Schedule 2 – Coastal areas of outstanding value

This Schedule identifies eight areas of outstanding natural character and nine areas that are outstanding natural features or landscapes. A values table and map for each area is included below. Information included within this Schedule has been informed by the report *Regional landscape study of the Taranaki coastal environment* (2015) and subsequent consultation undertaken as part of the Coastal Plan review. The report contains further information on the Taranaki coastal environment as a whole and the details of the assessments carried out to determine which coastal areas were considered to have outstanding value.

Areas of Outstanding Natural Character (ONC)	Map Reference
ONC 1 - Parininihi	Map Link Map - 43
ONC 2 - Mimi Estuary	Map Link Map - 7
ONC 3 - Ngā Motu (Sugar Loaf Islands) and Tapuae	Map Link Map - 44
ONC 4 - Whenuakura Estuary	Map Link Map - 36
ONC 5 - Waipipi Dunes	Map Link Map – 36, 37
ONC 6 - Project Reef	Map Link Map - 42
ONC 7 - North and South Traps	Map Link Map - 41
ONC 8 - Waitōtara	Map Link Map – 38, 39

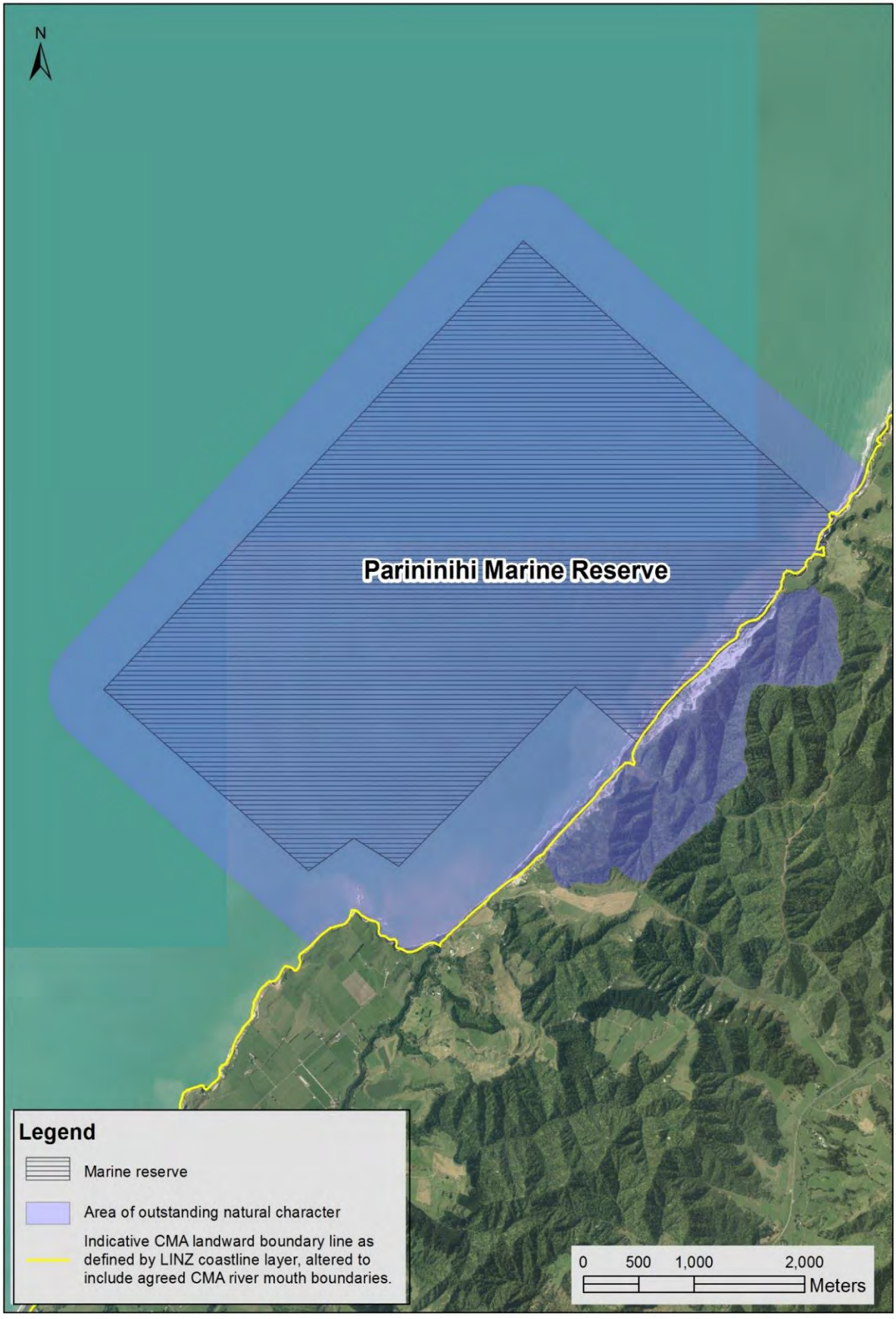
Areas that are Outstanding Natural Features or Landscapes (ONFL)	Map Reference
ONFL 1 - Waihī Stream to Pariokariwa Point	Map Link Map - 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 43
ONFL 2- Ngā Motu (Sugar Loaf Islands) and Tapuae	Map Link

