

ONL 4: Abel Tasman

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF AREA

ONL 4: Abel Tasman very roughly relates to Abel Tasman National Park and native bush dominated elevated land around its margins, stretching from the eastern side of Wainui Bay around to the northern side of Sandy Bay. It abuts ONL 2 Parapara-Kahurangi Ranges along its southern edge and takes in mixed pasture and bush land that is outside the national park in the vicinity of Canaan Downs and Harwoods Hole. Along its western edge, the extent of the ONL includes the elevated bush dominated slopes and ridges of the Pikikirunga Range.

QUALIFIES AS ‘LANDSCAPE’?

The extent of ONL 4: Abel Tasman corresponds to the dramatic mountain and coastal landscape north of SH 60 (excepting Wainui Bay). The dramatic scale of the landform patterning with an almost contiguous bush-cover cloak (excepting localised small-scale development in some of the bays and at Canaan Downs) means that it reads as a ‘landscape’.

QUALIFIES AS ‘NATURAL’?

Whilst modification and development is evident in places (e.g. baches, unsealed roads, jetties, boat ramps, tracks, signage, moorings, camping grounds, tramping huts, power lines, pastoral farming, rural dwellings and sheds, production forestry, sedimentation, dredging and trawling), the generally relatively low-key character and/or modest scale of this modification means that it remains subservient to the more natural landscape features, patterns and processes.

High rating for naturalness.

QUALIFIES AS ‘OUTSTANDING’?

OVERALL EVALUATION

Generally the landscape qualifies in terms of outstanding-ness as a consequence of the attributes and values described in the more detailed tables that follow and which can be summarised as follows:

Physical Values

- a. The **high to very high physical values** due to the proliferation of high-value landforms, geological features, vegetation features, habitats, species and hydrological features throughout the area.

Perceptual Values

- a. The **high naturalness values** arising from the dominance of water and the (predominantly) bush-clad headlands, ridges and valleys, despite a degree of development (including: baches, unsealed roads, jetties, boat ramps, tracks, signage, moorings, camping grounds, tramping huts, power lines, pastoral farming, rural dwellings and sheds, production forestry, quarrying, sedimentation, dredging and trawling).
- b. The **very high aesthetic and memorability values** of the area as a consequence the highly attractive views throughout the area and which comprise signature views for which the district is renowned.
- c. The **high legibility and expressiveness values** due to the visibility and abundance of physical attributes that enable a clear understanding of the landscape’s formative processes.
- d. The **high transient values** associated with the coastal processes, climatic characteristics and birdlife.

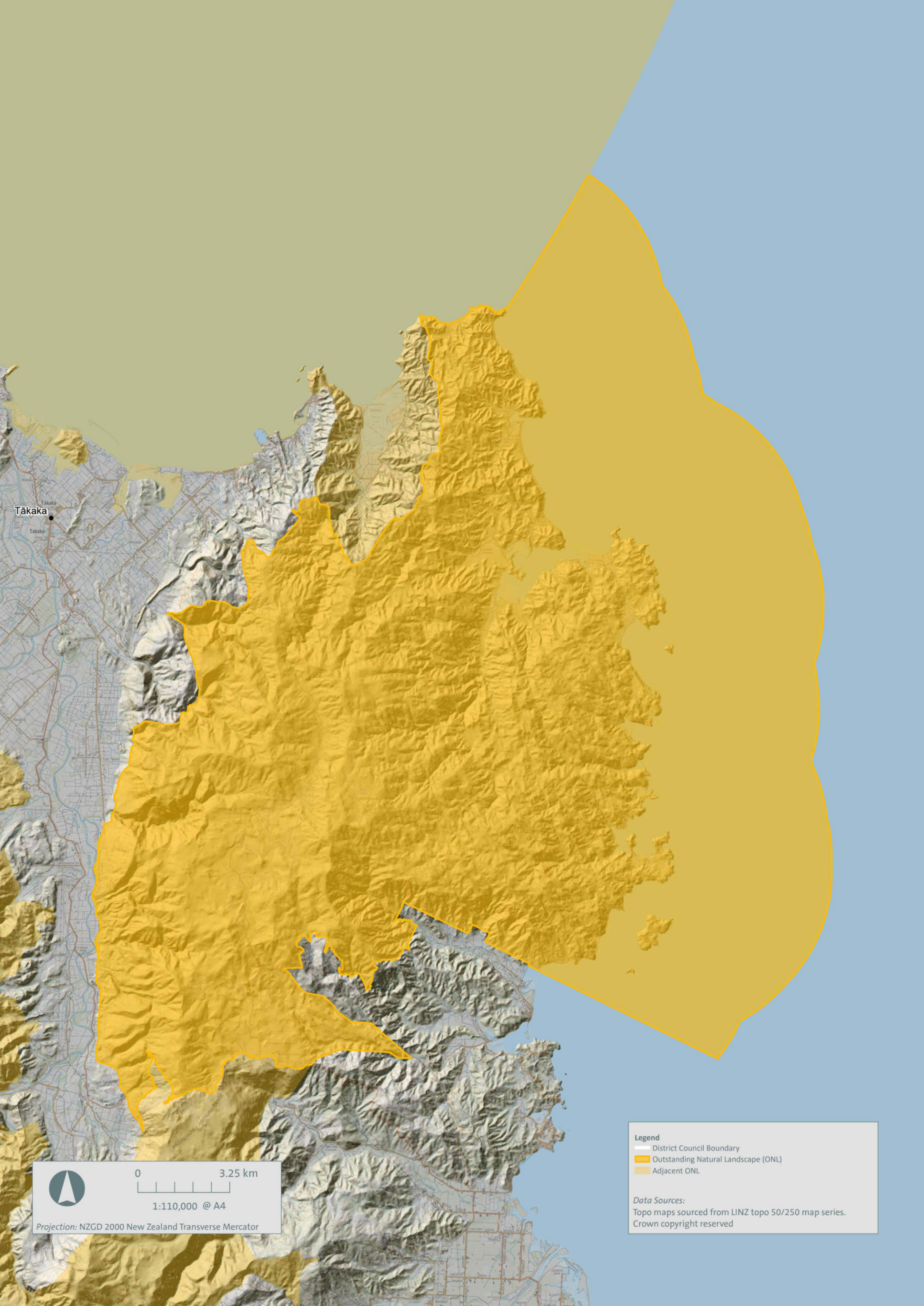
Associative Values

- a. For **cultural values**, see **Appendix H**.
- b. The **high historic values** associated with Torrent Bay (Rakauroa), Awaroa and Totaranui in particular.
- c. The **very high shared and recognised values** associated with the area.
- d. The **very high recreational and scenic values** associated with the national park, seascape and coastline and largely drawing from the physical, naturalness, aesthetic, memorability and transient qualities associated with these places.

These various highly rated attributes and values come together to firmly establish ONL 4 Abel Tasman as a truly outstanding and spectacular landscape that stands apart from much of the balance of the district.

Abel Tasman coastline - photograph supplied by James Bentley





Takaka



0 3.25 km

1:110,000 @ A4

Projection: NZGD 2000 New Zealand Transverse Mercator

Legend

- District Council Boundary
- Outstanding Natural Landscape (ONL)
- Adjacent ONL

Data Sources:
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PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Landform • Geology • Vegetation • Ecology • Hydrology

Particularly significant **landform** and **geological** features include:

- a. Underlying granite geology of much of the area, the weathering of which is responsible for the golden sands, rock strewn stream beds, interesting coastal formations and characteristically infertile soils.
- b. Limestone geology at Taupo Point and stacks with coal seams and quartzose sandstones.
- c. Canaan Downs elevated marble plateau including: marginal polje, karst landforms (sinking streams, dry valleys, resurgent springs, intricately carved karren formations, caves and sinkholes).
- d. Harwoods Hole/Starlight Cave- deepest natural shaft in the country (176m).
- e. Pikikirunga Fault scarp that separates the Canaan Plateau from the down warped Tākaka valley system.
- f. Numerous (predominantly bush-lined) gorges that cut through the scarp from the plateau edge.
- g. Canaan Block marble caves and subterranean drainage.
- h. Mount Evans
- i. Murray Peak
- j. Drowned river valleys, estuaries, rocky headlands, coarse golden sand beaches, dunes, spits, rocky reefs and islands along the coastline, especially Bark, Sandfly and Torrent bays.
- k. Granite islands including Tonga, Adele (Motuarero-nui) and Fisherman (Motuarero-iti) Islands and Cottage Loaf Rock.
- l. Falls River Canyon.
- m. Guilbert Point orbicular granite.

Particularly significant **ecological** attributes include:

- a. Tonga Island Marine Reserve.
- b. Wildlife refuges associated with all of the islands.
- c. Montane bogs, tussock lands, lowland coastal forest, and dunes.
- d. Significant areas of coastal wetlands.
- e. Pockets of mature lowland podocarp/broadleaved/beechn forest. Substantial areas of beech forest on karst/marble; an uncommon ecosystem.
- f. Important freshwater habitats for short-jawed and giant kōkopu and long fin eel, with the waters being free of pest fish species.
- g. Very small populations of sea run brown trout (as a consequence of the geology) which means native invertebrate and fish communities are essentially unmodified.
- h. Important habitat for variable oystercatcher, banded dotterel, blue penguin, pūkeko, ducks, fernbird, reef heron, pied stilt, marsh crake, banded rail, red-

billed gull, Caspian and white-fronted tern, black/ little/ spotted and pied shag, fluttering shearwaters, gannets, tūi, bellbird, tomtit, robin, fantail, grey warbler, brown creeper, rifleman, kereru, shining cuckoo and long-tailed cuckoo.

- i. Important habitat in karst aquifers for subterranean aquatic invertebrates, including hydrobiid snails, amphipods, isopods and aquatic worms.
- j. Numerous threatened and at-risk plants, including: shovel mint (*Scutellaria novae-zelandiae*) and limestone groundsel (*Senecio aff. glaucophyllus*) and coastal peppergrass (*Lepidium banksii*) which are nationally critical.
- k. Rich range of fungal species, including *Russula solitaria*, which is 'nationally critical'.
- l. Seal colony at Tonga Island and along the coastline more generally.
- m. Breeding colonies of little blue penguins at Fisherman Island (Motuarero-iti) and Tonga Island.
- n. Rhodolith bed at Totaranui and Tonga Island.
- o. Separation Point bryozoan corals.
- p. Horse mussel bed on Tonga Island Roadstead.
- q. Red algae beds in Tonga Roadstead.
- r. Short-jawed kokopu present in many stream and small rivers (e.g. Torrent River).
- s. Coarse sediment estuaries with bush clad catchments (Totaranui, Araroa, Onetahuti, Bark Bay, Falls River, Frenchmans Bay, Torrent Bay, One Tree Bay, Marahau, Otuwhero).
- t. Marsh birds present in many estuaries.

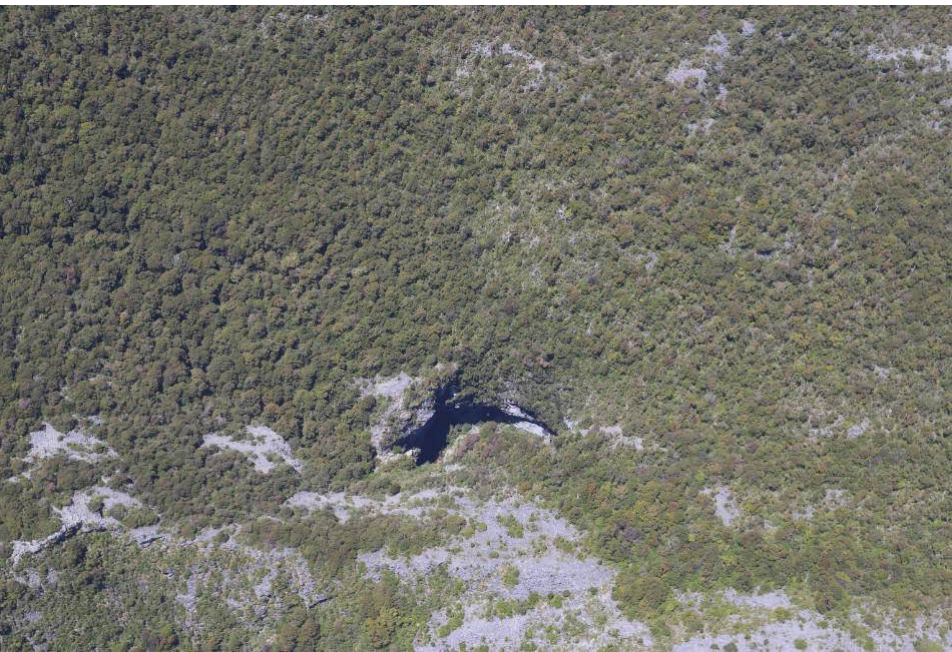
Particularly significant **hydrological** attributes include:

- a. The waters of Golden Bay and Tasman Bay adjacent the terrestrial portion of the ONL.
- b. The Awaroa River system.
- c. The Awapoto River system.
- d. The Totaranui River system.
- e. The Wainui River system.
- f. The mid and upper reaches of the Wainui River system.
- g. Gorge Creek.
- h. Dry River.
- i. Rameka Creek.
- j. The subterranean drainage system beneath Canaan Downs.
- k. Ironstone Creek.

