p>2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.</p>	L	M	H	Intact indigenous vegetation reinforces topography.
<p>Vividness</p> <p>2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;</p>	L	M	H	Distinctive and memorable landform feature within clear visibility of land, a landmark feature of the coastline.
<p>Naturalness</p> <p>2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy</p>	L	M	H	Highly unmodified and within public conservation ownership / management.
<p>Intactness</p> <p>2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes</p>	L	M	H	Naturally functioning island landscape system under protective scientific conservation management.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Highly expressive of volcanic geomorphology.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Transient features not critical to identification.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Island landforms and associated sub tidal features intact. Significant habitat values and distinctive memorable landform features.

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2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	Highly visible. Frequently in publications. Regionally recognised and valued.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Ancient pa, mahinga kai. Nga Moutere o Rurima
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Connections to early European activity (L. Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.). Physical evidence includes sulphur mine and rock quarry. Landscape contains many archaeological sites, recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme (http://www.nzarchaeology.org/recording.htm), which comprise physical evidence of past human activity.

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Bay of Plenty Coastal Environment - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes
Assessment against RPS Criteria for assessing the Significance of Natural Features and Landscapes

ONF&L Name: Whakaari (White) Island and associated sub-tidal and surface island features				Regional Coastal Env't Plan Map Ref: 48b
ID No: ONFL 46 (07) (RCEP 2003 identifier)				District:
CRITERIA (Ref to Appendix F Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement 1999)	RANKING			COMMENTS
Natural Science Factors				
<p>Representativeness</p> <p>2.1 Natural features and landscapes are clearly and recognisably characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that more generally defines the character of the place, but which distils this character and in essence</p>	L	M	H	<p>Significant active volcanic island feature also wildlife sanctuary with its associated volcanic field.</p> <p>Paepae o Aotea (Volkner Rocks) and Laisson's Pinnacle are part of this unique environment and are recognised along with Whakaari as an area of outstanding underwater scenery.</p> <p>To the south, the Calypso Vent (ASCV-11) is a mound of volcanic origin with associated gasohydrothermal vents. The topography of the seabed including the three sea mounts forms part of this sub-tidal extension to Whakaari.</p>
<p>2.2 Natural features in a good state of preservation are representative and characteristic of the natural geological processes and diversity of the region</p>	L	M	H	Protected landscapes with significant values related to active volcanic field.
<p>Research and Education</p> <p>2.3 Natural features and landscapes are valued for the contribution they make to the research and education:</p>	L	M	H	Significant research and monitoring of active volcanic field.
<p>Rarity</p> <p>2.4 Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and a few comparable examples exist.</p>	L	M	H	Rare complex of active volcanic features.

Aesthetic Values				
Coherence 2.5 The patterns of land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of landcover or land use.	L	M	H	Natural landscapes highly coherent.
Vividness 2.6 Natural features and landscapes are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognizable and memorable qualities;	L	M	H	Highly vivid and recognised, associated with eco and adventure tourism as well as fishing charter.
Naturalness 2.7 Natural features and landscapes appear largely uncompromised by modification and appear to comprise natural systems that are functional and healthy	L	M	H	Highly natural and dynamic.
Intactness 2.8 Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation; visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes	L	M	H	Highly intact and aesthetic.

Expressiveness (Legibility)				
2.9 Natural features and landscapes clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. Examples of natural processes in landscape exemplify the particular processes that formed that landscape	L	M	H	Exceptionally expressive active volcanic landscape.
Transient Values				
2.10 The consistent occurrence of transient features (for example the seasonal flowering of pohutukawa) contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognized for their transient features and contribution these make to the landscape	L	M	H	Active volcanic landscape creates high levels of transient volcanic activity – steam, explosions and vapour.
Landscape Summary	L	M	H	Dynamic volcanic island landform and associated sub tidal volcanic features intact. Significant habitat values and distinctive recognisable and memorable landform feature.

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2.11 Shared and Recognised Values	L	M	H	A national icon. Internationally recognised and valued. Significant tourist attraction.
2.12 Maori Values	L	M	H	Waahi tuku mauri, mahinga kai. Te Paepae o Aotea (Volkner Rocks). <i>Highly significant to coastal tribes.</i> <i>Departing place of the spirits of Ngati Awa.</i>
2.13 Historical Associations	L	M	H	Connections to early European activity (L. Walter, InSitu Heritage Ltd, pers comm.). Physical evidence includes sulphur mine.

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