

Northland Regional Landscape Assessment Worksheet

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| | Unit name – MANGATIPA |
| DESCRIPTION AND CHARACTERISATION | |
| Component | Comment |
| Land Types <small>(refer to list overleaf)</small> Volcanic cone (remains). Steep hills: moderate high relief. | Prominent volcanic feature with two separate high points and steep flanks riven by dissected gullies. |
| Geology <small>(including geopreservation sites)</small> | Steep hill country underlain by Cretaceous-Paleocene ophiolitic volcanics (Tangihua Complex). |
| Soil Types | The majority of the unit is overlain by Te Kie steepland soils, stoney clay loam. To the north of the unit the soil type is Takitu gravelly clay loam. |
| Ecology <small>(including protected vegetation / features, PNAP Level 1 and 2 sites)</small> | <p>The North Houto Forest (P07/036) is a Level 1 site that occupies 558 ha.</p> <p>The Tangihua Ecological District PNAP survey notes that the northern block of Houto Forest occupies an isolated and dissected hill, and is predominantly a broadleaved forest remnant that has been cut-over. There is, however, a significant amount of old-growth canopy trees remaining, exemplified by the stag-headed totara, rimu, puriri and northern rata. The sub-canopy comprises mainly pole taraire and kohekohe with occasional miro, totara and rimu.</p> <p>A number of regionally significant plant species are present within the area; <i>Corokia cotoneaster</i> (AK 167603), <i>Dracophyllum traversii</i>, carmine rata, <i>Epilobium nummulariifolium</i> (AK 168650), gully tree fern, <i>Hypolepis lactea</i>, <i>Myriophyllum triphyllum</i> (AK 168060), northern rata, <i>Olearia albida</i>, raukawa, <i>Passiflora tetrandra</i>, tawari, <i>Uncinia distans</i>, <i>Urtica incisa</i> and wharariki. All species without herbarium records are listed in SSBI P07/H009 (1985-2000).</p> <p>North Houto Forest supports two threatened fauna species and 15 regionally significant plant species. The site contains old-growth forest, which is rare in Tangihua ED, and may be important as part of a habitat network for mobile species such as kukupa, providing a linkage between natural areas in the south-west and north-east.</p> |
| Archaeological sites | None known. |
| Heritage Landscapes | None known |
| Landscape characterisation <small>(including the identification of any specific characteristics)</small> <p>Mangatipa is located some 12km to the north west of Tangiteroria. The area is geologically described as 'steep hill country underlain by Cretaceous-Paleocene ophiolitic volcanics' and it covers an area of approximately 660ha.</p> <p>The name 'Mangatipa' refers to a broad dissected peak, with deep valleys and defined spurs. This locally prominent landform rises to a high point of almost 500m, with a second peak to the north of</p> | |

some 452 metres in height. Surrounding this feature, most notably to the south lies an area of contiguous forest comprising a mix of young podocarp-hardwood forest and shrubland and covers most of the feature although on the north western face an area of pasture detracts from its 'naturalness'.

The feature is visible from a wide catchment, its form and elevation contrasting with the surrounding undulating pastoral landform. The prominence of the feature is accentuated by the dense and unbroken forest on its slopes – again contrasting with the surrounding vegetation patterns. Most visible from Kirikopuni Valley Road, the Mangatipa forms a dominant feature for a considerable distance along this road, being aligned directly towards the feature whilst travelling north before skirting its eastern edge. From this road, the unmodified and natural character is particularly obvious. From many locations to the east the unit is seen in context with the more extensive Maungaru Range.

EVALUATION

| Criteria | Rank | Comment |
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| 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 | The unit is highly representative of volcanic and vegetated features which in clusters throughout northland. These features – elevated vegetated elements within surrounding a rolling pastured landscape – characterize the Northland landscape and present a strongly endemic character. |
| Rarity Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and few comparable examples exist. | 4 | In a regional sense features of this type are relatively common, but nationally they are rare. |
| 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. | 4 | <p>The unit presents a highly coherent appearance, with its dramatic landform almost entirely vegetated with native forest, and the vegetation patterns closely reflecting the underlying topographical patterns.</p> <p>With the exception of pasture extending up the north western flanks of the unit, it is otherwise not visibly modified.</p> |
| Diversity & Complexity The elements contributing to overall landscape character are diverse and complex (particularly in ecological terms) without creating disharmony. | 3 | <p>With its slopes deeply dissected by gullies on the western and eastern sides, the unit presents a dramatic landform with a moderate level of topographical diversity.</p> <p>Ecological diversity, as evidenced by the PNAP report is also notable with significant regrowth following logging, and a wider diversity of species.</p> |
| Vividness Natural features and landscape are widely recognised 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. | 4 | <p>Vegetation cover and patterns accentuate natural relief. Mangatipa has a simple, recognizable and visible form, which is visible from an extensive catchment, particularly to the south, south west and south east.</p> <p>Seen from more proximate locations, such as on Kirikopuni Road, and Sommerville Road, the unit dominates the road and its scale is more readily apparent.</p> <p>The unit demonstrates a simple landscape composition on a macro-scale.</p> |
| 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. | 4 | <p>Although the unit has been logged in the past, there is little evidence of modification within the forest area and a predominant absence of structures and services within the unit.</p> <p>Modification has occurred on the unit margins – primarily</p> |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. | | <p>pasture on the north western flanks.</p> <p>Ecological processes and patterns appear to be diverse and robust and the physical relief and landform is highly legible.</p> |
| 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. | 4 | <p>With the exception of bush clearance for pasture on the north west slopes, the unit displays a high level of intactness.</p> |
| Experiential Values | | |
| Expressiveness The 'legibility' of the landscape. Natural features clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them. | 5 | <p>The presence of primary growth vegetation with good succession growth and a multi layered structure demonstrates the operation of ecological processes.</p> <p>Natural ecological processes and unmodified character strongly evident.</p> <p>Flowering and fruiting of plants coinciding with feeding by native birds. Time of day (sun angle), weather and atmospheric conditions affect the character of the forest area.</p> |
| 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). | 3 | <p>The forest presents relatively subtle qualities, such as the scent of the bush and the sound of wind in the trees rather than dramatic qualities.</p> <p>Views of the unit and lush bush from Kirikopuni Road are striking.</p> |
| Transient Values 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. | 3 | <p>The unit is strongly influenced by light and weather conditions, although light conditions on the southern side tend to be more muted in scope. Seasonal influences of blooming and fruiting of trees, shrubs and climbers are also of note.</p> |
| Remoteness / Wildness Does the landscape display a wilderness character, remote from and untouched by human presence? Eg. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sense of remoteness • Accessibility • Distance from built development | 2 | <p>The feature is relatively isolated within a rural and pastoral context although accessible via the road network. Access to the feature itself is limited.</p> <p>Scattered rural development and dwellings are present in relative proximity.</p> |
| Shared and recognised values 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. | 2 | <p>The unit is a highly visible feature and is likely to figure reasonably highly in terms of awareness at a local level. Otherwise, it is considered that the unit is not a feature that is recognised by the wider community.</p> |

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| Spiritual, cultural and historical associations 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. | 5 | Consultation was initiated during the mapping process, but has not led to any feedback within the required period. |
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Rank scale between 1 (low) and 5 (high)

| Land Types |
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| 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 of Mangatipa from east



View of Mangatipa from east with Tutamoe in background



View of Mangatipa from Kirikopuni Valley Road