An area of outstanding natural character identified across the parts of seascape corresponding to a Marine Reserve with a more expansive extent of seascape in the vicinity of Separation Point / Te Matau. Also includes the majority of the adjacent terrestrial coastal area (generally corresponding to areas of high or very high ecological value).



Photographs below supplied by James Bentley



PERCEPTUAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Views to the area • Views from the area • Visual prominence / importance of the area in shaping the wider landscape character • Naturalness • Memorability • Legibility and Expressiveness • Transient values • Remoteness / wildness

Particularly significant **vistas** include:

- a. Highly attractive close, mid and long range views from the water of the extensive and coherent sequence of bush-covered hills, rocky headlands framing golden sand beaches and estuaries, and sculpted bush clad islands;
- b. Highly appealing close mid and longer range stunning views from the numerous tracks and beaches within the area, comprising a rich diversity of natural elements including wetlands, streams, bush clad hills, golden sand beaches, rocky coastlines, sparkling waters and islands. Modest baches and jetties reminiscent of early European settlement contribute positively to such compositions in places.
- c. Striking long range views of the of the Pikikirunga Fault scarp, the dramatic landform folds at Gorge Creek Gully and the broader sequence of bush clad hill slopes and ridges from the Tākaka Valley;
- d. Highly attractive mid and long range views of the extensive sequence of large-scale bush-clothed hills seen from SH 60 which read as an important part of the gateway to Golden Bay;
- e. Highly engaging close and mid-range views of the karst landscape at Canaan Downs from SH 60, local tracks and Canaan Road.

From many vantage points within the wider area, layered views of the bush-clad hills golden sands beaches, sparkling waters and islands comprise signature views that are critical to the identity of the wider area.

From the Tākaka Valley, the bush-clad slopes and dramatic landform features of the Pikikirunga Range and around Gorge Creek Gully create a dramatic and memorable backdrop that forms a striking contrast to the more modified and ‘tamed’ river valley landscape.

Historical terrestrial modification along the coast has occurred due to land clearance, farming and burning. Much of these impacts are now in various stages of recovery. The very limited level of built modification evident, together with the proliferation, scale and dramatic character of the physical features, suggests a rating for naturalness towards the higher end of the spectrum. Whilst built development and modification is evident in places (e.g. baches, unsealed roads, jetties, boat ramps, tracks, signage, moorings, camping grounds, tramping huts, power lines, pastoral farming, rural

dwelling and sheds (including consented and unbuilt platforms in some locations), production forestry, sedimentation, dredging and trawling), the sheer scale of the more natural landscape features, patterns and processes of the wider setting means that they are subservient elements of the landscape. Modification also includes: the long established quarrying on Tākaka Hill (which relates to a nationally unique white marble resource) that is guided by a Development Outline Plan, the legal right to expand the Ngarua Lime Quarry beyond the existing visible ‘footprint’; and the ongoing management of weeds and pests throughout the ONL.

Walking track, tramping huts, jetties, boat ramps, roads and moorings and the like, are modifications that support the recreational values of the landscape. Their modest scale and generally low-key, informal character means that they (generally) fit harmoniously into the landscape.

The relatively limited extent of pastoral areas captured within ONL 4 (within the context of the District) and/or the underlying geological values of such areas, means that this aspect of landscape modification does not appreciably influence the overall naturalness of the area nor the landscape values.

The highly attractive coastal views comprising of golden sand beaches and wetlands, framed by richly textured bush cloaked hills; or seaward, out over the sparkling coastal waters to rocky bush fringed headlands and sculpted bush clothed islands are highly memorable.

The bush lined gullies, expansive wetlands, gorges and karst, granite and marble landforms are all highly expressive of the landscape’s formative processes. The highly tidal nature of estuarine areas, evident coastal erosion, coastal landform features and highly dynamic character of the seascape also speak to the landscape’s formative processes.

Transient values derive from: the seasonal display of pohutukawa and flowering rātā; the highly dynamic inlets, estuaries, dunes and spit landforms; the highly visible coastal erosion processes; birdlife; the varying weather conditions expressed in surface water conditions; and the dynamic patterning of light on intertidal areas.

A strong sense of the endemism due to the dominance of more natural elements, patterns and processes and notwithstanding the regenerating character of much of the vegetation.

Despite the popularity of the area for recreational uses, there is a sense of isolation and wildness available in places, particularly within the northern and more inland portions of the national park.





ASSOCIATIVE ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Cultural values • Historic values • Shared and recognised values • Recreation and scenic values

Smallest national park in New Zealand and somewhat unique in that rather than being a largely unmodified area, it is an example of 'landscape recovery'.

Particularly high **cultural values** associated with:

- a. Archaeological and Wahi Tapu sites.
- b. For **cultural values**, see **Appendix H**.

Much of the area was cleared by early European settlers for pastoral grazing. Other industries included shipbuilding (at Awaroa, and Torrent Bay (Rakauroa)), bark-stripping for tanning (at Bark Bay (Wairima)) and quarrying at Tonga Bay.

Granite blocks from Tonga Quarry used for the steps at the Nelson Cathedral and the Wellington Post Office.

Historic European settlements at Torrent Bay (Rakauroa), Awaroa and Totaranui with remnants evident today.

The national park was established in 1942 as a permanent memorial to Abel Tasman's visit in 1642.

Very high shared and recognised values as evidenced by the descriptions of the area in tourism publications, the findings of the Small Working Group project, the popularity of the numerous walking tracks within the area National Park and the popularity of this portion of the district's coastline. The establishment and conservation efforts of Project Janszoon dedicated to restoring the flora and fauna of the area (in partnership with iwi, DoC and the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust), speaks to how highly this landscape is cherished by the local and wider community.

Abel Tasman National Park is the smallest national park in New Zealand, albeit one of the most visited (particularly the coastal margins).

Highly popular recreational features including: the walking, tramping, mountain biking, bird watching, fishing, kayaking, hunting (limited) and caving. It is noted that with sea level rise, at least some of the existing recreational facilities (e.g. tracks) may need to be relocated further inland to provide for ongoing public access.

The coastal track network and kayaking route is especially popular with a proliferation of water taxi services from Kaiteriteri and Marahau enabling easy and flexible access into the park.

Extensive network of less well-known tramping tracks within the national park that afford a more isolated and wilderness type experience.



The ONL 4 northern boundary is defined by the ridgelines framing Wainui Bay (ONL 5) and the coastline edging ONL 3 (Mohua/Golden Bay).

The eastern boundary of ONL 4 is defined by the 3 nautical mile (approximately 5.5km) limit from the coastline.

The ONL 4 southern boundary generally corresponds to the national park boundary or the 'outer' edge of large contiguous bush areas adjoining the national park boundary.

The delineation between ONL 2 Parapara-Kahurangi Ranges and ONL 4 Abel Tasman is defined by the alignment of SH 60.

The ONL 4 western boundary generally runs along a ridgeline extending south westwards from the ridgeline system defining Wainui Bay. At its northern end, the boundary line is 'stepped' in places to include large areas of contiguous bush cover throughout elevated and (generally) west facing steep slopes. In the main, the elevated slopes excluded from the ONL correspond to landforms with either fragmented landcover or obvious evidence of disturbance.

Towards the southern end of the western boundary, all of the steep landforms framing the eastern side of the mid to upper section of the Tākaka Valley (north of SH60) are included in the ONL despite the fragmented landcover patterning (which includes production forestry). The bold landform patterns together with its large scale, the role this landform plays in shaping the landscape character of the upper valley as a consequence of proximity and the underlying geoscience values of the area weigh in favour of its inclusion.



KEY CHARACTERISTICS AND QUALITIES OF ONL 4 TO BE PROTECTED FROM ADVERSE EFFECTS

- The physical attributes and values listed above.
- The highly attractive views of: wetlands, streams, bush clad hills, golden sand beaches, rocky coastlines, sparkling waters and islands; the Pikikirunga Fault scarp; the patterning of bush clad ridges and valleys throughout the interior; the karst landscape at Canaan Downs; and the historic settlements and infrastructure.
- The very low-key, modest and informal built development character (including infrastructure).
- A sense of remoteness and 'getting away from it all' (where it presently exists).
- The darkness of the night sky.
- For cultural values, see **Appendix H**.

TYPES OF DEVELOPMENT THAT ARE LIKELY TO BE INAPPROPRIATE WITHIN ONL 4

- Large-scale earthworks, including infilling, reclamation, quarrying and mining.
- Indigenous vegetation removals.
- Production forestry.
- Large-scale infrastructure (including large and incongruous coastal erosion and defence structures).
- Intensive farming.
- Inappropriate built development (as a consequence of its location, scale and/or design) including: buildings, roading, infrastructure (land and water based), lighting, signage, erosion control structures, and recreation/tourism development.
- Dredging and trawling.
- Aquaculture structures.
- Activities that increase sediment input into the marine environment.



ONL 5: Wainui Bay

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF AREA

ONL 5: Wainui Bay roughly relates to the Wainui Bay/Inlet catchment. The ONL extends westwards into the Tata Beach catchment and includes all of the undeveloped regenerating bush dominated land associated with the Abel Tasman Point headland.

QUALIFIES AS ‘LANDSCAPE’?

The physical containment of Wainui Bay, together with its role as a ‘gateway’ to Abel Tasman National Park establishes the area as a distinct place within Golden Bay (and the district). Whilst the scale of this landscape is much smaller than many of the other Tasman District ONLs, the scale of the area and the complexity/range of attributes and values evident suggest it qualifies as a ‘landscape’ rather than a ‘feature’.

QUALIFIES AS ‘NATURAL’?

Whilst development is evident within the bay, the generally relatively low-key and modest scale and character of this modification and built modification means that it remains subservient to the more natural landscape features, patterns and processes. The estuary has been impacted by infilling and adjacent land clearance, but remains with a low muddiness score due to the coarse sediment catchments. The subtidal marine environment has been, and still is modified by physical disturbance (trawling and dredging) and a small area is impacted by a mussel spat farm.

Moderate-high rating for naturalness.

QUALIFIES AS ‘OUTSTANDING’?

OVERALL EVALUATION

Generally the landscape qualifies in terms of outstanding-ness as a consequence of the attributes and values described in the more detailed tables that follow and which can be summarised as follows:

Physical Values

- a. The **high to very high physical values** due to: the comprehensive range of landform, ecological and hydrological features in the bay that come together to form a microcosm of the wider Golden Bay

physical landscape; the granite geology of the bay; and the expansive extent of water within a strongly enclosed bay landform (which contrasts with the more open inlets of Golden Bay).

Perceptual Values

- a. The **moderate-high naturalness values** arising from the dominance of water and the bold (predominantly) bush-clad headland and steep hillslope landform enclosure, despite a degree of development throughout the bay (including: mussel spat catching; pastoral farming; some exotic forestry; a scattering of rural, rural residential and holiday dwellings; power lines; roading and car parking; erosion control measures; the Tui community; and the comings and goings of people through the bay en route to Abel Tasman National Park). The subtidal environment is in a modified state due to physical disturbance (trawling and dredging) and sedimentation from the adjacent catchments.
- b. The **very high aesthetic and memorability values** of the area as a consequence of: the highly attractive views associated with the area and which encapsulate the broader landscape character of the Golden Bay landscape; and the impression of the area as a peaceful gateway or transition between the Abel Tasman National Park and the more inhabited parts of Golden Bay.
- c. The **very high legibility and expressiveness values** due to the visibility and abundance of physical attributes that enable a clear understanding of the landscape’s formative processes.
- d. The **high transient values** associated with the coastal processes, climatic characteristics and birdlife.