	Map - 44
ONFL 3 - Hangatahua (Stony) River	Map Link Map - 17
ONFL 4 - Oaonui (Sandy Bay)	Map Link Map - 23
ONFL 5 - Kaūpokonui	Map Link Map - 28
ONFL 6 - Kapuni Stream	Map Link Map - 29
ONFL 7 - North and South Traps	Map Link Map - 41
ONFL 8 - Waverley Beach	Map Link Map - 38
ONFL 9 - Waitōtara	Map Link Map – 38, 39

ONC 1 Parininihi

Parininihi includes intact coastal forest, spectacular coastal white cliffs, and a marine reserve which provide exceptional and unique biotic and abiotic values along an unmodified and wild section of coastline.

Natural character attributes	Values and characteristics	Degree of natural character
Abiotic	• Unmodified and diverse habitats comprising coastal forest, Waipingau Stream and dune system, and offshore reefs • The spectacular and prominent White Cliffs coastal cliffs are identified as a well defined landform of scenic value • An extensive offshore reef system – unique for the generally sandy north Taranaki coastline	Very high
Biotic	• The marine reserve contains internationally important sponge gardens, a high diversity of fish species and important habitat for crayfish and pāua • Part of a larger indigenous forest feature, the coastal margins contain one of the best remaining examples of primary coastal hardwood and podocarp-hardwood forests on the west coast of the North Island • The forest provides core habitat for many threatened species and contains a large number of regionally significant species • Dune system at the mouth of Waipingau Stream supports the only natural population of pīngao (*Ficinia spiralis*) in the New Plymouth district	Very high
Perceptual and experiential	• Human activity is minimal associated with low impact recreation use • The experience maintains a high sense of wildness and remoteness encountered along a dynamic coastal edge	Very high
Overall Rating		Outstanding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Parininihi Marine Reserve
Legend
Marine reserve
Area of outstanding natural character
Indicative CMA landward boundary line as defined by LINZ coastline layer, altered to include agreed CMA river mouth boundaries.
0 500 1,000 2,000
Meters

Parininihi.

ONC 2 Mimi Estuary

Mimi Estuary is relatively unmodified providing exceptional biophysical values and high scenic associations.

Map Link Map - 7

Natural character attributes	Values and characteristics	Degree of natural character
Abiotic	• Diverse and rare range of habitat types including riverine estuary, small tidal bays, estuary margins, and sandy foreshore • Unmodified natural processes including sand spit and dune processes and river mouth oscillation	Very high
Biotic	• Small tidal bays contain a variety of specialised native flora. 'Regionally Distinctive' species include natural populations of saltmarsh ribbonwood (*Plagianthus divaricatus*), coastal tree daisy (*Olearia solandri*) and koromiko (*Veronica stricta var. macroura*) • Provides important habitats for a diverse range of resident and migratory birds including the Threatened (Nationally Vulnerable) Northern New Zealand dotterel (*Charadrius obscurus aquilonius*), Caspian tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*) and red-billed gull (*Larus novaehollandiae scopulinus*) • Margins of the south side of the estuary contain a well established variety of mainly native plants • A small population of 'At Risk (Relict)' pingao (*Ficinia spiralis*) has established from planting on the foreshore beach area • The estuary contains diverse and regionally distinctive native fish	Very high
Perceptual and experiential	• Human activity is minimal associated with low impact recreation use • The experience maintains a sense of remoteness and high scenic associations	High
Overall Rating		Outstanding

ONC 3 Ngā Motu (Sugar Loaf Islands) and Tapuae

Ngā Motu (Sugar Loaf Islands) and Tapuae express a relatively unmodified seascape that includes volcanic islands and subtidal formations which provide exceptional biophysical values and very high wild and scenic associations.

