

Northland Regional Landscape Assessment Worksheet

	Unit name – BERGIN POINT COAST
DESCRIPTION AND CHARACTERISATION	
Component	Comment
Land Types <small>(refer to list overleaf)</small> Coastal cliffs / escarpment Headland	A powerful headland form that extends from a sequence of rocky coast to the north and south. Underlying parent material becomes increasingly exposed towards the point.
Geology <small>(including geopreservation sites)</small>	Tangihua volcanic cliffs and headland
Soil Types	Awapuku clay loam and Mangonui clay.
Ecology <small>(including protected vegetation / features, PNAP Level 1 and 2 sites)</small>	Relatively young indigenous shrubland colonising from apparent past history of forest clearance and pastoral landuse. Some relics of that use appear quite nearby. Pockets of more mature pohutukawa present along parts of the shoreline and in small depressions or more sheltered portions of the coastal flank. Not known to include ecological elements of heightened value.
Archaeological sites	A scattering of sites along the coastal brink, related particularly to Bergin Point, Motukukupa Point, and Tuanui Point with pa sites being identified on the latter two of those landforms.
Heritage Landscapes	None known of.
Landscape characterisation <small>(including the identification of any specific characteristics)</small> <p>A defining headland on the northland coast that pairs with Karikari peninsula to contain Doubtless Bay. Acts as a transition from more complex and convoluted coast that stretches south across Whangaroa Harbour mouth to the Cavallis.</p> <p>A strong sense of exposure and the erosive force of the sea are particularly expressed on the outer point, where the parent material is stripped bare and indigenous vegetation cover is held back well above sea level. That atmosphere of being beaten by the elements diminishes moving back into the more sheltered, small coves and indents to the south.</p> <p>The shoreline of this coastal landscape is subtly complex, with a multitude of small fissures and grooves marking much of the shoreline. Whilst this fissuring is evident around a small wave-cut platform, the coastal topography appears to then drop steeply, resulting in quite deep inshore waters.</p> <p>A number of small rocky islets and reefs hug the coast, suggesting the intervening material has been worn away by wave action over a long period.</p> <p>This portion of the wider coast of the Whakarangi headland distinguishes itself in that it is free of built development and human modification.</p>	

EVALUATION		
Criteria	Rank	Comment
Natural Science Factors		
Representativeness Natural landscapes are clearly characteristic of the area, district or region. The key components of the landscape will be present in a way that defines the character of the place and distills its character and essence. Endemic associations.	4	An archaetypal northern east coast headland, subject to a range of sea conditions, stripped back to its base materials at its most exposed and with a covering of indigenous coastal shrubland and pohutukawa fringe.
Rarity Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and few comparable examples exist.	3	Somewhat typical of a number of similar coastal landscapes, particularly from this point north.
Aesthetic Values		
Coherence The patterns of land cover and land use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of the landform of the area and there are no significant discordant elements of land cover or land use.	5	A combination of intact and repeated landform, interaction with the forces of the sea and an indigenous shrubland cover, along with an absence of built or landuse development, give this area a high level of coherence.
Diversity & Complexity The elements contributing to overall landscape character are diverse and complex (particularly in ecological terms) without creating disharmony.	5	An interplay of geology, ecology and sea conditions instill a strong measure of diversity. These interactions are very evident and expressive when seen from the sea.
Vividness Natural features and landscape are widely recognized across the community and beyond the local area and remain clearly in the memory; striking landscapes are symbolic of an area due to their recognisable and memorable qualities.	5	A distinctive and memorable part of the wider Doubtless Bay coastal landscape, through its role as a southern gateway and containing edge as seen from Cable Bay, Taipa, Tokerau Beach and Doubtless Bay generally.
Naturalness How affected by human activity is the landscape? Does human activity intrude on the landscape? Eg. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presence of buildings and associated built development. • Presence of infrastructure services. • Extent of indigenous forest cover. • Homogeneity of exotic vegetation. • Presence / extent of modified agricultural land use. • Strength of natural processes / ecological patterns. • Unmodified and legible physical relief and landform. • Presence of water. 	4	Highly natural, with coastal processes and terrestrial responses to those influences being clearly evident. Free of built development and topographic modification and therefore contrasts with the coast to either side which features scattered dwellings and access roadways to serve them. The relationship with the wider CMA and exposure to approximately 270° of wave fetch makes this one of the more dynamic parts of the coast.
Intactness Natural systems are intact and aesthetically coherent and do not display significant visual signs of human modification, intervention or manipulation, visually intact and highly aesthetic natural landscapes.	5	As above. Very cohesive and intact.
Experiential Values		
Expressiveness The 'legibility' of the landscape. Natural features clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them.	5	Highly expressive of formative processes, much of which is evident on a daily basis whenever there is wave action present on the east coast.
Sensory qualities (These are landscape phenomena as directly perceived and experienced by humans, such as the view of a scenic landscape, or the distinctive smell and sound of the foreshore).	5	Very interactive through the crashing of waves (visual and sound), drifting salt spray and the rawness of the outer headland as a reflection of typical conditions.

<p>Transient Values</p> <p>The consistent and repeated occurrence of transient features that contributes to the character, qualities and values of the landscape; landscapes are widely recognised for their transient features and the contribution that these make to the landscape.</p>	4	<p>Heavily influenced by sea conditions, with a diversity of resulting character from windswept and exposed, to tranquil and clear. Water colour and clarity are an important aspect.</p>
<p>Remoteness / Wildness</p> <p>Does the landscape display a wilderness character, remote from and untouched by human presence? Eg.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sense of remoteness • Accessibility • Distance from built development 	4	<p>Difficult to access, even by boat, with limited landing. Spatially separated and distinct from the modestly developed coast to either side.</p>
<p>Shared and recognised values</p> <p>Natural features and landscape are widely known and valued by the immediate and wider community for their contribution to a sense of place leading to a strong community association with, or high public esteem for the place.</p>	4	<p>Anticipated to be high as a result of the headland's role in defining the wider Doubtless Bay, and a maritime feature, so is likely to figure prominently in the community's "mental map" of the local area.</p>
<p>Spiritual, cultural and historical associations</p> <p>Natural features and landscapes can be clearly and widely known and influenced by their connection to the spiritual, cultural and historical valued in the place and includes associative meanings and associative activities valued by the community. Associative meanings are spiritual, cultural or social associations with particular landscape elements, features, or areas, whilst associative activities are patterns of social activity that occur in particular parts of a landscape, for example, popular walking routes or fishing spots.</p>	**	<p>A navigational waypoint for vessels moving along the coast and approaching Manganui Harbour.</p> <p>Consultation was initiated during the mapping process, but has not led to any feedback within the required period.</p>

Rank scale between 1 (low) and 5 (high)

Land Types
Coastal cliffs / escarpment
Low escarpment
Bays and headlands
Beach
Dune complex
Reefs and islands
Estuarine / inlet
Open harbour
Coastal plain
Rolling hills
Steep hills; moderate to high relief
Ranges; high relief
Strongly rolling land
Low rolling land
Valley floors and flats
Plains
Volcanic cones
River mouth
Wetland
Watercourses
Lakes and water bodies