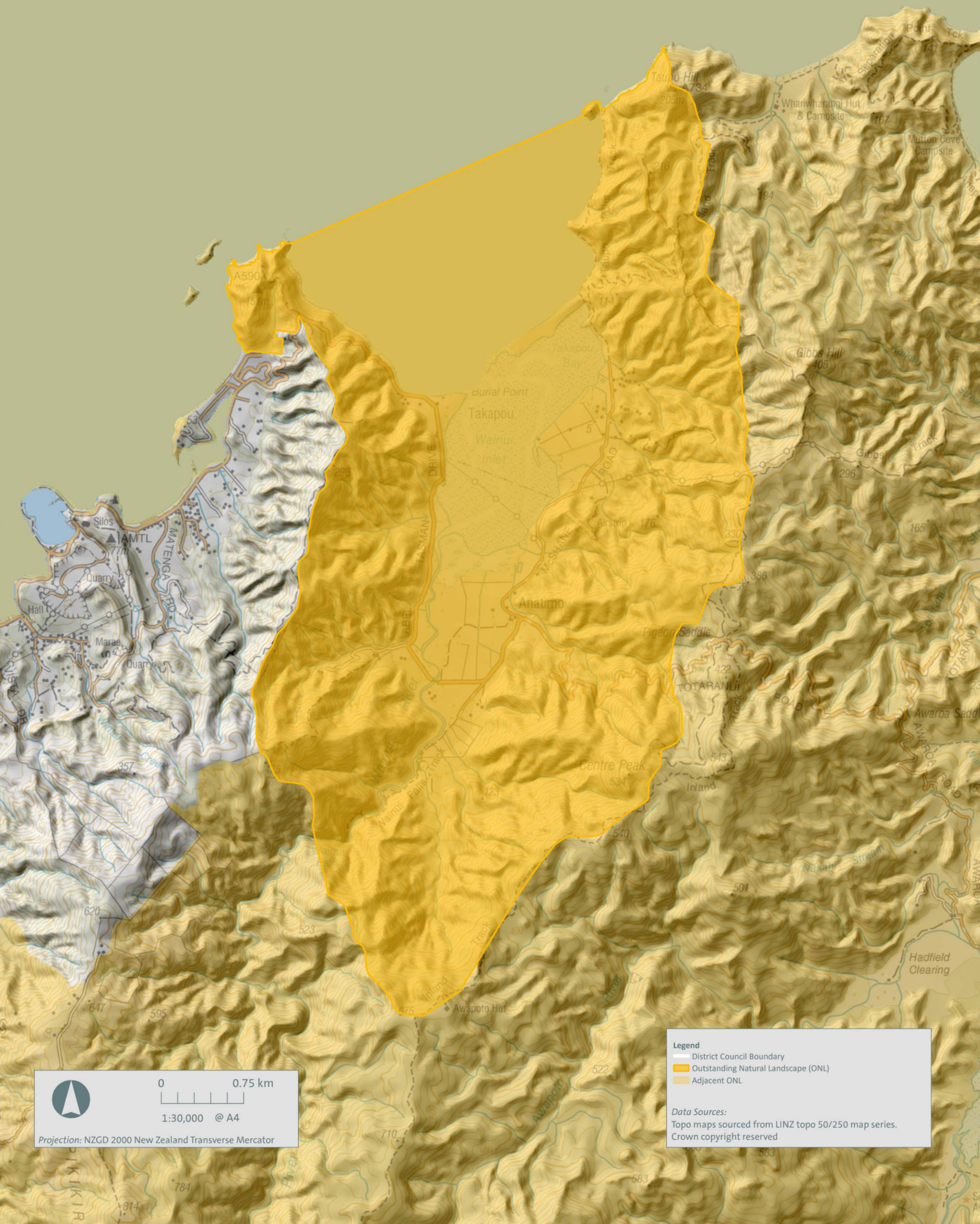
Associative Values

- a. For **cultural values**, see **Appendix H**.
- b. The **very high shared and recognised values** associated with the area.
- c. The **very high recreational and scenic values** associated with the seascape, coastline, inlet, sand barrier, walkways and scenic lookouts in the area and largely drawing from the physical, aesthetic, memorability and transient qualities associated with these places.

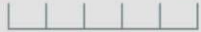
These various highly rated attributes and values come together to firmly establish the Wainui Bay area as a truly outstanding and spectacular landscape that stands apart from much of the balance of the district.

Photograph supplied by James Bentley





0 0.75 km



1:30,000 @ A4

Projection: NZGD 2000 New Zealand Transverse Mercator

Legend

- District Council Boundary
- Outstanding Natural Landscape (ONL)
- Adjacent ONL

Data Sources:

Topo maps sourced from LINZ topo 50/250 map series.
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PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Landform • Geology • Vegetation • Ecology • Hydrology

Particularly significant **landform** and **geological** features include:

- a. Well-defined 'horseshoe' bay with golden sand beach. Sand barrier defines highly tidal inlet.
- b. The only inlet within Golden Bay to occur within an enclosed valley framed by bush-clad rocky headlands; and where the water body of the inlet occupies approximately 50% of the valley floor and includes deep water, shallow water and estuarine components.
- c. Dramatic and richly textured rocky shoreline including coastal cliffs and headlands, rock outcrops and rocky reefs.
- d. Underlying granite geology (Taupo Point) with the highly erodible granite forming the source of the golden sand in the bay.
- e. The young cusplate foreland of Burial Pt, a coastal landform type only found here in the Tasman District.

Particularly significant **ecological** attributes include:

- a. Important habitat for banded rail, long-finned eel, reef heron, marsh crake, South Island fernbird and the carnivorous NZ land snail (*Powelliphanta spp*).
- b. Riparian and wetland vegetation, including saltmarsh and herbfields.
- c. Areas of native bush-clad hill slopes and coastal headlands. Regenerating forest with large areas of kanuka.
- d. Separation Point bryozoan corals.
- e. Small area of podocarp forest adjacent to estuary and river.
- f. Taupo Point and adjacent stacks subtidal limestone community.

Particularly significant **hydrological** attributes include:

- a. The waters of the bay and inlet.
- b. Wainui River.
- c. Wainui Falls.

An area of outstanding natural character identified across the parts of seascape and some of the adjacent terrestrial coastal area (generally corresponding to areas of high or very high ecological value).



Photograph supplied by James Bentley



PERCEPTUAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Views to the area • Views from the area • Visual prominence / importance of the area in shaping the wider landscape character • Naturalness • Memorability • Legibility and Expressiveness • Transient values • Remoteness / wildness

Particularly significant **vistas** include:

- Highly attractive and impressive close, mid and long-range views from the Gibbs Hill Track, Taupo Point Track and Inland Track (in Abel Tasman National Park), the local road network, the sandy beaches, Tasman Memorial and the water of the bay/inlet, comprising of: the highly dynamic waters of Wainui Bay and Inlet; the golden sand beach and sand barrier; the richly textured and rugged, erodible bush-clad rocky cliffs, headlands and coastline framing the bay; the pastoral flats and (predominantly) bush-clad valley sides, all seen within the visual context of the expansive and relatively sheltered waters of Golden Bay and expanse of the bush-cloaked hills of Abel Tasman National Park.
- Highly appealing close and mid-range views along the Wainui Falls track.

From many vantage points, the containment of Wainui Bay together with the wide range of more 'natural' landscape elements that are seen, contributes a sense of the area as a somewhat unique and highly engaging 'microcosm' or 'snapshot' of the wider Golden Bay landscape.

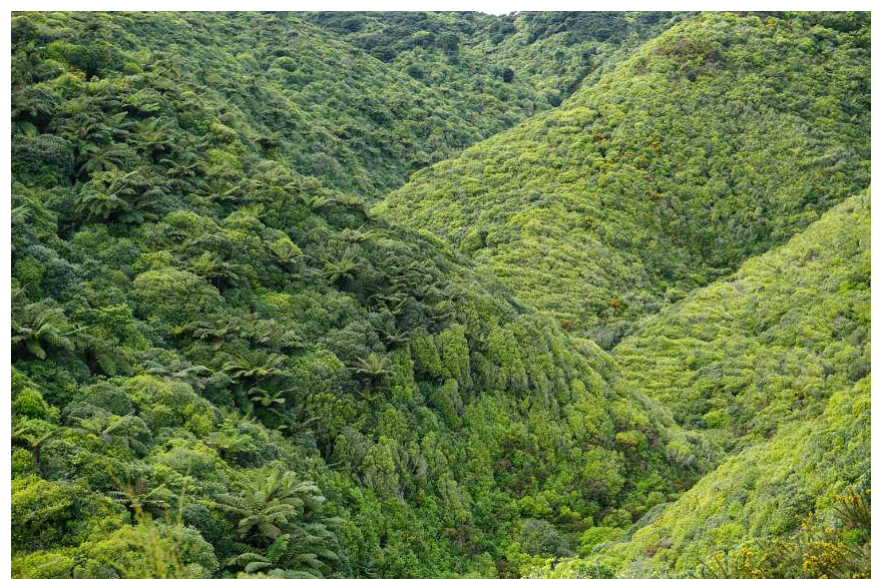
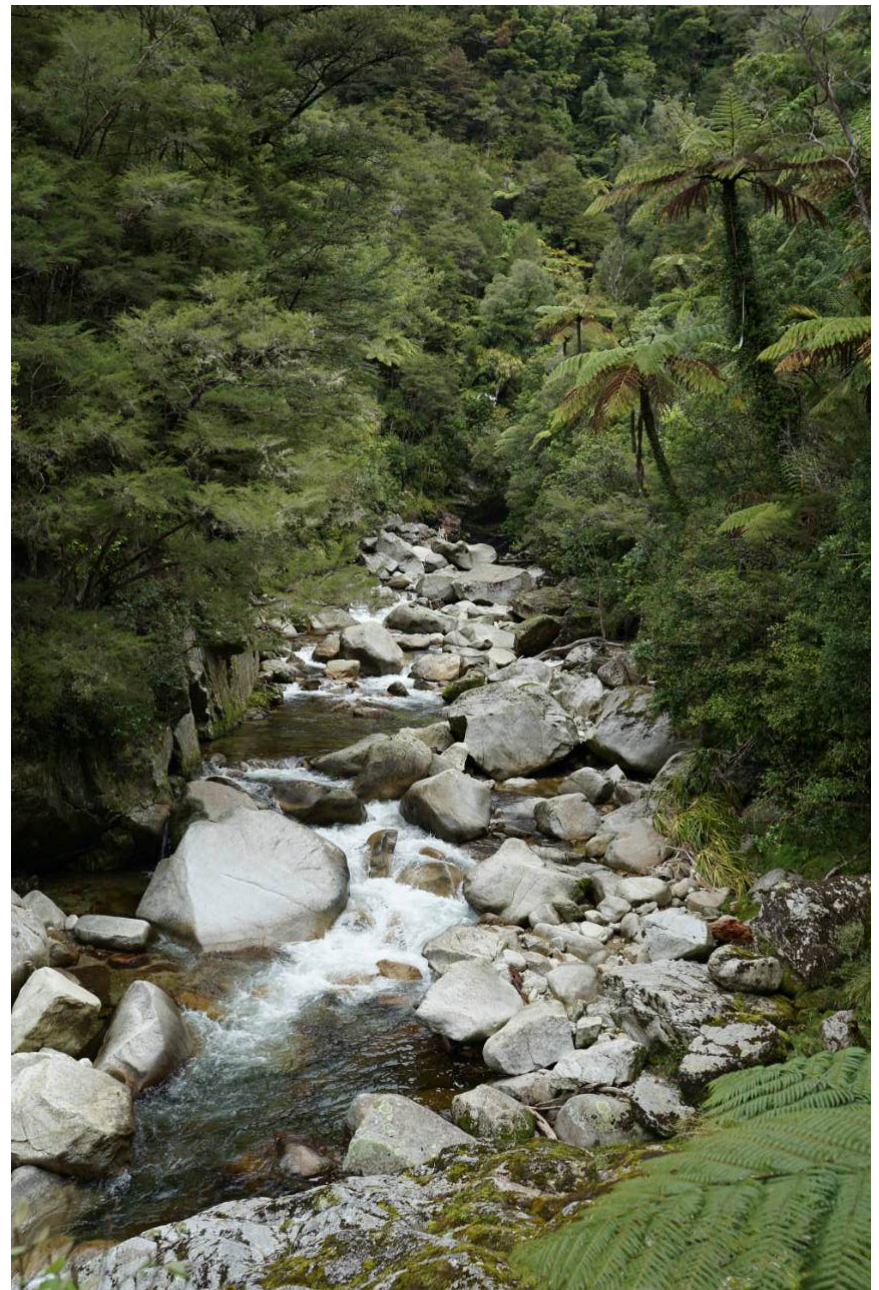
A degree of modification is evident throughout much of the bay and includes: a long-established and relatively confined area of mussel spat catching on the western side of the bay near Abel Tasman Point (noting that the spat resource in this location is considered to be unique as a consequence of its abundance); pastoral farming throughout the (drained and in places, reclaimed) alluvial flats with exotic shelterbelts; some exotic forestry throughout the steep hill slopes flanking the bay; exotic weeds; a scattering of rural, rural residential and holiday dwellings; power lines; roading (predominantly unsealed, cut scars evident in places) and car parking; the Tui community; and the comings and goings of people through the bay en route to Abel Tasman National Park. Despite the physical disturbance of the sub tidal marine area, the generally modest scale and character of 'development' within the area and, in some circumstances, its relatively spacious patterning means that the Wainui Bay landscape retains a **moderate-high** degree of naturalness. Existing modification also includes the ongoing management of weeds and pests throughout the ONL.

Wainui Bay is a more tamed and inhabited landscape in comparison to the other ONLs within Golden Bay. However, it is 'experienced' as a markedly more remote and isolated landscape for visitors to Abel Tasman National Park journeying from the west. As such, the area conveys the impression of a memorable transition (or buffer) between the more inhabited and 'modified' beaches, valleys and flats of Golden Bay, and the seemingly 'undeveloped' 'untouched' landscape of the national park. This buffer function is also perceived as one leaves the park heading eastwards, where Wainui Bay serves as a gentle (and memorable) transition back to the more 'developed world' of Golden Bay.

The sand barriers, tidal inlet, rocky coastline, vegetation-lined streams and gullies, and waterfall assist an understanding of the landscape's formative processes. Rock armouring and road cut scars speak to erosion processes.

Transient values derive from: the highly tidal character of the inlet; the prolific birdlife; the varying weather conditions expressed in surface water conditions; and the dynamic patterning of light on intertidal areas.

A sense of peacefulness, tranquillity and remoteness arising from the enclosed character of the bay and its perception as a landscape 'apart' from the balance of the more developed portions of Golden Bay, and very much on the edge of the national park. The 'one-way' character of the access to the area reinforces this impression. It is acknowledged that there is periodic noise and lighting associated with the spat farm.



ASSOCIATIVE ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Cultural values • Historic values • Shared and recognised values • Recreation and scenic values

For **cultural values**, see **Appendix H**.

