Schedule 5 — Special Amenity Landscapes

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.

SAL12	Waitawa-Waiorongomai Dune Lakes The sequence of lakes, wetlands and lagoons in the parabolic dunelands north of Ōtaki, including Lake Waitawa, Kopureherehere and Waiorongomai.	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BN33	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (mh)	The area consists of a largely intact sequence of fore and inland parabolic dunes abutting marine sandstone. Hydrological patterns, although modified through extensive drainage channels, are extensive. These features facilitate intact links between the mountains and the sea and include lakes, lagoons (lakelets) and wetland areas that are part of a much broader sequence up to the Ohau River. The group are the largest lakes in the District. Lakes Waitawa and Kopureherehere are formed at the edge of the duneland, and expose marine sandstones. <i>Indigenous vegetation</i> remnants feature—a range of successional stages of swampland form rushland through to mature kahikatea swamp forest and tawa-kohekohe (minus logged podocarps) that would have been characteristic of the oldest dune phases. Mature titoki and karaka may be representative of deliberate plantings by Māori as orchard specimens. The area also provides a home for fresh water fish, birds, and wetland plant species such as kapungawha, spotless crake and kereru.
	Research and education (mh)	The site is expressive of dune formation (Foxton and Waitarere Motuiti series), marine deposition and alluvial processes. Diverse habitats are represented in varying water bodies and forest remnants representative of foreshore to inland dune sequences and sedimentary substrates.
	Rarity (mh)	These are the most extensive network of lakes in the District with wetland habitats that are under represented nationally.

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		Coastal forests have been largely cleared throughout the District in other areas, and the tawa forest remnants in this landscape are uncommon in the Foxton ecological District. In contrast to other more populated areas, the dune landforms are largely intact.
	Ecosystem functioning (mh)	Although modified and degraded, the hydrological patterns and bush remnants form important links between the mountains and the sea. Dune lake, swamp forest and dry forest are represented on-site. The area provides habitat for forest birds in winter months, as well as freshwater fish species.
Perceptual	Coherence (mh)	Extensive sequence of dunes and lakes with associated wetland areas that extend well beyond the Kapiti Coast District. Landforms largely unmodified with remnant vegetation reinforcing diversity of habitat and hydrological patterns.
	Memorability (mh)	Associated with the sequence of lakes, the undulating topography, mature titoki and karaka trees (associated with Māori occupation), tawa-kohekohe forest uncommon in duneland and visual/ perceptual links to the coast.
	Aesthetic paradigm (mh)	The site has picturesque qualities with views confined by dune landforms that feature lakes and pockets of bush.
	Naturalness (mh)	Associated with a moderate degree of natural character. The natural patterns of landform, landcover and hydrology are clearly identifiable, although modified and degraded. Existing pattern of public roads and lower density settlement increase the sense of wilderness, with foreshore areas some of the most remote in the District.
	Expressiveness / legibility (mh)	The lake sequence is expressive of tectonic uplift and down thrusting, marine sedimentary and dune land formation processes with resultant hydrological patterns. The lakes form an important landmark and a unique edge/northern boundary to the District.
	Transient values (m)	The lakes are associated with migratory patterns of bird and fish species.
Associative	Shared or recognised values (mh)	Features that are recognised in the District Plan include: heritage ecosites such as Pylon Swamp, Simcox Swamp, Lake Kopureherehere, Lake Waitawa, Waimanguru Lagoon, Ropopotakatataka Lake, Ngatotora Lagoon and Lake Waiorongomai -recognised as nationally under-represented habitats (adversely
		affected by grazing), as well as important habitat for threatened bird and plant species. Ngatotora Lagoon, Lake Huritini and Lake Waiorongomai are protected by QE II covenant and as Doc RAP sites. The majority of wetland, lake and foreshore areas are recognised by Department of Conservation as threatened environments. Island pa site, at Waitawa, is recognised by NZ Archaeological Association. Forest Lakes Camp and Conference centre was established in the 1970s, and is regularly used by church and school groups, for water

		based outdoor education and as an alternative site for national water ski event site (usually held at Lake Inspiration). It is also used by the local community for waka ama training, day walks and as a picnic site.
	Values to tangata whenua (mh)	The island pa site at Waitawa Lake and temporary food gathering sites, with shell middens located in the fore dunes. The network of lakes, lagoons and wetland areas, with Māori names, indicate established associations. Established karaka groves suggest deliberate cultivation as an 'orchard' species.
	Historical associations (mh)	The area was once an important flax milling area (several mill sites are located on the Waikawa Stream). It was also a site of early European settlement and productive land use (Simcox Swamp). Forest Lakes has also been used as a school camp site over several generations.
Potential threats		Indigenous vegetation removal, earthworks (sensitive landforms), water catchment management, changes to hydrology patterns, stock management, [residential] development typologies, location, height, scale etc; dune and lake areas, pest populations.

SAL13	Northern Beaches	
	Beach and public foredune areas north of Waikanae Beach settlement including, the Pharazyn Reserve the Mangaone Stream mouth (the Waiorongomai Dunes, Waitohu Stream Mouth, Ōtaki River Mouth and Kowhai Stream Mouth/Te Hapua Dunes have been assessed separately)	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BN32 8	& BN33
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (mh)	Beach and foredune areas are expressive of the coastal processes influencing the northern coastline of the District, beyond the sheltering effects of Kapiti Island. Landforms are also modified by alluvial processes, particularly from the Ohau River (outside the District) and the Ōtaki River. Foredunes and beach areas of the Northern Beaches are typically less modified than in the Southern Beach areas and feature an advancing shoreline.
	Research and education (mh)	Related to coastal and alluvial processes and colonising indigenous flora and coastal bird and fish species.
	Rarity (mh)	Processes contrast markedly with those of the Southern Beaches and are largely unaffected by erosion control measures as they feature an advancing shoreline. Foredunes feature greater areas of colonising indigenous plants than in the Southern Beaches due to lack of modification and reduced vehicle/public access.
	Ecosystem functioning (mh)	The <i>beach</i> es have areas of colonising indigenous plant species, such as spinifex and pohuehue on the foredunes, although

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		these are threatened by exotic weed species and vehicle/pedestrian access near road ends, stream mouths and areas of settlement. Beach areas support important wildlife habitat, with minimal vehicle traffic disturbance (particularly north of the Waitohu Stream), that includes feeding and roosting sites for sea and wading bird species and shell fish beds such as tua tua. Minor fish spawning habitat at the Mangaone Stream Mouth is affected by runoff.
Perceptual	Coherence (h)	The northern beaches extend over approximately 20km in a gentle arc, from the edge of Waikanae Beach through to the District's northern boundary; as can be seen on a clear day. Patterns of landform on the beach areas are clearly expressive of coastal processes, with marked variations relating to the effects of river and stream mouths. Similarly, patterns of landform in the foredunes mark the diminishing effects of Kapiti Island on coastal processes and the localised effects of river and stream outflow. Vegetation patterns are fairly consistent mix of colonising exotic and indigenous species. A relatively uniform backdrop of pastoral landuse and clustered settlement, also contributes to the sense of order and pattern.
	Memorability (h)	A highly memorable landscape due to the scale of the uninterrupted <i>beach</i> , the dynamic qualities of the <i>coastal environment</i> and the views the area affords of important landmarks such as Kapiti Island and the inland ranges.
	Aesthetic paradigm (h)	The picturesque qualities relate to sequence of views afforded through this landscape that are framed by the foredunes and vary as a result of the <i>effects</i> of changing weather conditions and aspect. For example, the views of Kapiti from the Pharazyn Reserve are at relatively close range and of the eastern coast of the Island where as at Waitohu Stream mouth the views are of the northern cliffs of the Island viewed at a distance.
	Naturalness (h)	The beach areas in this landscape can be associated with a high or moderate to high degree of <i>natural character</i> where land formation are largely unmodified and vehicle disturbance is minimal. Foredune areas can be associated with a moderate and moderate to high degree of <i>natural character</i> values, depending on the extent of vehicle access, dominance of exotic weed species and the extent of adjacent development and whether or not this can be viewed from the landscape.
	Expressiveness / legibility (h)	This landscape is expressive of <i>coastal processes</i> , a distinct edge and navigable path, along the edge of the District and an obvious source of the inland dunes.
	Transient values (h)	Transient characteristics are an important part of this landscape, and relate to daily/seasonal weather conditions and seasonal patterns of exotic and indigenous fauna.
Associative	Shared or recognised values (h)	Foredunes areas are recognised as part of the District Open Space Zone, along much of the Northern Beach landscape that is south of the Ōtaki River Mouth. Bylaws provide for vehicle and horse riding access along the <i>beach</i> , excluding the Mangaone

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		Stream Mouth. The Mangaone Stream mouth is a valued whitebait fishery. Use of the foredunes is associated with a range of <i>beach</i> activities, including swimming, walking, fishing, shell fish gathering and seasonal events. Ōtaki Beach Surf Club activities span more than 50 years, and are celebrated nationally. Esplanade area around the club is also valued for public amenities; boat ramp, changing rooms etc. Peka Peka, Te Horo and Ōtaki Beach and fore dune areas are valued as popular holiday locations over summer.
	Values to tangata whenua (h)	Associated with coastal pa sites and important food gathering areas and transportation routes. These are supported by midden and oven archaeological records beyond the foredunes (particularly at Ngārara and Te Hapua).
	Historical associations (h)	The Northern Beaches formed part of the Old Coach Road, that extended through the District prior to the construction of the inland transportation routes. Historical associations are also linked with the traditions of both local resident and visitor beach activities, which include valued whitebaiting and fishing spots and holiday season events, including surf life saving competitions and holiday park events.
Potential threats		Pest/weed populations, water catchment management/fresh water values, <i>indigenous vegetation</i> removal, <i>earthworks</i> , vehicle/pedestrian access levels/alignment, coastal hazard management strategies, [residential] edge development typologies, location, <i>height</i> etc. including <i>effects</i> on existing rural backdrop.

