

Northland Regional Landscape Assessment Worksheet

	Unit name – MANGONUI HARBOUR HEADLANDS
DESCRIPTION AND CHARACTERISATION	
Component	Comment
Land Types (refer to list overleaf) Bays and headlands Coastal cliffs / escarpment Reefs and islands	Contains a number of physical forms, from the cliffs of Butler Point, outer Rangikapiti Head, fringing reefs and related rocks, knoll occupied by main pa, broader headland/peninsula form.
Geology (including geopreservation sites)	Hillslopes and coastal cliffs of Tangihua Complex igneous rock units. NZ Geopres Inventory: Manganui Miocene coconut beds on western edge of Rangikapiti Head (ie end of Coopers Beach).
Soil Types	Awapuku clay loam.
Ecology (including protected vegetation / features, PNAP Level 1 and 2 sites)	Manuka-kanuka shrubland on western head, with pohutukawa frequent on coastal margin. Proportion of wattle and Chinese privet. One of the few areas of coastal vegetation in the Ecological District. Butler Point coast predominantly pohutukawa treeland, manuka-kanuka shrubland and bracken-mamaku shrubland. Discontinuous canopy and a number of exotic spp. Also notable as coastal vegetation.
Archaeological sites	Butler Point coastline has two pa sites identified. Lighthouse on Rangikapiti Headland. An intensity of recorded archaeological sites strung along the Osprey Head – Butler Point coastline/flank. Just two sites on the Rangikapiti Headland, plus pa site as mentioned below.
Heritage Landscapes	Rangikapiti Pa a prominent landmark that commands a wide area of coast. Acknowledged by Historic Reserve status.
Landscape characterisation (including the identification of any specific characteristics)	
<p>A strongly defined harbour entrance that is an important part of Manganui's character, both in terms of views north east down the inner harbour shore, where it forms a powerful backdrop, and for vessels entering the harbour from Doubtless Bay. Whilst not symmetrical, the eastern and western entry flanks are balanced and complementary, with a cover of vegetation – most of it indigenous – and parallels in landform providing a relationship between the two.</p> <p>The shoreline and intertidal zone of this unit is modestly complex, with small fringing reefs and minor headlands adding to diversity. Outer portions of the unit's coast are evidently subject to periodic wave action, as demonstrated by the zone of eroded and unvegetated rock for some metres above MHWS.</p> <p>Rangikapiti pa is one of the most graphic pa forms on the coast and commonly accessed by visitors. It holds a commanding strategic position over the outer harbour, harbour mouth and wider Doubtless Bay.</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	4	A key pair of landforms in terms of Manganui's character and identity, and defining the mouth of the harbour. Rangikapiti also terminates the eastern end of Coopers Beach and is a

essence. Endemic associations.		landmark in the wider Doubtless Bay.
Rarity Natural features are unique or rare in the region or nationally, and few comparable examples exist.	3	Uncommon vegetation type in ecological district, but not on a wider Northland scale.
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	A common coastal / intertidal margin and coastal flank and repeated patterns of indigenous vegetation cover (although these are less contiguous on the Butler Point side of the unit).
Diversity & Complexity The elements contributing to overall landscape character are diverse and complex (particularly in ecological terms) without creating disharmony.	4	The relationship between the two landforms bridging across the harbour mouth, the interaction of the sea in various wave states and tidal / water clarity conditions, subtle vegetation associations and cultural dimensions to both elements combine to give this unit a high level of diversity and complexity.
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 very distinctive landscape entity and one that is intrinsically linked to Mangonui's character and sense of place. The pa site, in particular, has a wider role in the area's identity which relates to Coopers Beach and beyond. Highly memorable and vivid.
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. 	3	<p>Whilst the unit does not contain buildings per se, it is closely linked to nearby structures, particularly on the Butler's Point side of the ONL. The proximity of the main Mangonui, Mill Bay and Cooper's Beach areas of settlement all impact upon the sense of naturalness experienced within the unit.</p> <p>The reserve at the pa is developed with an access drive, carpark and formed walkway. These are relatively low-key facilities, but do bring a measure of development to the site.</p> <p>Vegetation is predominantly natural, but contains a proportion of exotic invasive species on the pa side and fragmentation on the other side of the harbour mouth.</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.	3	Somewhat impacted upon by nearby development and other factors as identified in the preceding segment.
Experiential Values		
Expressiveness The 'legibility' of the landscape. Natural features clearly demonstrate the natural processes that formed them.	5	An integral relationship between these portions of landscape and the body of water that they enframe. The erosive power of the current and wave action is expressed on both shorelines. Similarly the division between hard and soft materials is explicit.
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).	4	

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	Influenced particularly by sea states and water clarity. Light has a bearing on the “presence” and ambience of Rangikapiti Headland and pa site in particular.
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 	3	Both areas are in close proximity to settlement and the pa site and adjacent coast are accessible by tracks. Butler Point flank is privately owned, but immediately adjacent to houses and the wharf and township directly across the narrow channel.
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.	5	An essential part of Mangonui’s character and immediate setting. Whilst perhaps not consciously registered, this landscape is responsible for defining the harbour mouth and providing a northern coastal backdrop to the village.
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. 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	Rangikapiti pa a dominant landmark and likely to have significant values to Ngati Kahu. Many wahi tapu. The harbour mouth landscape is a very important part of Manganui’s identity and it is probable that it has strong cultural meanings as part of that sense of place and the shelter that it provides from the more exposed sea conditions beyond. Consultation was initiated during the mapping process, but has not led to any feedback within the required period.

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