Map Link Map - 44

Natural character attributes	Values and characteristics	Degree of natural character
Abiotic	• A diverse range of habitats including islands and stacks, and subtidal canyons, caves, large pinnacles, boulder fields, rock reefs and sand flats • Sugar Loaf Islands have significant scientific and educational value	Very high
Biotic	• The islands support a diverse range of indigenous plant species including 'Threatened (Nationally Endangered)' Cook's scurvy grass (*Lepidium oleraceum*) • The islands contain a diverse range and significant number of nesting birds including the ' Threatened (Nationally Endangered)' reef heron (*Egretta sacra sacra*) • The marine protected area and marine reserve contain a diverse range of fish species, encrusting sponges and bryozoans • The marine protected area and marine reserve provide important habitat for crayfish and pāua • Contains the largest fur seal breeding colony on the west coast of the North Island • Marine mammals observed at times include common dolphins, pilot whales, orca, humpback whales and southern right whales	Very high
Perceptual and experiential	• Within the marine protected area and marine reserve, human activity is minimal associated with low impact recreational use • Expansive seascape with minimal apparent modification to retain wild scenic associations	Very high
Overall Rating		Outstanding

ONC 4 Whenuakura Estuary

Whenuakura expresses a relatively unmodified estuary which provide exceptional coastal habitat with significant areas of native vegetation and wildlife.

Map Link Map - 36

Natural character attributes	Values and characteristics	Degree of natural character
Abiotic	• Whenuakura Estuary is relatively unmodified with diverse habitats comprising extensive mudflats, tidal lagoons, an adjacent perched freshwater lagoon, a sand bar and an island forming intermittently • Perched freshwater lagoon and coastal swamp areas • Unmodified mudstone coastal cliffs	High
Biotic	• Predominantly indigenous flora including coastal swamp and wetland habitat • Several threatened, at risk or uncommon indigenous flora and fauna including the largest intact patches known in New Zealand of a mat forming button daisy, (*Leptinella dispersa subsp*) on wet mudstone cliffs • The Threatened (Nationally Endangered) Australasian bittern inhabits the wetland and coastal swamp areas and Nationally Vulnerable species such as caspian tern (*Sterna caspia*) and New Zealand dotterel utilise the coast and estuary • The migratory route of several bird species including the variable oystercatcher (*Haematopus unicolor*) and royal spoonbill (*Platalea regia*)	Very high
Perceptual and experiential	• Minimal modification throughout the estuary and margins which retains strong wild and scenic associations • Presence of birds amplifies perceived level of naturalness	Very high
Overall Rating		Outstanding

ONC 5 Waipipi Dunes

Waipipi Dunes express a relatively intact coastal dune system which includes significant areas of native vegetation and wildlife.

Map Link Map – 36, 37

Natural character attributes	Values and characteristics	Degree of natural character
Abiotic	• The Waipipi Dunes consist of a highly dynamic complex of low (less than 4 m) dunes and small wet sand flats and depressions (swales) extending from the coast inland 200-300 m to taller (15 m) more stable relic foredunes • Permanent wetland swales • Identified as the only sizeable area in the Foxton Ecological Area with no artificially induced erosion caused by livestock or recreational vehicle tracks • Some very low level grazing is evident on secondary dunes separated from primary dunes established along the coastal edge • Most of the area remains dynamic and is continually being eroded by wind and wave action	Very high
Biotic	• Predominantly indigenous dune vegetation with some areas of marram and exotic grass / scrub species established on secondary dunes • Dunes contain significant population of pīngao (*Ficinia spiralis*). Sand spike sedge (*Eleocharis neozelandica*), sand gunnera (*Gunnera arenaria*) and sand daphne (*Pimelea villosa*) are also present (all identified as species At Risk and Declining) • Includes Significant Natural Area and Regionally Significant Wetland recognising the importance of dune vegetation and habitat	High
Perceptual and experiential	• Expansive series of unmodified dune landforms retain a strong sense of wildness and isolation along an intact coastal edge • A sense of remoteness is amplified by difficult access which increases perceived naturalness	Very high
Overall Rating		Outstanding

ONC 6 Project Reef

The Project Reef is an unusually hard and shallow (23 m) structure for its distance offshore (11 km). The clear offshore waters and shallow depth enable the growth of important kelp beds. The reef provides complex habitat supporting a diverse range of marine invertebrates and fish. The unmodified seascape provides exceptional biophysical values with a high sense of wilderness.

Map Link Map – 42

Natural character attributes	Values and characteristics	Degree of natural character
Abiotic	• High relief reef comprised of unusually hard cemented concretionary shelly sandstone surrounded by shell hash • Shallow depth considering the distance offshore providing an excellent light climate less prone to influence from cliff erosion, river events and other land-based activities • Unmodified and diverse marine habitats including cracks, crevices, caves and overhangs	Very high
Biotic	• Unusually high diversity of encrusting sensitive benthic invertebrates including dense assemblages of sponges, hydroids and bryozoa, providing valuable biogenic habitat for other invertebrates and fish • Important kelp (*Ecklonia radiata*) beds • Abundant and diverse fish assemblages with evidence the reef provides an important nursery ground for blue cod • Complex habitat supporting crayfish (*Jasus edwardsii*), eels, rays, carpet shark (*Cephaloscyllium isabella*) and many species of reef fish	Very high
Perceptual and experiential	• Human activity is minimal associated with low impact recreation use • The experience maintains a high sense of wildness and remoteness	Very high
Overall Rating		Outstanding

ONC 7 North and South Traps

The North and South Traps comprise a large reef system located approximately 6 km offshore from Pātea.

