

# Memorandum

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Attention: The Marlborough Environment Plan Hearings Panel

Company: c/o Marlborough District Council

Date: 2 July 2018

From: James Bentley

Message Ref: Topic 5: Natural Character and Landscape

Project No: C16091A

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## **Marlborough Environment Plan – Response to Minute 15 concerning Landscape and Natural Character Mapping, Overlays and Values**

Minute 15 requests that the landscape values identified within Appendix 1 of the Volume 3 of the MEP be reorganised in accordance with the mapped nested landscapes presented as part of my response to Minutes 8 and 9 (and submitted on 14 March 2018). Minute 15 also requests that a clear distinction between landscape values and feature values is made clear.

Since this memorandum, I have re-drafted the landscape values based on the mapped nested landscapes. This is appended to this memorandum. I have also provided a character description to each nested landscape as not all of the landscapes may be considered 'an outstanding natural feature or landscape'. To assist, I have also provided an overview of the broader Marlborough Sounds by using text within the Marlborough Landscape Study to provide a greater level of context to the area. This will avoid people focussing in on small areas of the landscape in isolation of the special qualities of the Marlborough Sounds in a broader context that are still relevant.

By virtue of re-organising the landscape values as outlined within Appendix 1 of Volume 3 of the MEP, there will inevitably be some 'carving' up of values. I attempt to outline this below:

### *The Marlborough Landscape Study*

The Landscape Study 2015 is structured in a way that thoroughly describes and characterises all of Marlborough's landscapes in Section B and Section C. The Marlborough Sounds character area is described from pages 56 through to 63. In the descriptions and at a more refined scale, the Marlborough Sounds character area retains two quite different sub-landscape character areas; those being the Inner Sounds and the Outer Sounds. These sub-character areas have been referred to as 'landscapes' within the evaluation section of the Study. It is possible to further refine these sub-character areas.

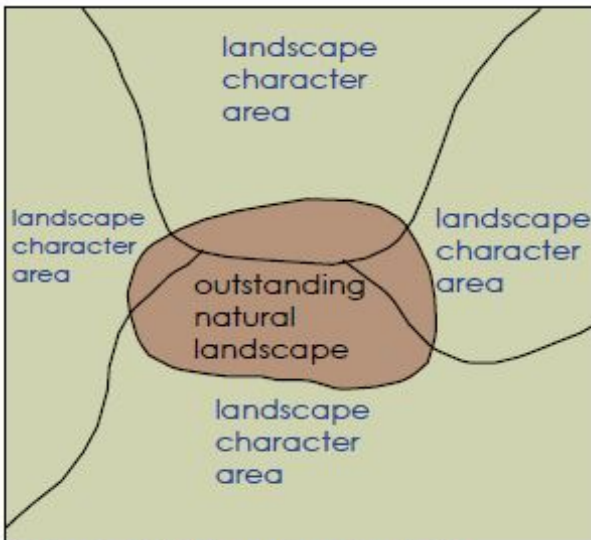
At the end of the broad characterisation descriptions are introductory paragraphs relating to the evaluation of the areas. A commentary outlining the Marlborough Sounds broad landscape values is included using the three broad and accepted attributes of landscape: namely Biophysical, Sensory and Associative. On page 63 of the Landscape Study, following the broad evaluation, a list of ONFs and ONLs is listed. These ONFs and ONLs are then further described and listed in Section D (page 103).

It is those landscape values and evaluations outlined in Section D that have been transferred into Appendix 1 of Volume 3 of the MEP.

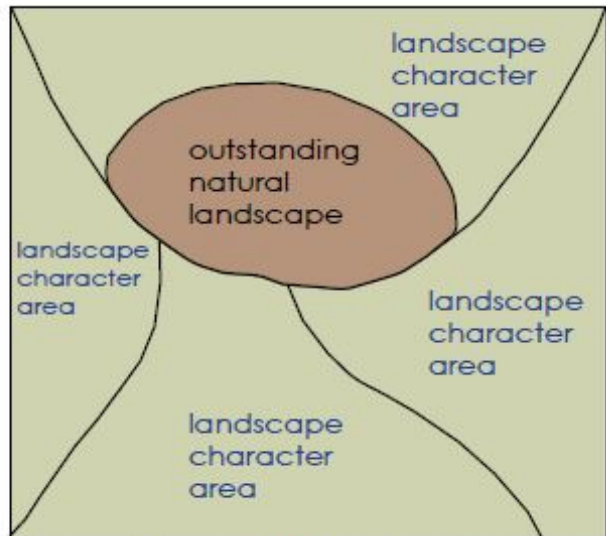
The landscape character descriptions and the evaluation process are different processes. For example, the landscape character descriptions could be used for a multitude of land-based management uses and do not simply serve as a platform in which to identify outstanding natural landscapes. The character descriptions are essential in understanding the landscape resource in totality, irrespective of how it is valued.

When used for mapping landscape values, the characterisation approach provides an important baseline in which to then identify what's important.

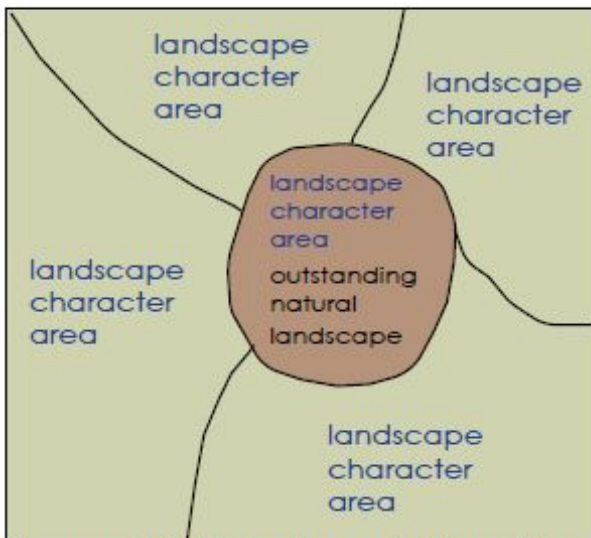
As outlined on page 21 of the Landscape Study (and reproduced below here), a mapped area of ONFs/ONLs does not have to align with a landscape character area. It can exist over several character areas, be part of a character area, exist within a whole character area or be a small part within a character area.



