

Schedule 4 — Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes

This schedule documents the landscape values identified under each of the assessment criteria and the relative significance of these values in the context of the Kapiti Coast District. Potential threats to feature and landscape values are also identified.

Physical, perceptual and associated factors contributing to landscape values for each area were identified as part of a District wide and whole landscape assessment. Where more detailed assessment is required to determine the effects of a particular consent application, factors relevant to the site and the proposal will be confirmed. This may include the identification of additional factors and landscape values, unique to a particular site, that are relevant to section 6(b) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and Policy 25 of the Wellington Regional Policy Statement; as determined through a finer grain assessment

Note: *RS in the table, means 'relative significance' of the values identified under each assessment criteria on a five point scale; low (l), low-moderate (lm), moderate (m), moderate-high (mh) , high (h) in the context of the whole District. The relative significance 'score' assigned to values to *tangata whenua* includes an evaluation of additional values identified by the ART (Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai, Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki (Ngāti Raukawa ki te Tonga), Ngāti Toa Rangatira) Confederation working party and Te Ohu Taiao (now representing ART).

ONFL01	Waiorongomai Dunes	
	Coastal foredunes between Waitohu Stream and Lake Waiorongomai	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BN32	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (h)	Significant sequence of unmodified coastal dunes with older series preserved and supporting comprehensive pattern of indigenous flora (threatened by exotic weeds).
	Research and education (h)	Distinct dune formation sequence represented from advancing foredune through to more consolidated inland dunes and progression of habitats supported.
	Rarity (h)	Dune sequence largely unmodified with limited public access, contrasting markedly with significant development along much of the coast in the District.
	Ecosystem functioning (h)	Foredunes support colonising species such as spinifex and sand convolvulus through to dry duneland shrubland species such as taupata and toetoe in the consolidated inland dunes. Associated with Waiorongomai Lake and Waitohu Stream

		mouth and wilderness <i>beach</i> areas that support populations of seabirds and waders such as banded dotterel, pied stilt, white faced heron and spur-winged plover.
Perceptual	Coherence (h)	Significant dune sequence over 20km expressive of distinct dune formation sequence with <i>indigenous vegetation</i> patterns responding to varying exposure to coastal conditions and soil formation
Perceptual	Memorability (h)	The area is memorable due to the presence of water, fauna, coastal influences and expansive views including landmark features of Kapiti Island and prominent peaks of the Tararua ranges.
	Aesthetic paradigm (h)	Picturesque qualities with dunes framing views along the coast and reinforced by sense of openness and 'wilderness' and by the views this area affords of the steep northern cliffs of Kapiti Island and the prominent peaks of the Tararuas.
	Naturalness (h)	A high degree of <i>natural character</i> is associated with dynamic land formation processes and populations of indigenous fauna. Perceptions of <i>natural character</i> are enhanced by the areas relative isolation, limited public access and the undeveloped nature of adjacent land with exotic forestry contributing to enclosure and perceptions of 'cultured' nature.
	Expressiveness / legibility (h)	Dune sequence forms a distinct landmark at the northern edge of the District over a substantive section of the coast. Context for expansive views of some of the more prominent peaks in the inland ranges, including the twin peaks of Mitre, the northern coast of Kapiti Island and the foreland and peak of Mt Taranaki.
	Transient values (h)	Transient values are an important characteristic of this, reflecting <i>coastal processes</i> , ongoing dune formation processes, varying (salt and fresh) water levels and the migratory patterns of avifauna and fish species.
Associative	Shared or recognised values (m)	The dunes form the backdrop to an important 'wilderness' recreation resource; for surf casting species and shell fish gathering as well as horse riding/walking with 4WD access permitted to the <i>beach</i> beyond the stream mouths. Minor tracks through the farmland provide adjacent landowners with 'private' <i>beach</i> access.
	Values to tangata whenua (m)	Associated with coastal transportation routes and wetland food gathering sites along the coast. Ongoing links indicated by named waterways at the edges of the dune sequence and continued land ownership around Waiorongomai-the most significant in the District.
Associative	Historical Associations (m)	Part of the Old Coach Road <i>beach</i> highway and context for early productive land use with surrounding exotic forestry plantations some of the most significant areas in the District.
Potential threats		Climate change, coastal erosion, increased public/vehicle access, [residential] development typologies including <i>effects</i> on existing rural outlook, pest/weed populations.

ONFL02	Ōtaki River Mouth	
	Ōtaki River Mouth and the adjacent wetland, lagoon and beach ridge features	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BN32	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (mh)	Ōtaki River mouth expresses both coastal and alluvial processes. It is the largest river mouth in the sequence of waterways that mark the coast of the District. The landforms are typical of a braided river, although modified by preferred alignment and excavation to reduce flood hazards with shifting gravel banks, small areas of salt marsh, brackish lagoons and wetlands confined behind outflow gravels and adjacent dunes.
Physical	Research and education (mh)	Localised <i>beach</i> ridges to the south of the outlet demonstrate the confluence of coarser river gravels from Ōtaki River and finer materials from the north that have been deposited by <i>coastal processes</i> (influenced by vehicle access). The flood plain management plan, including periodic cutting of the river mouth, is balanced with initiatives to preserve and enhance ecological, recreational and heritage values.
	Rarity (mh)	Wetland and estuarine habitat is under-represented nationally and recognised as a threatened environment.
	Ecosystem functioning (mh)	Small area of indigenous flora with patterns influenced by flood control measures, run off, naturalising exotic species and public access (including vehicular traffic). The varying landforms, water levels and exposure to the coast establish a diverse range of habitats important for fauna (but not nesting sites) that move between sea, river and land, including migratory birds and fish (e.g. caspian tern and long fin eel and banded dotterel) and forms part of the Ōtaki River habitat corridor, that extends from the mountains to the sea.
Perceptual	Coherence (mh)	Although modified by occasional flood protection works, access tracks and pastoral landuse, land formation processes are clearly expressed and limit/define cultural activities including access across the river mouth.
	Memorability (mh)	The landscape is memorable due to the presence of water, fauna, coastal influences and expansive views including landmark features of Kapiti Island and prominent peaks of the Tararua ranges.
	Aesthetic paradigm (mh)	Sublime qualities are afforded by the sense of remoteness, openness and 'wilderness' and by the views this area affords of the steep northern cliffs of Kapiti Island and the prominent peaks of the Tararuas.
Perceptual	Naturalness (mh)	A moderate-high degree of <i>natural character</i> is associated with dynamic land formation processes and populations of