Very high shared and recognised values as evidenced by the description of the area in tourism publications, the popularity of the area as an inspiration/subject for art and photography and the findings of the Small Working Group project.

Very high recreational and scenic values as evidenced by the popularity of the area for swimming, walking, recreational boating and kayaking.



Photograph supplied by James Bentley



The southern boundary of ONL 5 corresponds to the ridgelines framing the south side of the bay and abuts ONL 4 Abel Tasman.

The western boundary of ONL 5 rolls over the ridgeline and headland framing the western side of the bay and is configured to exclude the coastal development and smaller scale lots at the northern end of Tata Beach.

The northern boundary of ONL 5 adjoins ONL 3: Mohua/Golden Bay and corresponds to a line drawn between Abel Tasman Point and Uarau Point.

The eastern edge of ONL 5 is defined by the ridgeline framing the bay and include parts of Abel Tasman National Park. This boundary abuts ONL 4: Abel Tasman.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS AND QUALITIES OF ONL 5 TO BE PROTECTED FROM ADVERSE EFFECTS

- The physical attributes and values listed above.
- The highly attractive views of the bay from the Gibbs Hill Track, Taupo Point Track and Inland Track, the local road network, the sandy beaches, Tasman Memorial and the water of the bay/inlet, that take in: the highly dynamic waters of Wainui Bay and Inlet; the golden sand beach and sand barrier; the bush-clad rocky coastline and headlands; the pastoral flats; and the (predominantly) bush-clad valley sides, all seen within the visual context of the expansive and relatively sheltered waters of Golden Bay and the expanse of dissected bush cloaked hills of Abel Tasman National Park.
- The highly attractive views along the Wainui Waterfall track.

- The very low-key, modest and informal built development character (including infrastructure).
- The impression of the area as a highly attractive and sympathetic gateway to the national park in which development remains subservient to more 'natural' landscape features, patterns and processes.
- A sense of peacefulness and tranquillity.
- The darkness of the night sky.
- For cultural values, see **Appendix H**.

TYPES OF DEVELOPMENT THAT ARE LIKELY TO BE INAPPROPRIATE WITHIN ONL 5

- Large-scale earthworks, including infilling, reclamation, quarrying and mining.
- Large scale aquaculture.
- Intensive farming.
- Production forestry.
- Inappropriate built development (as a consequence of its location, scale and/or design) including: buildings, roading, infrastructure (land and water based), lighting, signage, erosion control structures, and recreation/tourism development.
- Dredging and trawling in inshore areas.
- Activities that increase sediment input into the marine environment.



Photograph supplied by James Bentley



Photograph supplied by James Bentley



ONL 6: Nelson Lakes-Southwestern Ranges

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF AREA

ONL 6: Nelson Lakes-Southwestern Ranges very roughly relates to the extent of Nelson Lakes National Park, the north eastern portion of Victoria Forest Park (and the flanking Tasman Region Management Plan Conservation zoned land.

QUALIFIES AS ‘LANDSCAPE’?

The extent of the ONL 6: Nelson Lakes-Southwestern Ranges roughly corresponds to the dramatic, non-coastal, mountain landscape that dominates the southern portion of the district, south of SH 6. The dramatic scale of the landform patterning with an almost contiguous bush-cover cloak (excepting the alpine peaks and ridges) means that it reads as a ‘landscape’.

QUALIFIES AS ‘NATURAL’?

The very limited level of human modification, together with the overwhelmingly wilderness impression of the area, means that it qualifies for consideration in terms of naturalness. Whilst infrastructure is evident in places (for example, walking tracks and huts, power lines and roading), it is effectively dwarfed by the majestic mountain context.

Very High naturalness rating.

QUALIFIES AS ‘OUTSTANDING’?

OVERALL EVALUATION

Generally the landscape qualifies in terms of outstanding-ness as a consequence of the attributes and values described in the more detailed tables that follow and which can be summarised as follows:

Physical Values

- a. The **very high physical values** due to the proliferation of high-value landforms, geological features, vegetation features, habitats, species and hydrological features throughout the area.

Perceptual Values

- a. The **very high naturalness values** arising from: the sense of remoteness associated with the area; the proliferation, diversity, endemic-ness, and (generally) untouched character of physical features; the very limited extent and modest character of human modification; and the extensive and contiguous network of alpine lakes, bush-covered slopes and sculpted ridgelines seen backdropped in many outlooks by (at times, snow-capped) rugged alpine ranges.
- b. The **very high aesthetic and memorability values** of the area as a consequence of its highly attractive and dramatic visual character and seemingly isolated context.
- c. The **very high legibility and expressiveness values** due to the visibility and abundance of physical attributes that enable a clear understanding of the landscape's formative processes.
- d. The **high transient values** associated with the climatic characteristics and dynamic river waters.

Associative Values

- a. For **cultural values**, see **Appendix H**.
- b. The **high historic values** of the area as a consequence of its gold mining and earthquake history.
- c. The **very high shared and recognised values** associated with the area.
- d. The **very high recreational and scenic values** associated with the national park and forest park in the area and largely drawing from the physical, aesthetic, naturalness and memorability qualities associated with the area, together with its very strong sense of remoteness and ‘getting away from it all’.

These various highly rated attributes and values come together to firmly establish the Nelson Lakes-Southwestern Ranges ONL 6 area as a truly outstanding and spectacular landscape that stands apart from much of the balance of the district.

Durville River valley with Ella and Travers Range - photograph supplied by James Bentley







0

7.5 km

1:280,000 @ A4

Projection: NZGD 2000 New Zealand Transverse Mercator

Legend

District Council Boundary

Outstanding Natural Landscape (ONL)

Adjacent ONL

Data Sources:

Topo maps sourced from LINZ topo 50/250 map series.

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PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Landform • Geology • Vegetation • Ecology • Hydrology

Comprises the steep to very steep and highly legible, unmodified and strongly dissected hill and mountain slopes and associated valley fill fans, terraces and floodplains of the: Main Divide; the St Arnaud, Travers, Ella and Braeburn Ranges and the eastern flanks of the Brunner and Victoria Ranges.

Particularly significant **landform** and **geological** features include:

- a. Upper Buller Gorge.
- b. The Sphinx mesa.
- c. Lake Rotoroa glacially eroded valley and lake.
- d. Lake Rotoiti glacially eroded valley and lake.
- e. Lake Rotoiti moraine dam and Black Hill roche moutonnée.
- f. Angelus Basin glacial landforms
- g. Speargrass Creek Alpine Fault trace
- h. Blue Duck landslide dammed lake.
- i. Lower Matakitaki 1929 landslide. (in part)
- j. Lake Caslani and Cliff Creek Lake.
- k. Old Man of the Buller.
- l. Longford vertical strata.
- m. The highly visible peaks of Mt Misery, Mt Robert, Mt Murchison, the Travers Range and the St Arnaud Range.
- n. Blackwater burning gas seep

Particularly significant **ecological** attributes include:

- a. Relatively unmodified native vegetation including: alpine tussock lands / herb fields, wetlands and beech forest communities.
- b. Important habitat for: tui, bellbird, tomtit, rifleman, robin, fernbird, kereru, kākā, parakeets (kakariki), blue duck (whio), rock wren, kea and great spotted kiwi/rotoa.
- c. Extensive intact indigenous ecosystems, comprising beech forest, valley-floor shrublands and wetlands, subalpine tussockland and shrubland, and alpine fellfield, rock and scree.
- d. Large areas of montane beech and beech-podocarp forest.
- e. Frost-flat shrubland/scrub vegetation on valley floors, with threatened plant species.
- f. Contiguous with the extensive protected mountainlands of the Southern Alps.

Particularly significant **hydrological** attributes include:

- a. Lakes Rotoroa, Rotōpohueroa (Constance), Rotomaninitua (Angelus), Ella, Rotoiti, and Matiri.
- b. Numerous elevated tarn and wetland filled basins, including the Angelus Basin cirques and tarns.
- c. Buller River, rapids and the Ariki Falls.
- d. Numerous rivers and tributaries including the Glenroy, Matakitaki, D’Urville, Sabine, Travers, Maruia, Mangles, Tutaki, Te Kauparenuui / Gowan, Owen, and Matiri Rivers.
- e. A Water Conservation Order applies to all or parts of the Buller, D’Urville, Gowan, Owen, Mangles, Matiri, Maruia, Sabine, Travers and Tutaki Rivers (including several smaller streams and tributaries), and Lakes Rotoiti, Constance, Matiri and Rotoroa.



PERCEPTUAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Views to the area • Views from the area • Visual prominence / importance of the area in shaping the wider landscape character • Naturalness • Memorability • Legibility and Expressiveness • Transient values • Remoteness / wildness

Particularly significant **vistas** include:

- a. Spectacular and highly memorable close, mid and long range views from SH63 and Saint Arnaud to the mirror-like waters of Lake Rotoiti framed by the sublime (and at times snow-capped) mountain peaks and ridges of the national park.
- b. Spectacular and highly memorable close mid and long range views from the northern end of Lake Rotoroa to the mirror-like waters of Lake Rotoroa framed by the sublime (and at times snow-capped) mountain peaks and ridges of the national park.
- c. Stunning close, mid and long range views across the breadth of Nelson Lakes National Park and the Main Divide from tracks within the park, that take in the striking alpine lakes, tarns, wetlands, tussock lands and herb fields viewed at closer range.
- d. Striking close, mid and long range views from Murchison and SH63 to the majestic, and coherent sequence of beech forested dominated, and, at times, snow-capped steep peaks and ridges framing the area.
- e. Highly scenic and memorable close and mid range views from SH63 along the Upper Buller Gorge comprising a highly attractive composition that take in the dramatic and steeply incised predominantly bush clad sides, the exposed and highly sculpted bluffs and rock faces, the highly dynamic river itself and the associated rapids and waterfall features.
- f. Striking mid and longer range views from Murchison and SH 63 to the Sphinx landform.
- g. Striking mid and longer range views from the local road adjacent Matakītaki to the Old Man Buller landform.

From many vantage points within the wider Tasman Bay area, layered views of the continuous patterning of bush-clad hills backdropped by the rugged alpine peaks and ranges associated with ONL 2, 6 and 7 comprise signature views that frame the bay and are critical to the identity of the wider area.

The very limited level of modification evident, together with the proliferation, scale and dramatic character of the physical features, suggests a rating for naturalness at the highest end of the spectrum. Whilst infrastructure is evident in places (e.g. power lines, roading and walking tracks/huts, rural dwellings in the bush), the sheer dominance of the more natural landscape features, patterns and processes of the wider setting means that they are subservient elements of the landscape. The co-location of power lines with roading serves to minimise the influence of these modifications on the wider landscape character. Walking track, tramping huts and the like, are modifications that support the recreational values of the landscape. Their modest scale and generally low-key, informal character means that they fit harmoniously into the landscape. Existing modification also includes the ongoing management of weeds and pests throughout the ONL.

The expansive scale of the bush-clad landforms, steep gorges, alpine lakes, and elevated alpine peaks and ranges confers a strong sense of the sublime that is highly memorable.

The majority of the physical attributes listed above assist an understanding of the landscape’s formative processes.

Transient values derive from: the snow-capped ranges and peaks; the ice covered tarns; and the highly dynamic waters of the Buller River and other rivers in the area.

A very strong sense of the remoteness, endemism, wildness and isolation due to: the relatively; limited level of human habitation; the very limited accessibility of much of the area (largely limited to walking tracks); the very limited level of built development; and the abundance and richness of intact vegetation communities.



Photograph supplied by James Bentley

ASSOCIATIVE ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Cultural values • Historic values • Shared and recognised values • Recreation and scenic values

Particularly high **cultural values** associated with:

- a. Archaeological and Wahi Tapu sites.
- b. For **cultural values**, see **Appendix H**.

The rich history of gold mining in the area is evident today in numerous historic sites around Murchison and Howard.

The 1929 Murchison Earthquake with an estimated magnitude of 7.3, was felt throughout New Zealand. There were 17 deaths, mostly as a result of landslides triggered by the earthquake. Virtually all of the homes in the area were destroyed or damaged, with the entire area being cut off for over two weeks. The rumbling sound of the earthquake was loud enough to be heard at New Plymouth, more than 250 km away. The Lower Matakitaki 1929 Landslide feature is one of the best, most accessible and legible examples of an historic earthquake triggered landslide scarp and deposit.

The distinctive and highly legible Sphinx landform (west of Murchison and visible from state highway) and Old Man of the Buller landform (south of Murchison and to the west of Matakitaki) comprise prominent landmarks recognised by the local community.

Very high shared and recognised values as evidenced by the descriptions of the area in tourism publications and the popularity of Nelson Lakes National Park and Lakes Rotoroa and Rotoiti and Buller Gorge route as scenic ‘destinations’.

Nelson Lakes National Park is popular as a low-key destination for camping, picnicking, walking, tramping, snow sports, mountaineering, mountain biking, boating/kayaking (Lake Rotoiti), swimming (Lake Rotoiti) and fishing (Lake Rotoroa and the rivers).

The Travers, D’Urville and Sabine rivers are nationally significant wilderness fisheries valued for their unusually large brown trout.

The entire area is popular for hunting which can assist with deer and chamois control.



The southern and eastern boundary of ONL 6 Nelson Lakes- Southwestern Ranges is defined by the district boundary.