Map Link Map – 41

Natural character attributes	Values and characteristics	Degree of natural character
Abiotic	• Two large adjoining pinnacle reefs – unusual features on a shelf region dominated by sand	Very high
Biotic	• Important kelp (*Ecklonia radiata*) beds • Diverse range of fish and encrusting sponge species • Valuable habitat for crayfish	Very high
Perceptual and experiential	• Human activity is minimal associated with low impact recreational use • The experience maintains a high sense of wilderness and remoteness	Very high
Overall Rating		Outstanding

ONC 8 Waitōtara

Waitōtara contains exceptional biophysical values along an unmodified coastal edge which retains very high wild and scenic associations.

Map Link Map – 38, 39

Natural character attributes	Values and characteristics	Degree of natural character
Abiotic	• Actively eroding broken foredune, and extensive series of undulating dunes with hollows and relic foredunes further inland parallel to the beach • Contrasting limestone and sedimentary rock outcrops amongst foredune areas • Piliocene section along bank of Waitōtara River together with fossilised totara stumps and ventifacts which have high scientific and educational interest	Very high
Biotic	• The area contains a diverse range of habitat types including riverine, lacustrine and palustrine wetland systems • The foredune is made up of spinifex (*Spinifex sericeus*) and the At Risk (Declining) pīngao (*Ficinia spiralis)* with scattered exotic marram (*Ammophila arenaria*) interspersed with outcrops containing iceplant and glasswort • The wetlands and dune systems provide core habitat for Threatened and At Risk native plant and animal species including the Threatened (Nationally Critical) erect herb Sebaea (*Sebaea ovata*) • The reserve also provides habitat for coastal and migratory birds and is occasionally visited by the Threatened (Nationally Critical)kotuku or white heron (*Ardea modesta*)	Very high
Perceptual and experiential	• Human activity is minimal associated with low impact recreation use • The experience maintains a high sense of wildness and remoteness retained along the coastal edge	Very high
Overall Rating		Outstanding

ONFL 1 Waihī Stream to Pariokariwa Point

Waihī Stream to Pariokariwa Point reveals an exceptional sequence of elevated marine terraces and striking coastal white cliffs with erosion along the soft sedimentary rock creating an impressive array of formations. The coastal management area extends out one nautical mile (1.85 km) covering offshore spawning grounds, and areas frequented by marine mammals.

Map Link Map – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 43

Landscape/feature attributes		Values and characteristics	Assessment
Biophysical	Natural science values	• Uplift and active erosional processes have carved an impressive sequence comprising a narrow marine terrace dissected by two estuaries, towering coastal cliffs, and a diverse range of coastal stacks, islands, caves and arches • Several Geopreservation Sites which encompass the north Taranaki uplifted marine terraces (from Tongaporutu north), Mōhakatino Estuary and unusually squat sandspit and swamp, spectacular caves, arches and sea stacks carved out of the sedimentary cliffs at Mōhakatino and Tongaporutu, exposed sedimentary structures at Tongaporutu, the spectacular and prominent coastal White Cliffs, and the only reef and shore platform north of New Plymouth at Pariokariwa Point • Mōhakatino, Tongaporutu and Parininihi are the few remaining areas in the region that support true coastal forest • Offshore fish breeding grounds within open coastal waters • Marine reserve contains significant scientific and ecological values including internationally important sponge gardens • Mōhakatino and Tongaporutu estuaries contain important breeding areas for native fish. Tongaporutu Estuary contains abundant shellfish with high species diversity and excellent examples of saltmarsh communities • The only mainland nesting site for grey-faced petrel (*Pterodroma macroptera gouldi*) in Taranaki at Rapanui • Offshore stacks and cliff edges have breeding colonies of a number of seabirds • At Risk (Declining) northern blue penguin (*Eudyptula minor iredalei*) recorded as nesting in the area • A variety of threatened, at risk and regionally distinctive flora and fauna species present	Very high
Sensory	Legibility or expressiveness	• The marine terrace and associated coastal stacks, arches and caves and coastal White Cliffs are highly legible of formative and continuing erosional processes and uplift	Very high
	Aesthetic and scenic values	• The narrow marine terrace, coastal stacks and the White Cliffs are striking features that remain strong in the memory • The form of the narrow marine terrace is accentuated by pastoral cover and the steep hill country behind • Highly natural and scenic values within Mōhakatino and Tongaporutu estuaries • Small and sporadic coastal edge development remains subordinate to the landscape	
	Transient values	• Presence of wildlife throughout different times of the day and year • Climatic changes and changing moods, sounds and smells of the sea remain highly apparent	