		indigenous fauna. Perceptions of <i>natural character</i> are enhanced by the areas relative isolation, access via gravel roads and the undeveloped nature of the coast south of the estuary.
	Expressiveness / legibility (h)	Ōtaki River mouth is expressive of both coastal and alluvial processes. It forms an important landmark along the foreshore and context for expansive views of some of the more prominent peaks in the inland ranges, including the twin peaks of Mitre, the northern coast of Kapiti Island and the foreland and peak of Mt Taranaki.
	Transient values (h)	Transient values are an important characteristic of this landscape, reflecting both coastal and alluvial processes, varying (salt and fresh) water levels and the migratory patterns of avifauna and fish species.
Associative	Shared or recognised values (h)	Majority area is zoned as part of the Ōtaki River corridor; important flood control area, with regular excavation preserving unimpeded flows out to sea and preventing natural migration of the river mouth to the south. North and south stop banks with flood gates are located at the edges of the estuary at Rangiruru and Katihuku. Other features recognised in the District Plan include the 70 ha heritage ecosite 'river mouth - estuarine wetland' (regional significance). <i>Beach</i> ridges to the south of the river mouth are recognised by the NZ Geological Society (of regional significance) and much of the estuary is identified by Department of Conservation as a threatened environment. Ecological values are recognised and enhanced by local community groups, such as Friends of the Ōtaki River with a current focus on planting along the northern bank of the estuary. The area is an important recreation resource; for floundering, white baiting, surf casting species and shell fish gathering as well as horse riding with 4WD access to permitted areas north and south of the river mouth. The river mouth offers access to the north and south bank tracks of the wider Ōtaki River CWB resource, also used by anglers.
Associative	Values to tangata whenua (h)	The area is the context for a substantive sequence of historical pa sites at the river mouth; Ōtaki, Waro-te-Rehunga and Katihiku on southern banks and Pakutuku and Rangiruru on the northern banks. Historic lagoons (Whakapawaewae) were important mahinga kai with eel weirs connected to Te Rauparaha. Use as a sea and freshwater fishery continue, although degraded by intensive land use and the modification of waterways. Ōtaki River, including the river mouth, is also important a defining awa; associated with whakapapa and <i>hapū</i> boundaries. Ongoing association indicated by continued land ownership along the southern banks of the river.
	Historical associations (h)	The area was an important early transportation node, for both Māori and early Europeans, including a historic ferry crossing and a hotel associated with the Old Coach Rd along the <i>beach</i> . The River mouth is well known in terms of the 'City of Auckland'

		ship wreck of 1878 with a memorial located at the end of Rangiu Road.
Potential threats		Flood management, climate change, coastal erosion, catchment management, increased public/vehicle access, [residential] development along the edges including <i>effects</i> on existing rural outlook, pest /weed populations.

ONFL03	Ōtaki River Gorge	
	Ōtaki River Gorge from the 'Big Bend' to the edge of the Tararua Forest Park.	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BN33 and BP33	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (h)	The incised river gorge and narrow sinuous terraces are expressive of both alluvial processes created as a result of the river cutting down through aggradation gravels and underlying greywacke. Banks also feature large scale slip and slump erosion. The associated remnant and regenerating indigenous forest, is characteristic of much of the Tararua foothills historically and includes species the kamahi ecodomain with pockets of Nikau in frost free gullies.
Physical	Research and education (h)	Alluvial processes, incised river gorge, expressive of accelerated erosion processes during last Ice Age. Triassic montis (fossil) bearing rocks have been identified in the Ōtaki River, downstream from the Pukehinau Stream.
	Rarity (h)	<i>Indigenous vegetation</i> patterns across much of the surrounding foothills have been cleared by native timber milling and then <i>farming</i> practices. Forest remnants near the edges of the gorge include lowest altitudinal extent of black beech in the Tararua ranges
	Ecosystem functioning (h)	The area is an important part of the Ōtaki River corridor that links the habitats of the mountains to the sea. Along the steep faces of the river system a significant pattern of regenerating bush has been retained including kamahi, rewarewa, five finger and tree fern, with remnant tawa, northern rata and rimu and nikau clusters in moist, frost free areas. The fresh water values are relatively high with the river and its tributaries important for both indigenous fish and introduced species, such as brown trout.
Perceptual	Coherence (h)	Landforms in the gorge are largely unmodified and outside the river corridor (flood hazard management) zone. Topography and geomorphology are reinforced by <i>indigenous vegetation</i> retained and the alignment of the Ōtaki Gorge road.
	Memorability (h)	This section of the Ōtaki River is a memorable feature due to the presence of water and its more dynamic qualities, the prominent cliffs and the contrasting areas of enclosure and openness that are punctuated by framed views of named

		peaks.
	Aesthetic paradigm (h)	The area possesses picturesque qualities relating to the sequence of confined views along the river bank including pockets of 'wilderness' and prominent foothill peaks such as Waitatapia.
	Naturalness (h)	A moderate-high degree of <i>natural character</i> is associated with this feature. Natural patterns of landform, land cover and hydrology are clearly identifiable and are less modified inland, particularly along the immediate margins of the river. Perceptions of <i>natural character</i> are enhanced within the river corridor, where the prominent banks and remnant/regenerating <i>indigenous vegetation</i> confines views and contributes to a 'wilderness' experience. Patterns of settlement are sparse (although new subdivision is evident), with buildings often obscured by landform and vegetation
	Expressiveness / legibility (h)	The feature landscape is expressive of alluvial geomorphology. The incised gorge marks a navigable path up into the mountains that are punctuated by a sequence of views that feature known landmarks such as Waitatapia.
	Transient values (m)	Transient values are associated with flood events and the migratory patterns of fish species.
Associative	Shared or recognised values (h)	Features recognised in the District Plan include heritage ecosites: at Waiohanga Road Bush and the small secondary forest of makomako and kamahi near suspension bridge and areas of kamahi-podocarp forest that extend beyond the Department of Conservation boundary to the edges of the river. These remnants form part of the wider Tararua Forest and are an important biodiversity resource for the lower north island and play a crucial role in conserving water quality and supply, and minimising flood risk to the surrounding lowland. The area is an important tourism and recreation resource, for trout fishing, rafting and kayaking. It is the gateway to the Tararua Forest Park, including the iconic southern crossing. Fossil bearing rocks near Pukehinau Stream are recognised by NZ Geological Society (regional significance). Stone walls at Shields Flat are recognised by the NZ Archaeological Society and as a Department of Conservation reserve. The catchment provides potable water for Ōtaki, Te Horo and Hautere residents. Terraces and lower slopes of hills valued as a place of settlement; as illustrated by recent rural-residential development.
	Values to tangata whenua (m)	An important transport route historically; gateway to the Tararua southern crossing and forest resources used by lowland settlements. Defining awa; important in terms of whakapapa and <i>hapū</i> boundaries and fresh water values.
	Historical associations (h)	The area is associated with early European settlement, timber milling sites (Tiritea Mill Company) and productive landuse including the Shields Flat settlement (now Department of

		Conservation Reserve) with stone wall relics from the depression era. Technically difficult road and bridge construction linked to these activities (e.g. Devils Elbow) that reflect the underlying topography and geomorphology. The gorge is also associated with early tramping club initiatives as the gateway to the Tararua ranges; Tararua Tramping Club established in 1919.
Potential threats		Catchment/fresh water value management, pest populations, <i>indigenous vegetation</i> clearance, <i>earthworks</i> - including tracks, quarrying, [residential] development typologies, location and density, roading upgrades.

ONFL04	The Tararua Ranges	
	The main range and forested foothills of the Tararuas that run along the eastern boundary of the entire District.	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BP33 and BN33	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (h)	The ranges are expressive of the Wellington and Ohariu faults. They are comprised of uplifted Torlesse supergroup greywacke, with prominent peaks above 1500 metres. They consist of the oldest geological elements in the District. Significant areas of <i>indigenous vegetation</i> have been retained in this landscape including primary forest with montane to kamahi ecodomains represented.
	Research and education (h)	The landforms are expressive of tectonic uplift, minor glacial activity, as well as alluvial and colluvial processes. The ranges support significant areas of original alpine tussock grasslands (above 1000 metres), montane beech and podocarp/tawa and podocarp/kamahi forest with remnants of loess influenced lowland tawa-nikau forest. These areas support rare and endangered indigenous fauna with a small area managed as part of Project Kaka (commenced 2010) inland from Ōtaki Forks.
	Rarity (h)	The area provides habitat for threatened species including kaka, kakariki, falcon, long tailed bat, potentially the lesser short tailed bat and invertebrates that are rare on the mainland.
	Ecosystem functioning (h)	The ranges provide the most diverse range of habitats from hill country to sub alpine in the lower north island. They are also an important water catchment for major rivers, including the Ōtaki and the Waikanae Rivers.
Perceptual	Coherence (h)	Distinct north east tending ridge line, with a sequence of identifiable peaks, spurs and lowers foothills along the full extent of the District. Landforms are predominately unmodified, with vegetation patterns clearly expressive of varying soil conditions and distinct altitudinal zones.

