

WEST COAST REGION NATURAL CHARACTER STUDY 2013

COASTAL OUTSTANDING & HIGH NATURAL CHARACTER AREAS SCHEDULE + MAPS











PREPARED FOR: WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT NOVEMBER 2013 . STATUS: FINAL BROWN NZ LTD

INTRODUCTION

This report is a technical background document to the West Coast Regional Council's Proposed Regional Coastal Plan 2016. The report contains further details on outstanding and high natural character areas (NCA's) in the West Coast coastal marine area, with descriptions of the characteristics and key attributes of each natural character area, photos, and maps showing their locations from south to north.

The report has been prepared for the West Coast Regional Council as part of the Council's full review of the currently operative Regional Coastal Plan 2001 under the Resource Management Act 1991.

Background

In 2011 the West Coast Regional Council and the Buller, Grey, and Westland District Councils tendered the project to identify ONL's and outstanding and high natural character areas in the coastal marine area of the West Coast, and the rest of the Region.

The Regional Council sought the identification and assessment of ONL's and natural character areas to give effect to Policies 13 and 15 of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (NZCPS) for the Coastal Plan review. The project became a joint exercise with the three District Councils, who wished to have terrestrial landscape and natural character areas identified for their District Plan reviews.

Methodology

Brown NZ Ltd was the successful tenderer, and undertook the project using the following methodology:

- 1. Development of an assessment framework for identifying ONL's and outstanding and high natural character areas using criteria recognised by the landscape profession, guidance from Policies 13 and 15 of the NZCPS, and Environment Court caselaw decisions commonly referred to.
- 2. A desktop evaluation of existing data and resources including:
 - West Coast Regional Council's sets of aerial photos of the coastline taken by NIWA, DOC, and Maritime New Zealand;
 - Reports on the coastal environment by Maritime New Zealand, and the West Coast Marine Protection Forum;
 - Topographical maps;
 - Satellite imagery such as Google Earth;
 - Aerial photography from all West Coast Councils of the districts and region;
 - Landscape and natural character assessments on relevant, regional and district council consent applications;
 - Current ONL's in the Regional Coastal Plan; and,
 - Other relevant literature on the geomorphology of potential sites.
- 3. A field trip to verify the findings of the desktop assessment.
- 4. An assessment of each potential area applying criteria from the sources referred to in No 1 above.
- 5. Rating each area low to high for each of the assessment criteria. This includes recognising the regional context of this assessment and the emphasis on the identification of those areas that are exceptional, prominent, or striking.
- 6. Mapping of the extent of each area identified, and discussion with Council staff on proposed areas.

Structure of the report

In the first section of this report the assessment for each NCA is presented in a worksheet format as follows:

- Assessment criteria listed in categories of biophysical characteristics, perceptual/aesthetic values, and associative values
- A low to high ranking for each criteria, and each category of values

- An overall evaluation of natural character values in the context of the West Coast Region. The outstanding NCA's scored a rating of "high" for most of the criteria, and "high" for each of the two key types of values. The high NCA's did not score a rating of "high" for some criteria but were considered overall to have high natural character.
- A brief written assessment of the key attributes of each natural character area.

The second part of this report comprises maps showing the location and extent of each NCA using the Topo 250 maps series. The northern and southern boundaries of each natural character unit tend to follow natural boundaries. The inland extent of the coastal environment based on the NZCPS description is indicated by a red line. The western or seaward edge of each NCA does not indicate the seaward extent of the NCA. It is included to illustrate that the sea area adjoining the land affects our perception of the natural character. It is common practice in coastal natural character assessment to include an area of coastal water, and this practice is accepted by the Environment Court.

Assessment of the coastal landscape areas is in a separate report.

Awarua Point – Cascade Bay Unit No: **C1**

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	OUTSTANI

Kev Attributes / Characteristics:

Extremely remote and isolated sequence of exposed coastal slopes, points, rocky shoals, outcrops, islets, bluffs, broad beaches, and eroded dune lands and wetlands.

- Varied amalgam of raw and exposed landforms, natural vegetation patterns and isolated beachfronts and bays impart a strong sense of wildness and remoteness.
- Continuous pristine mature coastal and lowland forest cover impart a very strong sense of naturalness, together with the dramatic terrain.
- Dramatic engagement with the Tasman Sea.
- Strong elevated relief reinforced by indigenous vegetation patterns.
- With the exception of a few hunting huts and tracks this area is entirely devoid of any development.

Halfway Bluff Unit No: **C2**

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	

Kev Attributes / Characteristics:

Extremely remote series of coastal bluffs and escarpments, rising to over 100m in parts, which enclose the head of the Cascade and Hope Rivers.

- Striking interface with the Tasman Sea sheer cliffs and scarps plunge dramatically to the sea with the eroded dunelands and coastal terraces providing an impressive sense of the landscapes formative processes.
- Continuous pristine mature coastal and lowland forest cover impart a very strong sense of naturalness, together with the dramatic terrain.
- Dramatic engagement with the Tasman Sea.
- With the exception of a few hunting huts and the northern edge of the Hollyford track this area is entirely devoid of development.

Cascade Point – Jackson Head Unit No: C3

Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values	LowHigh
Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values	LowHigh

Kev Attributes / Characteristics:

Extremely remote and isolated sequence of exposed coastal slopes, prominent points, rocky shoals, outcrops, islets, bluffs, broad beaches, and eroded dune lands and wetlands.

- Varied amalgam of raw and exposed landforms, natural vegetation patterns and isolated beachfronts and bays impart a strong sense of wildness and remoteness.
- Continuous pristine mature coastal and lowland forest cover impart a very strong sense of naturalness, together with the dramatic terrain.
- Dramatic engagement with the Tasman Sea.
- Strong elevated relief reinforced by indigenous vegetation patterns.

Jackson Bay Unit No: C4 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes**

Night-time Values				
Rating of Perceptual Values:				
	Lo	ow	 High	
Overall Natural Character Evaluation				

Key Attributes / Characteristics

Context / Setting

Transient / Dynamic Attributes

Exposed coastal escarpment fronted by a sandy beach and rocky outcrops.

- Coastal landforms, beach, outcrops, with indigenous vegetation reinforcing topography, exposure and dynamic coastal processes.
- Natural qualities are clearly evident in the landform, vegetation cover and their relationship with both the Jackson Bay and Tasman Sea contributing to a very endemic landscape.
- Backed by forest covered foothills including Burmeister Tops with views of Jackson Head and the Alps across Jackson Bay.
- The remoteness and wildness of the area is countered by the presence of the Haast Jackson Bay Road and associated protection works and the small fishing settlement at Jackson Bay.

Neils Beach Unit No: **C5**

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values	
Night-time Values	LowHigh
Night-time Values	LowHigh

Kev Attributes / Characteristics:

Highly exposed coastal escarpment fronted by a sandy beach and dune field and rocky outcrops.

- Natural qualities are clearly evident in the coastal landforms, beach, outcrops, with indigenous vegetation reinforcing topography, exposure and dynamic coastal processes.
- Dramatic engagement with the Tasman Sea
- Backed by forest covered foothills including Burmeister Tops with views of Jackson Head and the Alps across Jackson Bay.
- Coastal vegetation along the seaward edge of Haast Jackson Bay Road
- Amalgam of raw landforms, natural vegetation patterns and isolated beachfronts impart a strong sense of wildness and remoteness.





Neils Beach Settlement Unit No: C6 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values**

LowHigh

Key Attributes / Characteristics:

Overall Natural Character Evaluation

Rating of Perceptual Values:

Isolated and modest bach community enclosed and integrated amongst mature coastal forest and flanked by the mouth of the Arawhata River.

- Natural qualities are clearly evident in the landform, mature vegetation cover and their relationship with both the Jackson Bay and Tasman Sea contributing to a very endemic landscape.
- Backed by mature forest covered foothills including Burmeister Tops with views of Jackson Head and the Alps across Jackson Bay.
- Although apparent the bach community and airstrip do not disrupt the cohesion of natural elements which remain the dominant feature of this unit.

Arawhata River Mouth Unit No: **C7**

Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	

Key Attributes / Characteristics

Remote and isolated sequence of exposed beaches, low lying mature coastal forest, eroded dune lands and wetlands, and the braided river mouth of the Arawhata River.

- Continuous pristine mature coastal and lowland forest cover.
- This landscape is highly expressive of the interplay between the Arawhata River mouth and the Tasman Sea. The tidal rhythm of the sea also provides a counterpoint for the rivers natural variations of flow, clarity and flood cycles.
- Inland dune dammed waterbodies are expressive of the coastal environment's formative processes.
- Backed by forest covered foothills of Mt Mclean and the Haast Range beyond.
- Limited presence of any development.
- Unmodified vegetation sequences from dunefields to mature coastal forest create a strong sense of naturalness.







Unit No: C8 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) **Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns** Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values Rating of Perceptual Values:** LowHigh Overall Natural Character Evaluation

Key Attributes / Characteristics

Waiatoto River Mouth

Isolated and modest bach community enclosed and integrated amongst mature coastal forest and flanked by the mouth of the Waiatoto River.

- Highly dynamic and dramatic interaction / relationship between the river mouth and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- Backed by extensive mature forest which extends towards the Selborne and Haast Ranges.
- A scattering of baches and pasture occupy the shoreline near Haast Jackson Bay Road although they do not disrupt the overall cohesion of natural elements which remain the dominant feature of this unit.
- The dramatic exposure of the opens waters of the Tasman Sea enhances the sense of remoteness and wildness.
- The tidal rhythm of the sea also provides a counterpoint for the rivers natural variations of flow, clarity and flood cycles.



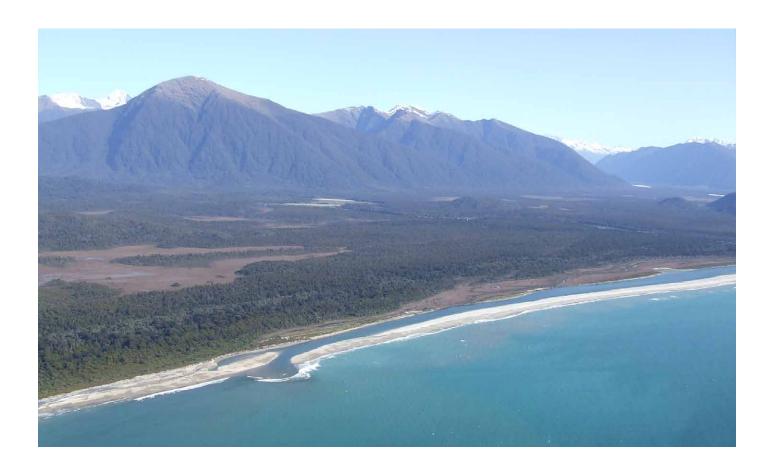
Waiatoto Lagoon and Wetland Unit No: **C9**

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	OUTSTANDING

Key Attributes / Characteristics

Remote and isolated sequence of exposed beaches, low lying mature coastal forest, eroded dune lands and wetlands.

- This landscape is highly expressive of the interplay between the Waiatoto River mouth and Lagoon and the Tasman Sea. The tidal rhythm of the sea also provides a counterpoint for the rivers natural variations of flow, clarity and flood cycles.
- Dramatic engagement with the Tasman Sea enhances the sense of remoteness and wildness
- Unmodified vegetation sequences from dunefields to continuous pristine mature coastal and lowland forest cover.
- Dune dammed lagoon is expressive of the coastal environment's formative processes.
- Backed by forest covered foothills of Gill Hill and the Selborne Range beyond.