Landscape/feature attributes		Values and characteristics	Assessment
		• Lighting exemplifies the coastal White Cliffs and black volcanic sand at their base at different times of the day	
Associative	Shared and recognised values	• The area is used for swimming, diving and fishing and has high scenic value • The high scenic values of the landscape are the subject of many photographs and paintings • The White Cliffs are iconic to the region • Popular walking track along the terrace edge, White Cliffs and beach	Very high
	Tangata whenua values	• Ngāti i Tama is the most northern of the Taranaki iwi. They are the descendants of Whata, Rakeiora and Tamaariki of the Tokomaru waka which came ashore and landed at the Mōhakatino River • This coastline contains a number of significant pā sites including Kawau, Katikatiaka and Pukearuhe. • This coastline is dotted with pūkāwa (reefs) predominantly of papa or sandstone from where mātaitai (seafood) such as kuku/mussels and kōura/crayfish were harvested. Further out to sea were the rich fishing grounds where tāmure/snapper and kahawai were plentiful. Most of this area is now included in the Parininihi Marine Reserve	
	Historical associations	• River baches at Tongaporutu • SS Alexandra shipwreck in shallow waters offshore from Pukearuhe • Recognised former pā sites at Tongaporutu, Kawau, Te Puia and Pukearuhe and redoubt at Pukearuhe • Former sea stacks the 'Three Sisters' and Māori petroglyphs carved into cave walls were recognised as important natural geological formations and a cultural and historic site, respectively, at Tongaporutu	
Overall Rating			Outstanding

ONFL 2 Ngā Motu (Sugar Loaf Islands) and Tapuae

Ngā Motu (Sugar Loaf Islands) and Tapuae form a distinctive seascape which has been formed by volcanic and erosional processes and contributes significant ecological, scientific, cultural and recreational values.

Map Link Map – 44

Landscape/feature attributes		Values and characteristics	Assessment
Biophysical	Natural science values	• The Sugar Loaf Islands are the oldest volcanic formations in Taranaki, and the type locality for taranakite (phosphate mineral deposit found on the islands) (recognised as a Geopreservation Site) • The area contains a diverse range of subtidal landforms including spectacular canyons, caves, large pinnacles, and boulder fields • Diverse range and significant number of nesting sea birds present on the islands • The islands are important breeding and haul-out sites for kekeno/New Zealand fur seals, and the area represents the largest breeding site for this species on the west coast of the North Island • Diverse range of fish species, encrusting sponges and bryozoans • Threatened, At Risk and Regionally Distinctive species present	Very high
Sensory	Legibility or expressiveness	• Paritūtū, the islands and subtidal landscape are highly expressive of their geological formation through volcanic and erosional processes	Very high
	Aesthetic and scenic values	• Limited coastal edge development and modification of the islands retains a very high level of naturalness and exposed coastal edge experience • Striking contrast between the water and cone shaped Paritūtū and islands which protrude steeply out of it • Paritūtū and the islands are striking features that remain strong in the memory	
	Transient values	• Lighting and shadow exemplifies Paritūtū and the islands at different times of the day • Presence of wildlife throughout different times of the day and year • Climatic changes and the changing moods, sounds and smells of the sea remain highly apparent • Two of the near-shore islands connect with the mainland at low tide	
Associative	Shared and recognised values	• The area is popular for walking, swimming, diving, surfing, fishing and kayaking • Paritūtū and the islands are iconic to the region • The high scenic values of the landscape are the subject of many photographs and paintings	Very high
	Tangata whenua values	• Paritūtū, Ngā Motu (area returned to Te Atiawa and Taranaki Iwi as part of Treaty settlement agreements with the Crown and local authorities	

Landscape/feature attributes		Values and characteristics	Assessment
		• Area of cultural, historical and spiritual importance to Taranaki and Te Atiawa Iwi. Ngāmotu was occupied at differing times by Taranaki and Te Atiawa Iwi. Sites of significance include Paritūtū, Motu-o-Tamatea, Mataora, Motumahanga, Moturoa, Whareumu, Pararaki, Waikaranga, Tokatapu, Tokamāpuna (Tokomāpuna), Koruanga (Motukūkū) and Onukutaipari. The wider area provided for a rich source of seafood and fish species such as tāmure/snapper, kōura/crayfish and kahawai. The islands were also occupied in seasonal times and evidence of occupation can also be found. The sandy beaches of Moturoa and Onukutaipari provided ease of launch for waka within a short distance to the fishing grounds and areas for setting nets and pots • The traditions of Taranaki Iwi illustrate the ancestral, cultural, historical associations to this area. The Tapuae coastal marine area is of high importance as it contains a number of significant pā and kāinga, including tauranga waka and pūkāwa (reefs)	
	Historical associations	• Remnants of small port developments on some of the islands • Refuge and/or pā sites located on Paritūtū and the islands • Petroglyphs (Māori rock art) in the area	
Overall Rating			Outstanding

ONFL 3 Hangatahua (Stony) River

Hangatahua (Stony) River forms a striking boulder lined braided river which carries water from between Mount Taranaki and the Pouakai Range. It is referred to in Māori mythology and frequently represented in art and literature as the most sacred river of the Taranaki region.