SAL14	Waitohu Stream Mouth		
	Waitohu Stream mou	uth and adjacent dunes north of Ōtaki Beach settlement	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BN33	NZ Topo Map BN33	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description	
Physical	Representativeness (mh)	The landscape is composed of relatively unmodified coastal dunes with an older series preserved and supports colonising indigenous flora (threatened by exotic weeds). Hydrological patterns at the stream mouth are largely unmodified, with topographic features dominated by natural processes including minor estuarine areas, ephemeral salt lagoons and a ranging outlet.	
	Research and education (mh)	A distinct dune formation sequence is represented, from advancing foredune, through to more consolidated inland dunes that support a progression of habitats.	
	Rarity (mh)	The dune sequence is largely unmodified and has limited vehicle access, contrasting markedly with significant development along much of the District's coast. This landscape supports one of the few estuarine habitats in the District and a rare sand daphne species is present.	

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	Ecosystem functioning (mh)	Younger dunes support colonising species such as spinifex, clubrush and convolvulus, with dry dune shrub species on the older dunes to the north of the stream such as pohuehue, toetoe, coprosma and tuapata, enhanced by community groups. Provides feeding and roosting area for seabirds and waders such as spur-winged plover and banded dotterel. Although fresh water values are degraded by runoff and adjacent landuse, the stream provides habitat for uncommon lowland fish species, that range between fresh and saltwater including eel, common smelt and bully; Gobiomorphus sp.
Perceptual	Coherence (h)	The stream mouth is part of the sequence of waterways that mark the coast throughout the District. The northern dunes part of the Waiorongomai sequence, that extends through to the northern boundary and are expressive of distinct dune formation sequence, with <i>indigenous vegetation</i> patterns responding to varying exposure to coastal conditions and soil formation.
	Memorability (h)	The landscape is memorable due to the presence of water, fauna, coastal influences and expansive views that include the landmark features of Kapiti Island and prominent peaks of the Tararua ranges.
	Aesthetic paradigm (h)	The picturesque qualities relate to the sequence of confined views, including pockets of 'wilderness' within the dunes and the more expansive scenes along the coast and out to the northern coast of Kapiti Island.
	Naturalness (h)	A moderate to high degree of <i>natural character</i> is associated with the relatively unmodified landforms and hydrological patterns, regenerating dune vegetation and fauna. Perceptions of <i>natural character</i> are enhanced by the areas location; rural backdrop, contrast with adjacent areas of settlement and limited public/ vehicular access.
	Expressiveness/ legibility (h)	The are is expressive of alluvial and <i>coastal processes</i> , and forms a distinct landmark along the District's northern beaches and gateway to the more remote areas of the coast, that extend from Ōtaki Beach through to Waikawa Beach.
	Transient values (mh)	Transient characteristics area an important part of this landscape, and are reflected by the alluvial processes, flood events and the seasonal habitat range of sea birds, waders and fish species.
Associative	Shared or recognised values (mh)	The southern banks of the stream are predominately zoned Open Space with links to the Ōtaki Beach esplanade areas. Other features recognised in the District Plan include the 33 ha Waitohu River Mouth ecosite that is of regional significance and is supported by Greater Wellington's Waitohu Stream Care Community Group. Tracks off the end of Moana Road and the Marine Parade provide access to the more remote northern beaches. The area is a valued whitebait fishery and part of the Ōtaki River flood plain management plan.
	Values to tangata	Pa sites in the vicinity would have used the area as a food

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	whenua (m)	gathering site, and there are continued links to the whitebait fishery.
	Historical associations (lm)	The stream was a transportation node along the Old Coach Road that ran along the beach, with the inland connection to the ferry across the Ōtaki River terminating at the Waitohu Stream mouth.
Potential threats		Water catchment management/fresh water values, indigenous vegetation removal, flood hazard and management effects on indigenous vegetation and natural alluvial processes/hydrological patterns, [residential] edge development typologies, location, density height etc. including effects on existing rural backdrop.

SAL15	Pukehou	
	Prominent outlier of the Tararuas on the northern edge of the District.	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BN33	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (lm)	A distinct outlier of the Tararua Ranges cut off by the Waitohu Stream on the edge of the Nikau belt ecodomain. Typical escarpment profile with steeper westerly face, marked ridgeline and gentler incline to the east (outside of the District).
	Research and education (lm)	Colluvial processes acting on westerly slopes, alluvial processes acting on easterly slopes forming narrow valleys.
	Rarity (Im)	A distinct outlier (in a sequence continued to the north in Horowhenua; Poroporo and Otarere).
	Ecosystem functioning (Im)	The headwaters of the Waiauti Stream. The landcover is primarily exotic pasture/plantation forestry.
Perceptual	Coherence (mh)	Pukehou is part of a sequence of escarpments that define the District (Paekākāriki, Mataihuka, Otaihanga, Matenga). Existing landcover of exotic forestry emphasises the ridgeline and uniform westerly face of the landform.
	Memorability (mh)	It is a memorable feature due to its prominence alongside SH1 and the public rest-stop known as the 'Hill of Dedication', and the well known Muaupoko legend of Ihaia.
	Aesthetic paradigm (mh)	Picturesque qualities are afforded where this landform features in the mid ground of expansive views towards the Tararua Ranges from lookout points around Ōtaki (e.g. Pukekaraka) and along SH1 in the northern half of the District.
	Naturalness (mh)	A low to moderate degree of <i>natural character</i> is associated with the distinct landform.
	Expressiveness / legibility (mh)	The landform is expressive of tectonic uplift and resultant hydrological patterns. It forms a distinct landmark at the northern edge of the District.

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	Transient values (I)	Associated with forest management and harvesting.
Associative	Shared or recognised values (mh)	Features that are recognised in the District Plan: Pukehou bush ecosite is recognised as a Department of Conservation threatened environment. The 'Hill of Dedication' is also marked by a public rest stop along SH1.
	Values to tangata whenua (h)	The hill is known as "Ihaia's Leap" or, as the name suggests "The Hill of Dedication". It was so named by Te Harakeke in honour of his son who made his legendary leap off Pukehou to avoid capture by Ngāti Raukawa.
	Historical associations (mh)	An important landmark and the subject of a well known legend.
Potential threats		Earthworks, harvest/forestry management, ridgeline [residential] development typologies, location, height, density etc.

SAL16	Rangiatea and Puk	ekaraka
	The sequence of historic buildings, marae and memorials set the inland dunes of Te Rauparaha and Convent Road.	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BN33	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (lm)	The landforms are expressive of the older inland dune sequence.
	Research and education (lm)	These features form part of a wider sequence of dune landforms.
	Rarity (Im)	The dune landforms are largely unmodified and within an urban context.
	Ecosystem functioning (lm)	The ecosystem functionality is degraded; the hydrological patterns are highly modified and <i>indigenous vegetation</i> patterns are limited to minor restoration of wetland areas adjacent to the Rangiatea site. Tributary of the Waitohu stream piped under the Pukekaraka site.
Perceptual	Coherence (mh)	The configuration of the built elements is responsive to underlying landform. The main buildings are clustered at the base of the dune and the topography is reinforced by a sequence of commemorative features and paths aligned with natural contours.
	Memorability (mh)	The landscapes are highly memorable, due to the sequence of historic buildings, marae, schools, cemetery, memorial and mature exotic <i>trees</i> associated with each site. The way that the features are configured around the dune landforms and the visual links that exist between the two sites also contribute to its memorability. The street names (Te Rauparaha, Convent) reinforce the areas cultural significance.