The ONL 6 northern and western boundary generally corresponds to the national park, forest park or conservation land boundaries or the ‘outer’ edge of large contiguous bush areas adjoining the national park, forest park or conservation land boundary. The landscape captured by the ONL effectively corresponds to the extent of the elevated bush clad and alpine mountains that dominate the southern and south western portion of the District.

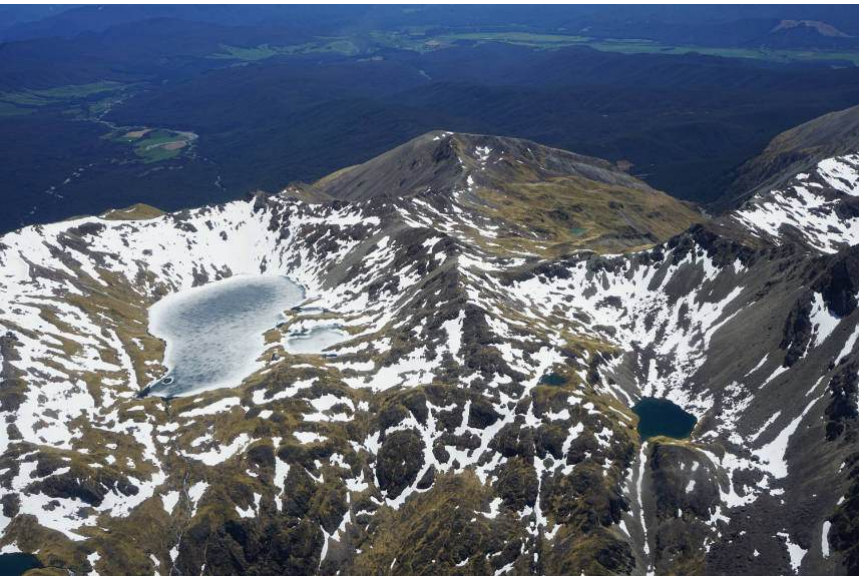
ONL 6 abuts ONL 2 Parapara-Kahurangi Ranges in places along its north western edge, with the boundary coinciding with the alignment of SH 6.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS AND QUALITIES OF ONL 6 TO BE PROTECTED FROM ADVERSE EFFECTS

- The physical attributes and values listed above.
- The highly attractive views of: the extensive and coherent sequence of unmodified bush-covered steep sculpted landforms, rugged snow-capped mountains and alpine lakes throughout Nelson Lakes National Park and Victoria Forest Park; and the steeply incised predominantly bush clad landform and river waters of the Upper Buller Gorge.
- The very low-key, modest and informal built development character (including roading).
- A sense of remoteness and ‘getting away from it all’.
- The darkness of the night sky.
- For cultural values, see **Appendix H**.

TYPES OF DEVELOPMENT THAT ARE LIKELY TO BE INAPPROPRIATE WITHIN ONL 6

- Large-scale earthworks, quarrying and mining.
- Indigenous vegetation removals.
- Production forestry.
- Large-scale infrastructure, particularly where it is located away from existing infrastructure corridors.
- Intensive farming.
- Inappropriate built development (as a consequence of its location, scale and/or design) including: buildings, roading, infrastructure, lighting, signage and recreation/tourism development.





ONL 7: Eastern Hills and Mountains

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF AREA

ONL 7: Eastern Hills and Mountains very roughly relates to bush clad elevated slopes and ridgelines together with the alpine portions of the Gordon Range and Richmond Range that frame the eastern side of the District (and backdrop Richmond). The mapped area includes large areas of contiguous forestry where they adjoin the Mount Richmond Forest Park and excludes small fragments of bush and large areas of exotic forestry.

QUALIFIES AS ‘LANDSCAPE’?

The extent of the ONL 7: Eastern Hills and Mountains roughly corresponds to the dramatic, bush clad and alpine peaks and ridges that frame the eastern side of the Waimea Valley. The dramatic scale, cohesive mountainous landform patterning and consistent patterning with an almost contiguous bush-cover cloak (excepting the alpine peaks and ridges) means that it reads as a ‘landscape’. The identity of the area as defining the eastern side of Tasman Bay also plays a role in this regard.

QUALIFIES AS ‘NATURAL’?

The very limited level of human modification, together with the remote and seemingly ‘wild’ impression of the area, means that it qualifies for consideration in terms of naturalness. Whilst development and infrastructure is evident in places (for example, walking/mountain bike tracks, huts, camping areas), the generally relatively low-key and modest scale and character of this modification means that it remains subservient to the more natural landscape features, patterns and processes.

Very High naturalness rating.

QUALIFIES AS ‘OUTSTANDING’?

OVERALL EVALUATION

Generally the landscape qualifies in terms of outstanding-ness as a consequence of the attributes and values described in the more detailed tables that follow and which can be summarised as follows:

Physical Values

- a. The **very high physical values** due to the proliferation of high-value landforms, geological features, vegetation features, habitats, species and hydrological features throughout the area.

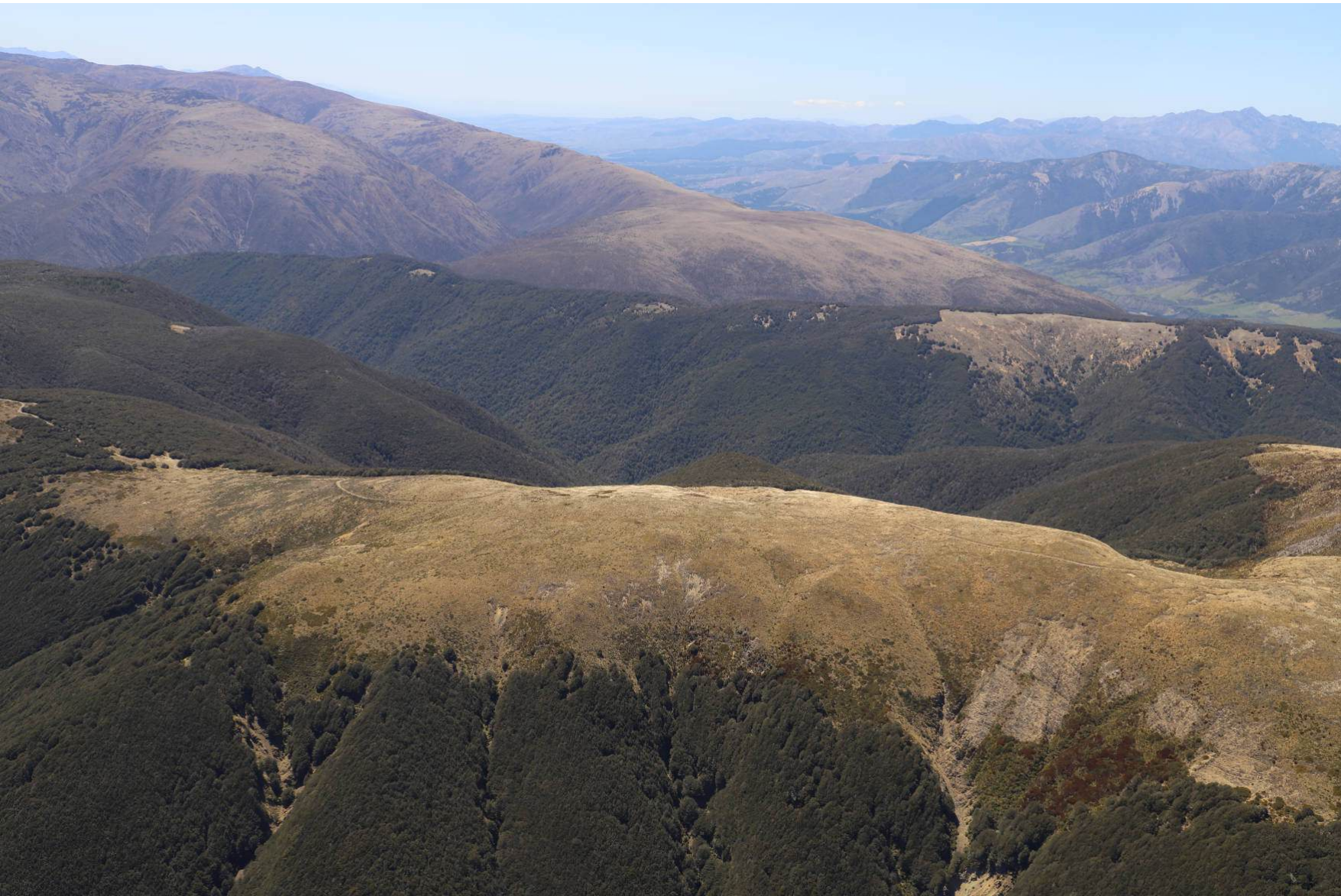
Perceptual Values

- a. The **very high naturalness values** arising from: the sense of remoteness associated with the area; the proliferation, diversity, endemism and (generally) untouched character of physical features; the very limited extent and modest character of human modification; and the extensive and contiguous network of bush-covered slopes and sculpted ridgelines seen backdropped in many outlooks by (at times, snow-capped) rugged alpine ranges.
- b. The **very high aesthetic and memorability values** of the area as a consequence of its highly attractive and dramatic visual character and seemingly isolated context.
- c. The **very high legibility and expressiveness values** due to the visibility and abundance of physical attributes that enable a clear understanding of the landscape’s formative processes.
- d. The **moderate-high transient values** associated with the climatic characteristics.

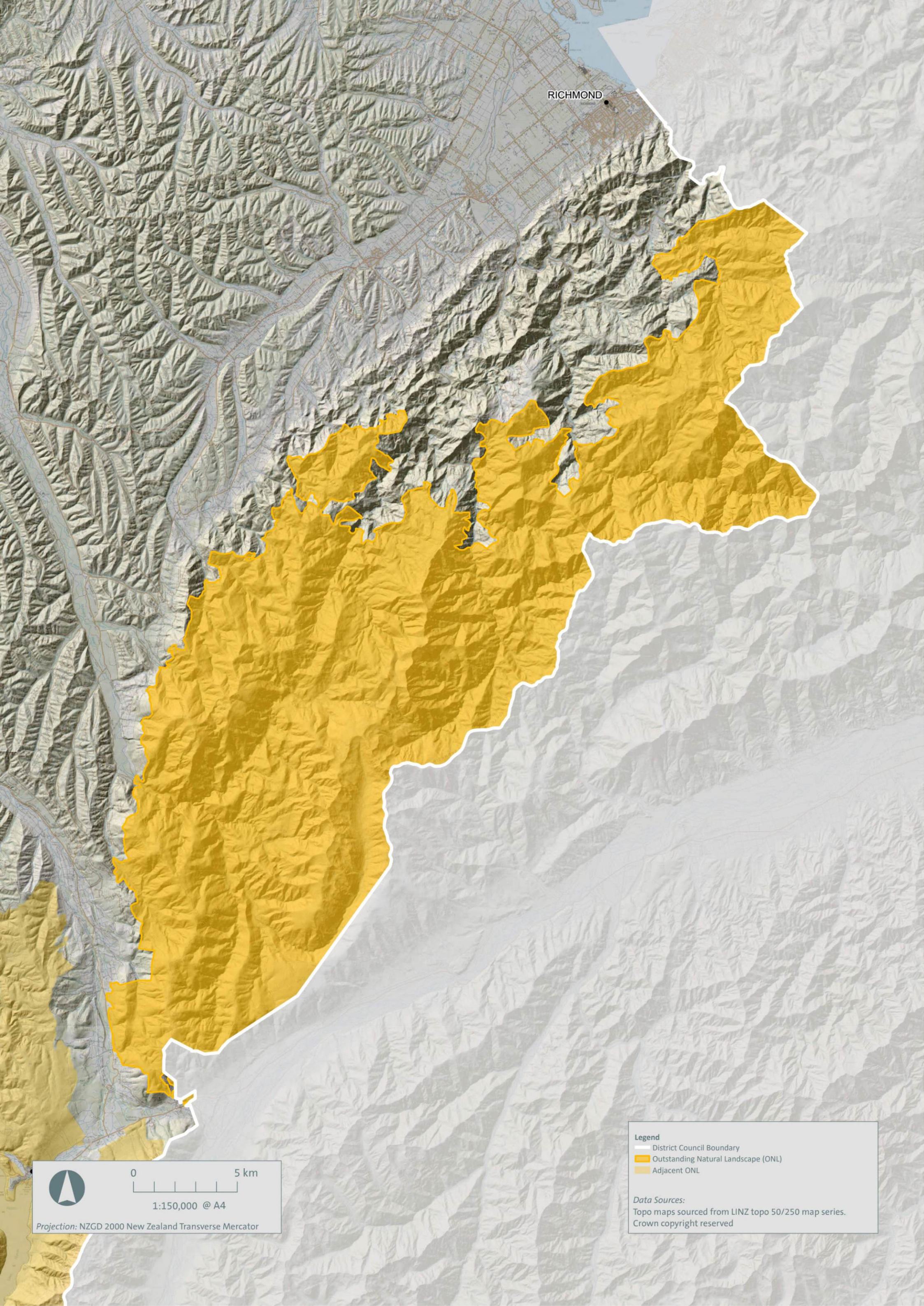
Associative Values

- a. For **cultural values**, see **Appendix H**.
- b. The **high shared and recognised values** associated with the area.
- c. The **high recreational and scenic values** associated with the forest park in the area and largely drawing from the physical, aesthetic, naturalness and memorability qualities associated with the area, together with its very strong sense of remoteness and ‘getting away from it all’.