Map Link Map – 17

Landscape/feature attributes		Values and characteristics	Assessment
Biophysical	Natural science values	• The only braided river within the Taranaki region and largest and most prominent river carrying water from Mount Taranaki to the sea • The rounded boulders lining the river channel form a striking feature associated with the geology of the river • A source of sphagnum moss wetlands in the headwaters supports clean water with strong biotic associations • High native fish diversity and presence of threatened species	High
Sensory	Legibility or expressiveness	• The formative processes associated with a braided river form and rounded boulders which roll down the river in high water is highly legible	Very high
	Aesthetic and scenic values	• Most of the river bed retains a high natural form with limited modification • The margins of the river typically define an abrupt edge with a working rural landscape • The configuration of a large boulder lined braided river and crystal clear water are striking features within the landscape which remain strong in the memory • Limited discordant elements disrupt the distinctive pattern of boulders along the river bed channel	
	Transient values	• Hangatahua (Stony) River catchment is exposed to some of the heaviest rain in New Zealand with rocks rolling down the river in accelerated river flows frequently changing its course • At other times the river is recognised for having waters so clear that it appears that it isn't there, however this has declined in more recent years due to natural erosion higher up the catchment in Egmont National Park	
Associative	Shared and recognised values	• The river is iconic to the region and identified in literature and art as being the most sacred river in Taranaki • Popular for angling and swimming, tramping and walking along river margins, and surfing at Kumera Patch surf break which is off the mouth of the river	Very high
	Tangata whenua values	• The river and the surrounding area have strong cultural and spiritual associations for Taranaki Iwi. The area contains significant pā and kāinga, including tauranga waka and pūkāwa (reefs)	
	Historical associations	• The outstanding natural characteristics and features of the waters of the Hangatahua (Stony) River were formally recognised and protected through the first water conservation order in New Zealand (the Local Water Conservation (Stony (Hangatahua) River) Notice 1985). Numerous former pā and village sites are situated along the river banks	
Overall Rating			Outstanding

ONFL 4 Oaonui (Sandy Bay)

Oaonui (Sandy Bay) forms the largest area of intact dunelands in the ring plain and supports a diverse range of dune habitat with very high associated recreation, community and cultural recognition.

Map Link Map – 23

Landscape/feature attributes		Values and characteristics	Assessment
Biophysical	Natural science values	• Oaonui (Sandy Bay) is largely unmodified and forms the only significant remaining area of coastal sand dunes within the volcanic ring plain (recognised as a Geopreservation Site) • The main sand dune area has been retired from grazing and is vegetated with mixed native and exotic colonising species • Some pīngao (*Ficinia spiralis*), which is identified as At Risk (Declining), is also present • Important seabird and shorebird feeding, breeding and resting area • The beach provides core habitat for a wide variety of threatened and rare flora and fauna species	High
Sensory	Legibility or expressiveness	• The sand dune system is highly expressive of its geological formation revealing legible sand and wind patterns	Very high
	Aesthetic and scenic values	• The sand dune system appears largely intact and uncompromised by modification (the Maui pipeline passes beneath part of the shoreline without disrupting the form of the overlying dunes) • Vegetation established throughout the dunes appears functional and healthy and has been enhanced through an ongoing community restoration project • As the only area of expansive sand dunes within the volcanic ring plain the sandy beach and adjoining dunes are a striking feature along the predominately rocky coastal edge • Low level dune vegetation appears in harmony with the overlying sand	
	Transient values	• Changing sand patterns through moving sand • Presence of wildlife including influx of migratory birds	
Associative	Shared and recognised values	• The beach is renowned for windsurfing and kite surfing. • Popular surf casting spot and provides for a range of active and passive recreational experiences	Very high
	Tangata whenua values	• The area contains a number of pā and kāinga including tauranga waka and pūkāwa (reefs)	
	Historical associations	• Several pā and occupation sites occur in the vicinity as well as an urupā (burial ground) • The shipwreck 'Northern Monarch' lies offshore	
Overall Rating			Outstanding

ONFL 5 Kaūpokonui

Kaūpokonui forms a distinctive coastal edge, which has been cut into south Taranaki's rugged coastline through stream mouth oscillation and contributes important recreation and cultural values associated with lowered river terraces and accessible dunes.