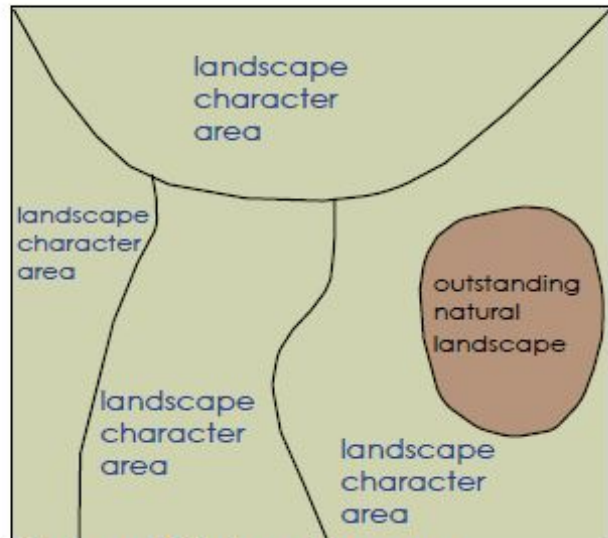
**Figure 1: ONFL boundary is wholly independent and crosses adjoining landscape character areas.**



**Figure 2: ONFL boundary partially follows landscape character area boundary.**



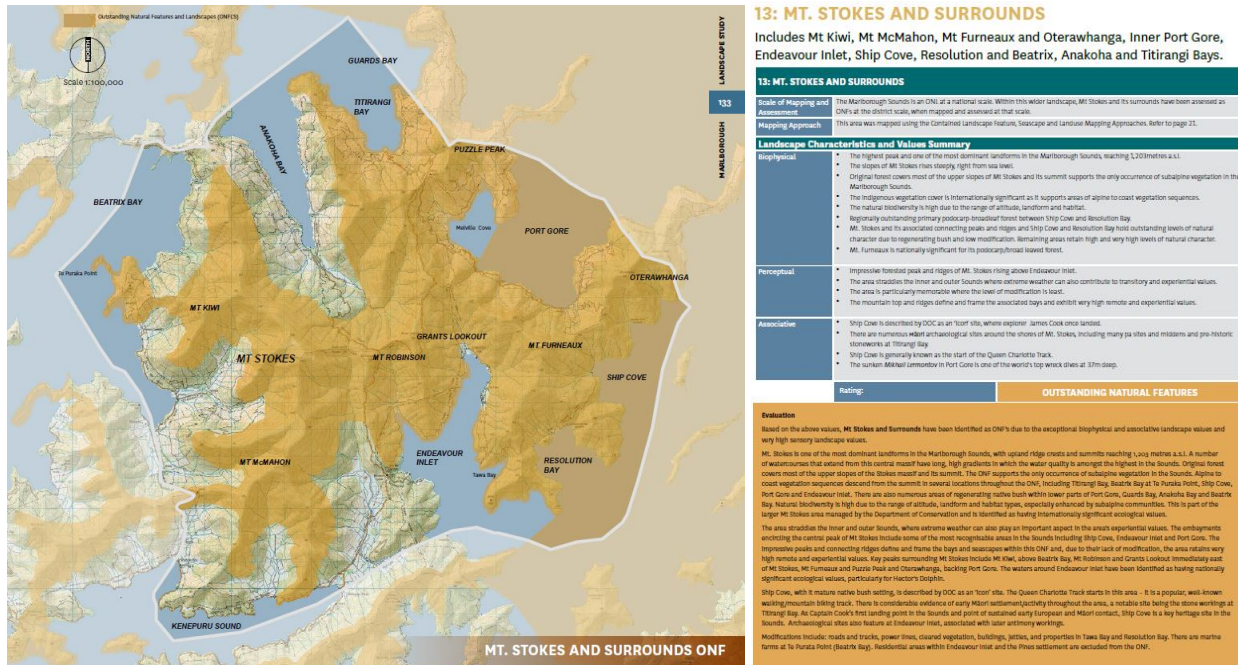
**Figure 3: ONFL boundary coincides with landscape character area boundary.**



**Figure 4: ONFL boundary occurs independent and within a landscape character area boundary.**

The landscape values have been grouped and organised in the Landscape Study 2015 according to their overall mapped extent and the general homogeneity of the area that supports the mapping. It was considered that presenting the data this way would provide a holistic overview of the area being identified.

Below is an example of Mt Stokes. It is recognised as a feature in its own right, where it extends into numerous bays within the centre of the Sounds. The accompanying landscape table lists the relevant landscape values and then summarises these values into an overall evaluation.



Whilst it is important to un-pick a landscape into a list of values (to understand which of the biophysical, sensory or associative attributes hold value), it is also extremely important to understand landscapes as a whole, because in reality, their characteristics and values do not exist in isolation from one-another. They are interwoven and make the place 'the place'. This summing-up or evaluation provides a richer appreciation of the 'parts' of a landscape and how they work together.

From the list of values, it is difficult, as alluded to during the hearing, to associate the term 'feature value' and 'landscape value' to an identified ONL/ONF. Many of the values could be classed as 'feature values' that culminate in them *together* being part of a landscape. I will attempt to explain this further below.

*Applying the landscape values to the nested landscape approach*

Within the Outer Marlborough Sounds Landscape and Inner Marlborough Sounds Landscape, a number of smaller landscapes have been identified. These were presented within my response to Minute 8 and 9 from the MEP panel.

On the last page of Appendix 1 of this memorandum, I have re-produced the nested landscape areas overlaid with the ONF/ONL areas. I have also written these up.

As is illustrated on the overlaid map, there are very few of these smaller 'nested' landscapes where the entire landscape is considered to hold outstanding natural landscape values. Where these do occur, they are typically associated with the Outer Sounds. For the majority of these nested landscapes, only part (or for some landscapes, only very small parts) are identified as being 'outstanding'. These are typically features within these landscapes.

In my view, it is important to describe the whole 'nested' landscape, then identify what parts are outstanding (in terms of s6a of the RMA). The new table which would accompany the map of the nested landscape

should also note which broader landscape this smaller landscape is part of (i.e. Inner/Outer Sounds). A discussion also on the naturalness<sup>1</sup> of the area is also required.

Following this, a list of values can then be applied and an overall evaluation sums up what is outstanding.

One of the principal concerns I have about reapplying landscape values to smaller 'nested' landscapes, is that the overall identified outstanding portion of that landscape could be considered in parts rather than holistically. An example of this is outlined in nested landscape 01: Robertson, where the east facing flanks of Mt Robertson have been identified as an ONF, yet this ONF continues to exist outside of this landscape area and extends into two others. The landscape values which represent the Mt Robertson Range in the Landscape Study (and within Appendix 1 of Volume 3 as No. 18) relate to the ONF as a whole and include the whole range. However, with this nested approach there is a risk that they will now appear to relate more to just 'part' of the ONF. Another problematic area is Mt Stokes, which within the Landscape Study is identified as one whole area but will now be associated with four to five different landscape areas.

To help address this, I have endeavoured to ensure that the re-work captures all the necessary landscape values. There are some instances where this means a doubling-up has occurred (such as describing Mt Stokes in three different landscape areas). However, I would be keen to get the panel's comments on this.

To alleviate some concerns, I have asked that external landscape architect Liz Gavin of Canopy Landscape Architects reviews this. Liz has undertaken this exercise and I have incorporated all of her comments into the work below. The majority of Liz's comments were focussed around consistency of description and use of Maori words. She was supportive of the concept of the rework. I consider that some further work is required to ensure that all dual-named features are appropriately written out.

One concern that both Liz and I share, is related to how the resource user will refer to the landscape values, and how, if the outstanding area extends beyond the nested landscape, it will be considered as a whole. It is important not to exclude the broader extent of an ONL or ONF that enriches it *'beyond the ridgeline'*.

An example of such a situation may be that a resource user looking to put a new structure into the outer parts of Port Gore. The resource user might simply refer to the Port Gore landscape unit (and landscape values associated with that area) and not consider how Port Gore is part of the broader Outer Sounds, which in itself, retains significant landscape values. It might be clearer if guidance is provided in the MEP on how an assessment should be undertaken, especially within the Marlborough Sounds. I have attempted to commence this guidance at the start of Appendix 1.