Hannah's Clearing Unit No: C10

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	HIGH

Kev Attributes / Characteristics

A broad sweeping ocean beach backed by patches of low lying mature coastal forest, eroded dune lands, and pasture.

- Highly dynamic and dramatic interaction / relationship between the beach and dune field and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- Backed by extensive mature forest which extends towards the Selborne and Browning Ranges.
- The presence of pasture, Haast Jackson Bay Road, and powerlines do not disrupt the overall cohesion of natural elements which remain the dominant feature of this unit.
- The dramatic exposure of the opens waters of the Tasman Sea enhances the sense of remoteness and wildness.



Okuru and Turnbull River Mouths Unit No: C11 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) **Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns** Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values Rating of Perceptual Values:**

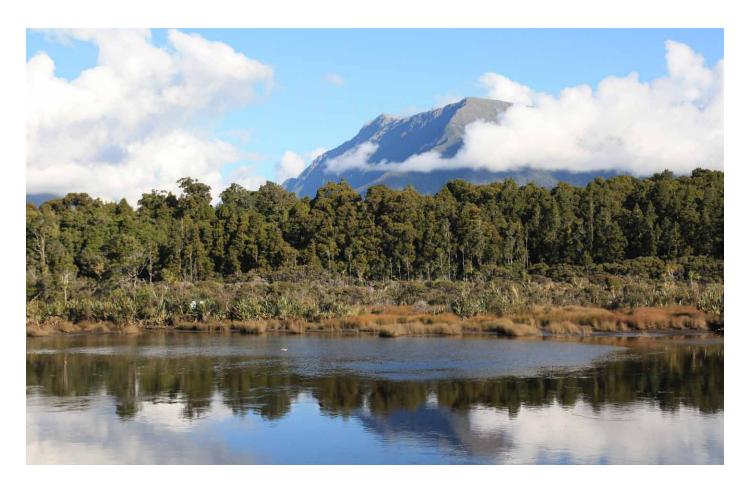
LowHigh

Kev Attributes / Characteristics

Overall Natural Character Evaluation

Highly dramatic and exposed river mouth enclosed by an extensive sand bar and dunefield.

- Highly dynamic and dramatic interaction / relationship between the river mouth, sand bar, and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- Backed by extensive mature forest which extends towards the Selborne and Haast Ranges.
- A small bach community occupies much of the coastal shoreline and pasture though it does not disrupt the overall cohesion of natural elements which remain the dominant feature of this unit.
- The dramatic exposure of the opens waters of the Tasman Sea and views back toward the Selborne and Haast Ranges enhances the sense of remoteness and wildness.
- The tidal rhythm of the sea also provides a counterpoint for the rivers natural variations of flow, clarity and flood cycles.





Open Bay Islands Unit No: **C12**

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	OUTSTANDIN

Key Attributes / Characteristics

A remote and wild archipelago of exposed and dramatic island landforms that comprise sheer cliffs, rock shoals and craggy bays backed by stunted coastal forest and scrub.

- Highly expressive unmodified landforms and raw, etched rock faces imbue a strong sense of wildness and remoteness.
- Wind swept coastal forest and scrub cover
- Interplay of exposed headlands, craggy bluffs, vegetated escarpments accentuate the prominence of the surrounding seascape and coastal processes that have and continue to shape the coastal environment.
- The islands are unfettered by any form of development or modification

Haast	Beach
Unit No:	C13

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	HIGH

Kev Attributes / Characteristics:

A broad sweeping ocean beach backed by patches of low lying mature coastal forest, eroded dune lands, and pasture.

- Highly dynamic and dramatic interaction / relationship between the beach and dune field and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- Backed by extensive mature forest which extends towards the Browning and Mark Ranges.
- The presence of pasture, Haast Jackson Bay Road, and powerlines do not disrupt the overall cohesion of natural elements which remain the dominant feature of this unit.
- The dramatic exposure of the opens waters of the Tasman Sea enhances the sense of remoteness and wildness.

Haast River Mouth Unit No: **C14**

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	OUTSTANI

Kev Attributes / Characteristics:

Exposed braided river mouth surrounded by low lying mature coastal forest, eroded dune lands and wetlands.

- This landscape is highly expressive of the interplay between the Haast River mouth and the Tasman Sea. The tidal rhythm of the sea also provides a counterpoint for the rivers natural variations of flow, clarity and flood cycles.
- Continuous pristine mature coastal and lowland forest cover.
- Inland dune dammed waterbodies are expressive of the coastal environment's formative processes.
- Backed by forest covered foothills of Mt Mclean and the Haast Range beyond.





Haast River Mouth Unit No: C15

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	HIGH

Key Attributes / Characteristics

Braided river mouth surrounded by low lying mature coastal forest, eroded dune lands, and wetlands along its eastern shoreline while its western margins are dominated by pasture.

- Highly dynamic and dramatic interaction / relationship between the beach and dune field and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- Backed by extensive mature forest which extends towards Mosquito Hill.
- The presence of pasture along the western shoreline and Haast Jackson Bay Road bridge does not detract from the highly expressive natural processes and elements which are the dominant feature of the unit.

Waita River - Ship Creek Unit No: **C16**

51m 116. 616	
Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	OUTSTAN

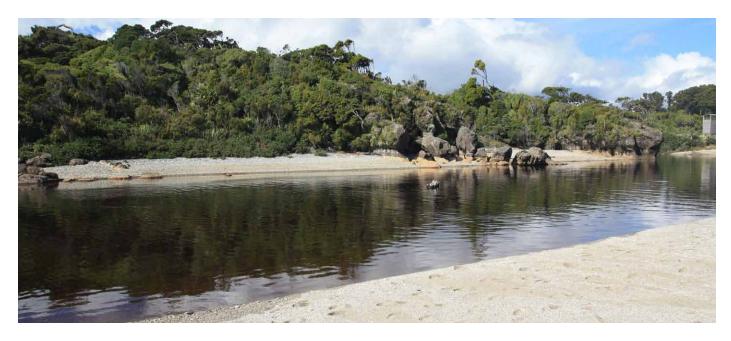
Kev Attributes / Characteristics:

Remote and isolated sequence of exposed beaches, low lying mature coastal forest, eroded dune lands and dune dammed wetlands.

- Continuous pristine mature coastal and lowland forest cover.
- Dramatic engagement with the Tasman Sea enhances the sense of remoteness and wildness
- Inland dune dammed waterbodies are expressive of the coastal environment's formative processes.
- Unmodified vegetation sequences from dunefields to mature coastal forest create a strong sense of naturalness.
- Backed by extensive mature coastal forest which leads up to the Mataketake Range
- The presence of walking tracks, carpark, and shelter at Ship Creek, as well as SH6 does not detract from the highly expressive natural processes and elements that are the dominant feature of the unit.







Moeraki and Paringa Coast Unit No: **C17**

OTHI 140. C17	
Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	OUTSTANE

Key Attributes / Characteristics:

Remote and isolated sequence of exposed coastal slopes, points, rocky shoals, outcrops, islets, bluffs, broad beaches, and eroded dune lands and wetlands.

- Varied amalgam of raw and exposed landforms, windswept vegetation which impart a strong sense of naturalness.
- Continuous pristine mature coastal and lowland forest cover.
- Striking interface with the Tasman Sea. Sheer cliffs and scarps plunge dramatically into the sea, some of which can be seen from Knights Point lookout.
- With the exception of SH6 which traverses the southern end of this unit, several tracks and huts, this area is largely unmodified.
- Strong elevated relief reinforced by indigenous vegetation patterns.





Paringa River Mouth Unit No: C18 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes**

Key Attributes / Characteristics:

Overall Natural Character Evaluation

Rating of Perceptual Values:

Night-time Values

Braided river mouth flanked by mature coastal forest and large sand bar at its entrance.

Highly dynamic and dramatic interaction / relationship between the river braids, sand bar and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.

LowHigh

- Enclosed by Paringa Hill and Mt Gates which are extensively covered in mature coastal forest
- The presence of a number of huts along the shoreline does not detract from the highly expressive natural processes and elements which are the dominant feature of the unit.



Buttress Point - Heretaniwha Point Unit No: **C19**

Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	(indication of key i erceptual values)
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values	
· •	
Night-time Values	LowHigh
Night-time Values	LowHigh

Kev Attributes / Characteristics

Remote and isolated sequence of exposed coastal slopes, points, rocky shoals, outcrops, islets, bluffs, broad beaches, dune lands, lagoons, and wetlands.

- Varied amalgam of raw and exposed landforms, windswept vegetation which impart a strong sense of naturalness.
- Continuous pristine mature coastal and lowland forest cover.
- Striking interface with the Tasman Sea. Sheer cliffs and scarps at Heretaniwha Point plunge dramatically into the sea.
- With the exception of several walking tracks and huts, this area is virtually devoid of development or modification.
- Highly dynamic and dramatic interaction / relationship between the river mouth and sheltered lagoon of Ohinemaka River and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- Unmodified vegetation sequences from the dunefields at Bruce Bay through to mature coastal forest.





Makawhio Point Unit No: **C20**

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	OUTSTANDING

Key Attributes / Characteristics

Remote sequence of exposed coastal slopes, points, rocky shoals, outcrops, islets, bluffs, broad beaches, dune lands, lagoons, and wetlands.

- Varied amalgam of raw and exposed landforms, windswept vegetation and isolated beach fronts impart a strong sense of wildness and remoteness.
- Striking interface with the Tasman Sea. Sheer cliffs and scarps at Jacobs Bluff plunge dramatically into the sea.
- A dramatic stand of mature wind swept rimu forest flanks Sandy Beach and imparts a strong sense of naturalness – rare sight of climatic species at the coastal edge.
- This area is virtually devoid of development or modification although it adjoins areas of pasture in the Makawhio River valley.
- Highly dynamic and dramatic interaction / relationship between the braided river mouth of the Makawhio River and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.







Manakaiaua River Mouth Unit No: **C21**

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	HIGH

Kev Attributes / Characteristics:

River mouth and enclosed lagoons flanked by a large sand bar at its entrance.

- Highly dynamic and dramatic interaction / relationship between the river waters, lagoons, sand bar and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- Enclosed by Makawhio Point to the south and extensive coastal forest along Hunt Beach.
- The presence of pasture and farming activities near the shoreline does not overly detract from the highly expressive natural processes and elements which are the dominant feature of the unit.

Hunt Beach – Karangarua and Cook River Mouths Unit No: **C22**

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	OUTSTANDING

Key Attributes / Characteristics

Remote and isolated sequence of exposed beaches, coastal bluffs and escarpments, low lying mature coastal forest, braided river mouths, dune fields, and wetlands

- Continuous pristine mature coastal and lowland forest cover.
- Highly dynamic and dramatic interaction / relationship between the extensive braided river systems of the Karangarua and Cook Rivers, associated sand bar and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- Unmodified vegetation sequences from dunefields to mature coastal forest impart a strong sense of naturalness.
- Striking interface with the Tasman Sea. Sheer cliffs and scarps including Cook Bluff plunge dramatically into the sea.