These various highly rated attributes and values come together to firmly establish the Eastern Hills and Mountains ONL 7 area as a truly outstanding and spectacular landscape that stands apart from much of the balance of the district.



Photograph supplied by James Bentley



RICHMOND

Legend

- District Council Boundary
- Outstanding Natural Landscape (ONL)
- Adjacent ONL

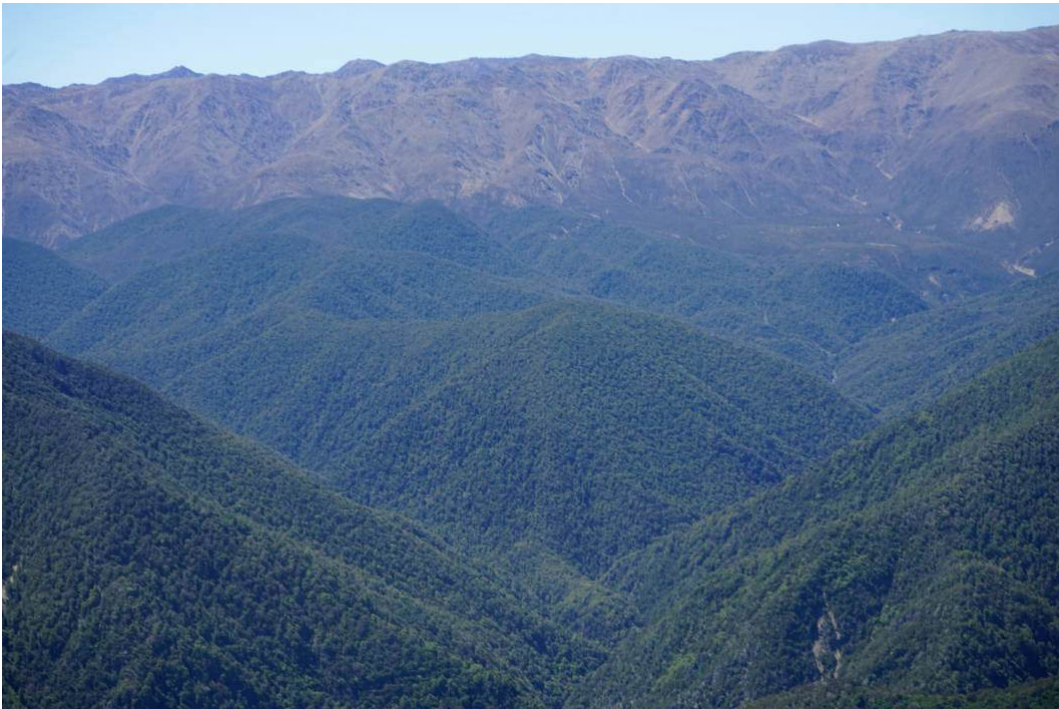
Data Sources:
Topo maps sourced from LINZ topo 50/250 map series.
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Projection: NZGD 2000 New Zealand Transverse Mercator



PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Landform • Geology • Vegetation • Ecology • Hydrology

Comprises the steep to very steep and highly legible, unmodified hill and mountain slopes southeast of the Waimea Flaxmere Fault, including the Gordon and Richmond Ranges and the Porter Ridge.

Particularly significant **landform** and **geological** features include:

- a. Red Hills ultramafic massif and Patuki Melange, corresponding to the iron rich, red tinged ultramafic rocks that give the area its name.
- b. Upper Motueka River (right branch) glaciated valley.
- c. Gordons Knob.
- d. Beebys Knob.
- e. Ben Nevis.
- f. Little Ben chromite exposure

Particularly significant **ecological** attributes include:

- a. Relatively unmodified native vegetation dominated by montane beech forest and including subalpine herbfields, shrublands and riparian vegetation.
- b. Large area of ultramafic zone vegetation supporting distinctive low-diversity communities dominated by heath species and often comprised of prostrate forms of other plants.
- c. Important habitat for: falcon and native forest birds.
- d. Small/remnant populations of whio/blue duck, kākā and kakariki.
- e. Regional distribution limit of several notable plant species, including titoki.

Particularly significant **hydrological** attributes include:

- a. The unmodified, upper reaches of the Motueka, Wairoa, Roding and Lee Rivers.
- b. Whispering Falls.



PERCEPTUAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Views to the area • Views from the area • Visual prominence / importance of the area in shaping the wider landscape character • Naturalness • Memorability • Legibility and Expressiveness • Transient values • Remoteness / wildness

Particularly significant **vistas** include:

- Highly appealing long-range views from the Tasman Bay south eastwards to the unmodified skyline patterning of (at times) snow-capped, rugged and sculpted landforms throughout Mt Richmond Forest Park.
- Highly attractive panoramic long range views from elevated and open locations within ONL 7 north and north eastwards across the breadth of the landscape and seascape of Tasman Bay.
- Stunning long range views from elevated and open locations within ONL 7 south and eastwards to the striking and bold landforms of the Wairau Valley/Raglan Range and Richmond Range (and broadly coinciding with the Alpine Fault line).

From many vantage points within the wider Tasman Bay area, layered views of the continuous patterning of bush-clad hills backdropped by the rugged alpine peaks and ranges associated with ONL 2, 6 and 7 comprise signature views that frame the bay and are critical to the identity of the wider area.

The distinctive red colouration of the Red Hills area is seen from the Wairau Valley (Marlborough District) and is extremely memorable.

The very limited level of modification evident, together with the proliferation, scale and dramatic character of the physical features, suggests a rating for naturalness at the highest end of the spectrum. Infrastructure is limited to walking/mountain bike tracks, huts, camping areas and the like. Their modest scale and generally low-key, informal character means that they fit harmoniously into the landscape. They also support the recreational values of the landscape. Existing modification also includes the ongoing management of weeds and pests throughout the ONL and pockets of production forestry.

The majority of the physical attributes listed above assist an understanding of the landscape's formative processes.

Transient values derive from: the snow-capped ridges and peaks.

A very strong sense of the remoteness, endemism, wildness and isolation due to: the very limited accessibility of the area (largely limited to walking/biking tracks); the very limited level of habitation and built development; the dominance of an overtly unmodified alpine landscape context; and the sympathetic character of development where it is evident.



ASSOCIATIVE ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Cultural values • Historic values • Shared and recognised values • Recreation and scenic values

Particularly high **cultural values** associated with:

- Archaeological and Wahi Tapu sites.
- Argillite sourced in the area used by Maori to make tools and weapons.
- For **cultural values**, see **Appendix H**.

European history includes the mining of argillite (very hard metamorphosed mudstone) and chrome in the hills to the south of Richmond and timber milling.

Very high shared and recognised values as evidenced by the descriptions of the area in tourism publications, and the popularity of Te Araroa which passes through the north eastern portion of the ONL (linking between Richmond and the Bryant Range in the Marlborough District).

Mount Richmond Forest Park is the second largest forest park in New Zealand (very roughly stretching from Nelson to Blenheim).

Popular recreational features including: the walking, tramping, mountain biking and hunting.

The ONL 7 western boundary generally corresponds to the forest park or conservation land boundaries or the 'outer' edge of large contiguous bush areas adjoining the forest park or conservation land boundary. The landscape captured by the ONL effectively corresponds to the extent of the elevated bush clad and alpine mountains that form part of the Richmond Range and serve to frame the eastern side of Tasman Bay.

The ONL 7 northern, eastern and southern boundary corresponds to the district boundary.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS AND QUALITIES OF ONL 7 TO BE PROTECTED FROM ADVERSE EFFECTS

- The physical attributes and values listed above.
- The highly attractive views of: the skyline patterning of (at times) snow-capped, rugged and sculpted landforms throughout Mt Richmond Forest Park.
- The very low-key, modest and informal built development character (including roading and infrastructure).
- A sense of remoteness and 'getting away from it all'.
- The darkness of the night sky.
- For cultural values, see **Appendix H**.

TYPES OF DEVELOPMENT THAT ARE LIKELY TO BE INAPPROPRIATE WITHIN ONL 7

- Large-scale earthworks, quarrying and mining.
- Indigenous vegetation removals.
- Production forestry.
- Large-scale infrastructure.
- Intensive farming.
- Inappropriate built development (as a consequence of its location, scale and/or design) including: buildings, roading, infrastructure, lighting, signage and recreation/tourism development.

Photographs opposite and below supplied by James Bentley





Section E

Outstanding Natural Features



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ONF 1: Aorere Gorge and Salisbury Falls

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF AREA

ONF 1: Aorere Gorge and Salisbury Falls corresponds to the bush-fringed braided section of the Aorere River, the gorge, Salisbury Falls and two large bush-lined tributaries draining from the Aorere Peneplain.

QUALIFIES AS ‘FEATURE’?

The relatively confined physical extent of Aorere Gorges and Salisbury Falls means that it qualifies as a ‘feature’ rather than as a ‘landscape’.

QUALIFIES AS ‘NATURAL’?

The generally unmodified character of the braided river, gorge, falls and tributaries means that the naturalness of the area is rated as **high**.

QUALIFIES AS ‘OUTSTANDING’?

OVERALL EVALUATION

Generally the feature qualifies in terms of outstanding-ness as a consequence of the attributes and values described in the more detailed tables that follow and which can be summarised as follows:

Physical Values

- a. The **high physical values** due to the scale and extent of the bush-fringed gorge landforms, the (largely) bush-lined section of braided river, the bush-enclosed Salisbury Falls and the bush-lined Finney Creek and Salisbury Creek.

Perceptual Values

- a. The **high naturalness values** arising from the dominance of natural landscape features, patterns and processes within the area. This is despite the informal walking track at Salisbury Falls, signage, the historic bridge and weeds/exotic vegetation in places. The enclosed vegetated character of the area plays a role in minimising the influence of the wider, modified working rural landscape on the perception of naturalness within ONF 1.
- b. The **high aesthetic and memorability values** of the area as a consequence of: the highly engaging and appealing views of the gorge, falls and braided river waterbodies and landforms set within a lush (predominantly) bush context; the impression of ONF 1 as a coherent part of the much larger bush and watercourse patterning linking between the flanking bush-clothed mountain ranges and the Upper Aorere Valley floor.

- c. The **high legibility and expressiveness values** due to the exposed nature of the landforms, the braided river and the waterfall. The visual accessibility of much of the area is of importance in this regard.
- d. The **high transient values** as a consequence of the highly dynamic qualities of the river and creek waters and the waterfall itself.

Associative Values

- a. For **cultural values**, see **Appendix H**.
- b. The **high historic values** associated with the Salisbury Bridge.
- c. The **high shared and recognised values** associated with ONF 1.
- d. The **high recreational and scenic values** associated with the Salisbury Falls and Salisbury Bridge in particular.

These various highly rated attributes and values come together to firmly establish Aorere Gorges and Salisbury Falls as an outstanding and spectacular landscape feature that stands apart from much of the balance of the district.

PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Landform • Geology • Vegetation • Ecology • Hydrology

Particularly significant **landform** and **geological** features include:

- a. Two deeply-incised (60-100m deep) sections of gorge on the Aorere River and its tributaries cut into Paleozoic rocks beneath the Aorere Peneplain.
- b. Good representative exposures of mica schist and phyllite.
- c. Geopreservation Inventory Category C (Regional Significance).
- d. Landform/Geological Feature Type: A Large Landform.

Particularly significant **ecological** attributes include:

- a. Substantial swathes of regenerating bush (although weed and exotic species evident in places).

Particularly significant **hydrological** attributes include:

- a. The braided section of the Aorere River (noting that it is the only braided river pattern in Golden Bay);
- b. The dynamic waters of river, gorge, falls and creeks (Finney and Salisbury Creeks).





01 km

1:40,000 @ A4

Projection: NZGD 2000 New Zealand Transverse Mercator

Legend

 District Council Boundary

 Outstanding Natural Feature (ONF)

 Adjacent ONF

Data Sources:

Topo maps sourced from LINZ topo 50/250 map series.
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PERCEPTUAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Views to the area • Views from the area • Visual prominence / importance of the area in shaping the wider landscape character • Naturalness • Memorability • Legibility and Expressiveness • Transient values • Remoteness / wildness

Particularly significant **vistas** include:

- a. Highly attractive close and mid-range views of the bush-fringed braided river from Aorere Valley Road and Quartz Range Road;
- b. Highly attractive close and mid-range views of the bush-lined gorge and falls from Salisbury Bridge, the Salisbury Falls picnicking area and swimming hole, and from the river itself;
- c. Attractive mid and long-range views from the upper Aorere Valley to the bush-lined tributaries draining from Kahurangi National Park, across the Aorere peneplain farm/scrub land to the Aorere River.

The picturesque and highly dynamic qualities of the braided river and gorge, falls, and bush-lined creeks make the area visually appealing, highly engaging and memorable. The vivid contrast between the enclosed character of the bush-fringed gorge, falls and braided river and the surrounding, more open, working rural landscape contributes to this appeal and memorability.

The appreciation of this patterning as a contiguous feature that is connected to the wider bush-covered mountain context as one moves around the Upper Aorere Valley adds to the area’s memorability and aesthetic appeal.