Finally, to address 'features' within each landscape area, I have attempted to articulate which specific features relate to this landscape. As outlined earlier, it can be tricky to identify each 'value' and state whether it is a feature or a landscape. In some instances, especially with associative values, these are all inclusive of both features and landscapes.

One further comment would be that if this work is approved, any recommendations made during my s42A Summary Report will need to be worked through and included within these tables.

I look forward to hearing the panels comments on this and the need for any further nuanced work.

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<sup>1</sup> Refer to Section 42A Report Landscape – Technical Mapping, Values and Overlays, page 78: Appendix 2 *'How natural does a landscape/ feature have to be in order to be considered for ONL status'*.

**APPENDIX 1: Re-grouped Landscape Values**

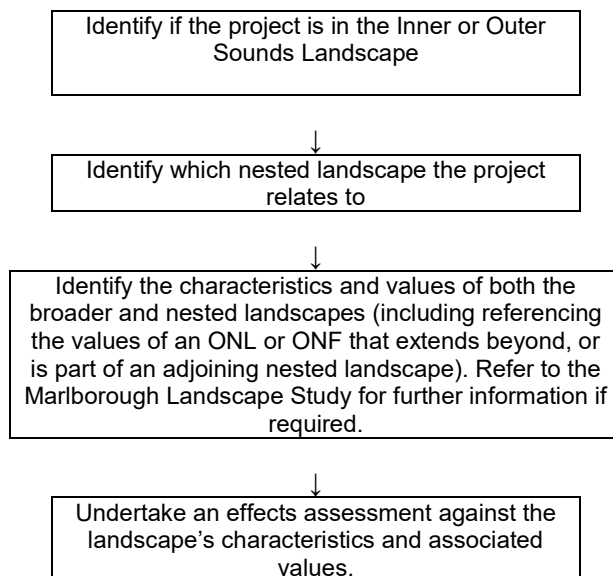
**HOW TO USE THIS RE-GROUPED LIST OF LANDSCAPE VALUES**

It is important to understand what landscape you are in when considering a resource consent. To assist, the broader landscape of the Marlborough Sounds has been divided first into regional landscapes, and then into the following smaller landscapes. These are termed 'nested' landscapes in that they are nested within larger landscapes, organised according to a visual catchment approach. Therefore, when considering a resource consent, firstly reference the overall characteristics of the Marlborough Sounds, followed by the more 'precise', finer scale character statements and descriptions. The Marlborough Sounds Landscape Study can also be used as a reference to provide context and further information.

<b>Marlborough Sounds</b>			
<b>Inner Sounds</b>		<b>Outer Sounds</b>	
A	Inner Queen Charlotte Sound	01	Robertson
B	Grove Arm	02	Port Underwood
C	Kenepuru Sound	03	Exposed Eastern Coastline
D	Havelock	04	Tory Channel
E	Nydia	05	Outer Queen Charlotte Sound
F	Beatrix/ Crail	06	Port Gore
G	Tawhitinui	07	Forsyth
H	Tennyson	08	Cook Strait
		09	Waitata
		10	Admiralty
		11	Northern D'Urville
		12	Eastern Tasman
		13	Croisilles

Within the Marlborough Sounds there are two secondary landscapes, the Inner Sounds and the Outer Sounds. Within the Inner Sounds Landscape there are eight smaller 'nested' landscapes that occur. Within the Outer Sounds there are 13 smaller 'nested' landscapes.

Guidance could be focussed around helping to determine whether the proposed development is located within the Inner or Outer Sounds and then focussing on which smaller nested landscape the project relates to. Then a discussion around the identified character and values of both the broader and the nested landscape would be required followed by an effects assessment. Over time, new values and characteristics may become apparent and these should also be considered.



## **MARLBOROUGH SOUNDS**

### **Marlborough Sounds**

**Character Description:** *The submerged river valleys of the Marlborough Sounds landscape form a distinctive network of headlands, bays, inlets and islands. This complex ria coastline extends into Cook Strait between Tasman Bay in the west and Cloudy Bay in the east. The outer part of the Sounds is strongly influenced by this exposure to the sea whereas the inner Sounds enjoy a comparatively sheltered environment.*

*Distinctive seascape features in the Sounds include submerged ridges, strong swirling currents, reefs, and rock stacks, the range of rock types reflected in the different patterns and characteristics of the landforms.*

*The islands and peninsulas have largely developed on a north-easterly/south-westerly orientation and steep slopes generally rise quickly from the shore up to a single ridgeline. The coastline of the outer Sounds is characterised more by high sea-cliffs compared with the small beaches that occur within much of the inner area. The elevation of the land varies from sea level to 1,203m asl at Mt Stokes, the highest point in the Sounds.*

*The vegetation and habitats of the Sounds are changing rapidly in response to changing land uses. Most of the land is currently in a mixture of indigenous forest remnants, regenerating shrublands and forests and exotic grassland. Much of the original vegetation, particularly in the outer Sounds, has been cleared over the years for pastoral farming but a large proportion of this is now regenerating following the removal of stock. There are also some areas of extensive commercial exotic forestry, largely in the inner and eastern Sounds.*

*Many parts of the Marlborough Sounds are managed by the Department of Conservation. Important habitats include indigenous forests, shrublands, grasslands, cliffs, estuaries and saltmarshes. Several predator-free islands in the Sounds are used for recovery programs for endangered species (DOC 1993).*

*There are numerous historic Māori and European sites within the Sounds. Some of the earliest sustained contact between Māori and European took place here. Archaeological sites identified throughout the Sounds generally reflect the range of settlement, fishing, hunting, gathering and horticultural activities that would have occurred in the past. Many of the European sites of interest are related to early buildings, particularly in the settlements of Picton and Havelock.*

*The eastern coastal margin from Rarangi in the south to Oyster Bay in the north, contains a large number of heritage sites relating to differing times of human occupation. This area, due to its relatively mild climate and sheltered bays, saw a number of activities that capitalised on its location. Remnants of former whaling stations in Ocean Bay and Robin Hood Bay for example, are still apparent, as is Whites Bay Cable Station, which demonstrated the first telegraphic link between both the North and South Islands in 1866.*

*The mosaic of waterways, bays and islands in the Marlborough Sounds provides many opportunities for water-based recreational activities. There are also popular picnic and camping areas and numerous walks in this area. The system of waterways also provides opportunities for aquaculture, an industry which is active throughout the Sounds, predominantly in the form of mussel farms. While the size of aquaculture farms differs and some bays contain more than others, at the time of writing they are mostly located within 200m of the shoreline.*

*Settlement within the Sounds is dominated by holiday homes although there are also many permanent residents. The two main settlements are the townships of Picton, near the head of Queen Charlotte Sound, and Havelock, which provides access for boaties to Pelorus Sound and Kenepuru Sound. The eastern and inner areas of the Sounds around Havelock, Kenepuru Sound and Queen Charlotte Sound are typically more developed than the western and outer Sounds.*

*Picton marks the north end of State Highway 1 in the South Island. Here, the Cook Strait ferries leave for Wellington through the eastern arm of Queen Charlotte Sound. State Highway 6 provides the main access to Havelock. Other key roads through the Sounds are Queen Charlotte Drive between Picton and Havelock, the roads to Okiwi Bay and French Pass, and to Tennyson Inlet in the western Sounds, and the roads to Kenepuru Head and to Waikawa in the east. Other key infrastructure includes the 350kV HVDC which follows the eastern coastline towards Fighting Bay, then connects to the North Island via submerged cables within Cook Strait.*

**Regional Scale Landscape Areas:** There are two broad regional landscapes within the Marlborough Sounds; the Inner Sounds and the Outer Sounds. These are described over the following pages.