	Memorability (h)	A highly memorable landscape due to the extent and prominence of the landforms that form a continuous backdrop to the District that are often highlighted by snow in the winter months. The ranges form a key part of the District's identity, as a dramatic backdrop and physical marker of the eastern boundary.
	Aesthetic paradigm (h)	The ranges have strong picturesque qualities, with elements contributing to a sequence of fore, mid and background views. The upper ranges and extent of <i>indigenous vegetation</i> approach the sublime through the obvious predominance of nature over cultural influences, their 'awe inspiring' scale and the real risks they present to past and present explorers.
	Naturalness (h)	Associated with a high degree of natural character, as patterns of landform, landcover and hydrology are largely unmodified and are enhanced by active restoration programmes in the Tararua Forest Park.
	Expressiveness / legibility (h)	The ranges are very expressive of tectonic uplift and associated erosion, faulting and alluvial processes with distinct ecodomains. They comprise well known landmarks and a continuous edge to the District.
	Transient values (mh)	The higher mountains are often covered in snow during the winter months. The ranges have a defining <i>effect</i> on the weather of the lower north island, as well as the ranging patterns of indigenous fauna, with forest birds more evident in lowland areas following seasonal food sources
Associative	Shared or recognised values (h)	The majority of the landscape is located within the Tararua Forest Park (established in 1954) and part of the Kaitawa Reserve and is zoned conservation land. Other features identified in the District Plan include: heritage ecosites that extend beyond the boundaries of the park; and heritage relics, that are associated with milling sites at Ōtaki Forks. This area forms a significant tourism and recreation resource, providing picnic and camping sites, day walks, overnight tramps and hunting areas. The ranges have a significant role in conserving the indigenous biodiversity of the lower North Island and a crucial role in conserving water quality and supply, while minimising flood risk to the surrounding lowland.
	Values to tangata whenua (mh)	There are different versions of the origin of the name Tararua. The Kahungunu version stems from an ancestor, Rangikaikore, who broke his spear tip (tara) into two (rua) while hunting. The Muaupoko and Rangitane tradition is that the name refers to the two wives of their ancestor explorer, Whatonga. Popular folklore has ascribed the name to two specific topographic features; the dramatic steep double peak on the main range, the Tararua Peaks (officially named Tunui and Tuiti) and the double peak of Mitre, so-called by Europeans because its shape resembled that of a bishop's mitre. Most of the peaks and the main waterways of the Tararuas have Māori names indicating long held associations that have particular

		significance to particular <i>iwi</i> and <i>hapū</i> . Early transportation routes were negotiated through to the Wairarapa across the ranges as evidenced by archaeological records, including adzes, obsidian flakes and umu. Foothills areas and waterways also formed an important historical food and forest resource gathering sites.
	Historical associations (h)	An early traverse route for Māori and Pakeha that spanned the ranges with the 'Southern Crossing' track established by 1912. Peaks were used to triangulate trig points and survey to produce the first maps of the District. Timber milling in the ranges was associated with construction of the main trunk line and settlement patterns in the lowlands. Early explorers are commemorated in the naming of particular peaks and huts (e.g. Field Peak). The Tararua Forest Park was the first (Forest Service) recreation-conservation 'forest park' to be established, with the management passed on to Department of Conservation in 1987.
Potential threats		<i>Earthworks</i> and vegetation removal on rural land, Pest/weed populations, climate change, visitor numbers and potential <i>effects</i> on flora and fauna and fresh water values, [residential] development typologies where access and rural land may permit and in adjacent areas/edges of the landscape.

ONFL05	Kapiti Islands	
	A cluster of offshore islands including Kapiti Island and Tokomapuna, Motoungarara and Tahoramaurea Islets	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BN32	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (h)	The islands are expressive of the Wairau Fault. They are comprised of uplifted Torlesse supergroup greywacke, with the prominent western escarpment on the main island rising to 500 metres. <i>Indigenous vegetation</i> has regenerated after majority clearance and includes canopy species rata, matai and miro. Patterns are reflective of an exposed <i>coastal environment</i> , altitudinal zones and the absence of possums and rats. Okupe lagoon shelf at the northern tip is representative of uplifted beach ridges and ongoing accumulation of marine shingles. Sea caves in cliffs on the eastern coastline mark past sea levels.
	Research and education (h)	The islands were once part of the land bridge that extended across the Cook Strait. Kapiti Island is one of the country's most important bird recovery sites, with flora regeneration, release and pest control programmes used to enhance forest, shore and seabird populations. In addition, the marine reserve, established in the 1990s, preserves and enhances fauna in the

		adjacent <i>coastal environment</i> . Conservation and heritage features communicated to all visitors to the reserve.
	Rarity (h)	The Phyllonite rock belt along east coast of Kapiti Island, and also exposed on Motungarara and Tahoramaurea Islands, is expressive of cataclastic metamorphism not found elsewhere in the District. Kapiti provides habitat for bird populations that are rare (e.g. stitchbird), or extinct on the mainland (e.g. spotted kiwi) and the characteristics of the ephemeral wetland near Okupe Lagoon are uncommon in the District.
	Ecosystem functioning (h)	The majority of Kapiti Island has been managed as a 'preserve for native flora and fauna' and national bird recovery site since 1897. Including the marine areas, the Island provides an important link and regeneration/recovery source for indigenous flora and fauna populations on the mainland.
Perceptual	Coherence (h)	Kapiti Island is a distinct landform, with regenerating patterns of flora and fauna expressive of a range of habitats and varying exposure to the coastal environment.
	Memorability (h)	It is a highly memorable landscape due to the distinct profile of the Island's ridge line, its location off the coast, and the sequence of views it contributes to along the transportation routes and areas of settlement on the mainland.
	Aesthetic paradigm (h)	Strong picturesque qualities; the island contributes to the mid and background of views from a wide range of public viewpoints in the District. Views are often framed or partially obscured by intervening landform and structures, with a varying sequence established along SH1 and the main arterial roads in the District.
	Naturalness (h)	The Island has a high degree of natural character, with patterns of landform, landcover and hydrology largely unmodified over the last 20 years and enhanced by active restoration programmes.
	Expressiveness / legibility (h)	The Kapiti Island landform is clearly expressive of tectonic uplift and a significant landmark and edge to the District.
	Transient values (h)	Transient values are linked to the <i>effects</i> of <i>coastal processes</i> on landform, landcover and landuse including ease of access to the island. Patterns of light and shade, sea haze and cloud formations resulting from seasonal and daily weather systems, <i>effect</i> views from the mainland, often noticed at sunset.
Associative	Shared or recognised values (h)	The majority of the Kapiti Island is zoned as conservation land. Other features recognised in the District Plan include: heritage forest and wetland <i>ecological sites</i> on the main island and taupata shrubland on the Islets; historical buildings that relate to early Māori settlement and whaling activities; and geological feature (Phyllonite belt, <i>beach</i> ridges and uplifted sea caves) that are recognised by the NZ Geological Society (of regional significance). Archaeological artefacts relating to early Māori settlement, whaling and productive land use located on the main