	Aesthetic paradigm (mh)	Rangiatea and Pukekaraka have strong picturesque qualities with views featuring distinct planes of foreground, middle ground and background. A sequence of views is established from the street edge through to the lookout points on each site.
	Naturalness (mh)	The area has low to moderate degree of natural character, associated with the unmodified dune landforms, lawn areas, mature exotic <i>trees</i> , location on the edge of urban areas and rural outlook.
	Expressiveness / legibility (h)	The area is expressive of dune formation processes. It is an important cultural heritage node, or focal point within the District, with high points on each site providing expansive views out to the coast and the northern end of Kapiti Island and across the plains to the ranges and a sequence of peaks, including Mitre and Mt Crawford.
	Transient values (I)	The area has limited transient values.
Associative	Shared or recognised values (h)	The features recognised in the District Plan include heritage buildings at: Pukekaraka (St Marys Church and Presbytery) also recognised by the Historic Places Trust (Category I) and the oldest catholic church still in use in NZ; Rangiatea, the site of the iconic Anglican church (destroyed by fire in 1995 with a replica opened in 2002); the Māori school or Kura Kaupapa Māori; and the memorial to the arrival of Christianity and Te Rauparaha, with the latter recognised by the Historic Places Trust (Category I). Mature exotic <i>trees</i> are a feature of both sites with Norfolk Island Pine (1) at Rangiatea site recognised as a significant <i>tree</i> in the District Plan. The stations of the cross at Pukekaraka have significance within the catholic church. The cemetery at Rangiatea and Tainui Marae commemorate generations of influential Kapiti Coast residents. The Church-school-cemetery-memorial complexes established and continued at each site are illustrative of a deliberately designed landscape with heritage and spiritual significance.
	Values to tangata whenua (h)	The area is associated with Māori led initiatives to introduce Christianity into the District and involvement in the construction of the churches in the area. Kainga established around Pukekaraka is now the site of the Tainui marae and urupā. The meeting house at Pukekaraka and the Rangiatea Church include elements of Māori architecture; central pillars, painted rafters, carved elements and large tukutuku panels with the latter initiated by Te Rauparaha (the infamous Ngāti Toa chief). The area is a site of early English education for Māori, with mission schools set up and continued through the establishment of St Mary's Primary school and the Kura Kaupapa Māori and Wānanga near Rangiatea.
	Historical associations (h)	Representative of the early and continued influence of Christianity and education in the District. Reflective of the early partnerships and 'combined work' of Māori and early missionaries.
Potential		[Residential] development typologies, location, <i>height</i> , density

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threats

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SAL17	Lower Ōtaki River	
	The mid to lower reaches of the Ōtaki River, from the 'Big Bend' to the river mouth.	
Map Location	•	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (Im)	The Ōtaki river is the most prominent river system in the District and part of a distinct sequence of waterways that originate in the Tararua and Akatarawa ranges and thread through the coastal plains out to the sea. Landforms are typical of a broad and fast river system with defined river terraces, shifting gravel banks and wetland areas, although the flow is now controlled within a preferred alignment to reduce flood hazard. Indigenous riparian vegetation and totara forest, located mainly to the east of SH1, although for the most part regenerating, is reflective of historic patterns across the alluvial plains.
	Research and education (lm)	The flood plain management plan methods such as, gravel extraction, preferred channel alignment and flood control structures, are balanced with initiatives to preserve and enhance ecological, recreational and heritage values.
	Rarity (lm)	Riparian habitats are under represented nationally and are recognised by Department of Conservation as a threatened environment. The steep, fast flow of the Ōtaki contrasts with the gentler flow rates of most other waterways in the District.
	Ecosystem functioning (lm)	Although significantly degraded by majority loss of <i>indigenous vegetation</i> , this section of the Ōtaki River forms part of the habitat corridor between the mountains and sea. Patterns of indigenous flora are very limited and naturalising exotic species, such as willow, predominate west of SH1. Totara - mahoe forest along river banks are part of a regenerating forest that extends across the plains to Te Waka Road.
Perceptual	Coherence (mh)	Although modified by flood plain management the river corridor still expresses the patterns of a braided river system. There is an identifiable pattern of erosion and deposition, as well as links to the wider alluvial flood plain that are reinforced by vegetation patterns and adjacent land use (including stop banks).
	Memorability (mh)	A memorable landscape, due to the scale of the river system and its dynamic qualities (including flood events). The iconic status of the river system is reiterated through sharing a name with the adjacent settlement.
	Aesthetic paradigm (mh)	The picturesque qualities relate to the sequence of confined views along the river bank, including pockets of 'wilderness' and framed views of the foothills and named peaks, such as

		Waitatapia.
	Naturalness (mh)	The foothills have a moderate-high degree of natural character. Natural patterns of the landform and hydrology are clearly identifiable, patterns of settlement are sparse, with buildings often obscured from public roads (and largely absent along the northern side of the river beyond Waitohanga Road). Areas of regenerating indigenous vegetation are significant. Views into the gorge and of the Tararua Ranges enhance perceptions of natural character. Exotic forestry plantations and extensive pastoral <i>farming</i> practices contribute to perceptions of 'cultured nature'.
	Expressiveness / legibility (h)	Expressive of alluvial processes, distinct edge and navigable path through the District, obvious source of the wider plains.
	Transient values (I)	Transient characteristics area an important part of this landscape, and are reflected by the alluvial processes, flood events and the seasonal habitat range utilised by forest birds and fresh water fish species.
Associative	Shared or recognised values (h)	The predominant area is zoned as river corridor, with priority alignment, gravel extraction areas and stop banks used to protect surrounding areas from flood hazards. Other features that are recognised in the District Plan include the 8 ha heritage ecosite 'Ōtaki River Bush' totara forest remnant, which is of regional significance and is also recognised by Department of Conservation as a RAP site, while being partially protected by QEII covenant. Much of the river bed and lower river terraces are recognised by Department of Conservation as threatened indigenous environments. The ecological values of the area are recognised and enhanced by the local community group, the Friends of the Ōtaki River and by ongoing riparian restoration projects. The river is an important tourism and recreation resource for swimming, trout fishing and rafting. Access is gained via CWB tracks from the river mouth through to Chrystalls Bend on the northern bank, and via SH1 on the southern bank. The Ōtaki catchment provides potable bore and groundwater for Ōtaki, Te Horo and Hautere residents
	Values to tangata whenua (h)	Historic pa sites were located along the lower portions of the Ōtaki River, including Waopukatea and Wairarapa (Muaupoko, Ngāti Toa and Ngāti Raukawa) with the river valued as an important food source and a transport route; to the inland forest resources and as a gateway to routes that crossed the Tararua ranges. The river is also valued as a defining awa; important in terms of whakapapa and <i>hapū</i> boundaries.
	Historical associations (h)	The site is prone to flood events that feature in historic accounts of the area. The river and tracks along it formed an important transportation route for both Māori and early Europeans. Linked with accounts of early exploration, timber milling in the foothills, tramping club activities, early irrigation schemes across the Hautere Plains and productive land use; a continuing feature of the alluvial plains and important economic activity.

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Potential threats	[Residential] development typologies, location, <i>height</i> , density etc; including threats to the existing rural outlook; maintenance costs/expertise associated with the restoration of heritage
	structures, memorial, cemetery, exotic <i>trees</i> and grounds.

SAL18	Hautere Totara Grove	
	The Totara grove on the Ōtaki Gorge Road	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BN33	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (I)	Planted grove but reflective of the once extensive podocarp forest that extended from the Ōtaki River across the Hautere Plains.
	Research and education	Not applicable
	Rarity	Not applicable-designed feature.
	Ecosystem functioning	Not applicable/minor invertebrate habitat.
Perceptual	Coherence (mh)	Distinct avenue of <i>trees</i> along 1km+ of Ōtaki Gorge Road. Although planted, reflective of the extensive Totara forest that existed historically over the wider Hautere area. Stone wall relics under the grove the result of efforts during the depression to clear fields for productive land use and emphasises alluvial geomorphology of the area.
	Memorability (mh)	The grove is a unique, purposefully designed avenue of native <i>trees</i> along an important connecting road and the main route into the Tararua Forest park.
	Aesthetic paradigm (mh)	The avenue possesses strong picturesque qualities, as an enclosed stand that frames views along the highway.
	Naturalness (mh)	Associated with a low-moderate degree of <i>natural character</i> due to the maturity of the <i>trees</i> and use of totara, a species typical of the area. Under planting has been facilitated by <i>Councill</i> community groups including species not found naturally in this area.
	Expressiveness / legibility (mh)	The grove is expressive or reflective of wider vegetation patterns across the plains. It is a landmark feature along Ōtaki Gorge Road that establishes a strong west to east viewshaft.
	Transient values (I)	Transient values are insignificant/not applicable to this feature.
	Shared or recognised values (mh)	Features that are recognised on the District Plan maps include: heritage ecosite totara reserve of District significance. It is recognised as a valued feature of local identity and a tourist attraction for visitors to the upper Ōtaki River and Tararua Forest Park.

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	Values to tangata whenua (I)	Not applicable to this feature.
	Historical associations (Im)	Grove planted in 1938 and linked with depression efforts to clear the alluvial soils of large stones for productive landuse.
Potential threats		[Residential] development typologies, location density etc. including <i>effect</i> s on the groves rural context, <i>tree</i> management.