### **Landscape Values associated with the Marlborough Sounds**

Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The combination of landforms, complex waterways and islands of the Marlborough Sounds are unique and considered nationally significant in that they represent a drowned former landscape.</li> <li>- The underlying geology is relatively complex, partially determining the patterns and characteristics of the landforms, differences in rates and types of erosion, drainage patterns and process (McRae, Lucas, Courtney, Baxter, Barrier &amp; Lynn, 2004).</li> <li>- The landform of the Sounds as a whole is considered significant, as it is the largest and most well-developed example of a ria coastline in New Zealand, formed as a result of both subsidence and sea level rise to produce a profoundly incised and intricately indented coastline with attenuated, fragmented blocks of land largely surrounded by sea (McRae, Lucas, Courtney, Baxter, Barrier &amp; Lynn, 2004).</li> <li>- There are a significant number of identified Geopreservation Sites within the Sounds landscape (17 in total), with the majority located within the outer Sounds. Whilst some recognise important areas of human intervention such as historic mining sites, most are naturally occurring, for example the Matarau Point beach ridge, the Greville Harbour boulder spit and the submerged ridge at French Pass.</li> <li>- The Marlborough Sounds are also highly legible in terms of how its formative processes led to its creation. The sequence of drowned valleys and commonly incised cliffs, ridges, peninsulas and islands are clues indicating a previous dry valley system. Impressive slender rocky peninsulas, river valleys and odd-shaped islands reflect the forces that have shaped the landscape.</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The fractured pattern of the Marlborough Sounds coastline, its slender peninsulas and range of islands, as well as its varied weather patterns, culminate in a distinctive landscape containing very high aesthetic values; it is extremely memorable.</li> <li>- The combination of rocky coastline, vegetated and grassy ridges, and small coves, bays and inlets portrays an overwhelming sense of naturalness.</li> <li>- The area is imbued with cultural and historic values.</li> <li>- The outer Sounds are more rugged and exposed than the more sheltered inner Sounds and are more open to the varying climatic conditions in the Cook Strait.</li> <li>- The landscapes of the inner Sounds are visually defined by the 'Sounds catchment', where the forest-clad ridges and mountain tops form the horizon, merging with other ridges and peaks to create a more intimate and enclosed landscape experience, especially at water level.</li> <li>- Within these inner Sounds areas, particularly within many of the smaller bays little evidence of human intervention is seen and the level of visual intactness remains high. Even small settlements, nestled closely at the head of a bay, contained by the steep, often vegetated sides of the enclosing ridge, retain a high level of aesthetic coherence.</li> <li>- The Marlborough Sounds landscape stimulates all senses. Spatial, auditory, visual and other sensory experiences are all stimulated by the close relationship between the convoluted network of waterways and interlocking peninsulas and islands, which is unique in New Zealand. The seasons and differing weather patterns contribute to the dynamic mix of sensory elements.</li> </ul>
Associative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For most New Zealanders, the series of meandering peninsulas, small islands and isolated coves encapsulate the very essence of the Marlborough Sounds. It holds recognised national and international value for a wide variety of water-based activities, including recreation, tourism and marine farming.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There is a noticeable contrast between the exposed and more rugged and barren outer Sounds, which protrude into the open waters of Cook Strait, and the more vegetated and sheltered inner Sounds.</li> <li>- The landscape of the Sounds has long inspired painters, poets and writers to capture the unique and varied sense of place. Renowned New Zealand artists such as Wayne Seby and Don Binney have painted numerous scenes of the Sounds landscape which are hung in many galleries around the country.</li> <li>- For most people, their principal association with the Marlborough Sounds is related to recreational-based activities and its scenic setting, with many New Zealanders and overseas visitors choosing to holiday in the area. The Queen Charlotte Track, a 71-kilometre easy-grade walk between Queen Charlotte Sound and Kenepuru Sound, passes numerous sheltered historic bays and areas of native vegetation, incorporating ridgetop views of the broader area. It is one of New Zealand's main walks. Other activities in the area include sea kayaking, fishing, diving and pleasure boating.</li> <li>- The Marlborough Sounds contain rich cultural and historic values. With most areas adjacent to the coast. Many of the European sites are old whaling stations and homesteads where close proximity to the sea within the sheltered bays was favoured. For example, the first whaling station in New Zealand was established at Te Awaiti in Tory Channel, in 1827 by Londoner John Guard and is reputed to be the first European settlement in the South Island [<a href="http://www.teara.govt.nz">www.teara.govt.nz</a>]. Apart from Abel Tasman sailing through the Sounds, all the principal explorers to the area disembarked here, with James Cook raising the British flag on Motuara Island at the mouth of Queen Charlotte Sound, claiming British governance of this part of the territory of New Zealand. Historic and archaeological relics of the Second World War are also evident and are highly valued, including gun emplacements and a radar station. These, along with a rich list of historical buildings, particularly within Queen Charlotte Sound, signify the historical importance and significance of the Sounds.</li> <li>- Tangata whenua have a strong spiritual affinity with the Marlborough Sounds, particularly its waters, forests and peaks, with a number of archaeological finds suggesting that Māori have lived in the area for over 800 years. Due to tangata whenua's strong association with the sea for sustenance, the coastline retains particularly high spiritual associations. These associations are preserved in place names, with many links in their names related to Kupe's visit.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	<p>Due to the values described above, the Marlborough Sounds holds Outstanding Natural Landscape values at a national scale. At a regional and district scale, there are numerous smaller Outstanding Natural Landscapes and Outstanding Natural Features, which are described over the following pages.</p>



## **OUTER SOUNDS LANDSCAPES**

### **Regional Landscape: Outer Marlborough Sounds**

**Character Description:** *The outer Sounds exhibit characteristics clearly influenced by the area's exposure to the sea. The area extends from the slopes around Croisilles Harbour, north to Admiralty Bay and D'Urville Island (Rangitoto ki te Tonga), east to Forsyth Island (Te Paruparu), the land around Port Gore/ Te Anamāhanga and Arapawa Island and south to Port Underwood.*

*The range of peaks either side of Mt Stokes (the highest point in the Sounds) separates the outer Sounds area from the inner Sounds.*

*The outer Sounds are remote and rugged in appearance. There are many dramatic and distinctive features characteristic of this area, including the swirling currents between the narrow passage at French Pass (Te Aumiti), boulder spits and sand dune systems, highly weathered coastal cliffs, rocky islands and jagged rock stacks and reefs, narrow elongated ridges and steep coastal hill country.*

*There are a number of important Geopreservation Inventory Sites in the outer Sounds, most notably on D'Urville Island, that include the northernmost copper mine in the South Island and geological features within Greville Harbour. The Inventory also notes that Cape Jackson displays a superb example of a drowned narrow ridge crest.*