Gillespies Point – Kohuamarua Bluff Unit No: **C23**

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	OUTSTAN

Kev Attributes / Characteristics

Remote and isolated sequence of exposed beaches, coastal bluffs and escarpments, low lying mature coastal forest, braided river mouths, saltwater lagoons, dune fields, and wetlands

- Continuous pristine mature coastal and lowland forest cover.
- Highly dynamic and dramatic interaction / relationship between the extensive braided system of the Waiho River, associated sand bars and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- A number of saltwater lagoons including Three Mile and Five Mile Lagoon are expressive of the formative and ongoing coastal processes.
- Unmodified vegetation sequences from dunefields to mature coastal forest create a strong sense of naturalness.
- Striking interface with the Tasman Sea. Sheer cliffs and scarps including Waikowhai Bluff plunge dramatically into the sea.
- Very limited modification and development.





Gllespies Beach Unit No: C24 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) **Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns** Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values Rating of Perceptual Values:** LowHigh Overall Natural Character Evaluation

Kev Attributes / Characteristics:

Series of enclosed waterbodies flanked by an extensive dunefield covered in regenerating scrub which merges into mature coastal forest.

- Natural qualities are clearly evident in the dune landform, wind swept vegetation cover and their relationship with the Tasman Sea, contributing to the feeling of naturalness.
- Sequence of vegetation from wetland through to coastal forest.
- The form and patterning of dune enclosed waterbodies including Quinlin Creek is expressive of the coastal environment's formative processes.
- Areas of historic and present modification while apparent are subservient to the natural elements and processes of this unit.



Okarito Lagoon Unit No: **C25**

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values	
•	
Night-time Values	LowHigh
Night-time Values	LowHigh

Key Attributes / Characteristics:

Vast and remote lagoon system enclosed by an extensive beach and dune field and flanked by mature low lying coastal forest to the east.

- Continuous pristine mature coastal and lowland forest cover.
- Intact sequences of dunefield and wetland vegetation through to mature coastal forest.
- Highly dynamic and dramatic interaction / relationship between the Okarito River mouth, associated sand bars and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- The presence and enclosure of the lagoon is expressive of formative coastal processes.
- Apart from Okarito village (excluded from this unit) at the southern end of the Lagoon the unit has very limited modification and development.







Waitangitaona and Whataroa River mouths Unit No: C26

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	OUTSTAN

Kev Attributes / Characteristics:

Highly remote and isolated braided river mouths, sequence of exposed beaches, low lying mature coastal forest, eroded dune lands and wetlands.

- Highly dynamic and dramatic interaction / relationship between the extensive braided river systems of the Waitangitaona, Waitangiroto, and Whataroa Rivers, associated sand bars and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- The tidal rhythm of the sea also provides a counterpoint for the rivers natural variations of flow, clarity and flood cycles.
- Noted White Heron colony on the Waitangiroto River
- Dune enclosed river mouth is expressive of the coastal processes
- River valley is dramatically enclosed on both sides by steep escarpments covered in pristine coastal forest extending back from Abut Head and Waitahi Bluff.
- Unmodified vegetation sequences from dunefields to mature coastal forest create a strong sense of naturalness
- Presence of any pasture and farming activities along the Waitangitaona River does not detract from the highly expressive natural processes and elements which are the dominant feature of the unit.



Saltwater Lagoon Unit No: **C27**

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	OUTSTAND

Key Attributes / Characteristics:

Vast and highly remote lagoon system enclosed by an extensive beach and dune field and flanked by mature low lying coastal forest to the east – includes Hikimutu Lagoon and Poerua River mouth.

- Continuous pristine mature coastal and lowland forest cover.
- Intact sequences of dunefield and wetland vegetation through to mature coastal forest.
- Highly dynamic and dramatic interaction / relationship between the Poerua River mouth,
 Hikimutu Lagoon, associated sand bars and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- The presence and enclosure of the lagoons is expressive of formative coastal processes.
- Apart from several access tracks and huts this unit has very limited modification and development.





Wanganui Bluff – Waitaha River Unit No: C28 Bio Physical Characteristics Evaluation Factors: Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure Habitat Value Natural Processes

Perceptual Values		
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual value	es)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness		
Experiential Attributes		
Context / Setting		
Transient / Dynamic Attributes		
Night-time Values		
Rating of Perceptual Values:		

LowHigh

	L	ow		Higl	h	
Overall Natural Character Evaluation						
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)			Ol	JTST <i>A</i>	ANDI	NG

Key Attributes / Characteristics

Rating of Bio Physical Values:

Remote and isolated sequence of exposed beaches, coastal bluffs and escarpments, low lying mature coastal forest, river mouths, saltwater lagoons, dune fields, and wetlands

- Varied amalgam of raw and exposed landforms, strong elevated relief, windswept vegetation which impart a strong sense of naturalness.
- Enclosed river and lagoon systems including Ounatai Lagoon and Te Rahotaiepa River are expressive of the formative and ongoing coastal processes.
- The tidal rhythm of the sea also provides a counterpoint for the rivers natural variations of flow, clarity and flood cycles.
- Unmodified vegetation sequences from dunefields to mature coastal forest create a strong sense of naturalness.
- Striking interface with the Tasman Sea. Sheer cliffs and scarps including Wanganui Bluff which plunge dramatically into the sea.
- Excludes the adjacent forestry area further inland.







Unit No: C29 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) **Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns** Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values Rating of Perceptual Values:** LowHigh Overall Natural Character Evaluation

Kev Attributes / Characteristics

Wanganui River Mouth

Extensive braided river mouth flanked by steep vegetated escarpment

- Highly dynamic and dramatic interaction / relationship between the river channels, gravel bars and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- The river entrance is enclosed by Mt Oneone and the imposing Wanganui Bluff.
- The presence of historic modification, and numerous baches / huts along the shoreline does not overly detract from the highly expressive natural processes and elements which are the dominant feature of the unit.



Waitaha River – Mikonui River Unit No: C30 **Bio Physical Characteristics Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) **Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns** Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values Rating of Perceptual Values:**

LowHigh

Kev Attributes / Characteristics

Overall Natural Character Evaluation

Broad sweeping exposed beach, coastal bluffs and escarpments, low lying mature coastal forest, river mouths, dune fields, and wetlands.

- Highly dynamic and dramatic interaction / relationship between the river mouth, gravel bars and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- Exposed dune landforms and windswept vegetation impart a strong sense of naturalness.
- Sheer cliffs and exposed coastal scarps at Bold Head plunge dramatically to the shoreline creating a striking interface with the Tasman Sea.
- Enclosed river and lagoon systems including Shearer Swamp are expressive of the formative and ongoing coastal processes.
- The presence of pasture and farming activities near the shoreline does not overly detract from the highly expressive natural processes and elements which are the dominant feature of the unit
- Backed by Kakapotahi Forest and the foothills of the Rangitoto Range.





Totara River mouth Unit No: **C31**

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation (Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	LowHigh

Key Attributes / Characteristics:

Broad sweeping exposed beach flanked by extensive dune fields, enclosed lagoons and islands, while the mouth of the Totara River is surrounded by a mixture of low lying mature coastal forest interspersed with patches of pasture.

- Highly dynamic and dramatic interaction / relationship between the Totara River mouth, sandbars and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- Exposed dune landforms and windswept vegetation impart a strong sense of naturalness and wildness.
- Enclosed river and lagoon system is expressive of the formative and ongoing coastal processes.
- The presence of pasture and farming activities near the shoreline does not overly detract from the highly expressive natural processes and elements which are the dominant feature of the unit.



Arahura River mouth Unit No: C32 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) **Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns** Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:**

	(Indication o	f key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness		
Experiential Attributes		
Context / Setting		
Transient / Dynamic Attributes		
Night-time Values		
Rating of Perceptual Values:		

	L	ow	 Hig	h	
Overall Natural Character Evaluation					
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)			ł	HGH	

Key Attributes / Characteristics:

River mouth and enclosed lagoons flanked by several sand bars at its entrance.

- Highly dynamic and dramatic interaction / relationship between the river waters, lagoons, sand bar and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- Exposed dune landforms and windswept vegetation impart a strong sense of naturalness and wildness.
- Enclosed river and lagoon systems are expressive of the formative and ongoing coastal processes.
- The presence of pasture and farming activities near the shoreline does not overly detract from the highly expressive natural processes and elements which are the dominant feature of the unit.



Chesterfield terraces Unit No: C33 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) **Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns** Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values Rating of Perceptual Values:** LowHigh Overall Natural Character Evaluation

Key Attributes / Characteristics:

Exposed coastal escarpment and terrace covered in windswept coastal forest and scrub.

- Coastal landforms with indigenous vegetation reinforcing topography and exposure to coastal processes.
- Natural qualities are clearly evident in the landform, vegetation cover and their relationship with the Tasman Sea contributing to a very endemic landscape.



Unit No: C34 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) **Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns** Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values Rating of Perceptual Values:** LowHigh Overall Natural Character Evaluation

Kev Attributes / Characteristics

Taramakau River mouth

Massive braided river mouth enclosed by a large sand bar at its entrance.

- Highly dynamic and dramatic interaction / relationship between the river waters, sand bar and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- Exposed sand bar / dune landforms and windswept vegetation impart a strong sense of naturalness and wildness.
- Steep escarpment covered in mature coastal forest flanks the southern margins of the river.
- The presence of pasture and farming activities along the river margins and SH6 rail and road bridge does not overly detract from the highly expressive natural processes and elements which are the dominant feature of the unit.



New River mouth Unit No: **C35**Bio Physical Charact

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	

Key Attributes / Characteristics:

Broad sweeping exposed beach flanked by extensive dune fields that encloses the river mouth creating an enclosed lagoon surrounded by low lying wetland forest.

- Highly dynamic and dramatic interaction / relationship between the New River mouth, enclosing dunes and sandbars and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- Exposed dune landforms and windswept vegetation impart a strong sense of naturalness and wildness.
- Enclosed river and lagoon systems are expressive of the formative and ongoing coastal processes.
- The presence of pasture, farming activities, and development along SH6 does not overly detract from the highly expressive natural processes and elements which are the dominant feature of the unit.





Peter Ridge foothills Unit No: C36 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) **Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns** Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values Rating of Perceptual Values:** LowHigh Overall Natural Character Evaluation

Kev Attributes / Characteristics

Exposed coastal escarpment and terrace covered in windswept coastal forest and scrub.

- Coastal landforms with indigenous vegetation reinforcing topography and exposure to coastal processes.
- Natural qualities are clearly evident in the landform, vegetation cover and their relationship with the Tasman Sea contributing to a very endemic landscape.

Unit No: C37 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) **Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns** Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values Rating of Perceptual Values:** LowHigh Overall Natural Character Evaluation

Kev Attributes / Characteristics

Rapahoe Range – Point Elizabeth

Coastal range comprising a sequence of coastal bluffs and escarpments with rocky shoals and bays closer to Point Elizabeth.

 Varied amalgam of raw and exposed landforms, strong elevated relief, windswept vegetation which impart a strong sense of naturalness.

OUTSTANDING

- Mature wind swept coastal forest across the Range enhances the sense of naturalness and wildness.
- Striking interface with the Tasman Sea. Sheer cliffs and scarps at Point Elizabeth which plunge dramatically into the sea.
- The presence of pasture and farming activities along the southern margins of the Range does not detract from the highly expressive natural processes and elements which are the dominant feature of the unit.





Rapahoe - Greigs coastline Unit No: C38 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) **Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns** Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values Rating of Perceptual Values:** LowHigh Overall Natural Character Evaluation

Kev Attributes / Characteristics

Exposed coastal escarpment and terrace covered in windswept coastal forest and scrub.