SAL19	Ngārara Dunes		
	A sequence of dune ridges and intervening wetlands and dune lakelets NZ Topo Map BP32		
Map Location			
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description	
Physical	Representativeness (h)	Ngārara 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 that are remnants of the Ngārara Stream catchment and the interdunal links between the Waimeha and the Kukutauaki Stream. The indigenous flora and fauna, although degraded, represent wetland, swamp forest and dry 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. Nga Manu Reserve Research projects and tours provide organised education opportunities. Freshwater biota of Ngārara Stream is well studied and ongoing hydrological survey through the Ngārara Farm wetlands artesian and groundwater qualities.	
	Rarity (h)	Nga Manu-Jacks Bush kahikatea-pukatea/swamp maire-tawa swamp forest (over more than 45 ha) is one of the largest mature examples in the Foxton Ecological District and earlier successional wetland stages are also represented in the vicinity. Conservation activities in Nga Manu Reserve have protected threatened bird and invertebrate species in the wild as well as in captivity. Bittern are resident in the Ngārara farm wetlands. Hydrological system largely unmodified; unusual for a peri urban/lowland setting.	
	Ecosystem functioning (h)	A complete successional wetland sequence over more than 60 ha from open dune lakelet to mature swamp forest is represented and largely interconnected Includes the totara, Te Harakeke/ Kawakahia wetland (with the latter highly modified and used as a water sewage treatment pond up until 2002) and tributaries of the Ngārara Stream (once managed as a drain but now being allowed to naturalise). Wider remnant areas 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. Nga Manu Reserve	

		is home to a wide range of indigenous plant species, including stands of kahikatea, as well as habitat for tuatara and over 60 bird species (with breeding programmes in place). Waterways and <i>indigenous vegetation</i> provide significant seasonal food resources for wildlife and links between the Tararua ranges (Hemi Matenga) and the coast.
Perceptual	Coherence (mh)	The series of interconnected lakelets and wetlands is associated with the remaining wetland areas and <i>indigenous vegetation</i> patterns that thread through this landscape and establish links between the mountains and the sea. Unmodified dune landforms and areas of consolidated dunes establish clear habitats.
	Memorability (mh)	Ngārara is a memorable landscape due to its undulating topography, the presence of water, indigenous fauna and its proximity to the wider <i>coastal environment</i> .
	Aesthetic paradigm (mh)	Strong picturesque qualities are associated with the rolling topography, 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 interconnected dune and wetland sequence, substantive patterns of indigenous flora and fauna, 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</i> vegetation patterns that typify these landforms. The dune landforms are largely unmodified with a ridge line that extends through to the Te Hapua swamp area.
	Transient values (m)	Transient values are associated with seasonal hydrological patterns and bird habitat range.
Associative	Shared and recognised values (h)	The land around the decommissioned sewage treat plant is zoned open space (Pharazyn Reserve) with links to beach esplanade areas. Other features recognised in the District Plan are: heritage ecosites including the harakeke (kawakahia) wetland and Nga Manu sanctuary wetland, swamp forest and kohe kohe-tawa forest (both of regional significance). The kawakahia wetland is protected by QEII covenant, recognised by Department of Conservation as a RAP site and by the Wellington Regional Council under the Key Native Ecosystems Programme. There are additional areas protected by QEII covenant within the Nga Manu Reserve and on private land. There are archaeological sites clustered along the dune landform, associated with early Māori settlement, as recognised by the NZ Archaeological Association. The area is a gateway to the less populated 'wilderness' coastal areas, between Waikanae Beach and Peka Peka. Ngārara is an informal recreation resource, with Rutherford Drive forming part of the

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		coastal cycle way and public tracks providing access to Pharazyn Reserve. Nga Manu Reserve is an important tourism resource for the District with values enhanced by an active community group.
	Values to tangata whenua (mh)	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 Waimea 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 Member of Parliament.
	Historical associations (h)	The area is linked with early Māori (Muaupoko, Ātiawa and Ngāti Toa) and European settlement. It 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 Hodgkin's (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). Nga Manu Reserve was established in the 1970s protecting areas retained through generations of <i>farming</i> practices (Field and Smith).
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.

SAL20	Ōtaki Gorge Foothills	
		araruas and elevated river terraces, directly adjacent to the lower Gorge and under mixed landuse.
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BN33	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (mh)	The foothills are comprised of Torlesse supergroup greywacke with alluvial and colluvial deposits and feature the oldest geological elements in the District. Marine sediments (in the Kaitawa/ Parenga Road area) are also represented along the edges of the coastal plain, have been uplifted and the dissected to form distinct terraces, with steep sided ravines overlaid by loess. Areas of regenerating <i>indigenous vegetation</i> are predominately located on the northern side of the river, on terrace escarpments and in the ravines. Species are typical of the kamahi ecodomain, such as kamahi and rewa rewa, with clusters of nikau in frost free areas. Forestry plantations on the

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		southern side of the river are some of the largest in the District.
	Research and education (mh)	The foothills are expressive of tectonic uplift, with examples of large scale slip and slump erosion. Alluvial processes have established narrow elevated terraces, such as at Shields Flat and colluvial fans are also evident. The marine deposits, terraces and ravines are the most clearly expressed in the District.
	Rarity (mh)	Expression of marine geomorphology is unique in the District and is part of a substantive sequence (continuing along Rahui Rd) of uplifted terraces and ravines, with escarpment vegetation.
	Ecosystem functioning (mh)	Although significantly degraded by the loss of the original of <i>indigenous vegetation</i> , regenerating areas form part of the habitat corridor between the mountains and sea and seasonal food sources for forest bird species. Tributaries in the foothills such as the Pukehinau Stream provide minor habitat for fish species particularly during high flow/flood events.
Perceptual	Coherence (mh)	Identifiable patterns of landforms, have clearly defined/constrained landuse; with public roads and residential development confined to the terrace and gentler sloped areas, in close proximity to the gorge, while steeper slopes are dominated by exotic forestry and retired pasture.
	Memorability (mh)	The landscape is highly memorable, due to the way in which it frames and forms the immediate context for the Ōtaki River Gorge and the wider patterns of mixed landuse.
	Aesthetic paradigm (mh)	Strong picturesque qualities relate to the sequence of confined views along public roads. These feature rural-residential properties with pastoral land, amenity plantings and regenerating areas, transitioning to 'wilderness' areas on the more elevated slopes and upper reaches of stream tributaries enhanced by framed views of named peaks, such as Waitatapia.
	Naturalness (mh)	The foothills have a moderate-high degree of natural character. Natural patterns of the landform and hydrology are clearly identifiable, patterns of settlement are sparse, with buildings often obscured from public roads (and largely absent along the northern side of the river beyond Waihoanga Road) and areas of regenerating <i>indigenous vegetation</i> are significant. Views into the gorge and of the Tararua ranges enhance perceptions of natural character. Exotic forestry plantations and extensive pastoral <i>farming</i> practices contribute to 'cultured nature'.
	Expressiveness / legibility (mh)	The area is expressive of tectonic, marine and alluvial processes, and part of a clearly navigable path into the ranges.
	Transient values (m)	Transient values are associated with flood events and the seasonal habitat range utilised by forest birds and fresh water fish species.

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	recognised (mh)	loess deposits, mainly off Kaitawa Road, the fertile soils continue to support a range of productive land uses, within rural residential properties. Pastoral landuse is also a continuing feature on some of the narrow alluvial terraces at the base of the foothills, such as at Shields Flat. However, rural residential development has become the predominant landuse, where slope and access permit; mainly on the alluvial and marine terraces and the accessible north facing slopes along the foothills. This reflects values associated with both the physical attributes and aesthetic qualities of this landscape, along with its proximity to larger urban <i>centres</i> . Whilst the thin and generally highly leached soils on the foothills would have also been farmed following a significant period of native timber milling in the late 1800's, those most accessible to public roads have been converted to forestry. The recently established Department of Conservation historic reserve at Shields Flat reiterates the milling and productive landuse values associated with this area. Stone walls at Shields Flat are recognised by the NZ Geological Society (regional significance). The foothills are also valued as part of the scenic drive and gateway to the Tararua Forest Park with heritage ecosites.
	Values to tangata whenua (mh)	Valued as an important inland food/resource gathering area and as part of the inland transportation route; to the inland forest resources and as a gateway to routes that crossed the Tararua ranges. The river is also valued as a defining awa; important in terms of whakapapa and <i>hapū</i> boundaries.
	Historical associations (mh)	Tracks along the base of the foothills formed important transportation routes, for both Māori and early Europeans. These are linked with accounts of early exploration and timber milling in the foothills and tramping activities. Early milling and farming efforts along the terraces and foothills, with a small settlement at Shields Flat, are marked by remnants of old bridges, homestead, milling company and farming activities, including the stone walls built during the depression.
Potential threats		water catchment management/fresh water values, <i>indigenous vegetation</i> removal, <i>earthworks</i> including tracks, [residential] development typologies including density, location, <i>height</i> etc. including <i>effects</i> on landscape values of the Tararua Ranges and Ōtaki Gorge, pest/weed populations, <i>infrastructure</i> /roading upgrades, forestry management regimes.