*The maritime influence on the outer Sounds creates a temperate climate and distinctive marine vegetation communities such as the salt-tolerant, low growing herb and shrub species that can survive the constant winds off Cook Strait. The extensive areas of modified grassland are a characteristic of the outer Sounds. The outer, eastern Sounds contain some large areas of exotic forestry.*

*D'Urville Island is the largest island in the Sounds and, despite the efforts of early pastoral runholders, retains much of its indigenous cover containing some important native species.*

*A number of predator-free island sanctuaries are located in the outer Sounds such as Motuara Island, Blumine Island and Stephens Island/Takapourewa Island. Long Island-Kokomohua Marine Reserve is located at the entrance to Queen Charlotte Sound. These reserves contain a range of rare or threatened species such as kiwi, tuatara, Hector's dolphins and king shags.*

*The outer Sounds are richly associated with early New Zealand Māori and European history. D'Urville Island is the site of numerous prehistoric quarries as well as early European copper mines. Other areas in the outer Sounds, such as Queen Charlotte Sound and Tory Channel contain extensive archaeological remains regarding the original Māori occupiers, early contact with Captain Cook, and later Māori and European whaling and farming families.*

*The cable station at Whites Bay is accessed by an unsealed road that connects south to Rarangi and north to Port Underwood and Waikawa/ Picton. A cluster of small coves and bays pepper this coastline, where numerous small fishing and former whaling communities established, including at Ocean Bay. The 350kV transmission line extends northwards along these eastern bays towards Fighting Bay on the Cook Strait side of Port Underwood. These bays contain rich historical and cultural associations for both Māori and Europeans. At Oyster Bay for example, a marker commemorates the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi on nearby Horahora Kakahu Island, while Whites Bay is the location of the first telegraphic link to the North Island in 1866.*

*The outer Sounds are relatively remote, with less land-based development than in the more sheltered inner bays. Nonetheless, there are scattered baches and jetties and occasional homesteads and associated farm buildings, usually near to the shore. Marine farms are present along many of the more sheltered stretches of coastline.*

**District Scale Landscape Areas:** There are a number of smaller 'nested' landscapes within the broader Outer Sounds Landscape and these are described over the following pages. They are: 01 Robertson, 02 Port Underwood, 03 Exposed Eastern Coastline, 04 Tory Channel, 05 Outer Queen Charlotte Sound, 06 Port Gore, 07 Forsyth, 08 Cook Strait, 09 Waitata, 10 Admiralty, 11 Northern D'Urville, 12 Eastern Tasman, and 13 Croisilles.

**Naturalness:** This landscape area retains very high levels of naturalness due to the lack of modifications apparent. Where modification is apparent, it is generally localised. Some vegetation clearance has occurred for grazing and forestry along the eastern coastline, however there is a pronounced lack of structures associated with these areas. Aquaculture is very limited and

<p>contained to a few nodal areas (such as Melville Cove, Anakoha Bay, Admiralty Bay and Catherine Cove). The maritime influence is strong.</p>	
<p><b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Slender peninsulas, islands, deep embayment's, Mt Stokes and other vegetated peaks and ridges containing the bays, D'Urville Island, broad open and exposed waters.</p>	
<p><b>Landscape Values associated with the Outer Sounds</b></p>	
<p>Biophysical</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Northernmost part of the highly legible drowned narrow ridge system, noticeably at Cape Jackson.</li> <li>- Numerous Geopreservation Sites of National and Regional Importance, including the submerged ridgeline under French Pass.</li> <li>- Nationally significant seascape (Cook Strait).</li> <li>- Swirling high flow currents of French Pass, Allen Straight, and Tory Channel.</li> <li>- Salt tolerant low growing herb and shrub species.</li> <li>- Island communities nationally and internationally important with distinct rare biotic assemblages (i.e. Motuara, Brothers and White Rocks, Long Island Kokomohua).</li> <li>- Many predator-free island sanctuaries (Motuara Island, Blumine Island and Stephens Island/Takapourewa Island).</li> <li>- Extensive areas of vegetated elevated slopes, notably of D'Urville, Mt Stokes, Mt Furneaux, Bobs Peak.</li> <li>- Extensive areas of modified grasslands.</li> <li>- Subalpine vegetation of Mt Stokes.</li> <li>- Nationally significant broadleaf species and nationally significant endemic cliff vegetation on Arapaoa island.</li> </ul>
<p>Sensory/ Perceptual</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Expansive views of the open sea broken up by the outer peninsulas, rocky outcrops, steep exposed seacliffs and Islands.</li> <li>- Exposed, remote and rugged seascape.</li> <li>- All islands have very low modification levels.</li> <li>- High legibility and visual coherency of the grasslands on the drowned ridge coastline.</li> <li>- High sensory values associated with the wild windswept coast and high winds, rough sea, high-energy waves and associated sea spray.</li> <li>- Very high levels of perceived naturalness due to limited modification.</li> <li>- Impressive and weathered coastal cliffs and rocky windswept islands.</li> <li>- Prevalent high winds from Cook Strait and extreme weather conditions providing highly transient conditions.</li> </ul>
<p>Associative</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rich in past Māori and European cultural use including prehistoric quarries and copper mines, whaling and pa sites.</li> <li>- Strong Tangata Whenua association and spiritual affinity with outer Sounds seascape and coastline. Many linked to Kupe's visit [Conservation Management Strategy, DoC, 1993].</li> <li>- Noted 'entrance points' into Tory Channel, Queen Charlotte Sound and Pelorus Sound.</li> <li>- Strong recreational areas, including walking, boating, fishing and diving.</li> <li>- Noted DOC conservation areas.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Evaluation</b></p>	<p>Based on the above values, the Outer Sounds Landscape (as mapped) has been identified as an ONL due to its exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>The Outer Sounds Outstanding Natural Landscape comprises the open waters and series of islands and exposed peninsulas, headlands and bays that extend out into Cook Strait and Tasman Bay. This landscape encapsulates the wide variety of rugged, often windswept landforms which are imbued with rich cultural and historical associations. Perceptually the Outer Sounds Outstanding Natural Landscape provides uninterrupted open seascape vistas of the very end of this drowned landscape.</p>

