

# Northland Regional Landscape Assessment Worksheet

	Unit name – <b>HURUPAKI VOLCANIC CONE</b>
DESCRIPTION AND CHARACTERISATION	
Component	Comment
<b>Land Types</b> Volcanic cones land type	One of a sequence of volcanic cones, which form a family of features and characterise the landscape to the west of Whangarei. The unit forms a clear representation of the land type with a distinctive cone shape. Viewed from the east, south east and south west the unit appears unmodified.
<b>Geology</b> (including geopreservation sites)  Manaia / Bream Head stratovolcano	Kerikeri Volcanics basaltic scoria cone.  Hurupaki is a geopreservation site of regional significance: the quarry on the western side exposes an eruption sequence showing the magma variation occurred during the eruption (Kenny and Hayward 1993).
<b>Soil Types</b>	Predominantly Papakauri silt loam, with some Kiripaka bouldery silt loam.
<b>Ecology</b> (including protected vegetation / features, PNAP Level 1 and 2 sites)	Identified in the Whangarei Ecological District PNAP report as Q06/163, this Level 1 site comprises 62.3 ha forest and 10 ha shrubland and includes the forest on Hurupaki cone and the Onoke Scenic Reserve to the east of Dip Road.  Both the totara forest on the hillslope and the taraire-totara forest on the hillslope are representative vegetation types in the ecological district, and the mamuku-hangehange shrubland on the hillslope represents the only example of the type in the ecological district.  The PNAP report notes the presence of kukupa (Category B threatened species) and Auckland green geko Regionally significant species.
<b>Archaeological sites</b>	Hurupaki was the site of a pa.
<b>Heritage Landscapes</b>	None known.
<b>Landscape characterisation</b> (including the identification of any specific characteristics)	
<p>Located to the west of Kamo, Hurupaki forms an instantly recognizable feature that, along with Parakiore on its northern side, defines the settlement.</p> <p>Its form is recognisably volcanic in origin, and, rising to a height of 349 m, retains a substantial level of vegetation cover on its mid and upper slopes. It sits within a pastoral landscape and from many viewpoints, rises from behind a foreground context of vegetation.</p> <p>The feature has been modified, with a quarry located on its western face. This activity is visible from western viewpoints, but from other quadrants the cone appears intact.</p> <p>The circular form of the cone, and its steep sloping flanks, contrast with the surrounding rolling landscape of the cone and make delineating its extent relatively easy</p> <p>Hurupaki forms one of the wider family of volcanic cones, which includes a number of proximate features. To the north is the prominent Parakiore, whilst to the west two smaller features and less defined cones (Ngararatunua and Rawhitiroa) are subservient and more easily overlooked, being</p>	

partially hidden within the horticultural landscape of shelterbelts and groves of native trees. These features have not been included within the unit, nor identified as separate ONL.

## EVALUATION

Criteria	Rank	Comment
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### Natural Science Factors

<p><b>Representativeness</b> 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.</p>	<b>5</b>	The cones within the Whangarei volcanic field are important features, which typify and lend identity to the area. Whilst a number are unknown or lesser known due to their scale or lack of prominence, some – including Hurupaki – are widely known. This cone clearly represents a member of the family of volcanic cones and is widely recognised as such.
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<p><b>Rarity</b> Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and few comparable examples exist.</p>	<b>5</b>	Whilst a number of cone features exist within the Whangarei, Far North and Kaipara Districts, on a national scale these features are relatively rare.
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### Aesthetic Values

<p><b>Coherence</b> 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.</p>	<b>4</b>	The Hurupaki cone has been modified as a result of quarrying, vegetation clearance and the construction of a number of buildings on its lower slopes. Despite this it retains a moderate level of coherence. This is a consequence of the uniform shape of the feature, and the contiguous character of the remaining vegetation.
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<p><b>Diversity &amp; Complexity</b> The elements contributing to overall landscape character are diverse and complex (particularly in ecological terms) without creating disharmony.</p>	<b>3</b>	A complexity of the vegetation type is evident on the feature. This type reflects the variations in underlying soils, the aspect, gradient and level of exposure and indicates a good level of diversity.
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<p><b>Vividness</b> 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.</p>	<b>4</b>	The scale and form of the cone, in relation to the surrounding gently undulating rural landscape tends to emphasize the contrast between the feature and its immediate context. In addition, viewed from the east, from within Kamo village the scale and character of the feature is juxtaposed against the urban midground and foreground. The relationship between the village and the feature, and the characteristic form of the feature ensures that it possesses a highly vivid and memorable character.
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<p><b>Naturalness</b> How affected by human activity is the landscape? Does human activity intrude on the landscape? Eg.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presence of buildings and associated built development.</li> <li>• Presence of infrastructure services.</li> <li>• Extent of indigenous forest cover.</li> <li>• Homogeneity of exotic vegetation.</li> <li>• Presence / extent of modified agricultural land use.</li> <li>• Strength of natural processes / ecological patterns.</li> <li>• Unmodified and legible physical relief and landform.</li> <li>• Presence of water.</li> </ul>	<b>3</b>	Although the rural area surrounding the cone, and the gentle lower slopes have been modified and assume a cultivated character, and quarrying has occurred on its western side, the steeper mid and upper slopes retain an unmodified and natural appearance.
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<b>Intactness</b> 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.	<b>3</b>	When viewed from all quadrants except the west, the mid and upper slopes of the cone retain a high level of intactness with little modification of these most visible parts of the feature.
<b>Experiential Values</b>		
<b>Expressiveness</b> The 'legibility' of the landscape. Natural features clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them.	<b>5</b>	The form of the feature clearly demonstrates its origin and formative processes.
<b>Sensory qualities</b> (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).	<b>3</b>	The form of the cone and its highly visibility and prominence contribute to the sensory quality of the feature. In addition to this, the contiguous cover of native forest on the mid and upper slopes differentiate this feature from others and add to the experience.
<b>Transient Values</b> 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.	<b>2</b>	Limited evidence of transient values evident, although changes in light angle and light conditions resulting from temporal and climatological changes are of importance.

<b>Remoteness / Wildness</b> Does the landscape display a wilderness character, remote from and untouched by human presence? Eg. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sense of remoteness</li> <li>• Accessibility</li> <li>• Distance from built development</li> </ul>	<b>2</b>	The cone is a relatively small-scale feature within a highly modified and occupied rural area. A limited sense of remoteness can be gained from being 'within' the landscape, but it is difficult to achieve separation between it and the surrounding landscape.
<b>Shared and recognised values</b> 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.	<b>5</b>	The cone is a widely recognised feature and is highly visible due to the proximity of Kamo. It characterises, the nearby settlement and forms part of the wider linked family of cones within the Whangarei field.
<b>Spiritual, cultural and historical associations</b> 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. These can include both activities and meanings 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.	<b>3</b>	Consultation was initiated during the mapping process, but has not led to any feedback within the required period.  Hurupaki is the site of a former pa.  The unit is a backdrop to and closely associated with the Kamo settlement. The feature is likely to be valued by the community.

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

### Photographs of unit



View to Hurupaki from Dip Road



View to Hurupaki from south west



View to Hurupaki from Three Mile Bush Road