SAL21	Mangaone Foothills		
	Foothills of the Tararuas within the headwaters of the Waikanae River between Mangaone Road North & South & Hemi Matenga escarpment.		
Map Location	NZX Topo Map BP32 + BP33		
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Criteria / *RS Factor / Criteria Description	
Physical	Representativeness	The foothills are comprised of Torlesse supergroup greywacke	

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	(m)	with alluvial and colluvial deposits and feature some of the oldest geological elements in the District. Landforms include the more gentle and dissected slopes to the east of the Hemi Matenga escarpment and foothills to the Tararua ranges that are shaped by tributaries to the Waikanae River. Areas of regenerating <i>indigenous vegetation</i> are typical of the kamahi ecodomain such as kamahi, rewa rewa and ponga with podocarp remnants in less accessible steep areas, the Kaitawa Reserve and riparian species to the edges of tributaries
	Research and education (m)	The foothills are expressive of tectonic uplift, escarpment incline slopes and alluvial process to establish dissected landforms and the headwaters of the second largest river in the District.
	Rarity (m)	Lowland and riparian habitats are under-represented nationally.
	Ecosystem functioning (m)	Although significantly degraded by the loss of original <i>indigenous vegetation</i> , regenerating areas form part of the Reikorangi Valley habitat and link between the Tararua Ranges, Hemi Matenga and the coast providing important seasonal food sources for forest bird species. Headwaters of the Waikanae River and tributaries in the foothills provide habitat for fish species particularly during high flow/flood events.
Perpetual	Coherence (m)	Distinct pattern of dissected landforms and regenerating vegetation defining the headwaters of the Waikanae River. Identifiable pattern of tributaries and spurs dissecting south west — north east tending ridgelines and forested areas developed in response to topography, aspect, marked sequence of historic native timber milling and riparian environment.
	Memorability (m)	A memorable landscape due to its setting as the northern edge to the Reikorangi Valley, 'backdrop' to the Hemi Matenga escarpment and as the headwaters of the Waikanae River system; an important natural feature that contributes to the District's sense of place.
	Aesthetic paradigm (m)	The picturesque qualities relate to the sequence of confined views along Reikorangi Road, Mangaone South Road and the Mangaone Track. Limited access, via Mangaone track and narrow rural roads, and remoteness contributes to a sense of 'wilderness'
	Naturalness (m)	The forested headwaters have a moderate-high degree of natural character. Natural patterns of the landform and hydrology are clearly identifiable; patterns of settlement are sparse, with buildings largely obscured from public roads. Areas of regenerating <i>indigenous vegetation</i> are significant and part of a broader pattern across the Tararua Range foothills. Remoteness, identified reserve area and limited public access, including links to the Tararua Forest Park, enhance perceptions of natural character.
	Expressiveness / legibility (m)	Expressive of alluvial and tectonic processes, obvious source of the Waikanae River system.

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	Transient values (m)	Transient values are associated the with seasonal patterns of flowering species such as kamahi and the ranging patterns of forest bird species from the Tararua Ranges through to Hemi Matenga.
Associative	Shared or recognised values (m)	The majority of the landscape is zoned as rural or conservation land — Kaitawa Reserve. Other features identified in the District Plan include: heritage ecosites that extend from the Tararua Forest Park to Hemi Matenga; and heritage features that are associated with milling sites at Mangaone North and South Road. The Mangaone Walkway along an old bush tramway, is a popular day walk and alternative access point to Tararua Forest Park (Pukeatua Peak) also used for 4WD access to privately owned lots. The Kaitawa Reserve protects previously milled podocarp forests with fencing and pest control measures on private land supporting regeneration over much of the landscape area.
	Values to tangata whenua (mh)	Named peaks and waterways of the Mangaone area indicate long held associations that have particular significance to particular <i>iwi</i> and <i>hapū</i> with Māori land ownership continued on the eastern slopes of Hemi Matenga (up to Kaitawa Reserve). Early transportation routes likely along the river — as route along the base of the Tararua ranges and connection between the Ōtaki and Waikanae River systems. Foothills areas and waterways also formed an important historical food and forest resource gathering sites.
	Historical associations (h)	Peaks in the landscape area were used to triangulate trig points and survey to produce the first maps of the District. Early explorers are commemorated in the naming of particular peaks (e.g. Field). Timber milling in the ranges was associated with construction of the main trunk line and settlement patterns in the lowlands. Relics of the mill sites have been retained along the Mangaone Walkway (formerly the Reikorangi Track) following the mill tram line. Timber milling and pastoral landuse that followed were a key driver for the establishment of Reikorangi Village.
Potential threats		Water catchment management/fresh water values, <i>indigenous vegetation</i> removal, <i>earthworks</i> including tracks, [residential] development typologies including density, location, <i>height</i> etc. and <i>effects</i> on landscape values of the Tararua Ranges and Hemi Matenga ONL areas adjacent, pest/weed populations, <i>infrastructure</i> /roading upgrades, forestry management regimes.

SAL22	Te Hapua Sea Cliff		
	Distinct sea cliff align	Distinct sea cliff aligned with SH1 to the north of Hadfield Rd	
Map Location	NZX Topo Map BP32		
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description	

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Physical	Representativeness (mh)	A prominent example of an inland sea cliff, marking post glacial sea level and expressive of tectonic uplift. Regenerating <i>indigenous vegetation</i> characteristic of nikau belt ecodomain and loess soils.
	Research and education (mh)	A 2-to-5 metre high sea cliff cut in the last interglacial terrace. The cliff is a well defined landform with vegetation patterns affected by loess deposits from last glacial period.
	Rarity (mh)	A distinct landform that forms part of a sequence that characterise lowland areas of the District, for example, also along Te Waka Road.
	Ecosystem functioning (mh)	Vegetation along the extent of this landform is part of a series of bush remnants along the plains that provide links between the Tararua ranges and the coast. It also provides a minor seasonal habitat for kereru.
Perpetual	Coherence (mh)	A distinct landform in a prominent location alongside SH1, that is emphasised by <i>indigenous vegetation</i> (kohekohe-tawa with notable pukatea) along its southern extent (Awatea Scarp) in contrast to surrounding exotic landcover.
	Memorability (mh)	A distinct landform in contrast to surrounding topography that is emphasised by its proximity to SH1.
	Aesthetic paradigm (mh)	Aesthetic qualities linked to the rural character of the surrounding area; pastoral land use, exotic woodlots and shelter belts and lower density settlement on the edge of the urban areas of Waikanae.
	Naturalness (mh)	The sea cliffs have a moderate degree of natural character. Landforms are largely unmodified and vegetation patterns along the southern end include semi-mature specimens.
	Expressiveness / legibility (mh)	The site is expressive of uplift and glacial and marine processes. It is a landmark and confining feature along SH1 that establishes strong north- south viewshafts.
	Transient values (I)	Transient values are insignificant/not applicable to this feature.
Associative	Shared or recognised values (I)	Features recognised on the District Plan maps include: the sea cliff as a geological heritage site, also recognised by the NZ Geological Society to be of regional significance; heritage ecosites including the Awatea Scarp and induced wetland with lowland <i>indigenous vegetation</i> under-represented nationally.
	Values to tangata whenua (I)	Not applicable to this feature.
	Historical associations (m)	The cliffs are a landmark and a confining feature along early transportation routes-road and rail.
Potential threats		Indigenous vegetation removal, infrastructure (roading) upgrade, earthworks, [residential] development typology, location etc including effects on rural setting

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	The prominent dune landforms and interdunal wetlands off Te Hapua Road	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BP32	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (h)	The area is expressive of dune formation processes (Waitarere - Motuiti and the older consolidated Foxton dunes) and interdunal hydrological patterns including the sequence of wetlands and flora and fauna once characteristic of the wider dune landscapes.
	Research and education (h)	The landscape illustrates dune formation processes and hydrological patterns and lowland flora and fauna.
	Rarity (h)	The dunes are habitat for spotless crake and rare plant species including spike sedge. Wetland habitat is under-represented nationally.
	Ecosystem functioning (h)	The network of wetland areas extend over a substantive area (50 ha +) providing stepping stones for native fauna through the coastal environment. Foreshore dunes around the mouth of Kowhai Stream support an indigenous matrix including relicts of coastal shrubland with estuarine vegetation at the mouth. Fresh water values and vegetation patterns have been enhanced by fencing under QEII covenants.
Perceptual	Coherence (mh)	An identifiable sequence of lagoons, wetlands and <i>indigenous vegetation</i> patterns that thread through this landscape and establish links between the mountains and the sea. The area also features a clear sequence of dune landforms, more prominent away from the coast, distinguishing clear habitats.
	Memorability (mh)	The landscape is memorable due to the presence of water, wildlife, wetland vegetation, undulating topography and its proximity to the coast.
	Aesthetic paradigm (mh)	The site possesses picturesque qualities associated with the rolling topography, pockets of <i>indigenous vegetation</i> and more intimate views.
	Naturalness (mh)	Associated with a moderate degree of natural character. Patterns of landform, landcover and hydrology, although modified and degraded, contrast strongly with adjacent urban areas. The landscape includes patches of <i>indigenous</i> vegetation, established productive land use and mature exotic trees. The current patterns of residential development are set back and enhance the wilderness qualities of the fore shore.
	Expressiveness / legibility (mh)	The landscape is expressive of dune formation processes and, although modified and degraded, resultant hydrological and indigenous vegetation patterns. Dune landforms are largely unmodified and are some of the most prominent in the District.
	Transient values (m)	Transient values on-site are associated with seasonal hydrological patterns and bird habitat ranges.
Associative	Shared or	Features recognised in the District Plan include: heritage

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	recognised values (mh)	ecosites of dune wetlands combined to over 50Ha that are of regional significance. The 2008 Landcare Research report ranks Te Hapua as of national significance for biodiversity. Wetlands are also recognised by Department of Conservation as a threatened environment and the central zone as a RAP site. Substantive areas are fenced and protected by QEII covenant that extend through to the coast. Fertile peat based soils within this landscape are also valued in terms of continued productive land use diversified by recent lifestyle subdivision. Valued as a place of settlement with recent rural-residential development benefiting wetland areas.
	Values to tangata whenua (mh)	Historic lagoons along the coast (kowhai and ngawhakngutu) were important mahinga kai and places of settlement for Māori (Carkeek) and waterways in this area linked to 'legends' of inland transportation routes. Land adjacent to Te Hapua Road was once owned by Te Rauparaha.
	Historical associations (mh)	Site of early Māori and European settlement, <i>farming</i> by Māori (including the descendents of Te Rauparaha) and Pakeha (Derham).
Potential threats		Water catchment management/fresh water values, <i>earthworks</i> including <i>effects</i> on patterns of hydrology, [residential] development typologies, <i>height</i> , location, density etc. including <i>effects</i> on existing rural outlook, pest/weed populations, <i>indigenous vegetation</i> removal.