	<p>This area of the Marlborough Sounds is the least modified. It contains some of the district's most important predator-free islands holding outstanding levels of natural character.</p>
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<b>Regional Landscape: Outer Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: 01 – Robertson</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<b>Character Description:</b> <i>Robertson is a smaller landscape area within the broader Outer Marlborough Sounds Landscape and is located on the south-eastern side of the Marlborough Sounds. It occupies the eastern facing flanks of Mt Robertson and includes two smaller exposed bays south of Port Underwood (Whites Bay and Robin Hood Bay) nestled between the rocky, vegetated lower slopes. While there are large areas of indigenous vegetation, modification increases along the coastal fringe of this landscape area, where the sinuous Port Underwood road connects this rocky coastline. A greater level of modification is also associated with the northern part of this landscape, including forestry around Robin Hood Bay. The coastal marine area is open, exposed and unmodified.</i>	
<b>Naturalness:</b> This landscape retains large amounts of indigenous vegetative cover, notably on its upper slopes, which form part of the broader Mt Robertson mountain range. At lower elevations, a greater level of modification is noted, particularly around the Port Underwood Road that links numerous bays, where tracks, power lines, buildings, pasture, commercial forestry and foreshore infrastructure are present. This landscape retains an overall high level of naturalness.	
<b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Steep vegetated eastern slopes of Mt Robertson, rocky coastline, Whites Bay and Robin Hood Bay and open exposed waters.	
<b>Landscape Values</b>	
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Robertson Range extends down to the coast at Rarangi, providing shore-to-ridgetops altitudinal sequence of national significance.</li> <li>- Elevated parts of Mt Robertson that are within the coastal environment hold very high levels of natural character, and lower parts hold high levels of natural character.</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Visually important backdrop to Whites Bay and Robin Hood Bay.</li> <li>- The sheltered nature of Whites Bay is extremely memorable, retaining high levels of visual amenity.</li> </ul>
Associative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Whites Bay Cable Station.</li> <li>- Popular destination for camping and recreational activities (including walking the Mt Robertson Summit Route).</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	<p>Based on the above values, it is considered that the steep, western part of this landscape has been identified as an outstanding natural landscape due to the exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values. This outstanding natural landscape continues further northwards and westwards to include the forested peaks and ridges of Mt McCormick and the broader Robertson Range which extends into Landscape areas 02 – Port Underwood and A – Inner Queen Charlotte Sound.</p> <p>This mapped outstanding natural landscape includes land associated with the extremely legible easterly facing slopes of the Robertson Range. These slopes contain the Mt Robertson scenic reserve and extends across the majority of its mid to upper slopes from Rarangi to the peak of Mt Robertson, which separates Queen Charlotte Sound and Port Underwood.</p> <p>The mapped area features regenerating and mature beech forest. Of importance is the coast at Rarangi and Whites Bay where a shore-to-ridgetop altitudinal vegetation sequence is of national significance and the rocky headlands and sandy shores of Whites Bay are backed by regenerating native bush.</p> <p>Scenic and short DOC tracks lead to the bluffs above Whites Bay where panoramic views of Port Underwood, Cook Strait and Cape Campbell are seen. Whites Bay features a historic cable station, which connected the first telegraphic link between both the North and South Islands in 1866.</p> <p>Modifications within this outstanding landscape include cleared vegetation, powerlines, buildings, the Port Underwood Road, and other tracks.</p>

02 – PORT UNDERWOOD

<b>Regional Landscape: Outer Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: 02 – Port Underwood</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<b>Character Description:</b> <i>Port Underwood is one of the most sheltered of the Outer Sounds nested landscape areas, however the south-western shore does experience exposure from rough seas in southerly weather. This landscape is contained by steep, enclosing land, mostly vegetated with exotic forestry. The enclosing ridgelines rise to heights of between 593m asl to the west and 611m asl at Rahotia to the north and reducing in heights to the east. The embayment is highly indented, with two large bays at its head (separated by the peninsula associated with Separation Point) and numerous small bays around its perimeter. Port Underwood is contained to the east by a slender peninsula, that buffers the exposure of Cook Strait. Commercial forestry, roads and houses occur along much of the lower, mid and upper slopes and aquaculture is frequent in its sheltered waters. Pa sites and other archaeological evidence of early Māori settlement line the coast of Port Underwood, with the Treaty of Waitangi being signed on Horahora Kakahu Island, the site of the former Horikaka Pa.</i>	
<b>Naturalness:</b> This landscape area, despite being mostly modified, retains generally moderate levels of naturalness (with some areas holding moderate to high levels of naturalness), due to biotic patterns being largely intact at higher altitudes to the west. The northern and eastern waters of Port Underwood are occupied by aquaculture.	
<b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Vegetated steep western slopes of Mt Robertson and defined ridge forming a clear visual catchment, highly indented embayment's and rocky coastline, Separation Point peninsula, island of Horahora Kakahu.	
<b>Landscape Values</b>	
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Highly indented coastline and intricate bluff system between Robertson Point (Port Underwood) and Tory Channel.</li> <li>- The lower portions of this exposed coastline retain very high levels of natural character.</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dramatic cliffs and rocky shoreline define the eastern coastline and are extremely memorable, despite the plantation forestry on the upper ridge.</li> </ul>
Associative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pa sites and other archaeological evidence of early Māori settlement line the coast of Port Underwood.</li> <li>- Signing of the Treaty of Waitangi on Horahora Kakahu Island in 1840.</li> <li>- Early whaling station at Robertson Point.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	<p>Based on the above values, the south-eastern part of Port Underwood has been identified as an ONF due to its high biophysical, exceptional associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values. This ONF extends into landscape areas 01 and 03.</p> <p>This south-eastern part of Port Underwood is also associated strongly with Cook Strait, where the shoreline appears rocky and displays a wealth of history, ranging from old whaling stations and mission stations to cottages and cemeteries. The Treaty of Waitangi was signed on Horahora Kakahu Island, the site of the former Horikaka Pa.</p> <p>Modifications within the Port Underwood ONF include: cleared vegetation, commercial forestry, tracks, a road, a few small buildings, a limited number of moorings in Cutters Bay and Whangatoetoe Bay. The overlay excludes aquaculture.</p>

03 – EXPOSED EASTERN COASTLINE

<b>Regional Landscape: Outer Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: 03 – Exposed Eastern Coastline</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<b>Character Description:</b> <i>This wild, rugged and dramatic part of the Outer Sounds Landscape is characterised by its dominance to the exposed and open seascape of Cook Strait and is considered to hold some of the least modified parts of the entire Marlborough Sounds. Areas of nationally significant coastal cliff vegetation are prevalent and numerous small rocky bays, coves, reefs, rock-stacks, boulder bays, headlands, peninsulas and islands interject the wild and often turbulent waters of Cook Strait. Two lighthouses at Cape Jackson and on the Brothers Island appear the main forms of modification. Some trawling has occurred within the eastern waters, which has reduced the level of naturalness to parts of the sea.</i>	
<b>Naturalness:</b> This landscape retains very high levels of naturalness, due in part to its wild and remote characteristics and the lack of modification evident. It is sufficiently natural to be considered outstanding.	
<b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Steep vegetated eastern cliffs and bluffs, exposed seascape, East and West Heads and entrance to Tory Channel, coves, bays, islands, rocks and caves associated with the coastal edge. Noted peninsulas and headlands including: Robertson Point, Cape Koamaru and Cape Jackson and its drowned ridge crest.	
<b>Landscape Values</b>	
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nationally significant seascape – steep coastal cliffs, rocky reefs, boulder beds, coves and bays.</li> <li>- Geopreservation site: Fighting Bay (regionally important) Torlesse Schist.</li> <li>- Geopreservation site: Cape Jackson drowned ridge crest.</li> <li>- Geopreservation site: Tory Channel East Head.</li> <li>- Steep, rugged eroded sea-cliffs, rocky reefs and shores, boulder beds, coves and bays dominated by high energy waves and large southerly swells define this exposed landscape.</li> <li>- The lower portions of this exposed coastline retain very high levels of natural character, especially extending from the eastern parts of Arapaoa Island (formerly known as Arapawa Island) and between West Head and Robertson Point.</li> <li>- Highly indented coastline and intricate bluff system between Robertson Point (Port Underwood) and Tory Channel.</li> <li>- Arapaoa Island Reserves – nationally significant original cliff vegetation and rare species. Possum free.</li> <li>- The eastern flanks of Arapaoa Island support some of the best remaining examples of Cook Strait mixed broadleaf forests and are nationally significant.</li> <li>- The Brothers Islands are a restricted wildlife sanctuary, internationally and nationally significant for tuatara, Duvaucel's gecko and as one of the most pristine seabird islands in New Zealand.</li> <li>- White Rocks is internationally significant, particularly for King shag as well as geology, flora of scientific interest, and its very high density of seaweeds and fish.</li> <li>- The Brothers Island and White Rocks retains exposed, steep and rocky characteristics which are remnant of mountain ridges that pre-date submergence of the former landscape. They are important for these uninterrupted natural sequences, from ridgetop to sea floor.</li> <li>- Motuara Island is recognised as nationally significant due to its regenerating bush, many species of native bird endangered on the mainland and its predator-free status.</li> <li>- The Cape Jackson headland retains exceptional biodiversity.</li> <li>- Cape Jackson and the interconnecting outer waters and parts of Arapaoa Island hold outstanding levels of natural character.</li> </ul>

Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dramatic exposed cliffs and rocky shoreline with high energy seascape and outlying islands define the eastern coastline and are extremely memorable, despite the plantation forestry on the upper ridge and flanks.</li> <li>- Numerous, and continuous sequence of, rocky bays and coves.</li> <li>- Strong tidal currents and considerable wave action are present.</li> <li>- Gateway to South Island and Marlborough Sounds from Cook Strait ferry route. Dramatic, narrow entrance to the Tory Channel between East Head and West Head.</li> <li>- Dramatic coastal processes are highly legible along the length of the Arapaoa Island's steep coastal cliffs and rocky reefs.</li> <li>- These rugged, exposed outer islands are highly legible and are highly natural due to their bush-clad slopes and lack of modification.</li> <li>- The Brothers islands are clearly legible as a group of islands that are amongst the most exposed islands in Marlborough.</li> <li>- The White Rocks' location at the entrance to Queen Charlotte Sound makes them excellent reference points for boaties.</li> <li>- Cape Jackson is a superb example of a drowned ridge crest.</li> <li>- Cape Jackson retains a wild and rugged form that is extremely legible and assist in defining the outer part of Queen Charlotte Sound.</li> <li>- Largely unmodified coast.</li> <li>- The lighthouses on Cape Jackson and at Brothers Island are memorable and used as reference points. High experiential values, which are due to remote and expansive seascape vistas of a wild and exposed nature.</li> <li>- The darkness of the night sky adds to the sense of remoteness.</li> </ul>
Associative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Early whaling station at Robertson Point.</li> <li>- Brothers Island is occupied by a 12 metre-high wooden lighthouse, built in 1877 and the last manned lighthouse in New Zealand.</li> <li>- There are numerous Māori and European heritage and archaeological sites on the islands within this landscape.</li> <li>- Popular areas for open ocean fishing.</li> <li>- Headlands act as navigational landmarks for boaties.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	<p>Based on the above values, the entire Exposed Eastern Coastline landscape area has been identified as ONL due to its exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values. This ONL extends into landscape areas 01, 02, 04, 05, 06 and 08.</p> <p>Steep eroded cliffs and rocky shores, dominated by high energy waves, define this exposed landscape. This is a largely unmodified section of coast, with exposed rocky bluffs, headlands and reefs.</p> <p>Cape Jackson, Cape Koamaru and the eastern Arapaoa Island coast retain wild and rugged forms that are extremely legible. Cape Jackson is a superb example of a drowned ridge crest and is a listed Geopreservation Site. Exceptional biodiversity is exhibited at Cape Jackson concerning threatened plants, remnant forest and regenerating native vegetation. The outer coast of Arapawa Island features nationally significant original cliff vegetation whilst the south-facing slopes of the island feature nationally significant regenerating coastal forest.</p> <p>The south-eastern Cook Strait coastline of Port Underwood extends northwards to shortly south of West Head and features exposed, steep and rugged sea cliffs with rocky reefs, boulder beds and coves/bays.</p> <p>The eastern coastline of Port Underwood displays a wealth of history, ranging from old whaling stations and mission stations to cottages and cemeteries</p>

Large areas of the waters in Queen Charlotte Sound are of international and national scientific ecological significance. Arapaoa Island Reserves are considered nationally significant for ecological values. Tory Channel features as the marine gateway to the South Island and Marlborough Sounds via the dramatic, narrow entrance to Queen Charlotte Sound between East Head (a Geopreservation Site) and West Head.

The highly exposed White Rocks feature unique native New Zealand and Cook Strait species of international significance. The eastern-most point of the Marlborough Sounds, The Brother islands, are of international and national significance due to their tuatara populations and also important for the high wooden lighthouse built in 1877. Kokomohua Islands, The Twins and Motungarara Island are also important islands in this landscape.

The night skies here are some of the darkest in the country and add to the sense of remoteness. Access is primarily by boat, and the area is popular for fishing in the more exposed ocean waters. A privately maintained track (known as the Outer Queen Charlotte Track) extends from Ship Cove (within Landscape 05 – Outer Queen Charlotte Sound) to the Cape Jackson lighthouse, providing direct land access with this exposed coastline where expansive open ocean vistas are experienced. Cape Jackson lighthouse is very memorable and used as a reference point, marking the western entrance to Queen Charlotte Sound. Due to the factors listed above, the outer peninsulas hold very high experiential and associative values.

The area is highly valued for its European and Māori heritage, including the World War Two infrastructure that remains evident, the early whaling history and the extensive early Māori archaeological sites and stories relating to the area. The area is also valued for the recreational use and nature tourism potential of this part of Queen Charlotte Sound.

Modifications to this ONL include some cleared, but regenerating vegetation west of Cape Koamaru, a few small tracks such as those on Motuara Island and the Cape Jackson peninsula, forestry close to Robertson Point, a small collection of buildings and high voltage cable station at Fighting Bay and the lighthouses on Brothers Island and Cape Jackson.