- Coastal landforms with indigenous vegetation reinforcing topography and exposure to coastal processes.
- Natural qualities are clearly evident in the landform, vegetation cover and their relationship with the Tasman Sea contributing to a very endemic landscape.
- Pockets of bach development, pasture, and protection works are apparent.

Nine Mile Bluff – Seventeen Mile Bluff Unit No: C39 Bio Physical Characteristics Evaluation Factors: Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:

Perceptual Values			
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)		
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness			
Experiential Attributes			
Context / Setting			
Transient / Dynamic Attributes			
Night-time Values			
Rating of Perceptual Values:			

	L	ow		Hig	h	
Overall Natural Character Evaluation						
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)			Ol	JTST/	AND	NG

Key Attributes / Characteristics:

Sequence of coastal bluffs and escarpments interspersed by rocky shoals and sandy bays.

- Varied amalgam of raw and exposed landforms, strong elevated relief, windswept vegetation which impart a strong sense of naturalness.
- Mature wind swept coastal forest across the escarpment enhances the sense of naturalness and wildness.
- Striking interface with the Tasman Sea. Sheer cliffs and scarps at numerous points along the coast which plunge dramatically into the sea.
- The presence of SH6 coastal road does not detract from the highly expressive natural processes and elements which are the dominant feature of the unit.







Paparoa foothills Unit No: **C40**

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
For a signatural Admittance	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
·	
Context / Setting	
Context / Setting Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Context / Setting Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values	LowHigh
Context / Setting Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values	LowHigh

Key Attributes / Characteristics

Sequence of rolling to steep coastal hills and valleys that form the foothills to the Paparoa Range.

- Varied amalgam of exposed landforms, very strong elevated relief, windswept vegetation which impart a strong sense of naturalness.
- Natural qualities are clearly evident in the landform, vegetation cover and their relationship with the Tasman Sea contributing to a very endemic landscape.
- Mature wind swept coastal forest across the escarpment enhances the sense of naturalness and wildness.
- The presence of SH6 coastal road does not detract from the highly expressive natural processes and elements which are the dominant feature of the unit.

Pakiroa Beach Unit No: C41 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) **Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns** Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values Rating of Perceptual Values:** LowHigh

Key Attributes / Characteristics

Overall Natural Character Evaluation

Broad sweeping sandy / stony beach backed by an extensive dunefield, coastal scrub and forest – at the northern end of Pakiroa Beach.

- Natural qualities are clearly evident in the dune landform, wind swept vegetation cover and their relationship with the Tasman Sea contribute to the feeling of naturalness.
- Intact sequence of vegetation from dune fields through to coastal forest.
- Presence of pasture and farming modification behind the coastal forest does not overly detract from the highly expressive and natural processes that are the dominant element of the unit.





Dolomite Point Pancake Rocks Unit No: **C42**

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness Experiential Attributes	
Experiential Attributes	
Experiential Attributes Context / Setting	
Experiential Attributes Context / Setting Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Experiential Attributes Context / Setting Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values	LowHigh
Experiential Attributes Context / Setting Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values	LowHigh

Key Attributes / Characteristics

Sequence of distinct rock formations including Dolomite Point, Pancake Rock, and Razorback Point as well as adjoining cliff faces.

- Varied amalgam of raw and exposed landforms, rock stratification, blowholes, sheer cliffs, caves, and windswept vegetation impart a strong sense of naturalness.
- Striking interface with the Tasman Sea. Sheer cliffs plunge dramatically into the sea.
- Dramatic wave action, evident coastal erosion, and seasonal changes to atmospheric conditions are highly expressive and natural processes.
- Extensive flax vegetation cover across the rock formations along with pockets of lowland forest and stands of nikau.
- Presence of adjoining village, SH6, DOC walkways, viewing platforms and signage behind the rock features does not overly detract from the highly expressive and natural processes that are the dominant element of the unit.









Unit No: C43 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) **Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns** Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values Rating of Perceptual Values:** LowHigh

Kev Attributes / Characteristics

Overall Natural Character Evaluation

Perpendicular Point – Woodpecker Bay

An extensive assemblage of craggy headlands and points, rock shoals and outcrops interspersed with sweeping sandy / stony beaches, dunefields, vegetated in coastal scrub and forest.

- High aesthetic values are associated with the inter-relationship between the series of craggy points and outcrops and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- Natural qualities are clearly evident in the amalgam of landforms, wind swept vegetation cover and their relationship with the Tasman Sea contributing to a very endemic landscape.
- Dramatic wave action, evident coastal erosion, and seasonal changes to atmospheric conditions are highly expressive and natural processes.
- The prominence of a number of houses / baches and SH6 along the coastline affects the perceived intactness and cohesion of the coastal environment, however they do not overly detract from the highly expressive and natural processes that dominate the landscape.
- Backed by a steep escarpment covered in mature coastal forest.





Woodpecker Bay foothills – Needle Point Unit No: C44 Bio Physical Characteristics Evaluation Factors: Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure Habitat Value Natural Processes

LowHigh

Perceptual Values		
Evaluation Factors:	Key Va	lues: f key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness		
Experiential Attributes		
Context / Setting		
Transient / Dynamic Attributes		
Night-time Values		
Rating of Perceptual Values:		

	Lo	ow		Higl	n	
Overall Natural Character Evaluation						
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)			Ol	JTST <i>F</i>	ANDI	NG

Kev Attributes / Characteristics:

Rating of Bio Physical Values:

Sequence of coastal bluffs and escarpments vegetated in mature coastal forest that wrap around the back of Woodpecker Bay and continue along the coast to Needle Point. An assemblage of craggy headlands and points, rock shoals and outcrops characterise the latter part of this coastline.

- Interplay of exposed headlands, craggy bluffs, vegetated escarpments accentuate the dynamic and expressive coastal processes that have and continue to shape the coastal environment.
- Striking interface with the Tasman Sea. Sheer cliffs and scarps including Needle Point plunge dramatically into the sea.
- Continuous mature wind swept coastal forest across the escarpment enhances the sense of naturalness and wildness.





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Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	OUTSTANDIN

Key Attributes / Characteristics:

Uplifted limestone island with very steep escarpments and sheer cliffs, caves, craggy headlands, rocky outcrops and islets.

- Highly weathered raw, landform, etched rock faces imbue a strong sense of wildness.
- Wind swept coastal forest and scrub cover and evident coastal erosion are highly expressive of coastal processes.
- Interplay of exposed headlands, craggy bluffs, vegetated escarpments accentuate the prominence of the surrounding seascape and coastal processes that have and continue to shape the coastal environment.
- The island is unfettered by any form of development or modification.
- Strongly linked to the exposed coastal landforms to the south and provides a counterpoint to the Woodpecker Bay's sweeping form.



Doctor Bay – Little Beach Unit No: **C46**

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	OUTSTANDIN

Key Attributes / Characteristics

An assemblage of coastal and river embayment's enclosed by a series of low knolls and headlands including Doctor Bay, Constant Bay, Joyce Bay, and Nile River Bay.

- This landscape is highly expressive of the interplay between the embayment's and the Tasman Sea. The tidal rhythm of the sea also provides a counterpoint for the rivers natural variations of flow, clarity and flood cycles.
- Diverse coastal forest comprising mature beech and rimu as well as wind swept coastal scrub and flax across the more exposed headland landforms. The vegetation patterns also reinforce the enclosing landforms.
- Very intimate and discrete landscape that is strongly focused towards the Nile River.
- The weathered landforms, vegetation patterns and the prominence of the embayments and Nile River provide a very strong sense of naturalness despite the presence of nearby dwellings and infrastructure.







Okari Lagoon Unit No: C47 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) **Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns** Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes**

	Lo	w	 High	
Overall Natural Character Evaluation				
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)			Н	IG

Key Attributes / Characteristics

Rating of Perceptual Values:

Night-time Values

Extensive saltwater lagoon enclosed by a vast exposed beach and dunefield

- This landscape is highly expressive of the interplay between the Lagoon, Okari River and the Tasman Sea. The tidal rhythm of the sea also provides a counterpoint for the rivers natural variations of flow, clarity and flood cycles.
- Dune enclosed lagoon is expressive of the coastal environment's formative processes.
- Intact vegetation sequences from dunefields to coastal forest create a strong sense of naturalness.
- The prominence of pasture and farming activities along the eastern shore of the Lagoon does not overly detract from the highly expressive and natural processes that dominate the landscape.





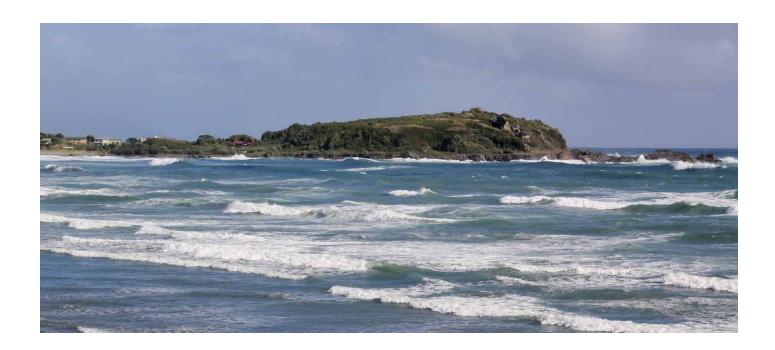
Tauranga Bay headland Unit No: C48

Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	HIGH

Kev Attributes / Characteristics

A very prominent craggy headland covered in wind battered coastal scrub, rock shoals and outcrops.

- High aesthetic values are associated with the inter-relationship between the series of craggy outcrops and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- Dramatic projection out into the Tasman Sea.
- Indigenous vegetation reinforces the headlands topography and exposure to coastal processes.
- The amalgam of raw exposed landforms and their dramatic interaction with the Tasman Sea appears particularly wild and exposed, however this is countered by the coastal settlement at Tauranga Bay, the rural hinterland and the DOC walkways that traverse the headland. Although unseen from the headland a quarry is located beyond the coastal dunes to the east.



Cape reciving	
Unit No: C49	
Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	

Key Attributes / Characteristics

Cane Foulwind

An assemblage of craggy headlands and points vegetated in coastal scrub and forest, rock shoals and outcrops interspersed with stony beaches.

- High aesthetic values are associated with the inter-relationship between the series of craggy points and outcrops and the open waters of the Tasman Sea.
- Natural qualities are clearly evident in the amalgam of landforms, wind swept vegetation cover and their relationship with the Tasman Sea contributing to a very endemic landscape.
- Dramatic wave action, evident coastal erosion, and seasonal changes to atmospheric conditions are highly expressive and natural processes.
- The prominence of adjoining pasture and DOC walkways along the coastline does not overly detract from the highly expressive and natural processes that dominate the landscape.







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Bio Physical Characteristics	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	
(Biophysical and Perceptual Values)	OUTSTANDIN

Key Attributes / Characteristics:

Offshore limestone island with very steep escarpments and sheer cliffs, caves, craggy headlands, rocky outcrops and islets.

- Highly expressive unmodified landform and raw, etched rock faces imbue a strong sense of wildness and remoteness.
- Wind battered coastal scrub cover and evident coastal erosion are highly expressive of coastal processes.
- Interplay of exposed headlands, craggy bluffs, vegetated escarpments accentuate the prominence of the surrounding seascape and coastal processes that have and continue to shape the coastal environment.
- The island is unfettered by any form of development or modification.
- Strongly linked to the exposed coastal landforms to the east and provides a counterpoint to Tauranga Bay's sweeping form.