The vegetative enclosure serves to heighten the experience of the area as a ‘natural’ landscape feature, set apart from the more modified immediate pastoral context. The very limited level of modification (bridges, walking tracks and limited signage) is such that naturalness is rated as **high**.

The visually discreet nature of much of the gorge and the falls in views from outside the area amplifies their experiential impact when encountered.

The exposed nature of the gorge landforms together with the braided river and falls enables an appreciation of the landscape’s formative processes. The ease of public accessibility to parts of the area and/or their visibility serves to enhance these values.

The dynamism of the various water features contributes a highly transient quality to the area.

Within the river/stream corridors, the Aorere Gorges and the Salisbury Falls, the high degree of enclosure afforded by the vegetation cover contributes a distinct sense of peacefulness and tranquillity. The audible sounds of falling and rippling water add to this impression.

The boundaries of ONF 1: Aorere Gorge and Salisbury Falls ‘capture’ the extent of the Aorere River that coincides with the braided river section, Salisbury Falls, and the gorges together with their bush margins and the bush-lined gullies associated with Finney Creek and Salisbury Creek.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS AND QUALITIES OF ONF 1 TO BE PROTECTED FROM ADVERSE EFFECTS

- The gorge landforms.
- The section of braided river along the course of the Aorere River.
- The Salisbury Falls.
- Finney Creek and Salisbury Creek.
- The bush setting.
- The Salisbury Bridge.
- The low-key and modest built development character (including signage).
- For cultural values, see **Appendix H**.

TYPES OF DEVELOPMENT THAT ARE LIKELY TO BE INAPPROPRIATE WITHIN ONF 1

- Earthworks.
- Indigenous vegetation removals.
- Inappropriate built development (as a consequence of its location, scale and/or design), including: buildings, infrastructure, signage, lighting, roading, tourism facilities and fencing.
- Exotic vegetation.

ASSOCIATIVE ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Cultural values • Historic values • Shared and recognised values • Recreation and scenic values

Particularly high **cultural values** associated with:

For **cultural values**, see **Appendix H**.

Historic foot bridge – NZHPT Category 2 ranking.

High shared and recognised values as evidenced by the descriptions of the area in tourism publications, DoC Reserve status to parts of the area, the popularity of the area as scenic driving route enjoyed by visitors and locals alike, the popularity of Salisbury Bridge and Falls, and the findings of the Small Working Group project.

Picnic facilities and heritage interpretation signage associated with Salisbury Bridge and Falls.

Gold panning and fossicking allowed up stream of the gorges under the Crown Minerals Act.



ONF 2: Beebys Conglomerate Cretaceous Terrestrial Sequence

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF AREA

ONF 2: Beebys Conglomerate Cretaceous Terrestrial Sequence corresponds to an easily accessible road cutting exposure on Tophouse Road (approximately midway between Kikiwa and Tophouse) of Cretaceous fluvial sedimentary rocks and coal.

QUALIFIES AS ‘FEATURE’?

The relatively confined physical extent of Beebys Conglomerate Cretaceous Terrestrial Sequence means that it qualifies as a ‘feature’ rather than as a ‘landscape’.

QUALIFIES AS ‘NATURAL’?

The road cutting exposure is clearly the consequence of human modification. The exposure itself and rocks within the cutting are in a natural state and are unchanged by engineering elements and the like; and therefore is rated as **moderate - high** due to the dominance of natural elements.

QUALIFIES AS ‘OUTSTANDING’?

OVERALL EVALUATION

Generally the feature qualifies in terms of outstanding-ness as a consequence of the attributes and values described in the more detailed tables that follow and which can be summarised as follows:

Physical Values

- a. The **very high physical values** due to the legibility, intactness (acknowledging that it is in a road cutting) and rarity of the geological exposure.

Perceptual Values

- a. The **moderate-high naturalness values** arising from the unchanged character of the rock formations and fossils (acknowledging that human modification in the form of a road cutting has led to their exposure). Other modifications include wilding pines and exotic vegetation within the ONF.
- b. The **high legibility and expressiveness values** due to the exposed nature of the rocks and the appreciation of such values afforded by the public accessibility of the area.

Associative Values

- a. For **cultural values**, see **moderate - high**.
- b. The **high geoscience values** of the feature as a consequence of the regard with which it is held in by the geological community arising from its geoscience values and the accessibility of the area.

The rating of some of the feature’s values towards the higher end of the spectrum establishes Beebys Conglomerate Cretaceous Terrestrial Sequence as an outstanding and spectacular landscape feature that stands apart from much of the balance of the district. Whilst the range of landscape attributes and values that are represented in the feature is more limited than some of the other identified ONFs in the district, the rarity and accessibility of the attributes and values present favours an outstanding classification.





Projection: NZGD 2000 New Zealand Transverse Mercator

- Legend**
- District Council Boundary
 - Outstanding Natural Feature (ONF)
 - Adjacent ONF

Data Sources:
Topo maps sourced from LINZ topo 50/250 map series.
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PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Landform • Geology • Vegetation • Ecology • Hydrology

Particularly significant **landform** and **geological** features include:

- a. Road cutting containing easily accessible and best exposed example of Cretaceous fluvial sedimentation and interbedded thin coal seams in the region.

Fluvial conglomerate, sandstone, siltstone and sparse lenses of medium or high volatile bituminous coal, probably deposited in a fault angle depression environment. Conglomerate contains clasts up to 0.6 m across of sedimentary rocks and acidic to mafic igneous intrusives and volcanics derived from Brook Street Volcanics. Several beds contain fossil leaves, dominantly angiosperm. Plant fossils indicate an age no older than early Late Cretaceous (about 80 million years). Microfloras are indicative of an early Late Cretaceous age. Adjacent stream bed has fresh exposures of harder strata forming ribs in stream.

Accessible exposures of this type are rare in the District and have the potential to explain the formation of coal and the ancient paleogeography of this region.

Landform/Geological Feature Type: E Small exposures of geological material.

The boundaries of ONF 2: Beebys Conglomerate Cretaceous Terrestrial Sequence 'capture' the extent of geological exposure in the road cutting and in the adjacent riverbed only.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS AND QUALITIES OF ONF 2 TO BE PROTECTED FROM ADVERSE EFFECTS

- The exposed nature of the rock sequence and fossil features.
- For cultural values, see **Appendix H**.

TYPES OF DEVELOPMENT THAT ARE LIKELY TO BE INAPPROPRIATE WITHIN ONF 2

- Inappropriate earthworks, quarrying and/or mining.
- Any built development including: expanded accessways, retaining structures, engineered faces, signage, lighting, fencing and buildings.
- Exotic vegetation.
- Hydroseeding of the road cutting.

PERCEPTUAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Views to the area • Views from the area • Visual prominence / importance of the area in shaping the wider landscape character • Naturalness • Memorability • Legibility and Expressiveness • Transient values • Remoteness / wildness

The exposed nature of the rocks enables an appreciation of the landscape's formative processes. The ease of public accessibility of the area serves to enhance these values.

ASSOCIATIVE ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Cultural values • Historic values • Shared and recognised values • Recreation and scenic values

For **cultural values**, see **Appendix H**.

Highly valued by the geological community. The accessibility of the feature enhances these values.

ONF 3: Awaruatohu/Big River

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF AREA

ONF 3: Awaruatohu/Big River corresponds to a small estuary in the north-western coastline of Golden Bay.

QUALIFIES AS ‘FEATURE’?

The relatively confined physical extent of Awaruatohu/Big River means that it qualifies as a ‘feature’ rather than as a ‘landscape’.

QUALIFIES AS ‘NATURAL’?

The unmodified character of estuary and very low level of human impact means that the naturalness of the area is rated **very high**.

QUALIFIES AS ‘OUTSTANDING’?

OVERALL EVALUATION

Generally the feature qualifies in terms of outstanding-ness as a consequence of the attributes and values described in the more detailed tables that follow and which can be summarised as follows:

Physical Values

- a. The **very high physical values** due to the intactness of the estuary and bush context and the rarity of such a feature in New Zealand.

Perceptual Values

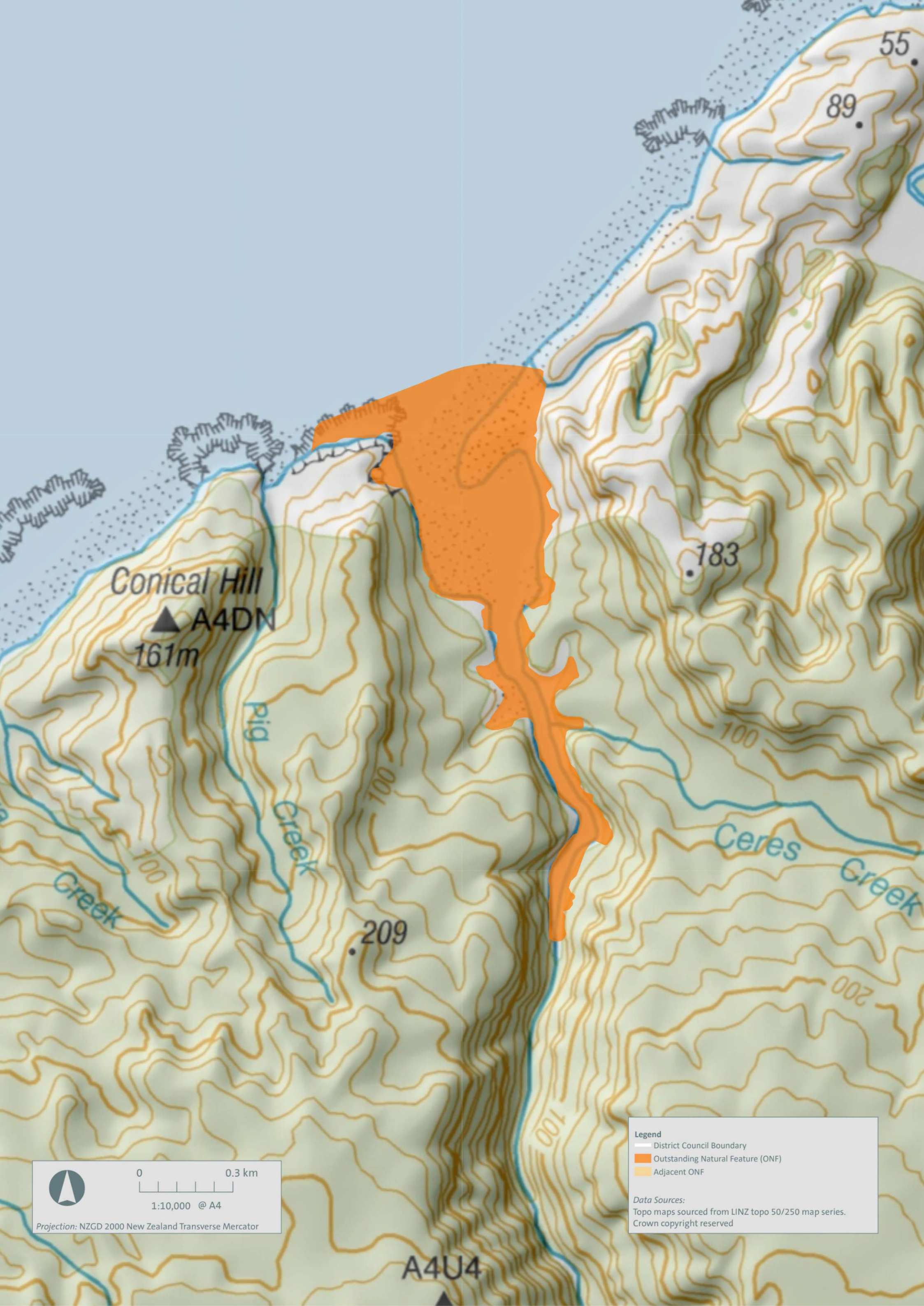
- a. The **very high naturalness values** as a consequence of the unmodified character of the estuary, barrier spit landform, estuarine communities and native forest context, and the very low level of human impact associated with the area more generally.
- b. The **very high aesthetic and memorability values** of the area as a consequence of: the highly engaging and appealing views of a seemingly ‘pristine’ estuary set within bush along the wild west coast; and the extreme sense of remoteness, wildness and isolation associated with the area.
- c. The **very high legibility and expressiveness values** due to the understanding of the landscape’s formative processes that this intact landscape feature enables.
- d. The **high transient values** as a consequence of the highly dynamic qualities of the estuary and seascape.

Associative Values

- a. For **cultural values**, see **Appendix H**.
- b. The **high shared and recognised values** associated with ONF 3.

These various highly rated attributes and values come together to firmly establish Awaruatohu/Big River as an outstanding and spectacular landscape feature that stands apart from much of the balance of the district.





Conical Hill



A4DN

161m

Pig

Creek

Ceres

Creek

209

183

89

55

Creek

A4U4



0 0.3 km

1:10,000 @ A4

Projection: NZGD 2000 New Zealand Transverse Mercator

Legend

- District Council Boundary
- Outstanding Natural Feature (ONF)
- Adjacent ONF

Data Sources:

Topo maps sourced from LINZ topo 50/250 map series.
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PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Landform • Geology • Vegetation • Ecology • Hydrology

Particularly significant **landform** and **geological** features include:

- a. An excellent example of a small river mouth estuary with a fully forested catchment and essentially natural unmodified estuary.
- b. Intact estuaries surrounded by native forest are uncommon in New Zealand.
- c. A 2 km-long linear estuary at the mouth of Big river which flows out of a fully forested catchment. The banks of the estuary are mostly forested. The mouth of the estuary has a small sand spit built halfway across from the north side. The lower part of the estuary is moderately wide – part tidal sand flat and part submerged. Higher up there are short branches that are estuarine and flooded at high tide. Includes a buffer zone around the estuary above high tide as this defines the shape of the feature.
- d. Landform/Geological Feature Type: B Small Landform.