Map Link Map – 28

Landscape/feature attributes		Values and characteristics	Assessment
Biophysical	Natural science values	• Steep enclosing terrace scarps which reach approximately 40 m above the coastal edge • Significant scientific values including the remains of several species of moa and other extinct birds • Presence of threatened, at risk and regionally distinctive flora species • Īnanga spawning site	High
Sensory	Legibility or expressiveness	• The formative processes of stream mouth oscillation are clearly expressed and reveal down cutting resulting in a large break in the cliffs	Very high
	Aesthetic and scenic values	• Low impact recreation and camping facilities contained along the true left bank of the Kaūpokonui River • The area of dunes retain a high level of naturalness and intact forms • A vivid contrast between the flat terrace of the ring plain and the open and deep valley encompassing the terraces adjoining the Kaūpokonui Stream • The camping ground and associated buildings remain low impact and ensure the coherence of natural values in the wider area are retained	
	Transient values	• Changing patterns in the dune fields through moving sand • Presence of wildlife throughout different times of the day and year	
Associative	Shared and recognised values	• The landscape is highly valued by locals and tourists for camping, swimming, fishing and surfing • Kaūpokonui is commonly cited as the 'jewel of South Taranaki' in terms of amenity values	Very high
	Tangata whenua values	• The area is significant to Ngā Ruahine Iwi in that the river was named by Turi the captain of the waka Aotea Utanganui. The flat lands adjacent were named by Turi (Maraekura) where an ancient ceremony was performed to enhance his mana.	
	Historical associations	• Former pā site identified at mouth of the Otakeho Stream • Midden site at Kaūpokonui/Otamare Māori Reservation • Important moa hunting archaeological site with nine species of moa and 59 species of other birds being found in the area	
Overall Rating			Outstanding

ONFL 6 Kapuni Stream

The mouth of the Kapuni Stream together with an eroding coastline have carved adjoining peninsula and island forms with very high historical and Māori importance.

Map Link Map – 29

Landscape/feature attributes		Values and characteristics	Assessment
Biophysical	Natural science values	• Steep river scarp terraces and a retreating coastline have carved an impressive configuration of a natural peninsula and flat topped island along the coastline • Threatened, at risk and regionally distinctive flora and fauna species present	High
Sensory	Legibility or expressiveness	• The remnant stream channel and associated island and peninsula are highly legible of the formative fluvial processes along steep cliffs formed along an eroding coastline	Very high
	Aesthetic and scenic values	• Whilst the area gains much of its significance from historic structures and events that occurred, the river escarpments and terraces have limited levels of modification and retain a strong sense of naturalness • The steep natural peninsula and island forms striking and memorable features along the coastal edge • The steep coastal scarps remain formidable along the coastal edge with no significant discordant elements in the vicinity of escarpment edges	
	Transient values	• Lighting and shadow exemplifies the steep natural cut forms at different times of the day • Opportunities to encounter a variety of wildlife through different times of the day and year	
Associative	Shared and recognised values	• Widely recognised as a former pā site as a distinctive flat topped island marking the entrance to Kapuni Stream	Very high
	Tangata whenua values	• This area contains significant pā and kāinga, including tauranga waka and pūkāwa. • Waimate Orangi-tuapeka were fighting pā on the banks of the Kapuni Stream, where the last battle between the Taranaki tribes and the Waikato tribes was fought (1830). The outcome was an agreement of ever lasting peace between the Paramount Waikato Chief Potatau Te Wherowhero and the Taranaki chiefs.	
	Historical associations	• The site of several pā, villages and archaeological sites along the island and lowered terraces adjoining the margins of the river • Waimate is the site of the first clash between Māori and British troops in New Zealand	
Overall Rating			Outstanding

ONFL 7 North and South Traps

The North and South Traps are two high-relief rocky reef systems that form a distinctive seascape and contribute significant ecological, cultural and recreational values.

Map Link Map – 41

Landscape/feature attributes		Values and characteristics	Assessment
Biophysical	Natural science values	• Two adjoining reef systems comprising tall underwater pinnacles – a rare feature for the sandy coast • Biotic values, particularly kelp (*Ecklonia radiata*) beds, diverse fish and sponge communities and valuable habitat for crayfish • Significant ecological values including kelp beds (*Ecklonia radiata*) and a diverse range of fish and sponge communities and species • Important habitat for crayfish	Very high
Sensory	Legibility or expressiveness	• Unique marine feature for this part of the coast	Very high
	Aesthetic and scenic values	• Strikingly colourful reef walls due to a diverse range of different encrusting organisms including seaweeds, sponges and anemones • Seascape is largely unmodified by human intervention and comprises a naturally functioning and healthy ecosystem	
	Transient values	• Presence of wildlife throughout different times of the day and year • Climatic changes influence seawater clarity affecting the perception of aesthetic values	
Associative	Shared and recognised values	• Popular recreational fishing and diving area • Perceptual and experiential values including a high sense of wildness and remoteness; minimal human activity associated with low impact recreation use	Very high
	Tangata whenua values	• This area was and still is known by the local iwi and hapū as a rich fishing ground. • Source of kaimoana including crayfish	
	Historical associations		
Overall Rating			Outstanding

ONFL 8 Waverley Beach

Waverley Beach reveals an exceptional cross section through the elevated marine terraces, with erosion along the soft sedimentary rock creating an impressive array of rugged and varied coastal cliff forms.