Black Reef – Three Steeples Unit No: **C51**

Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values:
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	(Indication of key Perceptual values)
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	

Kev Attributes / Characteristics

A remote and wild archipelago of exposed and dramatic craggy island landforms that comprise sheer cliffs, rock shoals and outcrops.

- Highly expressive unmodified landforms and raw, etched rock faces imbue a strong sense of wildness and remoteness.
- Wind battered coastal scrub cover.
- Interplay of exposed headlands, craggy bluffs, vegetated escarpments accentuate the prominence of the surrounding seascape and coastal processes that have and continue to shape the coastal environment.
- The islands are unfettered by any form of development or modification.

Unit No: C52 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) **Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns** Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values Rating of Perceptual Values:** LowHigh Overall Natural Character Evaluation

Kev Attributes / Characteristics:

Orowaiti Lagoon

Extensive saltwater lagoon enclosed by a vast exposed beach and dunefield and fed by the Orowaiti River.

- This landscape is highly expressive of the interplay between the enclosed Lagoon, Orowaiti River and the Tasman Sea. The tidal rhythm of the sea also provides a counterpoint for the rivers natural variations of flow, clarity and flood cycles.
- Dune landform enclosing the lagoon is expressive of the coastal environment's formative processes.
- Regenerating vegetation covers much of the dunefield
- While the prominence of adjoining pasture, farming activities, and development along the shoreline of the Lagoon affect the perceived intactness and cohesion of the coastal environment, they do not overly detract from the highly expressive and natural processes that dominate the landscape.







Unit No: C53 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) **Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns** Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values Rating of Perceptual Values:** LowHigh Overall Natural Character Evaluation

Kev Attributes / Characteristics:

Whareatea River and coastline

Dune enclosed river mouth fronted by a broad sweeping exposed beach backed by dune fields and remnant coastal forest.

- This landscape is highly expressive of the interplay between the enclosed Whareatea River and the Tasman Sea. The tidal rhythm of the sea also provides a counterpoint for the rivers natural variations of flow, clarity and flood cycles.
- Exposed dune landforms and windswept vegetation impart a strong sense of naturalness and wildness.
- Dune landform enclosing the river mouth is expressive of the coastal environment's formative processes.
 - Intact vegetation sequence from dunefields to mature coastal forest.
- While the prominence of adjoining pasture, farming activities, and proposed development affect the perceived intactness and cohesion of the coastal environment, they do not overly detract from the highly expressive and natural processes that dominate the landscape.





Granity – Radcliffe Ridge Unit No: C54 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) **Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns** Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values Rating of Perceptual Values:** LowHigh

Kev Attributes / Characteristics

Overall Natural Character Evaluation

A sequence of exposed and steep coastal escarpments covered in windswept coastal forest and scrub.

- Natural qualities are clearly evident in the amalgam of landforms, wind swept vegetation cover and their relationship with the Tasman Sea contributing to a very endemic landscape.
- Coastal landforms with indigenous vegetation reinforcing topography and exposure to coastal processes.
- The prominence of adjoining pasture, farming activities, and development affect the perceived intactness and cohesion of the coastal environment, though they do not overly detract from the highly expressive and natural processes that dominate the landscape.





Unit No: C55 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) **Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns** Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Kev Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values Rating of Perceptual Values:** LowHigh

Kev Attributes / Characteristics:

Overall Natural Character Evaluation

Mokihinui River mouth

Prominent river channel flanked by mobile sandbars and dunefields at its entrance. Further inland its northern margins are enclosed by a steep vegetated escarpment.

- This landscape is highly expressive of the interplay between the Mokihinui River mouth and the Tasman Sea. The tidal rhythm of the sea also provides a counterpoint for the rivers natural variations of flow, clarity and flood cycles.
- Dune landforms and sand bars enclosing the River mouth are expressive of the coastal processes.
- Regenerating mature coastal forest covers much of the escarpment along the northern side of the River.
- While the prominence of adjoining pasture, farming activities, and development along the shoreline of the River affect the perceived intactness and cohesion of the coastal environment, they do not overly detract from the highly expressive and natural processes of the River that dominate the local landscape.
- Backed by coastal foothills covered in mature forest with views towards the Radiant and Glasgow Range's beyond.

Gentle Annie Point – Little Wanganui Head Unit No: **C56**

Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	(indication of key Ferceptual Values)
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
	LowHigh
Overall Natural Character Evaluation	

Kev Attributes / Characteristics:

Remote sequence of exposed coastal ranges, cliffs and headlands with a series of rocky shoals, outcrops, islets, bluffs, and broad beaches, as well as eroded dune lands and wetlands.

- Varied amalgam of raw and exposed landforms, natural vegetation patterns and isolated beachfronts and bays impart a strong sense of wildness and remoteness.
- Strong elevated relief.
- Striking interface with the Tasman Sea sheer cliffs and scarps plunge dramatically to the sea
 with the eroded dunelands and coastal terraces providing an impressive sense of the
 landscapes formative processes.
- Extensive native lowland forest with windswept and stunted shrublands on exposed faces.
- Dramatic engagement with the Tasman Sea.
- Backed by the Karamea Bluff Ecological Area.





Karamea River mouth Unit No: C57 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) **Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns** Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values Rating of Perceptual Values:**

LowHigh

Kev Attributes / Characteristics:

Overall Natural Character Evaluation

Very extensive river mouth and estuary enclosed by a series of beaches, dunefield, islands, and sandbars.

- This landscape is highly expressive of the interplay between the Karamea River mouth, enclosing beaches and sandbars, and the Tasman Sea. The tidal rhythm of the sea also provides a counterpoint for the rivers natural variations of flow, clarity and flood cycles.
- Dune landform enclosing the River mouth is expressive of the coastal processes.
- Intact vegetation sequences from dunefield through to coastal scrub.
- While the prominence of adjoining pasture and farming activities along the shoreline of the River does affect the perceived intactness and cohesion of the coastal environment, they do not overly detract from the highly expressive and natural processes of the River mouth that dominate the local landscape.
- Backed by a vegetated coastal terrace at its southern end.



Unit No: C58 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) **Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns** Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values Rating of Perceptual Values:** LowHigh

Kev Attributes / Characteristics:

Overall Natural Character Evaluation

Oparara River mouth

Extensive river mouth enclosed by a large dunefield, and series of sandbars that extend across the River mouth on either side. Includes part of the river channel with a sequence of sand beds flanked by a vegetated escarpment.

- This landscape is highly expressive of the interplay between the Oparara River mouth, enclosing dunefields and sandbars, and the Tasman Sea. The tidal rhythm of the sea also provides a counterpoint for the rivers natural variations of flow, clarity and flood cycles.
- Dune landform enclosing the River mouth is expressive of the coastal processes.
- Intact vegetation sequences from dunefield through to coastal scrub.
- Regenerating mature coastal forest extend across the coastal terrace to the northern edge of the River.
- While the prominence of adjoining pasture and farming activities along the shoreline of the River does affect the perceived intactness and cohesion of the coastal environment, they do not overly detract from the highly expressive and natural processes of the River mouth that dominate the local landscape.





Unit No: C59 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes Night-time Values Rating of Perceptual Values:** LowHigh Overall Natural Character Evaluation

OUTSTANDING

Key Attributes / Characteristics:

Oparara – Kohaihai coastal foothills

Sequence of exposed coastal ranges overlooking Oparara that combines a steep sequence of ridges and stream corridors with extensive native forest that contrast with the low lying pastoral farmland.

- Continuous pristine mature coastal and lowland forest cover imparts a very strong sense of naturalness, together with the dramatic terrain.
- Coastal and coastally derived landforms with indigenous vegetation patterns and pasture reinforcing the dramatic topography.
- Strong elevated relief reinforced by indigenous vegetation patterns
- Includes a small section of coastline where the coastal ranges extend down to the sea edge. At
 this point intact vegetation sequences are apparent from dunefield's through to coastal forest
 although they are separated by the dirt road to the DoC camp.
- Backed by Kahurangi National Park







Kohaihai coast Unit No: C60 Bio Physical Characteristics **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Bio-Physical values) Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology) Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies Land Uses / Activities / Structure **Habitat Value Natural Processes Rating of Bio Physical Values:** LowHigh Perceptual Values **Key Values: Evaluation Factors:** (Indication of key Perceptual values) Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness **Experiential Attributes** Context / Setting **Transient / Dynamic Attributes**

LowHigh

Key Attributes / Characteristics:

Overall Natural Character Evaluation

Night-time Values

Rating of Perceptual Values:

Section of remote exposed sandy beaches and dunefields flanked by a strip of pasture (including the DoC campsite) and coastal ranges covered in coastal forest.

- Natural qualities are clearly evident in the amalgam of dune landforms, wind swept vegetation cover and their relationship with the Tasman Sea contributing to a very endemic landscape.
- Backed by forest covered ranges that extend into Kahurangi National Park.
- The remoteness and wildness of the area is countered by the presence of the DoC campsite and dirt access road.
- This landscape is highly expressive of the interplay between the active and mobile dunefields, steep sandy beach and the Tasman Sea.





Kohaihai Bluff – Kahurangi Point Unit No: **C61**

Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Bio-Physical values)
Landforms (Geomorphology / Geology)	
Vegetation Type, Cover & Patterns	
Sea / Estuarine Water Bodies	
Land Uses / Activities / Structure	
Habitat Value	
Natural Processes	
Rating of Bio Physical Values:	
	LowHigh
Perceptual Values	
Evaluation Factors:	Key Values: (Indication of key Perceptual values)
Wildness / Wilderness / Remoteness	
Experiential Attributes	
Context / Setting	
Transient / Dynamic Attributes	
Night-time Values	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	
Rating of Perceptual Values:	LowHigh
Rating of Perceptual Values: Overall Natural Character Evaluation	LowHigh

Kev Attributes / Characteristics

Vast and remote sequence of coastal ranges, cliffs and headlands, with a series of rocky shoals, outcrops including Kahurangi Point, Rocks Point, Wekakura Point, islets, bluffs including Kohaihai Bluff, and broad beaches, as well as open dune lands and coastal lagoons.