Particularly significant **ecological** attributes include:

- a. Substantial swathes of unmodified bush (northern rātā and hard beech) and estuarine vegetation communities;
- b. Rare variable oystercatcher and white tern habitat.

Particularly significant **hydrological** attributes include:

- a. Highly tidal estuarine waters and seascape.

PERCEPTUAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Views to the area • Views from the area • Visual prominence / importance of the area in shaping the wider landscape character • Naturalness • Memorability • Legibility and Expressiveness • Transient values • Remoteness / wildness

Particularly significant **vistas** include:

- a. Highly attractive close, mid-range and long-range views of a seemingly 'pristine' estuary set within bush along the wild west coast.

The inaccessibility of the area means that this outlook is not experienced by many; however, as a consequence, the area affords a very high sense of remoteness, isolation and wildness.

The virtually unmodified character of the estuary and its inaccessibility result in a **very high** degree of naturalness.

The picturesque, strongly endemic, distinctly 'natural' and highly dynamic qualities of the estuary, bush and coastal setting make the area highly memorable.

The exposed landforms and hydrological patterning clearly illustrate how the estuary was formed by the drowning of the lower reaches of the river valley by sea level rise some 7,000 - 8,000 years ago.

The dynamism of the estuary itself and wider coastal context contributes a highly transient quality to the area.

ASSOCIATIVE ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Cultural values • Historic values • Shared and recognised values • Recreation and scenic values

For **cultural values**, see **Appendix H**.

Poutini Trail

High shared and recognised values as evidenced by the findings of the Small Working Group project.

The extent of ONF 3: Awaruatohu/Big River generally corresponds to the bush edge framing the inlet edges and includes the coastal flats and dunes flanking the waterbody and river mouth.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS AND QUALITIES OF ONF 3 TO BE PROTECTED FROM ADVERSE EFFECTS

- The sand barrier.
- The inlet and river mouth.
- The bush setting.
- The estuarine plant communities.
- The absence of built development, vehicular or formed walking access.
- The sense of remoteness and wildness.
- The darkness of the night sky.
- For cultural values, see **Appendix H**.

TYPES OF DEVELOPMENT THAT ARE LIKELY TO BE INAPPROPRIATE WITHIN ONF 3

- Earthworks, quarrying and/or mining.
- Indigenous vegetation removals.
- Inappropriate built development (as a consequence of its location, scale and/or design), including: roading, infrastructure, walking tracks, buildings, signage, lighting, tourism facilities and fencing.
- Exotic vegetation, including production forestry.
- Intensive pastoral farming.

ONF 4: Cobb Valley Magnesite and Karst

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF AREA

ONF 4: Cobb Valley Magnesite and Karst corresponds to an old quarry on the Cobb Valley (Golden Bay) that contains nationally important geological and fossil features.

QUALIFIES AS ‘FEATURE’?

The relatively confined physical extent of the Cobb Valley Magnesite and Karst area means that it qualifies as a ‘feature’ rather than as a ‘landscape’.

QUALIFIES AS ‘NATURAL’?

The area was a quarry and therefore suggests a high degree of modification. However, it is this modification to the landform that has enabled the feature’s legibility. Today the generally unmodified character of the quarry landform and vegetation (excepting access road) means that the naturalness of the area is rated as **moderate-high**.

QUALIFIES AS ‘OUTSTANDING’?

OVERALL EVALUATION

Generally the feature qualifies in terms of outstanding-ness as a consequence of the attributes and values described in the more detailed tables that follow and which can be summarised as follows:

Physical Values

- a. The **very high physical values** due to the rarity and national importance of the geological and fossil features associated with the area.

Perceptual Values

- a. The **moderate-high naturalness values** arising from the unchanged character of the quarry landform and vegetation (acknowledging that human modification in the form of quarrying has led to the exposure of the feature).
- b. The **high legibility and expressiveness values** due to the exposed nature of the landforms and fossil features.

Associative Values

- a. For **cultural values**, see **Appendix H**.
- b. The **moderate-high geoscience values** of the feature as a consequence of the regard with which it is held in by the geological community arising from its geoscience values and the accessibility of the area.

The rating of the feature’s physical, expressiveness and legibility values towards the higher end of the spectrum establishes the Cobb Valley Magnesite and Karst area as an outstanding and spectacular landscape feature that stands apart from much of the balance of the district. Whilst the range of landscape attributes and values that are represented in the feature is more limited than many of the other identified ONFs in the district, the rarity and national importance of the attributes and values present favours an outstanding classification.

PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Landform • Geology • Vegetation • Ecology • Hydrology

Particularly significant **landform** and **geological** features include:

- a. Karst features including: clint and gryke structures, caverns, surface sculpturing and solution/precipitation deposits, all in an unusual magnesium carbonate style.
- b. The magnesite quarry contains caves and rock shelters with an important subfossil bone site with a variety of birds, including moa, kakapo, wrens etc.; also bats and other animals. DNA from bones (owlet nightjar, moa) at the site has been described in several international scientific papers, although much remains to be studied. Some of New Zealand’s youngest moa bones have been found in caves in the old quarry, along with the only owlet nightjar bones with mummified tissue.
- c. Largest and most easily accessible example of talc-magnesite-quartz mineralisation in New Zealand.
- d. Only known example of magnesite karst and caves in New Zealand, noting that magnesite deposits are rare in New Zealand.
- e. Geopreservation Inventory Category: B (National Significance).
- f. Landform/Geological Feature Type: B Small Landform.

Particularly significant **ecological** attributes include:

- a. Regenerating bush context

PERCEPTUAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Views to the area • Views from the area • Visual prominence / importance of the area in shaping the wider landscape character • Naturalness • Memorability • Legibility and Expressiveness • Transient values • Remoteness / wildness

The area was a quarry and therefore suggests a high degree of modification. However, it is this modification to the landform that has enabled the feature’s legibility. Today the generally unmodified character of the quarry landform and vegetation (excepting access road) means that the naturalness of the area is rated as **moderate-high**.

The exposed nature of the landforms enables an appreciation of the landscape’s formative processes that is rare in New Zealand.

ASSOCIATIVE ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Cultural values • Historic values • Shared and recognised values • Recreation and scenic values

For **cultural values**, see **Appendix H**.

The moderate-high geoscience values of the feature as a consequence of the regard with which it is held in by the geological community arising from its geoscience values and the accessibility of the area.



Cobb River

Quarry

Airstrip

1104

Quarry

Cobb Dam

COBB

800

1200

800

1000

1000

1000

1000

914

Galena Creek

Creek



0

0.3 km

1:10,000 @ A4

Projection: NZGD 2000 New Zealand Transverse Mercator

Legend

- District Council Boundary
- Outstanding Natural Feature (ONF)
- Adjacent ONF

Data Sources:
Topo maps sourced from LINZ topo 50/250 map series.
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The boundaries of ONF 4: Cobb Valley Magnesite and Karst 'capture' the extent of the quarry and cave landforms where the talc-magnesite and fossil features are evident.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS AND QUALITIES OF ONF 4
TO BE PROTECTED FROM ADVERSE EFFECTS

- The magnesite karst and cave landforms.
- The fossil features.
- The regenerating bush setting.
- For cultural values, see **Appendix H**.

TYPES OF DEVELOPMENT THAT ARE LIKELY TO BE
INAPPROPRIATE WITHIN ONF 4

- Earthworks, quarrying and/or mining.
- Indigenous vegetation removals.
- Inappropriate built development (as a consequence of its location, scale and/or design), including: buildings, infrastructure, signage, lighting, roading, tourism facilities and fencing.
- Exotic vegetation, including production forestry.
- Large-scale infrastructure.



ONF 5: Devils Boots

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF AREA

ONF 5: Devils Boots relates to the two unusually shaped limestone pinnacles on either side of Devil’s Boots Road in the lower Aorere Valley.

QUALIFIES AS ‘FEATURE’?

The relatively confined physical extent of the Devils Boots limestone outcrop means that it qualifies as a ‘feature’ rather than as a ‘landscape’.

QUALIFIES AS ‘NATURAL’?

Whilst modification is evident around each outcrop (including the metal road that literally passes between the two pinnacles), the landforms themselves are relatively unmodified. The regenerating native bush that flanks each pinnacle and very close proximity of the Aorere River reinforces the naturalness and contrasts markedly with the wider pastoral landscape context.

Moderate-high rating for naturalness.

QUALIFIES AS ‘OUTSTANDING’?

OVERALL EVALUATION

Generally the feature qualifies in terms of outstanding-ness as a consequence of the attributes and values described in the more detailed tables that follow and which can be summarised as follows:

Physical Values

- a. The **high physical values** due to the rarity and uniqueness of the karst landforms.

Perceptual Values

- a. The **moderate-high naturalness values** associated with the feature despite its modified working rural landscape context. The immediate regenerating bush and Aorere River context of the Devil’s Boots contributes to the impression of naturalness.
- b. The **high aesthetic and memorability values** of the feature as a consequence of the distinctive visual appearance of the limestone outcrops and their attractive appearance seen flanked by regenerating bush and within a river context.
- c. The **high legibility and expressiveness values** due to the exposed nature of the landforms and the appreciation of such values afforded by the public accessibility of the area.

Associative Values

- a. For **cultural values**, see **Appendix H**.
- b. The **moderate-high recreational and scenic values** due to the accessibility and popularity of the Devil’s Boots as a tourist attraction.

These various highly rated attributes and values come together to establish the Devil’s Boots as an outstanding and spectacular landscape feature that stands apart from much of the balance of the district. Whilst the range of landscape attributes and values that are represented in the feature is more limited than some of the other identified ONFs in the district, the rarity and accessibility of the attributes and values present favours an outstanding classification.

PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Landform • Geology • Vegetation • Ecology • Hydrology

Particularly significant **landform** and **geological** features include:

- a. Two of a number of Oligocene limestone pinnacles and knobs adjacent to Aorere River. They are probably remnants from a former cave system.
- b. The karst formations have a Category C listing (regional significance) on the Geopreservation Inventory and are described as: “Two spectacular limestone pinnacles with long overhangs resembling the boots of someone head down in the ground”.
- c. The two pinnacles still retain their natural shape and the scale of their overhangs is rare in New Zealand.

Landform/Geological Feature Type: B - small landform

Particularly significant **ecological** attributes include:

- a. Regenerating bush context. Very close proximity to the Aorere River.

PERCEPTUAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Views to the area • Views from the area • Visual prominence / importance of the area in shaping the wider landscape character • Naturalness • Memorability • Legibility and Expressiveness • Transient values • Remoteness / wildness

Particularly significant **vistas** include:

- a. Engaging close and mid-range views of the distinctive boot shaped limestone outcrops flanked by regenerating bush and viewed within the Aorere River context from Devil’s Boots Road.

The intactness of the outcrops themselves and the regenerating bush/ river context suggest a rating towards the higher end of the spectrum with respect to naturalness. However, a degree of modification is evident at the Devil’s Boots and includes: the metal road that passes between the two limestone outcrops, and the wider working rural landscape context. Further, vegetation in and around the Devil’s Boots comprises regenerating bush signalling the historic clearance of the area. This modified context has an influence of the character of the Devil’s Boots such that naturalness is rated as **moderate-high**.

The regenerating bush setting is of importance in limiting the influence of the wider, more working rural landscape context on the character of the rock outcrops.

The quite distinct and recognisable visual appearance of the outcrops as boots makes them highly memorable.

The exposed nature of the landforms enables an appreciation of the landscape’s formative processes. The ease of public accessibility/visibility of the area serves to enhance these values.

ASSOCIATIVE ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES

Cultural values • Historic values • Shared and recognised values • Recreation and scenic values

For **cultural values**, see **Appendix H**.

Easily accessible and popular tourist attraction.



0 0.3 km

1:10,000 @ A4

Projection: NZGD 2000 New Zealand Transverse Mercator

- Legend**
- District Council Boundary
 - Outstanding Natural Feature (ONF)
 - Adjacent ONF

Data Sources:
Topo maps sourced from LINZ topo 50/250 map series.
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The boundaries of ONF 5: Devils Boots corresponds to the footprint of the limestone outcrops and their immediate bush margins.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS AND QUALITIES OF ONF 5 TO BE PROTECTED FROM ADVERSE EFFECTS

- The limestone pinnacles.
- The immediate regenerating bush setting.
- The immediate Aorere River setting.
- The low-key and modest built development character (including signage and the metal road).
- For cultural values, see **Appendix H**.

TYPES OF DEVELOPMENT THAT ARE LIKELY TO BE INAPPROPRIATE WITHIN ONF 5

- Earthworks and/or quarrying.
- Indigenous vegetation removals.
- Modification to the river in the immediate vicinity.
- Inappropriate built development (as a consequence of its location, scale and/or design), including: buildings, infrastructure, signage, lighting, roading, tourism facilities and fencing.
- Exotic vegetation.