SAL24	Lower Waikanae River	
	Mid to lower reaches of the Waikanae River from the Reikorangi/Ngatiawa/Rangiora River Forks to the Waikanae Estuary	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BP32	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (m)	The Waikanae is one of the most prominent rivers in the District. It forms part of a sequence of waterways that originate in the Tararua and Akatarawa ranges and cut through the coastal plains out to the sea. Although the river is controlled within a preferred alignment to reduce flood hazard, distinct river terraces, shifting gravel banks and wetland areas are maintained, with glacial outwash gravels also represented. The river corridor has remnants of indigenous riparian vegetation, including dune forest (kohekohe-titoki-mahoe) and lowland forest (kohekohe-titoki-tawa-rewa rewa) that are characteristic of the areas historic vegetation patterns.
	Research and education (m)	Flood plain management plan methods, such as gravel extraction, preferred channel alignment and flood control structures, are balanced with initiatives to preserve and enhance ecological, recreational and heritage values.

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	Rarity (m)	Riparian habitats are under represented nationally and are recognised by Department of Conservation as a threatened environment. Indigenous dune forest remnants (kohekohe-titokimahoe) that are adjacent to the river, west of SH1, are now uncommon in the Foxton Ecological District. Foothill forest areas are also uncommon as they were largely cleared by milling and <i>farming</i> activity.
	Ecosystem functioning (m)	This landscape is part of the Waikanae River corridor and establishes links from montane to estuarine habitat although degraded by runoff and majority loss of indigenous riparian vegetation. The river corridor provides seasonal habitat for whitebait and trout species, as well as forest bird species (east of SH1). Patterns of indigenous flora are very limited west of SH1 where naturalising exotic species, such as willow, predominate. The remnant (kohekohe-titoki- tawa-rewa rewa) bush areas provide 'stepping stones' between Paraparaumu and Hemi Matenga Reserves.
Perceptual	Coherence (mh)	Although modified by flood plain management strategies, an identifiable pattern of natural erosion and deposition processes have been retained, while links to the wider alluvial flood plain are reinforced by vegetation patterns and adjacent land use (including patterns of settlement).
	Memorability (mh)	The landscape is memorable due to the scale of the river system and its dynamic qualities (inland/during flood periods). The rivers iconic status is reinforced though sharing the name of the nearby settlement.
	Aesthetic paradigm (mh)	Picturesque qualities are related to the sequence of confined intimate views along the river bank, including pockets of 'wilderness' and framed views of the foothills, that include named peaks such as Kapakapanui.
	Naturalness (mh)	The area has a moderate degree of natural character. Natural patterns of landform, landcover and hydrology are clearly identifiable, although modified and degraded. Perceptions of natural character are enhanced east of SH1, where more prominent river banks confine views, indigenous vegetation is more prevalent and settlement patterns are restricted to the valley floor.
	Expressiveness / legibility (mh)	The river corridor is expressive of uplift and alluvial processes. The river forms an important edge and navigable path through the southern part of the District, with productive land use and connecting roads organised along it.
	Transient values (mh)	Associated with alluvial processes, flood events and the migratory patterns of forest birds and fish species.
Associative	Shared or recognised values (h)	The predominant area is zoned as river corridor with adjacent areas of open space, such as Jim Cooke Reserve and Otaihanga Domain. The river corridor has priority alignment, with gravel extraction and stop banks protecting surrounding areas from flood hazard. Other features recognised in the

		District Plan include: heritage ecosites Karu Reserve (karakakohekohe), Turf Dune kohekohe-titoki-mahoe forest west of SH1 and Reikorangi Road Bush, Waikanae Gorge Bush and Bluff Hill Bush kohekohe-titoki-tawa-rewarewa and a small area of wetland east of SH1 that is of regional significance. The majority of these areas are protected under Department of Conservation and/or QEII covenants. The river bed and lower river terraces are recognised by Department of Conservation as indigenous threatened environments. Ecological values are recognised and enhanced by the local community group, the Friends of the Waikanae River, along with ongoing restoration projects. The river corridor is an important recreation resource, for fishing, kayaking and swimming, with CWB tracks along both banks from the river mouth through to SH1. River processes linked with fertile alluvial soils adjacent to the river, valued for productive land use and as the Waikanae Garden Precinct. The river catchment also provides potable water for Paraparaumu, Waikanae and Raumati residents.
	Values to tangata whenua (h)	Cultivation grounds and other sites of cultural significance are recorded along the banks of the river (in flood management documentation), including Peka Peka, Pukekawa, Te Rere and Taewapaharahara. It was an important mahinga kai and historically a transport route linking to the Hutt Valley. It is a defining awa; important in terms of whakapapa and hapū boundaries and the context for the existing Te Ātiawa marae, Whakarongotai.
	Historical associations (h)	The river corridor has been the site of significant flood events, such as that in 1990. It was an early transportation route for both Māori and early Europeans and associated with food gathering, transport, timber milling and productive land use, which is a continuing feature of the Reikorangi Road valley floor. The landscape is also the context for the settlement of Waikanae, established in 1849.
Potential threats		Indigenous vegetation removal, water catchment management/fresh water values, pest/weed populations, flood control management, adjacent development typology and its effects on existing values including peri- urban/rural outlook along majority extent and views of inland ranges.

SAL25	Reikorangi		
	The historic settleme	The historic settlement in the Reikorangi Valley	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BP32		
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description	
Physical	Representativeness (m)	Reikorangi is located on the river terrace and incised gorge that forms part of the upper Waikanae and Ngatiawa and Rangiora River catchment. It is representative of the extensive valley system and Reikorangi Basin ecodomain, where rivers have cut	

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		down into a basin filled with glacial gravels and the surrounding hills create a cool-frost prone microclimate. The existing remnant lowland tawa- kamahi forest is characteristic of foothill areas historically.
	Research and education (m)	The Reikorangi valley is expressive of glacial and alluvial deposition and erosion processes.
	Rarity (m)	The area shows a distinct expression of glacial gravel deposits. The setting creates a microclimate unique to the District. The remaining foothill forest areas are uncommon in the District due to clearing by milling and <i>farming</i> activity.
	Ecosystem functioning (m)	Mangaone Road bush is a valuable remnant link along the upper Waikanae River and is part of a sequence including Kaitawa Reserve and Reikorangi Road Bush. The remnants provide seasonal habitat for forest bird species (Kereru).
Perceptual	Coherence (mh)	Historic and continued patterns of settlement are located on the narrow river terrace, marking the Ngatiawa and Rangiora River forks, of the upper Waikanae River catchment and the Kapakapanui tributary, with roads aligned along the valley floors. Remnant areas of bush mark more prominent topography, excluded from historic and continued patterns of productive land use.
	Memorability (mh)	This landscape is memorable due to the sequence of historic buildings and their location at the intersection of both natural and cultural features (rivers and roads), as well as their setting against prominent hills, including the iconic peak Kapakapanui (which means literally 'large wings').
	Aesthetic paradigm (mh)	The area has strong picturesque qualities, with the church and other school houses set against a broader rural scene, with pockets of bush and mature exotic <i>trees</i> .
	Naturalness (mh)	Reikorangi has a low to moderate degree of natural character. Landforms are largely unmodified and the area is set along the headwaters of the Waikanae River. Land use is predominately pastoral, but includes pockets of bush, with low density settlement and older buildings, which is in contrast to the urban areas in Waikanae.
	Expressiveness / legibility (mh)	The landscape is expressive of uplift, glacial erosion and alluvial processes. It is a unique character area in the District and a gateway to the Mangaone, Ngatiawa, Rangiora and Reikorangi valleys, as well as the Akatarawa Road that link to Hutt Valley. Settlement marks the fork of three rivers and transportation routes are aligned along the valley floors.
	Transient values (lm)	Transient values are associated flood events and the Reikorangi basins unique climate.
	Shared or recognised values (mh)	The area is zoned as rural land, with a small area of open space associated with the historic buildings and Mangaone Bush. Other features that are recognised in the District Plan include: The heritage ecosite at Mangaone Road Bush (tawa-kamahi),

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		also protected by QEII covenant, which is part of a broader pattern of regenerating and remnant <i>indigenous vegetation</i> on steeper slopes in the valley system; St Andrews Church (1908) designed by Clere (Wellington diocese Architect 1833); and the Church Hall (built in Bulls 1862); Reikorangi School Building (opened 1895, present building 1912). The Old Mangaone Road Bridge is also recognised by the NZ Historic Places Trust (Category II). The area is valued for lifestyle and rural residential development in close proximity to Waikanae, while productive land use is retained along the valley floor. Picturesque qualities reiterated by the location of a rest area adjacent to the church, often used as a picnic stop on the scenic/alternative drive between Upper Hutt and Waikanae. The rive catchment (source) provides potable water for Paraparaumu, Waikanae and Raumati residents. Church and school valued as shared facilities and community centre by valley residents.
	Values to tangata whenua (m)	Significant as part of an important transport route/gateway to forest food and resources and a link to the Hutt Valley.
	Historical associations (h)	The area was one of early European land sales and settlement, timber milling, forestry and agricultural land use. The church and school (and other buildings no longer present) provided a community centre for the <i>farming</i> families established in the surrounding valleys.
Potential threats		Indigenous vegetation removal, pest/weed populations, [residential] development typologies and their effects on existing values including existing rural setting, water catchment management/fresh water values, heritage building maintenance/management.