		<p>island and the islets are recognised by the NZ Archaeology Association. The value of the land and sea based flora and fauna, is recognised and protected under the Conservation Act and the Marine Reserves Act and associated with early conservation efforts (under the 1897 Kapiti Island Public Reserve Act). The Islands are an important landmark and tourism and outdoor recreation resource for the District. Images of the Kapiti Island are often used to promote the District and its products (e.g. Kapiti Ice cream) and form the context for local artwork and photography.</p>
	<p>Values to tangata whenua (h)</p>	<p>Kapiti means ‘joining’ or boundary between Ngāi Tara and Rangitane. Kapiti Island was an early place of settlement for Māori and the stronghold of Te Rauparaha. Several pa sites were located on the main island historically and more than 1000 Ngāti Toa are thought to have lived there during the time of Te Rauparaha. The Island is the context for the Waiorua Battle in 1824 between Ngāti Toa and Rangitane supporters and the legend of Te Rau-o-te-rangi (a descendent of Toa Rangatira) who swam from Kapiti across to the mainland to warn others of an impending attack; hence the name of the channel between the mainland and the island. The peak of Kapiti, Tuteremoana is named after the Rangitane chief who lived and died on the island. Kapiti Island is also a place of continued settlement, with descendants of Te Rauparaha living on the north eastern corner of the island who act as <i>kaitiaki</i> and have an active role in the management of the reserve hosting organised tours and overnight visitors to the island.</p> <p>Additional values recorded in the #ART Confederation consultation documents:</p> <p>The cultural, spiritual, political and economic importance of Kapiti Island to Ngāti Toa Rangatira cannot be underestimated. Kapiti Island was the epicentre of the Ngāti Toa Cook Strait empire and remains the spiritual and cultural heart of Ngāti Toa today. It was their victory at the battle of Waiorua (or Te Umupakaroa), fought at the northern end of Kapiti Island, that marked the definitive establishment of Ngāti Toa mana in the Cook Strait and set the stage for expansion along the south coast of wellington and into Te Tau Ihu (the northern South Island).</p> <p>Kapiti Island was an ideal base because its higher points provided a view of imminent threat, and the sheer cliffs on the western side of the island meant there were limited landing sites, and, access points could be easily monitored. Kapiti Island was fundamental to what has been termed the Ngāti Toa Rangatira ‘maritime empire’. Its location at the northern entrance to Cook Strait was a significant strategic asset which allowed us to cement our position in the region.</p>

In terms of resources and economic opportunities, Kapiti Island was an invaluable asset. Streams and natural springs provided a plentiful water supply, and the coastline abounded in seafood and a thriving population of birds inhabited the forests. In addition, kumara, potato and later corn crops were grown in the fertile soil near Rangatira and Waiorua Point. Kapiti Island was also located in an advantageous position for whalers, being one of the best anchorage points in the area. At least five whaling stations were located on Kapiti Island, located at Kahu—o-te Rangi, Rangatira, Taepiro, Wharekohu, and Waiorua, as well as on the offshore islands of Motungarara and Tohoramaurea. The whaling stations were of great economic benefit to Ngāti Toa Rangatira, providing them with a continuous source of trade-goods; Te Rauparaha particularly encouraged their occupation.

Many of the whalers built up close relationships with Ngāti Toa Rangatira and married into the iwi. Three relevant marriages in particular are important, and all have produced many descendants within Ngāti Toa Rangatira. These were: the marriage of Joseph Thoms to Te Ua Torikiriki, daughter of Tohunga chief Te Watarauhi Nohorua, the older brother of Te Rauparaha; the marriage of George Stubbs to Metapere Waipunahau, daughter of the chief Te Rangihiroa; and the marriage of John Nicols to Kahe Te Rau-o-te Rangi, daughter of the chief Te Matoha. The latter two marriages produced the noted politician Wi Parata Te Kakakura, and the first Māori doctor and politician Sir Maui Pomare respectively.

The focus of Ngāti Toa Rangatira settlement began to shift in the 1840s as the political focus of the *iwi* underwent a significant change. The arrival of the Crown and European settlement put pressure on Ngāti Toa landholdings on the mainland. It was also vital to ensure ongoing access to trade, by extending their relationship from whalers to settlers and providing them with livestock and other provisions. Kapiti Island therefore became less desirable and other settlements with better access to Wellington were favoured. This saw the establishment of Takapuwahia in Porirua and a refocus of the Ngāti Toa Rangatira tribal area; by 1850, Takapuwahia was a reasonably substantial village. The lack of Christian missions on the island and the devastating *effects* of European disease also meant that the population of Ngāti Toa Rangatira residing on Kapiti Island was reduced.

However, all of this did not change Ngāti Toa Rangatira perception of Kapiti Island. It was still seen as Ngāti Toa Rangatira land although it was not inhabited to the same extent after 1850. During the latter half of the nineteenth century there were numerous attempts to purchase Kapiti Island, yet Ngāti Toa Rangatira still retained ownership. However, after numerous Native Land Court investigations, Kapiti Island was

increasingly subdivided into non-viable blocks. Almost all of those admitted by the Native Land Court as owners of the Kapiti blocks were members of Ngāti Toa Rangatira.

In 1897 legislation was enacted which meant that it was illegal for land owners on Kapiti to lease or sell their land to anyone other than the Crown. Due to economic circumstances, the majority of private land on Kapiti was sold by 1901.

Some descendants of the Ngāti Toa Rangatira chief Te Rangihiroa, younger brother of the hereditary chief Te Pehi Kupe, still have homes on Kapiti, however Ngāti Toa Rangatira as an *iwi* have not been in occupation of the island for over a century. Yet its natural resources, waahi tapu, and historical sites continue to be of great significance. Te Rauparaha decision to re-establish the *iwi* was the first step in the creation of a new Ngāti Toa Rangatira identity; Kapiti Island, the springboard from which Ngāti Toa Rangatira were able to expand, was fundamental to this and continues to be central to the cultural identity of Ngāti Toa Rangatira.

The following waiata expresses the significance of Kapiti Island to Ngāti Toa Rangatira:

Tau mai e Kapiti
te kainga o te hunga kua wehe ki te iwi nui i te po.
Te marae i Wai-o-rua tenei te mihia,
te wahi i tanuku ait e whakaaro o te motu,
kia patua o tamariki I kopaina e koe.
Hei tohu ki nga uri whakaheke mai
i te mana i tuawhakarere iho
i te mana i te wehi o lo nui... i

Tau mai e Kapiti
Te Whare Wānanga o ia, o te nui, o te wehi, o te Toa.
Whakakaupapa I te nohotahi, a Awa, a Toa, a Raukawa.
I heke mai i Kawhia ki te kawē tikanga
hei ora mo nga uri o muri nei
Tau mai e Kapiti te kainga tupu
o te wehi, o te toa, o te whakamanawanui...i

Tau mai e Kapiti
Te kainga te kino, o te mau-a-hara, o te kaitangata
e ai ra hoki ki nga kupu whakapae o nga iwi maha o te motu nei
Ko Rangatira te marae tenei te mihia
Tona rite he marae paenga whakairo,
ki roto o Kaiweka, he marae rongonui
ki runga ki raro tawhio noa...a

Tau mai e Kapiti
Whakataretare mai ki te rangatahi e hao nei.
Wai kahua, Wai katohu, e mau ki nga mana i nga mana i ngakia
e koe.