- Continuous pristine mature coastal and lowland forest cover together with an abundance of Nikau groves and northern rata, impart a very strong sense of naturalness, together with the dramatic terrain.
- Strong elevated relief reinforced by indigenous vegetation patterns.
- Dramatic interaction of the landscape with the Tasman Sea and its continuous vegetation cover provide a consistent patterning to this exposed landscape.
- Extremely limited development
- Backed by Kahurangi National Park

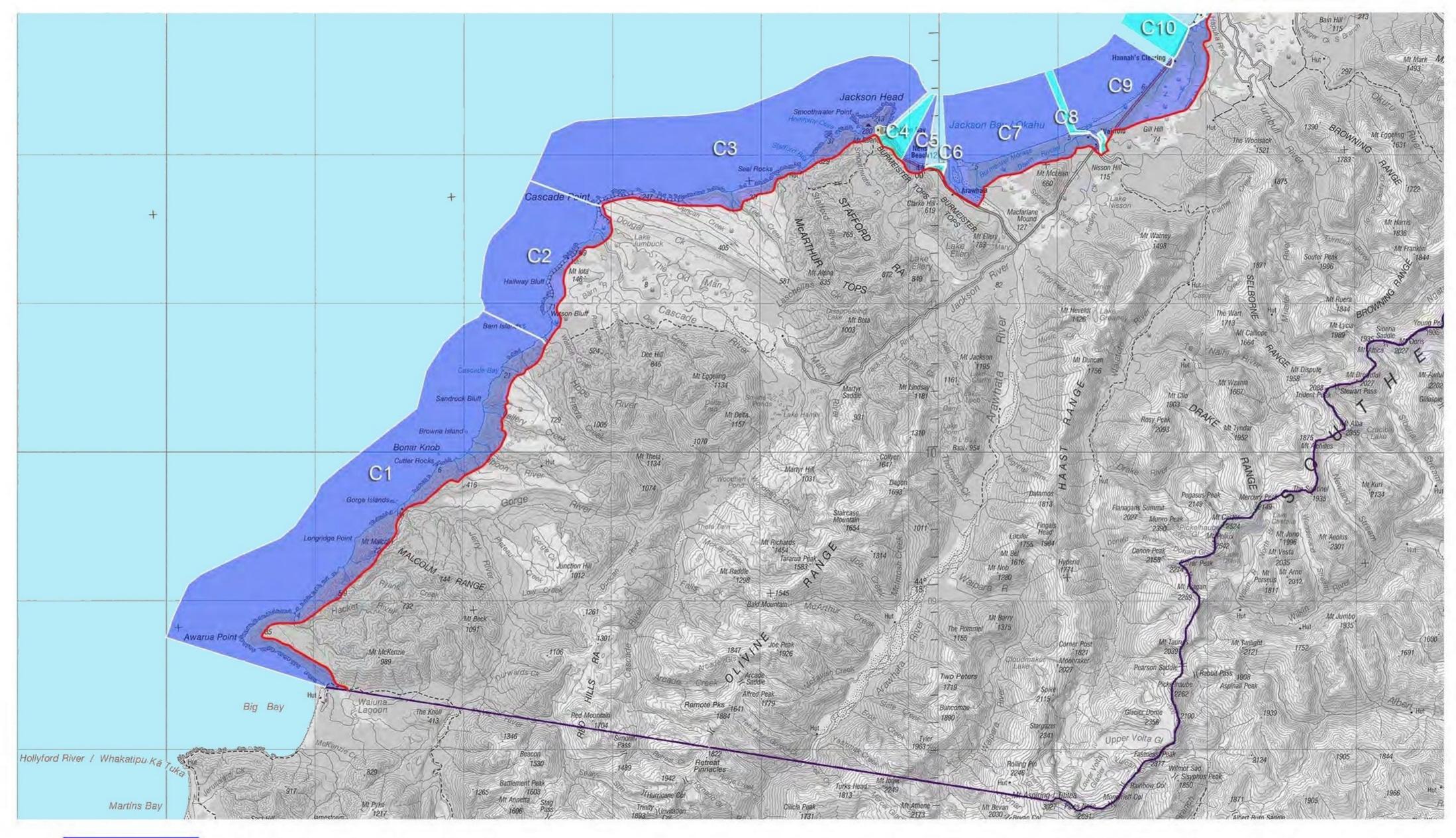




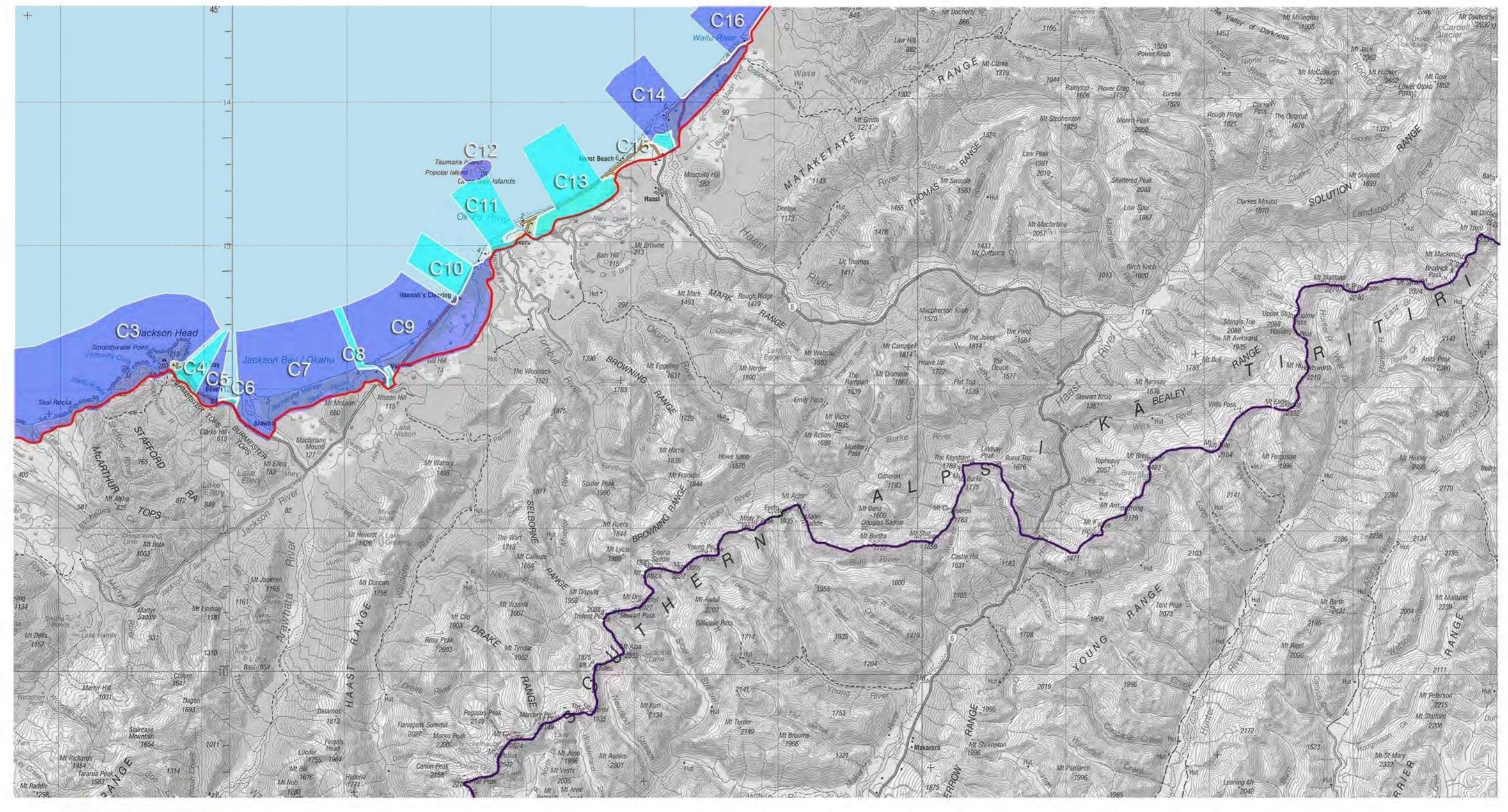


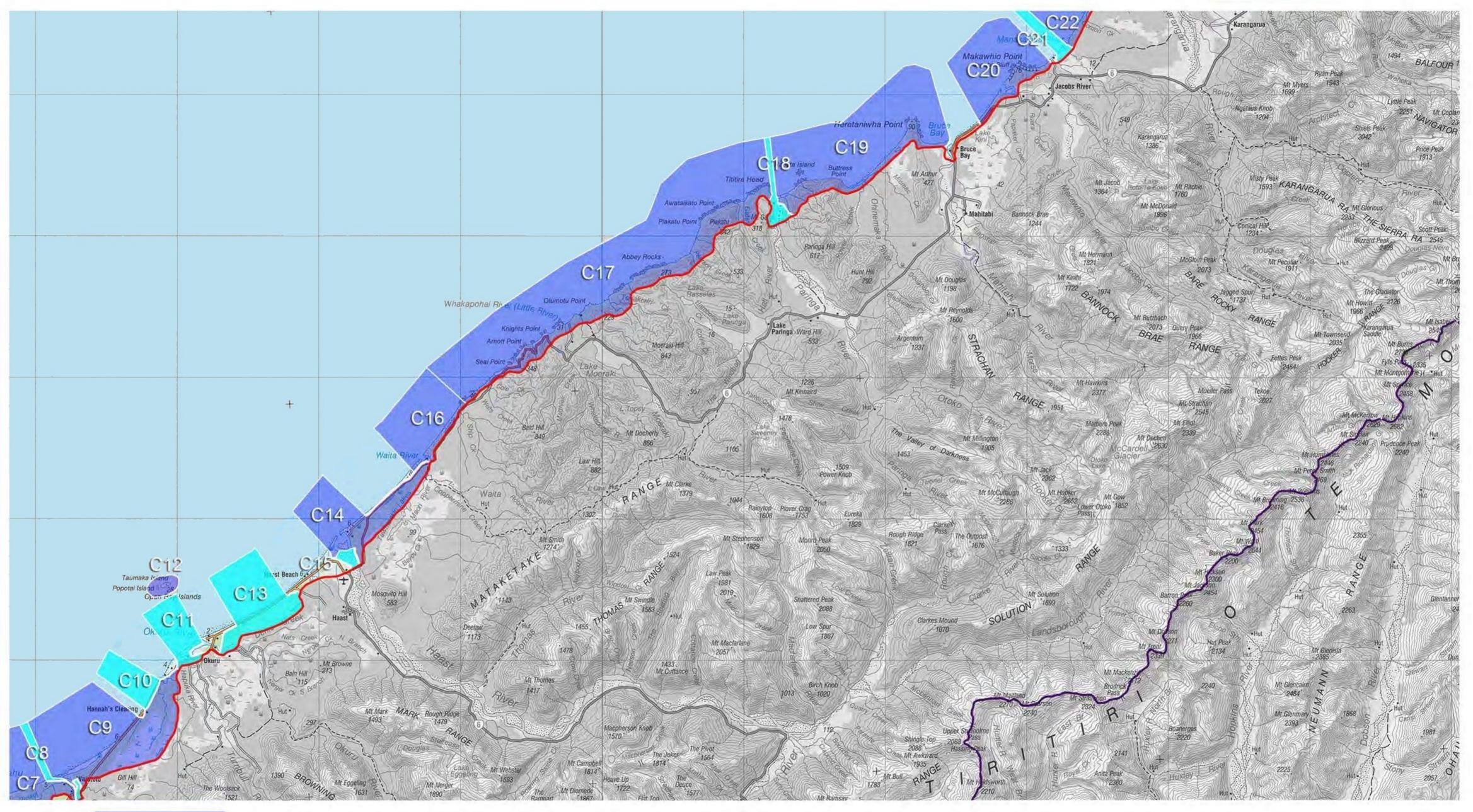




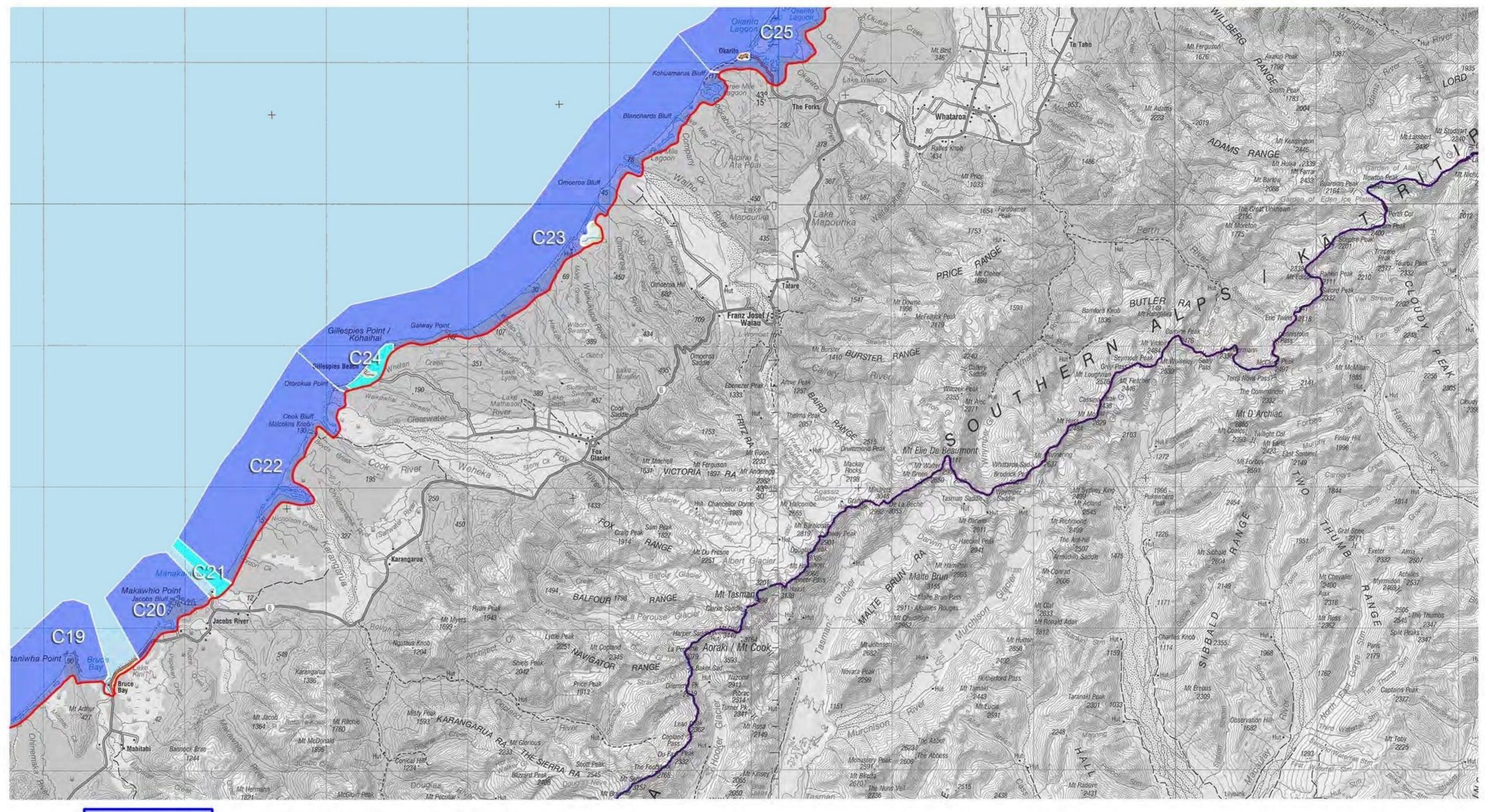


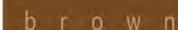


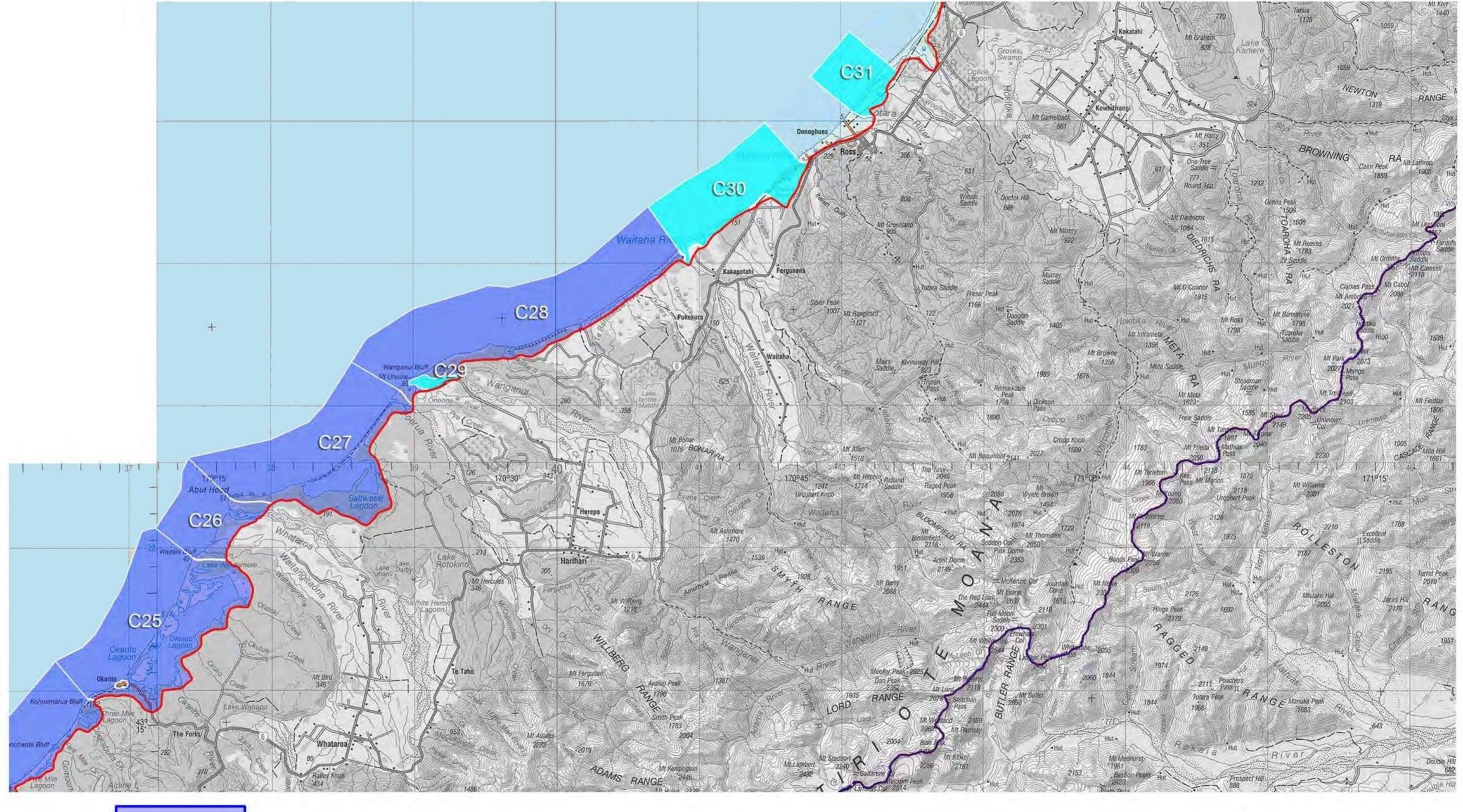