SAL26	Tararua/Akatarawa Foothills	
	Foothills of the Tararuas along the Akatarawa Road including the Kakanui Peak and trig point above the Akatarawa Saddle.	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BP32 + BP33	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (mh)	The foothills are comprised of Torlesse supergroup greywacke with alluvial and colluvial deposits and feature some of the oldest geological elements in the District. Landforms include the distinct ridges above Ngatiawa Stream and Saddle Creek such as Kakanui (at the boundary to the District) and spurs dissected by the Waikanae River tributaries. Areas of regenerating indigenous vegetation are typical of the kamahi ecodomain transitioning to beech forest with mature remnants located on steep slopes and gullies.
	Research and education (mh)	The foothills are expressive of tectonic uplift, part of the sequence of south west — north east tending ridgelines and alluvial processes contributing to the formation of the Reikorangi

		Valley basin and the Tararua ranges.
	Rarity (mh)	Lowland and riparian habitats are under-represented nationally. Land formation processes contributing to the enclosed basin and distinct microclimate are unique in the District.
	Ecosystem functioning (mh)	Foothills areas in the Akatarawa and Tararua ranges contribute to the most diverse range of habitats in the lower north island. Part of the water catchment for the Waikanae River habitats.
Perceptual	Coherence (mh)	Distinct pattern of dissected spurs and lower ridgelines framing the Akatarawa Road route in and out of the District. Identifiable pattern of spurs and tributaries dissecting south west — north east tending ridgelines that encircling the Reikorangi basin. Regenerating areas show a distinct response to topography, aspect and the sequence of historic timber milling in the area.
	Memorability (mh)	A memorable landscape due to its setting along the edges of the Akatarawa Road — the scenic and [coastal] alternative route in and out of the District with well know landmark; Akatarawa Saddle. Saddle area marks the edge to the Akatarawa and Tararua Ranges and this 'cutting' can be clearly identified from the lowland areas in the District along with surveyed trig points to the east and the Kakanui ridge to the west.
	Aesthetic paradigm (mh)	The picturesque qualities relate to the sequence of confined views along Akatarawa Road and framed views of the area from near the coast e.g. Ngārara Road.
	Naturalness (mh)	The forested foothills have a moderate-high degree of natural character. Natural patterns of the landform and hydrology are clearly identifiable. Built structures are limited and in marked contrast to rural landuse and transmission line corridor through the valley. Areas of regenerating <i>indigenous vegetation</i> are linked to a broader pattern across the Akatarawa and Tararua Ranges. Confined views along the steep narrow road and limited access enhance perceptions of natural character.
	Expressiveness / legibility (mh)	Expressive of alluvial and tectonic processes, obvious backdrop and part of the sequence of ranges that encircle to the Reikorangi Basin.
	Transient values (m)	Transient values are associated the with seasonal patterns of flowering species such as kamahi and the ranging patterns of forest bird species from the Tararua — Akatarawa Ranges
Associative	Shared or recognised values (mh)	The majority of the landscape is zoned rural and as conservation land — as part of the Tararua Forest Park. Other features identified in the District Plan include: heritage ecosites that extend beyond the Park boundaries. Road layby areas at the edge of this landscape are popular as lookout points for views out across the basin to the coast and Kapiti Island. The Akatarawa Saddle is a well known landmark and edge of the landscape area forming the catchment boundary between the Waikanae and Akatarawa Rivers.

	Values to tangata whenua (h)	Named peaks and waterways of the area indicate long held associations that have particular significance to particular <i>iwi</i> and <i>hapū</i> with Māori land ownership continued on the eastern edge of Akatarawa Road. Early transportation routes to and from the Hutt Valley followed a similar alignment to Akatarawa Road and was used as a gateway to forest resources from lowland settlements.
	Historical associations (mh)	The Akatarawa saddle route is associated with early exploration of and connections through to Wellington and the Wairarapa. The opening of Akatarawa Road (in 1922) marked a significant era of native timber milling, early industry, <i>farming</i> and settlement patterns in Reikorangi Valley.
Potential threats		Water catchment management/fresh water values, indigenous vegetation removal, <i>earthworks</i> including tracks, [residential] development typologies including density, location, <i>height</i> etc. and <i>effects</i> on landscape values of the Tararua Ranges ONL areas adjacent, pest/weed populations, <i>infrastructure</i> /roading upgrades, forestry management regimes

SAL27 Otaihanga Foothills + Nikau Escarpment		s + Nikau Escarpment
	The foothills and outlier of the Akatarawa range that extend from Ruapehu Road to the Muaupoko Stream.	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BP32	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (mh)	A defined escarpment sequence, expressive of tectonic processes with steep western slopes and a gentler incline to the east. Dissected by tributaries of the Waikanae River. Supports remnant kohekohe-nikau dominated forest, once characteristic of steep hill foothills in the District. A large remnant of kohekohe-tawa- northern rata forest is located behind the escarpment within a reserve area.
	Research and education (mh)	A geological and ecological feature of regional significance, with areas accessible to the public, at Nikau Reserve and Paraparaumu Domain.
	Rarity (mh)	The Otaihanga Oligocene sedimentary outlier is located off Maui Pomare Road, that is not determined elsewhere in the lower North Island. Remnant kohekohe-nikau forest is now an uncommon habitat in the Tararua Ecological District.
	Ecosystem functioning (mh)	The area contributes to existing ecological links between Tararua ranges and lowlands/ Waikanae River/ Kapiti Island. The larger remnants provide effective habitat for indigenous species such as kereru and mudfish. Tributaries of the Muaupoko Stream originate along eastern slopes of the outlier.
Perceptual	Coherence (m)	The escarpment landforms support a relatively complex and

		discordant pattern of land use and landcover, with areas of bush, exotic forestry, pastoral land and some residential development along the lower slopes. There is also localised modification to landform at a quarry site.
	Memorability (m)	The Otaihanga foothills are a memorable feature due to their prominence along SH1 and as an important backdrop/landmark for areas of settlement (particularly Paraparaumu) in the southern parts of the District. The Nikau Reserve is also a popular day walk.
	Aesthetic paradigm (m)	The foothills possess strong picturesque qualities as the mid ground feature of a broader view of the Tararua ranges and confine the north-south view shaft along SH1.
	Naturalness (m)	The area has a moderate degree of natural character. This is associated with the distinct landform and more substantive areas of <i>indigenous vegetation</i> that contrast with adjacent urban areas. <i>Natural character</i> values are reduced by mining activities, recent residential development along ridge line and exotic forestry plantations at northern extent of the escarpment sequence.
	Expressiveness / legibility (mh)	The foothills are a tectonic landform. They are an important landmark and edge to areas of settlement at Paraparaumu.
	Transient values (m)	Important seasonal food source for forest bird species.
Associative	Shared or recognised values (mh)	The western slopes of the escarpment are zoned as open space, including Nikau Reserve, with a larger conservation zone extending up into foothills. Views of the 'eastern escarpment' are protected in the District Plan. Other features that are recognised include the following heritage ecological sites; Nikau Forest along the western face of the escarpment and the Muaupoko Bush within in the Paraparaumu Reserve with Department of Conservation threatened environments areas. The sedimentary outlier on the eastern face (off Anlaby Road) is recognised by the NZ Geological Society to be of national significance. There are recreational tracks in the Nikau Reserve, off SH1, with a lookout point along ridge that is valued for expansive views of the coastal area. Lower slopes valued as a rural-residential area with some productive land use. More recent development along the ridgeline (up off Nikau Valley).
	Values to tangata whenua (I)	Associated with access to forest resources inland via the Muaupoko stream.
	Historical associations (m)	The area is the site of early European settlement and <i>farming</i> in the Otaihanga/Nikau Valley.
Potential threats		Indigenous vegetation removal, infrastructure development/upgrades, [residential] development typology, location, height, density including effects on ridgeline/skyline and rural character along the majority extent of the escarpment