		<p>Uhia mai ra te manaakitanga a nga tupuna kua wehe ki te po hei mauri whakakaha i te hinengaro o Tama, o Hine e pae nei</p> <p>We salute you Kapiti, The home of those who have passed into the night We pay homage to Waiorua The place that answered the desires of the country That your children should be sacrificed. A symbol for the coming generations Of the majestic authority of ancient times, Of the power and awe of Io-nui,</p> <p>We salute you Kapiti The centre of learning devoted to the current of the great, O the awesome, of the warrior, Created for the unity of Te Ātiawa, Ngāti Toa Rangatira and Ngāti Raukawa, Those who migrated from Kawhia with a legacy Nourishing and giving life to those generations to come. Stand there Kapiti, the homeland Of the awesome, of the warrior, of the sure and confident.</p> <p>We salute you Kapiti, The home of evil, of vengeance, of cannibalism, According to the accusations of the many. We salute Rangatira, That which is likened to the gathering place of the great chiefs At Kaiweka, a famous plaza Known in the north, the south, at all points.</p> <p>We salute you Kapiti, Gaze upon the youth that gather here. Who shall say who will take hold of the authority vested in you? Bestow the blessings of those ancestors who have passed on, As an empowering life-force for the minds and imaginations Of the children gathered here.</p>
	Historical associations (h)	<p>The Island is the associated with early and continued Māori settlement, whaling and early productive land uses. It is also linked to the early establishment of the conservation movement in NZ, where the island was identified as a bird sanctuary in the late 1800's and is associated with the work of the conservationist Richard Henry (known particularly for his work in preserving the kakapo), who was a caretaker on the island during the early 1900's.</p>
Potential threats		<p>Climate change, visitor activities/numbers and potential <i>effects</i> on flora/fauna/freshwater values, reserve and private land development: <i>earthworks</i>; vegetation clearance; structure typologies, including location, density, <i>height</i>, reflectivity etc.</p>

ONFL06	Ngārara Wetland	
	Wetland landscape include Te Harakeke/Kawakahia outstanding water body and dune land backdrop.	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BP32	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (h)	Ngārara wetland landscape is expressive of the older dune formation processes (Waitarere-Motuiti and the older consolidated Foxton dunes) and interdunal hydrological patterns. This includes the sequence of raupo and flax wetlands and lakelets in the Ngārara and Waimeha Stream catchment. The indigenous flora and fauna, although degraded, represent wetland, swamp forest and dry dune forest patterns.
	Research and education (h)	The area illustrates dune formation processes and hydrological patterns, as well as lowland flora and fauna now rare in the District. Freshwater biota of Ngārara Stream is well studied and there is ongoing hydrological and ecological survey through the Ngārara Farm wetland areas as part of the Regional Council's Natural Resource Plan.
	Rarity (h)	The second largest area of harakeke flaxland and raupo reedland in the Kapiti District (after Pukehou wetland). An important representation of habitat formally common in the Kapiti Coast District. Wetland habitat is nationally rare and dune forest and swamp forest is rare in Foxton Ecological District. Nationally endangered Bittern are resident in the Ngārara farm wetlands. Hydrological system largely unmodified; unusual for a peri urban/lowland setting.
	Ecosystem functioning (h)	Part of a wetland sequence over more than 60 ha from open dune lakelet to mature swamp forest with complex patterns of hydrology. Overall sequence includes the Totara (outside the ONF/L and highly modified), Te Harakeke/ Kawakahia wetland and tributaries of the Ngārara Stream (once managed as a drain but now being allowed to naturalise). Combined dune and wetland areas across Ngārara landscapes provide habitat for kereru, eel and mudfish with lightly grazed dunes supporting regenerating bush and kahikatea on the Ngārara Farm, the closest to the coast in the District. Waterways and <i>indigenous vegetation</i> provide significant seasonal food resources for wildlife and links between the Tararuas (Hemi Matenga) and the coast.
Perceptual	Coherence (mh)	Part of a prominent sequence of dune land and interdunal wetlands extending from Te Moana Rd to Peka Peka with landforms largely unmodified. <i>Indigenous vegetation</i> patterns that thread through this landscape establish links between the mountains and the sea.
	Memorability (mh)	Ngārara wetland is a memorable landscape due to its undulating topography, setting as part of a dune and wetland

		sequence, the presence of water, indigenous fauna, extensive wetland habitat, views afforded from public roads and its proximity to the wider <i>coastal environment</i> .
	Aesthetic paradigm (mh)	Strong picturesque qualities are associated with the distinct topography of the dune backdrop, predominate rural landuse and extensive areas of bush and wetlands and where a sequence of more intimate views is set against the backdrop of the Hemi Matenga escarpment.
	Naturalness (mh)	Moderate-high degree of <i>natural character</i> associated with the dune and wetland sequence, patterns of indigenous flora and fauna and extensive wetland habitat, predominant rural landuse and sparse settlement patterns that contrast strongly with adjacent urban areas.
	Expressiveness / legibility (mh)	Ngārara is expressive of dune formation processes and, although modified and degraded, hydrological and <i>indigenous vegetation</i> patterns that typify these landforms. The dune landforms are largely unmodified with the immediate backdrop to the wetland forming part of a sequence that extends from Te Moana to Peka Peka Road.
	Transient values (mh)	Transient values are associated with seasonal hydrological patterns and bird habitat range.
Associative	Shared or recognised values (h)	Features recognised in the District Plan are: heritage ecosites including the harakeke (Kawakahia/Te Harakeke) wetland. The Kawakahia/Te Harakeke wetland is protected by QEII covenant, recognised by DoC as a RAP site and by the Wellington Regional Council under the Key Native Ecosystems Programme and as an Outstanding Natural Waterbody in the Natural Resources Plan. There are archaeological sites clustered along the dune landform, associated with early Māori settlement (Te Maumapupura and Taewapirau Pa nearby), as recognised by the NZ Archaeological Association and documented in the Mackays to Peka Peka Expressway (M2PP) application. A number of these are associated with the Ngārara Wetland area.
	Values to tangata whenua (h)	Linked with known pa sites along the Waimeha and Kukutauaki Streams with the wetland system historically important as a mahinga kai including eel weirs used by Muaupoko. Historic transport routes are thought to have existed along the waterways, and where the Waimeha flowed behind the dunes and into the Waikanae River prior to European excavation. Land at Ngārara was also previously owned by Wi Parata, one of the first Māori MP's.
	Historical associations (h)	The area is linked with early Māori (Muaupoko, Ātiawa and Ngāti Toa) and European settlement. Ngārara area was the home of Wi Parata (Waikanae was originally called Parata Township) and William Field a landowner, who had early conservation and tramping interests (Field Hut). Wetland featured in art works by Frances Hodgkins (Fields sister in-law). The area supported

		<i>farming</i> by Māori and Pakeha, forestry and catchment modification (including a new outlet for the Waimeha Stream commissioned by Field).
Potential threats		Water catchment management-existing hydrological links and freshwater values, <i>earthworks</i> including building platforms and tracks, <i>indigenous vegetation</i> removal, [residential] development-structure typologies, location, density, <i>height</i> etc, <i>infrastructure</i> upgrades-roading, telecommunications, power, gas (existing line), edge development typologies (existing context; rural character), pest/weed populations.