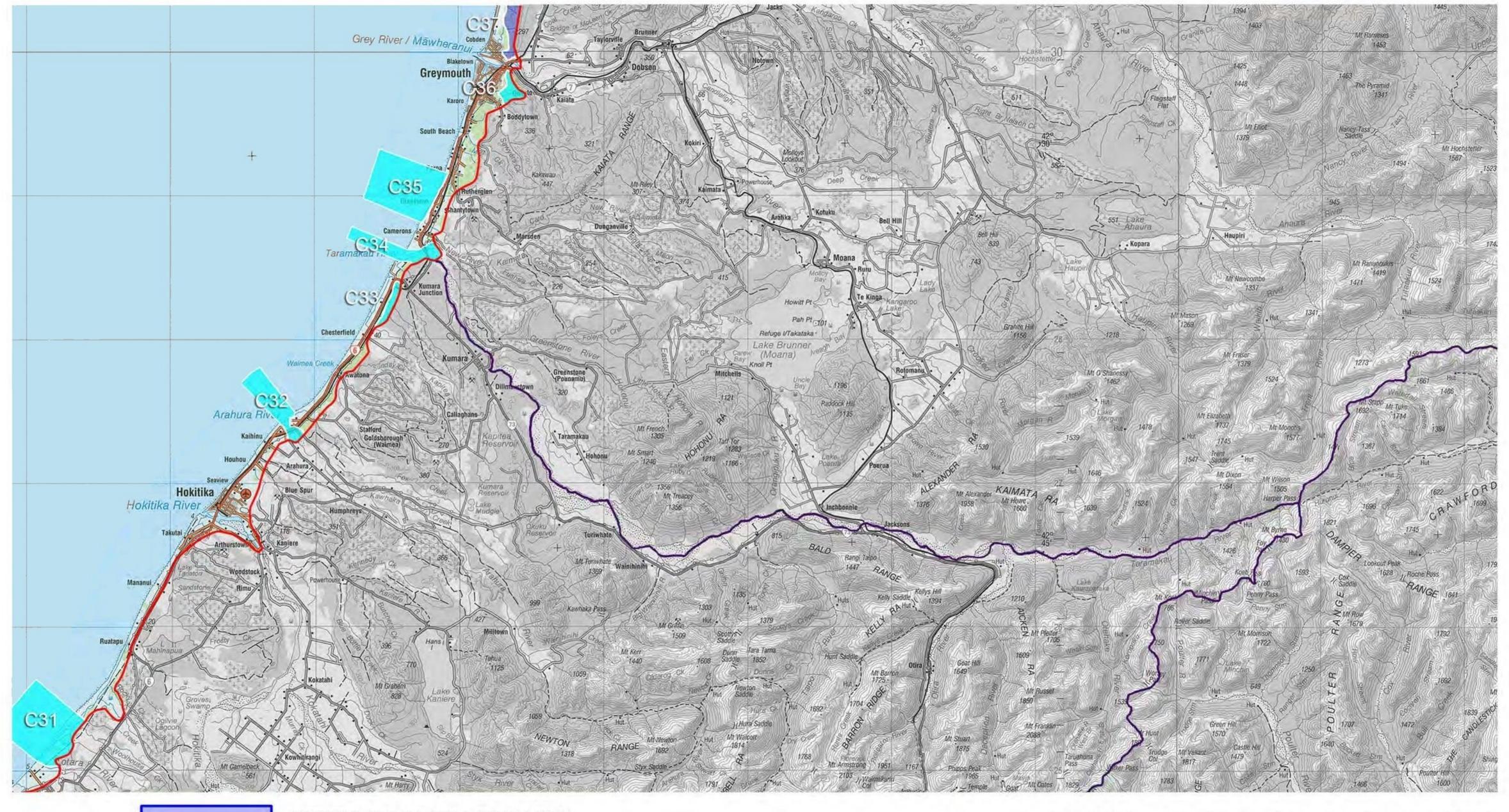


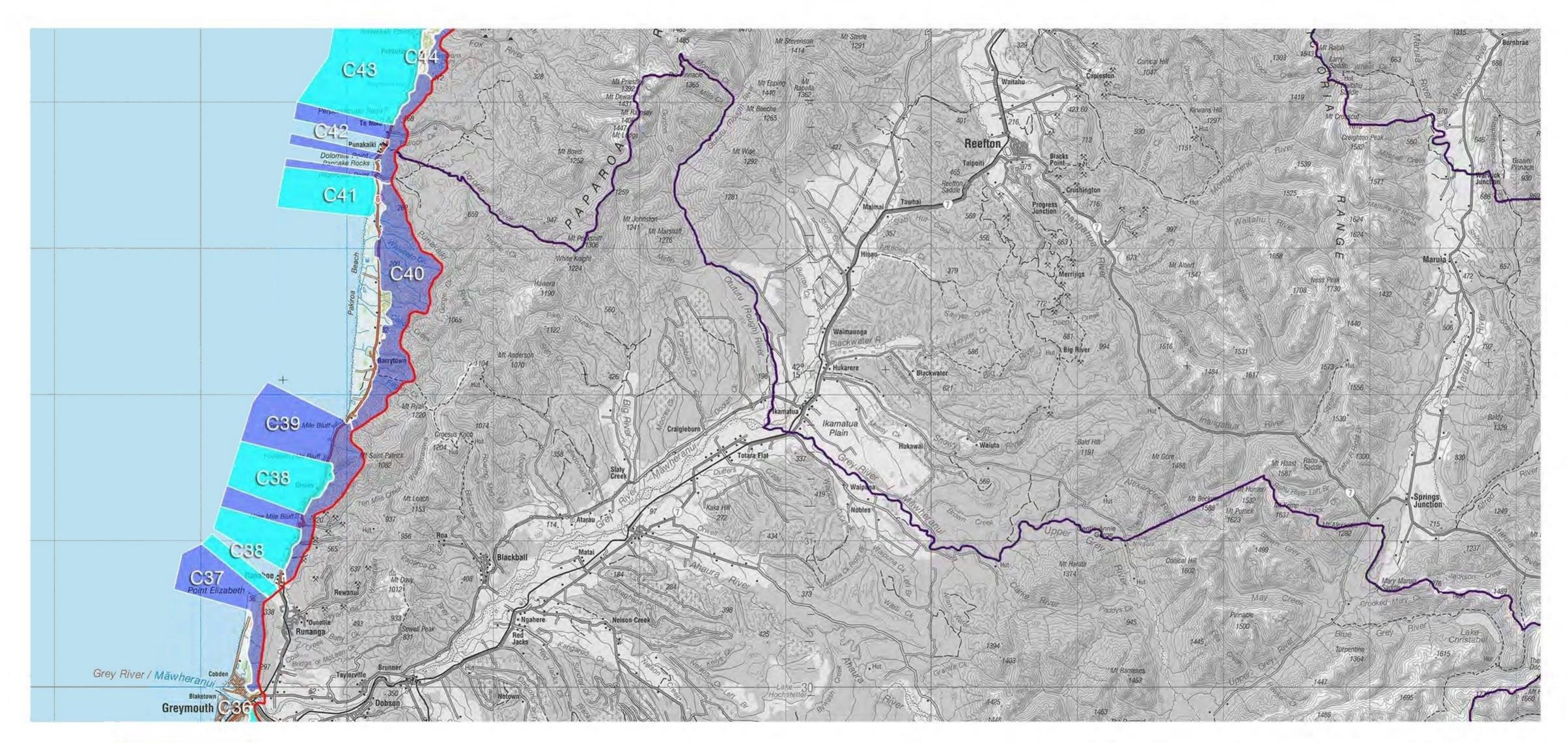


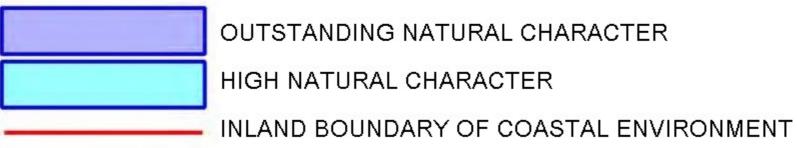




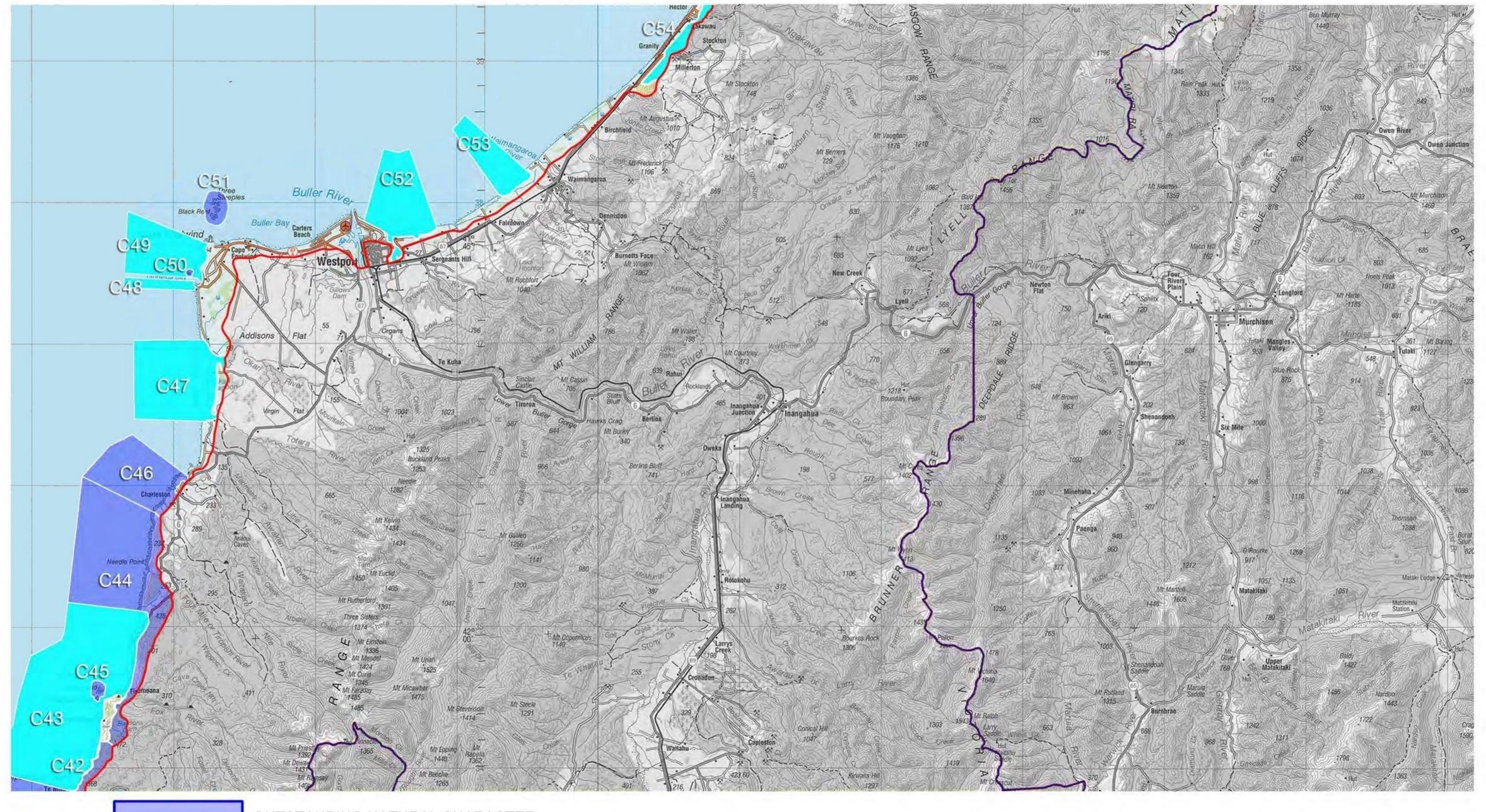


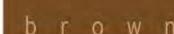


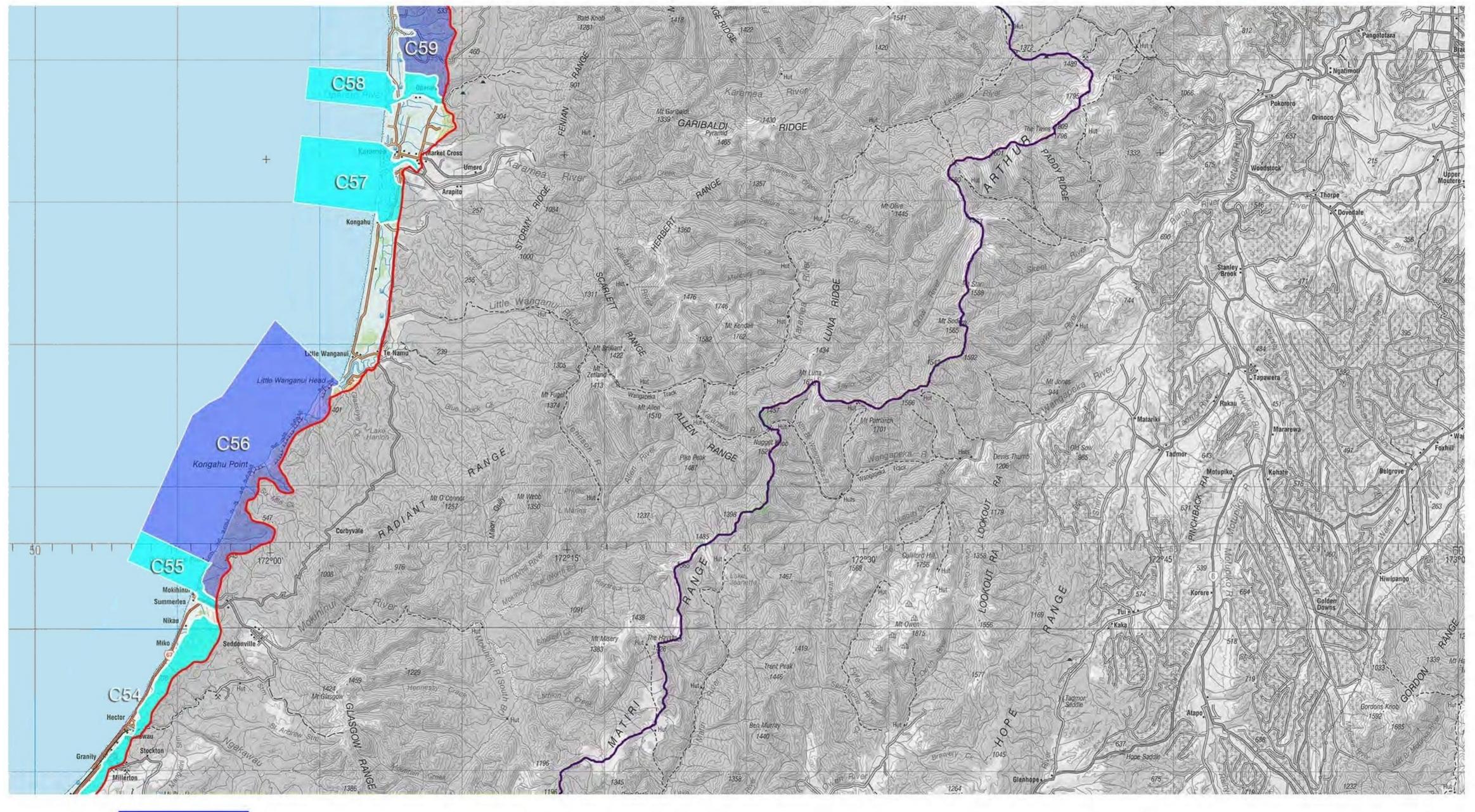


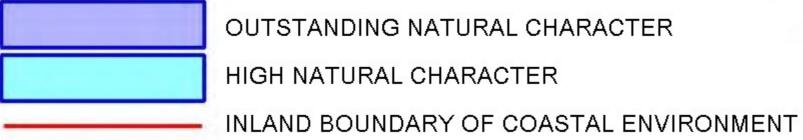












COASTAL NATURAL CHARACTER AREAS

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