Map Link Map – 38

Landscape/feature attributes		Values and characteristics	Assessment
Biophysical	Natural science values	• Part of the south Taranaki uplifted marine terraces, New Zealand's most complete sequence of uplifted marine terraces • Varied eroded coastal edge with a diverse range of coastal stacks, caverns, ravines and blow holes carved into the cliffs by wave erosion (recognised as a Geopreservation Site) • Fossilised totara tree stumps and logs in the intertidal area (recognised as a Geopreservation Site) • Fossil shellbed located at the base of the cliffs, north of the settlement • There are native herbfields on the cliff tops containing a diverse range of specialised coastal cliff species • A thriving population of the Threatened (Nationally Vulnerable) minute succulent *Crassula manaia* • 'Threatened' and 'At Risk' species present	Very high
Sensory	Legibility or expressiveness	• Coastal cliffs are highly expressive of soft uplifted marine terraces becoming eroded along an exposed coastal edge	Very high
	Aesthetic and scenic values	• No apparent coastal edge development and limited inland modification within the southern component of the landscape retains a very high level of naturalness and exposed coastal edge experience • Varied cliff forms generate a highly memorable experience along the coastal edge • Sand lined beaches along steep rugged coastal cliffs are void of discordant elements that could disrupt their rugged character	
	Transient values	• Climatic changes and the changing moods, sounds and smells of the sea remain highly apparent	
Associative	Shared and recognised values	• The area is used for swimming and fishing and has high scenic value • The setting sun in the west has been the subject of many paintings and photographs taken from within the coastal cliffs	Very high
	Tangata whenua values	• The area is of significance for mahinga kai to Māori and Ngā Rauru • This area contains significant pā and kāinga including tauranga waka and mātaitai (kaimoana) reefs.	
	Historical associations	• Archaeological finds recorded on NZAA database • Former Waverley arch was recognised as an important natural geological formation in this area	
Overall Rating			Outstanding

ONFL 9 Waitōtara

Waitōtara contains exceptional biophysical values along an unmodified coastal edge which retains very strong wild and scenic associations.

Map Link Map – 38, 39

Landscape/feature attributes		Values and characteristics	Assessment
Biophysical	Natural science values	• Combined river mouth, low promontory of shell-limestone outcrops and a very dynamic dune system • Several Geopreservation Sites which encompass Wilkies Bluff Plioscene section (on the true left bank of the Waitōtara River), the prominent remains of a tōtara forest that has been drowned and preserved by rising sea-levels or local subsidence; the best example of an area abundant in ventifacts (hardened rocks shaped by wind-blown sand) in the country and one of the largest relatively unmodified dune systems in the Taranaki region • Two distinct vegetation types associated with the dunes and outcrops • One of the best examples of native pīngao-dominated dune fields in the region with the foredune near the Waitōtara River covered almost entirely in native spinafix • Seabird feeding, breeding and resting area • Various Threatened and At Risk species present	Very high
Sensory	Legibility or expressiveness	• The Waitōtara Estuary and surrounding dune system are highly expressive of their geological formation through erosional and depositional and inundation processes	Very high
	Aesthetic and scenic values	• No apparent coastal edge development and limited inland modification retains a very high level of naturalness and exposed coastal edge experience • Striking contrast between native plants on outcrops and dune areas • Wild coastal influences retain a highly memorable experience along the coastal edge • Whilst some recreational tracks are evident, the area predominately lacks any discordant elements	
	Transient values	• Climatic changes and the changing moods, sounds and smells of the sea remain highly apparent • Presence of wildlife throughout different times of the day and year • Changing dune forms and water drainage patterns through moving sand and changing hydrological conditions • Fossilised forest evident in estuary at low tide	
Associative	Shared and recognised values	• Considerable public interest and education value associated with Geopreservation Sites • Popular fishing area with whitebaiting along the Waitōtara River	Very high
	Tangata whenua values	• Evidence of historic coastal settlement with the area being of significance for mahinga kai/ food gathering • Area contains significant pā and kāinga, including tauranga waka and mātaitai (kaimoana) reefs.	

Landscape/feature attributes		Values and characteristics	Assessment
	Historical associations	• The area provided a ferry punt landing for early European settlers and was the site of the original Waitōtara Hotel the 'Rising Sun', which used a cliff cave as the cellar	
Overall Rating			Outstanding