ONFL07	Waikanae Estuary	
	The tidal estuary and series of interconnected lagoons/lakelets and wetlands at the mouth of the Waikanae River.	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BP32	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (h)	Largest representative estuarine area in the District. Expressive of <i>coastal processes</i> and river and dune land hydrological patterns. Indigenous flora and fauna, although compromised by disturbance and exotic species represents of a wide range of habitats, that reflect relative exposure to the coast, water flows and salt content. The area also signifies the mainland extent of the Kapiti Marine Reserve environment.
	Research and education (h)	The southern banks recognised as a Department of Conservation Scientific Reserve, in which a wide range of habitats are represented with regular monitoring carried out by Greater Wellington Regional Council. The dynamic confluence of marine, coastal, alluvial and dune formation processes has been mapped and birds have been surveyed over many decades.
	Rarity (h)	Salt marsh, fresh water wetland, dune lakes and dune habitats on-site, are recognised as nationally under represented habitat types. One of only a few sites for migrating waders in the Wellington Region including Spoonbills.
	Ecosystem functioning (h)	Although modified and degraded, the site is an important remnant of the duneland hydrological patterns that once extended through to the Waimeha Stream. It includes a sequence of interconnected freshwater lakelets, saltwater lagoons and marshes, tidal sand flats and sandy <i>beaches</i> . This provides habitat for fauna that move between sea, river and land habitats. It is an important sea and air link between Kapiti Island and the mainland, and forms part of the Waikanae River corridor that extends from the mountains to the sea. It provides habitat for over 60 bird species including banded dotterel, fernbird, white heron, dabchick, South Island pied oystercatcher and the national and the national and international migratory

		species such as terek sandpiper and bar-tailed godwit. The estuary provides habitat for regionally and nationally rare indigenous fish species that require fresh and saltwater, including several species of whitebait and long and short fin eels. The estuary shows diverse patterns of indigenous flora, along side naturalising exotic species, including regionally rare species.
Perceptual	Coherence (h)	Although modified and surrounded by areas of residential development, the sites hydrological system consists of an identifiable sequence of fresh water bodies that run at right angles to the coast. The coherency of this system is reinforced by patterns of regenerating flora and fauna and the alignment of recreational tracks along the banks of the river.
	Memorability (h)	The estuary is a memorable feature due to the strong presence of water and the views this area affords of the <i>coastal environment</i> , Kapiti Island, the landmark escarpments and peaks of the Akatarawa ranges.
	Aesthetic paradigm (h)	Strong picturesque qualities linked to the meandering path of the Waikanae River and the sequence of views along the walkway. Pockets of 'wilderness' are apparent where indigenous flora and fauna predominate and more intimate scenes are contrasted with the wider coastal views at the edge of the estuary.
	Naturalness (h)	The estuary has a moderate-high degree of natural character. Patterns of landform, landcover and hydrology, although modified and degraded, contrast strongly with surrounding urban areas and are enhanced by the presence of water, diverse wildlife and the restoration programmes that are in place.
	Expressiveness / legibility (h)	River and dune hydrological patterns are legible, while restoration projects in place enhance a range of indigenous habitats. Along the coast the river mouth forms a distinct landmark and context for views up into the ranges, that feature the escarpments of Mataihuka and Otaihanga, Papakirae and Mt Kapakapanui.
	Transient values (h)	Transient values are an important characteristic of this area. Dynamic coastal and river processes predominate due to changing salt water and fresh water levels and the migratory patterns of avifauna, fish and shellfish species.
Associative	Shared or recognised values (h)	The majority of the area is zoned as open space (conservation and scenic) and river corridor. Other features that are recognised in the District Plan include scheduled heritage ecosites: salt marsh, freshwater wetland, dune lake and dune system and habitat for fish and avifauna. Heritage building sites in close proximity include; Arapawaiti urupā, the Ferry Inn, Bishop Hadfield Church site and St Michaels Church. Midden and urupā sites are recognised around the estuary by the NZ Archaeology Association. Ecological values are recognised by the Department of Conservation as a nationally significant

		<p>reserve with recommended areas for protection (RAP sites). The foreshore is recognised under the Marine Reserves Act. Marine reserve and estuary recognised by GWRC as an Area of Significant Conservation Value (in the current GWRC Coastal Plan) and moderate Site of Special Wildlife Interest (SSW1). to high Flood protection methods include periodic excavation of river mouth to ensure unimpeded flows out to sea and to prevent natural migration of the river mouth to the south. Tourism resource with guided tours and the scientific reserve. Important informal recreation resource with tracks part of the coastal cycle way and connecting to the Paraparaumu <i>esplanade</i> reserve and the Waikanae River walkway through to SH1. DoC managed boardwalk, and Recreation and <i>Esplanade</i> Reserves managed by KCDC.</p>
	Values to tangata whenua (h)	<p>The estuary was a place of early Māori settlement, with known pa at Kena Kena (in line with Mazengarb Road-and possible location of the river mouth in pre European times), Arapawiti and Waimea. The area was an important fresh and sea water mahinga kai, historically, including highly valued eel weirs. There were also transport routes along the waterways. The Waimea River once flowed behind the dunes and into the Waikanae River prior to the European excavation of a new river mouth out through the dunes. Use as a sea and freshwater fishery is continued, although it is degraded by run off and the modification of waterways. The area has important context for the Kuititanga Battle (near Waimeha Pa) between Ātiawa and Ngāti Raukawa. It constitutes a defining awa; in relation to whakapapa and <i>hapū</i> boundaries.</p>
	Historical Associations (h)	<p>The area was the context for the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi (probably at Kena Kena, witnessed by Octavius Hadfield) by A.R.T, representatives including women. The area was the context of early Māori and European settlement, including one of the first churches in the District set up by Octavius Hadfield. The estuary was an important crossing point along the coastal Old Coach Road with the ferry house and crossing at Arapawhaiti (along Kotuku Drive).</p>
Potential threats		<p>Pest/weed populations, climate change, coastal erosion, flood and coastal hazard management strategies, levels /management of public access, edge development, and water catchment management/fresh water values.</p>

ONFL08	Hemi Matenga Escarpment	
	A distinct escarpment that extends from Reikorangi Road through to Te Hapua Road, in the foothills of the Tararuas.	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BP32	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description

Physical	Representativeness (h)	The most prominent escarpment in the District rising to 560 metres, with steep western slopes and a gentler incline to the east. Deposits of cone-like gravels ('flanglomerate') built up on the western slopes from accelerated erosion during the last Ice Age are the most distinct in the District and probably steepened by fault action. Slopes predominately covered by remnant and regenerating kohekohe-tawa-titoki dominated forest, with areas of broadleaf located on the upper slopes (including mature kamahi, rimu and some rata) and is characteristic of historic altitudinal vegetation patterns across much of the foothills. Higher density of kohekohe on lower slopes probably induced by disturbance (both earthquakes and human clearance).
	Research and education (h)	The escarpment is a well defined tectonic landform with substantive bush areas and is accessible to the public (Kohekohe, Parata and Te Au Route).
	Rarity (h)	It is the largest area of kohekohe dominated forest in the District and forest of its type in New Zealand.
	Ecosystem functioning (natural Science factors) (h)	The escarpment contributes to existing ecological links between Tararua ranges and the lowlands/Kapiti Island. Tributaries to the Te Hapua Rd wetland areas and the Kapakapanui Stream (that feeds into the Waikanae River) originate along the escarpments eastern slopes. Vegetation allows near contiguous links with the Kaitawa Reserve and Tararua Forest Park, linking montane to lowland areas. Kohekohe provide substantial winter food source for forest bird species, including bellbird and tui.
Perceptual	Coherence (h)	Escarpment is part of a sequence that includes Paekākāriki, Matahuika and Nikau. The landform is largely unmodified with a distinct ridgeline and sweeping form with <i>indigenous vegetation</i> retained along the majority of its extent. The reserve forms a distinct boundary to the regular pattern of lifestyle-rural residential development on the lower slopes.
	Memorability (h)	It is a memorable feature due to its prominence along SH1 and as an important backdrop/landmark for areas of settlement in the southern parts of the District. Parata track lookout provides expansive views of the coastline, Kapiti Island and the inland ranges.
	Aesthetic paradigm (h)	The escarpment possesses strong picturesque qualities, as the mid ground of a broader Tararua Range view and backdrop to areas of settlement from Waikanae to Peka Peka.
	Naturalness (h) (Aesthetic values)	There is a moderate-high degree of <i>natural character</i> along the southern end of the escarpment (the conservation zone) associated with the distinct landform and continuous pattern of <i>indigenous vegetation</i> in contrast to adjacent urban areas. <i>Natural character</i> values are reduced by the exotic forestry plantations and pastoral land use at northern extent of the escarpment.
	Expressiveness / legibility (h)	Landforms are largely unmodified and expressive of both tectonic activity and accelerated erosion and deposition of