SAL28	Mataihuka (Raumat	i) Escarpment
	Escarpment slopes of the Akatarawa outlier that extends from Waterfall Road to Ruapehu Road	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BP32	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (mh)	Mataihuka is a defined escarpment, with steep western slopes and gentler incline to the east. Part of a sequence of escarpments (Paekākāriki, Mataihuka, Nikau, Hemi Matenga) that define the lowland areas of the District. Remnant kohekohe dominated forest is characteristic of the escarpment ecodomain and loess deposits
	Research and education (mh)	The escarpment is a well defined tectonic landform with areas accessible to the public (Mataihuka track). Colluvial erosion processes are dominant on the escarpment face.
	Rarity (mh)	Coastal forest of this type is underrepresented nationally.
	Ecosystem functioning (mh)	The escarpment contributes to the existing ecological links between the Tararua Ranges and the lowlands, including Kapiti Island. Tributaries of the Wharemauku Stream originate along eastern slopes.
Perceptual	Coherence (h)	Landform largely unmodified with distinct ridgeline and remnant vegetation marking narrow gullies and varying soil conditions.
	Memorability (h)	It is a memorable feature due to its prominence along SH1 and as an important backdrop/landmark for areas of settlement, particularly Paraparaumu, in the southern parts of the District. The Mataihuka track provides expansive views of the coastline, Kapiti Island and Akatarawa Ranges to the south.
	Aesthetic paradigm (h)	The escarpment has strong picturesque qualities as the mid ground in a broader view of the Tararua Ranges that includes Maungakawa and Mt Maunganui. It creates a strong north-south view shaft along SH1.
	Naturalness (h)	Associated with a moderate-high degree of natural character, particularly within the Open Space zone, due to the distinct landform and regenerating <i>indigenous vegetation</i> that contrasts with adjacent urban areas and with perceptions enhanced by public access. <i>Natural character</i> values are reduced by recent development along ridge line and exotic forestry plantations at northern extent of the escarpment.
	Expressiveness / legibility (h)	The landforms are largely unmodified. The escarpment forms an important landmark and creates a strong edge to areas of settlement at Paraparaumu and contributes to a sequence of escarpments that define the lowland areas of the District.
	Transient values (I)	The escarpment has little transient value.
Associative	Shared or recognised	The majority extent of the western slopes of the escarpment is zoned as open space and areas around Panorama Drive are

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	values (h)	zoned as Land of High Visual Sensitivity. Other features recognised by the District Plan include: heritage <i>ecological sites</i> along the western slopes that include kohekohe-titoki forest remnants of regional significance. The recreational Mataihuka track (off Waterfall Road and Panorama Drive) affords expansive views of the coastal area. Mataihuka as the highest point along the escarpment and name of the known pa site.
	Values to tangata whenua (m)	Linked with pa site probably located near the southern extent of the escarpment called Mataihuka.
	Historical associations (I)	The Mataihuka walkway was established in 1990.
Potential threats		Indigenous vegetation removal, infrastructure development/upgrades, [residential] development typology, location, height, density including effects on ridgeline/skyline and rural character along the majority extent of the escarpment

SAL29	Southern Beaches	
	Beach and public areas of the foredunes extending from the settlement of Paekākārik through to the northern edge of the Waikanae Beach settlement including the Wharemauku Stream, Tikotu Creek and Waimeha Stream mouths (excluding the Paekākāriki escarpment, Whareroa Dunes and Waikanae River Mouth beach and foredune areas that have been assessed separately).	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BN32	& BP32
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (mh)	Beach and foredune areas are expressive of both coastal aggregation and erosion processes, with the distinct foreland at Paraparaumu linked to the sheltering <i>effects</i> of Kapiti Island and contrasting with the retreating shoreline to the south. Landforms are also influenced by alluvial processes; mainly as a result of the outflow from the Waikanae River. In contrast to the Northern Beach landscape, natural patterns of landform are influenced by greater levels of use by residents and visitors and ease of access and development on or near the foredunes. Naturalised <i>indigenous vegetation</i> patterns are limited, due to the impact of coastal erosion, colonising exotic weeds, the proximity of development to the coastal edge and the <i>effects</i> of vehicular and pedestrian traffic.
	Research and education (mh)	Related to coastal deposition, erosion and the <i>effect</i> s of river and stream outflow.
	Rarity (mh)	The land formation processes contrast markedly with those of the Northern Beaches. The extent of the Paraparaumu foreland is unique to this area of the coast and expressive of the sheltering <i>effect</i> s of Kapiti Island. Beyond the island's influence, an eroding coastline features exposing sandstone and greywacke that underlies much of the District.

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	Ecosystem functioning (mh)	Minor areas of colonising <i>indigenous vegetation</i> such as spinifex are located around stream mouths and at Paraparaumu beach are associated with community/ <i>Council</i> restoration projects. Stream mouths provide spawning habitat for fish e.g. whitebait but fresh water values are compromised by runoff and loss of riparian vegetation inland. Sea and wading bird populations are greater around stream mouths and the less accessible sections of the beach.
Perceptual	Coherence (mh)	The Southern beaches extend over more than 20km, in a distinct arc from the edge of Paekākāriki, through to the Paraparaumu foreland; as can be seen on a clear day. Patterns of landform on the beach areas, although influenced by the construction of structures to reduce coastal erosion and stormwater flows, are clearly expressive of <i>coastal processes</i> with marked variations relating to the <i>effects</i> of river and stream mouths. Similarly, patterns of landform on the foredunes mark the extent of Kapiti Island's <i>effects</i> on mainland <i>coastal processes</i> and river and stream outflow. Patterns of vegetation are more diverse, with untended areas of foredune featuring colonising exotic and minor indigenous patterns that contrast strongly with deliberately designed esplanade areas and amenity planting in residential properties on the foredunes. Built development along the majority extent adds further complexity to this landscape, although distinct patterns of residential character can be recognised, that are broadly aligned with the patterns of landform and relative prominence of the inland dunes.
	Memorability (mh)	This is a highly memorable landscape, due to the extent of the beach areas, the dynamic qualities of the <i>coastal environment</i> and the views the area affords of important landmarks such as Kapiti Island, the inland ranges and the south island.
	Aesthetic paradigm (mh)	Picturesque qualities relate to the sequence of views experienced in this landscape, the framing <i>effects</i> of the foredunes and the way that these views vary as a result of changing weather conditions and aspect. For example, views from Paraparaumu feature Kapiti Island at its closest to the mainland and are in marked contrast to those from Paekākāriki Beach. The Southern Beach landscape also forms part of the highly valued view from the Centennial Highway and Paekākāriki lookout.
	Naturalness (mh)	The beach and fore dune areas in this landscape can be associated with a moderate and moderate-high degree of natural character. Landforms and landcover have been modified by coastal erosion management strategies, such as groynes and timber and rock walls, vehicle and pedestrian access, exotic weed species and by the direct <i>effects</i> of development. Perceptions of <i>natural character</i> are also influenced by the proximity, density and typology of [residential] development in the wider context; e.g. <i>natural character</i> values are greater to the north of Paraparaumu Beach where the houses are set back and partially obscured from the beach.

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	Historical associations (h)	The Southern Beaches formed part of the Old Coach Road that extended through the District, prior to the construction of the inland transportation routes. Historical associations linked with the traditions of both local resident and visitor beach activities including valued whitebaiting and fishing spots and holiday season events including community group competitions.
Potential threats		pest/weed populations, water catchment management/fresh water values, vehicle/pedestrian access levels/alignment, coastal hazard management strategies, [residential] edge development typologies, location, <i>height</i> etc. including <i>effect</i> s on the degree of natural character, design/management of amenity esplanade areas.

SAL30	Wainui	
	Mt Wainui and the valley systems that extend down to MacKay's crossing, including the razor back ridge behind the Paekākāriki escarpment.	
Map Location	NZ Topo Map BP32	
Factor	Criteria / *RS	Factor / Criteria Description
Physical	Representativeness (mh)	The defined valleys and prominent peak are expressive of the underlying tectonic process, with Transmission Gully and the Wainui Saddle following the line of the Ohariu fault. Remnant areas of forest on Wainui are characteristic of the kamahi ecodomain. Upper slopes form part of the Akatarawa Forest Park and are typical of the broader podocarp and montane forest that extends along the Tararua ranges.
	Research and education (mh)	The area is made up of defined tectonic landforms. The Paekākāriki rockfall along the base of the foothills are expressive of underlying geomorphology. Forest areas along the ranges and lower Kohekohe- tawa-titoki remnants (Wainui Bush) are of regional significance.
	Rarity (mh)	Lowland areas of forest are uncommon in the District.
	Ecosystem functioning (mh)	Ecological corridors are retained through discontinuous remnants that provide links to lowland areas and between the Akatarawa area and Kapiti Island. The streams that flow through forested areas (Wainui) have high freshwater values.
Perceptual	Coherence (h)	The area is made up of a distinct sequence of valleys following fault lines and a landmark peak clearly visible from SH1. Pastoral land use, to the west of Transmission Gully, reveals strong topography, including a razor back ridge line.
	Memorability (h)	The landscape is memorable due to its prominence along SH1 and its importance as a backdrop/landmark for areas of settlement in the southern parts of the District.
	Aesthetic paradigm (h)	The landscape has strong picturesque qualities; because of the way several features come together, including the prominent peak in the background, mid ground views of confined river

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Transient

Associative

values (m)

Shared or

recognised

values (mh)

whenua (m)

Historical

associations (mh)

farming practices by European settlers (MacKay's, Lynch). Te Puka Valley is recognised as an important infrastructure link; also known as 'Transmission Gully' and the planned alternative

development/upgrade, earthworks including effects on existing

Indigenous vegetation removal, large scale infrastructure

degree of natural character, ridgeline/skyline views.

SH1 route across the Wainui Saddle.

Potential

threats