		gravels during the last Ice Age. The escarpment forms an important landmark and edge to areas of settlement (Waikanae).
	Transient values (m)	Transient values are associated with the seasonal ranging patterns of forest bird species from the Tararua Ranges.
Associative	Shared or recognised values (h)	The majority extent of the escarpment is zoned as conservation land. Other features recognised on the District Plan heritage ecosites are: Hemi Matenga kohekohe-tawa-tioki Forest (national significance). Recreational tracks (off Kakariki Grove and Tui Cres) provide expansive views of the coastal area with Te Au as the highest point. Landscape highly valued as a backdrop to residential and rural residential areas located on the lower slopes.
	Values to tangata whenua (mh)	The reserve land was originally owned by Hemi Matenga, brother of Wiremu Parata, both members of a distinguished Ngāti Toa family. Māori land ownership is continued on the eastern slopes behind the escarpment.
	Historical associations (mh)	The Reserve area is part of the wider 'Matenga Estate' established in 1956 as a subdivision contribution.
Potential threats		[residential] development typologies within and adjacent to the ONL including <i>effects</i> of perceptions of natural character/views of the escarpment, <i>earthworks</i> including tracks, plantation forest management (harvesting schedules), <i>infrastructure</i> development/upgrades, pest/weed populations

ONFL09	Whareroa Dunelands	
	The coastal dunelands and wetland areas north of Paekākāriki, that extends to the west of SH1 and north to the settlement of Raumati South. The area is managed by Greater Wellington Regional Council as the QE Park and by Department of Conservation as the MacKay's Wetland.	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BP32	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (mh)	The Whareroa dune landforms are part of a much larger dune sequence that extends between the Whanganui River and Paekākāriki. Small areas of regenerating indigenous coastal dune and wetland vegetation are representative of successional patterns on young dunes through the District.
	Research and education (mh)	There is a well defined pattern of foredune and consolidated inland dunes that is expressive of distinct dune formation series, with some peat based wetland areas retained near MacKay's crossing and Poplar Avenue. The Whareroa Dunes are recognised by the New Zealand Geological Society to be of regional significance and scientific/educational value.
	Rarity (mh)	One of the most substantial sequences of unmodified dune

		landforms within the District. Indigenous foredune, dune shrubland, forest and wetland vegetation present are recognised as nationally under-represented habitat types by Department of Conservation. The kahikatea remnant near MacKay's Crossing is rare in the Foxton Ecological District.
	Ecosystem functioning (mh)	The park has highly modified vegetation patterns, with over 3/4 of the area under pasture. Regenerating areas are associated with managed areas near the main park buildings, the streams and the foredune near the mouth of Whareroa. More extensive areas of patchy shrubland and broadleaf forest are located north of Whareroa stream. Ecological values of the wetland vegetation have been enhanced by recent stock exclusion and restoration. The hydrological patterns are highly modified (Whareroa Stream in particular), but areas ephemeral ponding have been retained. Riparian vegetation is now being restored along the two main streams (Wainui and the Whareroa), and over 17Ha of wetland area (although largely constructed) is fenced. A broad range of habitats and restoration projects support increasing populations of exotic and indigenous birds, including the rare kakariki (Paekākāriki namesake). Higher freshwater values in the Wainui stream support populations of long fin eel and giant kokopu.
Perceptual	Coherence (mh)	Identifiable patterns of landform, landcover and land use are most evident along the foreshore, where the dunes are largely unmodified and patches of regenerating mahoe dominated bush occur.
	Memorability (mh)	It is a memorable feature due to the undulating sequence of the dune landforms, the patterns of hydrology and the sequence of views this area affords of Kapiti Island, the wider <i>coastal environment</i> (including the south island) and the landmark razor back ridge of Transmission Gully and Wainui in the Akatarawa region.
	Aesthetic paradigm (mh)	Picturesque qualities of this feature are associated with the undulating topography, pastoral land use and the sequence of views experienced that vary in terms of open-ness and enclosure and feature known landmarks.
	Naturalness (mh)	The area has a moderate degree of <i>natural character</i> as a result of the dune landform, unmodified sections of the waterways and wetland, the dominance of <i>coastal processes</i> and the relative absence of buildings (in contrast with the surrounding urban areas). The <i>beach</i> areas adjacent to the park provide more of a wilderness experience.
	Expressiveness / legibility (h)	The feature is expressive of <i>coastal processes</i> and lowland hydrological patterns and forms a distinct landmark near the southern extent of the District.
	Transient values (mh)	Transient bird and fish populations feature, with other seasonal patterns related to <i>coastal processes</i> , as well as the incidence of salt laden winds.

Associative	Shared or recognised values (h)	MacKay's wetland is zoned as a conservation area and QE Park as an open space zone. Other features that are recognised in the District Plan are: ecological heritage sites including the coastal foredunes and MacKay's Crossing Wetland (regional significance) and kahikatea and manuka wetland (District significance) with wetland and foredune areas also recognised by Department of Conservation as RAP sites; heritage buildings linked to the formation of the park and the US Marine Corps encampment; and a waahi tapu site - the Aperahama Mutu-Mira Whanau Cemetery. Other burial sites, middens and oven sites within the foredunes are recognised by the New Zealand Archaeological Association. There are also known pa sites at Wainui and Whareroa Streams. The park is highly valued as a recreational resource with the dune lands providing a popular holiday camp, an extensive network of picnic areas, cycle, pedestrian and horse riding tracks and whitebaiting areas. In addition, a range of <i>beach</i> activities extend from the settlements of Paekākāriki and Raumati South along the foreshore.
	Values to tangata whenua (h)	The area is associated with a significant sequence of archaeological sites within the foredunes, including waahi tapu and known pa sites.
	Historical associations (h)	The area is a place of early settlement by Māori and Europeans and associated with whaling stations on the mainland complementing those on Kapiti Island and <i>farming</i> practices as part of the 'Wareroa' Block. Known site of early transportation routes; the Old Coach Road along the <i>beach</i> and MacKay's (rail) crossing established in the early 1900s. Formation of the park linked with land acquired for the US Marine Corps encampment in the 1940's where over 15,000 men were housed in temporary dwellings (and an area above MacKay's Crossing to the east of SH1). The Park was founded in 1953 to commemorate the Queen's visit and quickly became a popular weekend and holiday destination for generations of locals and other visitors.
Potential threats		Coastal erosion, water catchment management/fresh water values, visitor numbers/activities and <i>effects</i> on indigenous flora and fauna and dune landforms, pest populations.

ONFL10	Akatarawa Corridor	
	Eastern range of the Akatarawa area that extends along the Maunganui-Papakirae ridge including parts of the Akatarawa Forest Park and the Maungakotukutuku and Paraparaumu Reserve.	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BP32	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description

Physical	Representativeness (h)	The ranges are expressive of uplift and the slip-strike Ohariu and Akatarawa faults. Landforms are comprised of uplifted Torlesse supergroup greywacke, with Maunganui Peak above 700 metres. Significant areas of <i>indigenous vegetation</i> have been retained in this landscape including primary forest with kamahi and Tararua ecodomains represented.
	Research and education (h)	Landforms are expressive of tectonic uplift as well as alluvial and colluvial processes. The ranges support significant areas of podocarp/tawa and podocarp/kamahi forest with remnants of loess influenced lowland tawa-nikau forest. These areas provide habitat for a diverse range of indigenous bird and insect species that are enhanced by pest control programmes.
	Rarity (h)	The area provides habitat for kaka and kakariki and invertebrates that are rare on the mainland.
	Ecosystem functioning (h)	Forms part of an important lower foothill corridor that extends from the Hutt Valley District through to the Kapiti Coast lowlands, with highly varied habitats for indigenous flora and fauna. Forms the headwaters of most streams in the southern part of the District and is an important part of the Waikanae River catchment.
Perceptual	Coherence (mh)	The corridor is aligned with a distinct north east trending ridgeline, with a sequence of identifiable peaks and spurs. Landforms are predominately unmodified, with vegetation patterns clearly expressive of varying soil conditions and altitude.
	Memorability (mh)	A memorable landscape due to the extent of the <i>indigenous vegetation</i> cover and its association with the Maunganui-Papakirae ridge and as a back drop to the Maungakotukutuku Valley.
	Aesthetic paradigm (mh)	Picturesque qualities associated with views afforded from public roads and areas of settlement; as the mid and foreground element enclosing valley systems and providing opportunities for a more accessible 'wilderness' experience than in the main Tararua ranges.
	Naturalness (mh)	Associated with a moderate-high degree of natural character, as patterns of landform and hydrology, largely unmodified and landcover including remnant primary forest and enhanced by active restoration programmes.
	Expressiveness / legibility (h)	The ranges are very expressive of tectonic uplift and alluvial processes and distinct altitudinal ecodomains. Peaks along the ridgeline comprise well known landmarks and edge to the southern end of the District.
	Transient values (m)	Associated with the ranging patterns of indigenous fauna, with forest birds more evident in lowland areas during the colder months.
Associative	Shared or recognised values (h)	The Akatarawa connects part of the Regional Council's Akatarawa Forest Park and Department of Conservation's Maungakotukutuku and Paraparaumu scenic reserve zoned as

		conservation land and these hills are known as the 'Maungatooks'. Other features identified in the District Plan include: heritage ecosites that extend along the corridor and form part of the 42,000 ha the Tararua range wilderness area. Part of the southern water catchment area. Combined with the main Tararua ranges, the corridor has a significant role in conserving the indigenous biodiversity of the lower North Island and a crucial role in conserving water quality and supply, while minimising flood risk to the surrounding lowland areas. The Akatarawa Forest Park is a significant tourism and recreation resource providing hunting areas as well as 4WD, horse-riding walking and cycling tracks; part of the internationally renowned Karapoti Classic.
	Values to tangata whenua (mh)	Area valued historically for forest resources and accessible along the Maungakotukutuku Stream. Māori names for most of the peaks and waterways indicate long held associations with significance to particular <i>iwi</i> and <i>hapū</i> .
	Historical associations (mh)	Maungakotukutuku Road associated with native timber milling and early productive <i>farming</i> activities in the District with older farm buildings retained near the entrance to the Akatarawa Forest Park. Area also known for deer <i>farming</i> during the 1970s.
Potential threats		Vegetation clearance: <i>earthworks</i> including tracks, [residential] development on non conservation land; building typologies, location, <i>height</i> , density, pest populations, <i>infrastructure</i> development/upgrade

ONFL11	Paekākāriki Escarpment	
	The steep coastal escarpment, elevated dunes and rocky foreshore south of Paekākāriki settlement.	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BP32	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (h)	The escarpment and rocky shoreline with elevated dunes are expressive of tectonic uplift and coastal and colluvial/alluvial processes. The vegetation patterns are representative of exposed coastal forest, an important characteristic of the District and widespread historically.
	Research and education (h)	The escarpment, rocky foreshore and dune landforms represent geological and ecological features of local and regional significance. It is prominently located with public viewpoints along the Centennial Highway and access via Paekākāriki Hill Road and the railway escarpment track.
	Rarity (h)	The narrow extent of the coastal plain and the rocky foreshore are a unique feature of this part of the District reflecting current patterns of coastal erosion. Coastal <i>indigenous vegetation</i> is

		recognised as an under-represented habitat nationally.
	Ecosystem functioning (h)	Kohekohe coastal forest degraded and exposed; provides minor habitat for indigenous fauna. The coastal areas support rocky shore shellfish species and shallow water fisheries.
Perceptual	Coherence (h)	The patterns of landcover and land use strongly reflect underlying landforms and proximity to the coast, including the alignment the main transportation routes directly along the base of the escarpment.
	Memorability (h)	Scenic qualities are associated with the steep escarpment, the exposed coastline and the expansive views this area affords of the coast through to Paraparaumu, Kapiti Island and the wider <i>coastal environment</i> . Views of this landscape often feature in promotional material and in holiday snap shots.
	Aesthetic paradigm (h)	Sublime qualities of this landscape are associated with the scale of the escarpment and its proximity to the coast and main transportation routes, the sense of wilderness along the coast and the 'precariousness' of the transportation routes.
	Naturalness (h)	A high degree of <i>natural character</i> is associated with the prominent escarpment landform and the rocky foreshore. The dominance and dynamics of the <i>coastal processes</i> , the absence of buildings across much of this landscape and the unmodified foredunes (Paekākāriki Domain-Ames St Park) all contribute to the sense of wilderness.
	Expressiveness / legibility (h)	The site is expressive of both tectonic and <i>coastal processes</i> . The coastal escarpment forms an important landmark that defines the southern extent of the District.
	Transient values (h)	Transient values relate to the <i>effects</i> of diurnal and seasonal climatic conditions on coastal erosion processes and the incidence of strong salt laden winds, sea spray etc.
Associative	Shared or recognised values (h)	The Paekākāriki domain/Ames Street Park and the area along the Paekākāriki escarpment are zoned open space. Other features recognised in the District Plan are the mahoe forest on the Ames Street dunes and the Kohekohe forest along the escarpment, both recognised as ecological heritage sites; and a heritage group of pohutakawa and cabbage trees opposite the 'Fishermans Table restaurant'. Midden, pits and a defensible Pa site are recognised by the New Zealand Archaeological Association along the upper slopes of the escarpment. Popular recreational tracks located along the railway escarpment and in Ames Street Park with access to an uninhabited section of the <i>beach</i> ; once a residential area with houses removed due to coastal erosion. Valued lookout points and memorial along the Centennial Highway and Paekākāriki Hill Road.
	Values to tangata whenua (mh)	There are pit sites along the escarpment ridge which are associated with early patterns of settlement. Karaka along the base of the cliff also thought to have been planted by <i>iwi</i> pre Ngāti Toa. Early transportation routes along the base and ridge

		<p>of the escarpment through to Porirua Harbour and Pauatahanui inlet were used for defence, trade and to connect (Ngāti Toa) <i>hapū</i>.</p> <p>Additional values recorded in the #ART confederation consultation documents:</p> <p>Name of a group of mussel rocks below Fisherman's table, Paekākāriki. An old cultivation ground east of the main highway of Paekākāriki. The name of a place settled by the Ngāti Toa <i>hapū</i> Ngati Haumia. A small fortified pa occupied by a section of the Manukorihi people of Ātiawa. Situated on the rocky slopes about a half a mile south of Fisherman's Table, Paekākāriki. Name of a steep hill at Paekākāriki. Te Puka - Name of a place at Paekākāriki on the southern side of the main highway about a half a mile north of the railway line. There is also a stream there by this name.</p>
	Historical associations (h)	<p>The escarpment is a southern gateway to the District. Important track, road and rail routes were constructed along the base and ridge of the escarpment at considerable cost and technical difficulty. Paekākāriki Hill also forms the context for the escape of Te Rangihaeata from Battle Hill and the Hutt Valley campaign.</p>
Potential threats		<p><i>Indigenous vegetation</i> removal, <i>earthworks</i>, [ridgeline/skyline] development typologies, location, density etc., pest/weed populations, coastal erosion, [<i>infrastructure</i>] development/upgrade.</p>