<b>Regional Landscape: Outer Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: 04 – Tory Channel</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<b>Character Description:</b> <i>Tory Channel is a narrow, open-ended channel connecting Queen Charlotte Sound with Cook Strait. It is contained by reasonably steep land which is highly indented, resulting in numerous large and smaller bays. The highest land in this landscape area forms its southern extent and is associated with the ridge that separates Tory Channel from Port Underwood to the South. Here Rahotia at 611m asl and Kahikatea at 639m asl form impressive peaks, although the majority of their slopes are associated with commercial forestry. While the southern arm of Tory Channel is comprised of the mainland, the northern arm consists of Arapaoa Island, the second largest Island in the Marlborough sounds (after D'Urville). The Kaitapeha slopes form one of the largest areas of indigenous vegetation cover in this landscape, with much of the remaining land being used for forestry or grazing. Dwellings, powerlines, jetties and tracks occupy much of the lower slopes, although forestry tracks are evident at higher elevations. Together, the East and West Heads mark Cook Strait's narrowest point and the exit/entry into the Marlborough Sounds for most Cook Strait crossings. The coastal marine area receives some strong currents due to its proximity to the Strait. There is some aquaculture (salmon and shellfish farming) but this is mostly restricted to small localities.</i>	
<b>Naturalness:</b> This landscape retains low amounts of indigenous vegetative cover, with forestry occupying the majority of the slopes, reducing the level of naturalness over much of the area. However, where indigenous vegetation is dominant, these areas retain sufficiently high levels of naturalness to be considered outstanding. Similarly, the marine environment/seascape holds very high levels of naturalness due in part to the strong tidal currents and habitat opportunities that the rocky shore presents, particularly in the vicinity of the Tory Channel entrance. This area is considered sufficiently natural to be considered outstanding.	
<b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Indented shoreline, vegetated slopes of Kaitapeha, slender peninsula leading to West Head, entrance features of East and West Head, numerous ecologically significant sites, Arapaoa Island, rocky high energy coastline.	
<b>Landscape Values</b>	
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Geopreservation site: Tory Channel East Head.</li> <li>- Impressive advanced regenerating slopes of Ruaomoko Point and peak of Kaitapeha at the southern western end of Arapaoa Island.</li> <li>- Slender rocky peninsula from Tipi Bay leading to West Head.</li> <li>- The waters of Tory Channel hold high levels of natural character (away from localised areas of modifications).</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gateway to South Island and Marlborough Sounds from Cook Strait ferry route.</li> <li>- Dramatic, narrow entrance to the Tory Channel between East Head and West Head.</li> <li>- Dramatic coastal processes are highly legible along the length of the Arapaoa Island's steep coastal cliffs and rocky reefs.</li> <li>- Semi-exposed to very exposed coast.</li> <li>- Strong tidal currents on the outer edge of the Sounds.</li> <li>- Experiential and naturalness values high along Kaitapeha Peninsula and northern Arapaoa Island.</li> </ul>
Associative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Early whaling stations including first shore whaling station at Te Awaiti and Fisherman's Bay;</li> <li>- Te Awaiti whaling station purported to be first European settlement in the South Island.</li> <li>- Pa sites and other archaeological evidence of early Maori settlement line the coast of Tory Channel.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	<p>Based on the above values, the southern flanks of Kaitapeha has been identified as an ONF due to its high biophysical landscape values and very high sensory landscape values. Furthermore, the north-eastern part of Tory Channel has been identified as an ONF, due to its very high biophysical, associative and sensory landscape values. ONFs extend into landscape areas 03, 05 and A.</p> <p>Tory Channel features as the marine gateway to the South Island and Marlborough Sounds via a dramatic, narrow entrance between East Head (a Geopreservation</p>

Site) and West Head. Kaitapeha Peninsula, marking the entrance to Queen Charlotte Sound from Tory Channel, is a legible forested landmark. The waters around East Bay have nationally significant ecological values, particularly for Hector's dolphin.

There is considerable evidence of early Māori settlement/activity throughout the area, with sites particularly intense around East Bay, Arapaoa Island. In addition, the first whaling station in New Zealand was established in Tory Channel, at Te Awaiti in 1827 by Londoner John Guardand is reputed to be the first European settlement in the South Island. These sites contribute high associative values to the landscape.

Modifications within these ONFs include cleared vegetation and pasture, power lines, tracks, buildings, moorings, and the heritage sites at Okukari Bay.

05 – OUTER QUEEN CHARLOTTE SOUND

<b>Regional Landscape: Outer Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: 05 – Outer Queen Charlotte Sound</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<p><b>Character Description:</b> <i>This nested landscape area includes the broad open waters and islands of Outer Queen Charlotte Sound, encompassing the large embayments of Endeavour Inlet and East Bay. The landscape is united by the waters of Queen Charlotte Sound, with the ridgelines of the landforms and islands forming the outer visual catchment of the landscape. The eastern part of this landscape area is defined by the northern part of Arapaoa Island, with its relatively low ridgeline that encloses much of East Bay and Onauku Bay. Much of this land is covered in regenerating vegetation, with areas of forestry apparent more towards the south of this area. In the west are the vegetated higher peaks and ridges associated with Mt Stokes that frame much of Endeavour Inlet. Extensive areas of indigenous bush cover much of this part of the landscape. Centrally located are the principal islands of Queen Charlotte Sound, including Blumine Island, Pickersgill Island, Long Island and Motuara Island. All are recognised for their significant flora and fauna, as is Mt Stokes with the only example of subalpine native vegetation within the Marlborough Sounds at its peak. This landscape also retains extensive cultural and historical heritage, being the principal place where Captain James Cook landed. Due to its comparatively isolated location in the outer Queen Charlotte Sound, settlement is sparsely located with small collections of dwellings in Endeavour Inlet, around Camp Bay (Endeavour Inlet) and East Bay.</i></p>	
<p><b>Naturalness:</b> This landscape retains large amounts of indigenous vegetative cover, much of it protected by DOC. This is evident on the islands and around Endeavour Inlet, Ship Cove, Resolution Bay and parts of East Bay. The interconnecting waters also have high ecological values. Overall, much of this landscape and seascape retains a very high level of naturalness, sufficient to be considered outstanding.</p>	
<p><b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Steep vegetated eastern slopes and upper subalpine vegetation of Mt Stokes, sheltered inlets of Endeavour Inlet and East Bay, exposed steep vegetated islands and peninsulas and their interconnecting waters, and views towards inner Queen Charlotte Sound and Cook Strait.</p>	
	<b>Landscape Values</b>
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arapaoa Island Reserves – nationally significant original cliff vegetation and rare species. Possum free.</li> <li>- The waters around East Bay have nationally significant ecological values, particularly for Hector's dolphin.</li> <li>- Geopreservation site: Long Island cusped foreland.</li> <li>- The islands have an exposed, steep and rocky character and are remnants of mountain ridges that pre-date submergence of the former landscape.</li> <li>- Long Island is an island sanctuary and of international significance as a marine reserve.</li> <li>- There are very low levels of modification evident on all islands.</li> <li>- The islands are important for their uninterrupted natural sequences, from ridgetop to sea floor.</li> <li>- Motuara Island is recognised as nationally significant due to its regenerating bush, many species of native bird endangered on the mainland and its predator-free status.</li> <li>- The waters around these islands and up the Endeavour Inlet have been identified as having nationally significant ecological values, particularly for Hector's dolphin.</li> <li>- Pickersgill Island is recognised as regionally significant for its flora and fauna.</li> <li>- Blumine Island is recognised as nationally significant due to it being home to the world's most endangered kiwi, the rowi as well as other endangered birds. It is also predator-free.</li> <li>- All islands and most interconnecting waters hold outstanding natural character.</li> <li>- The highest peak and one of the most dominant landforms in the Marlborough Sounds, reaching 1,203m asl.</li> <li>- The slopes of Mt Stokes rise abruptly from sea level.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Original forest covers most of the upper slopes of Mt Stokes and its summit supports the only occurrence of subalpine vegetation in the Marlborough Sounds.</li> <li>- The indigenous vegetation cover is internationally significant as it supports areas of alpine to coast vegetation sequences.</li> <li>- The natural biodiversity is high due to the range of altitude, landform and habitat.</li> <li>- Mt Stokes and its associated connecting peaks and ridges and Ship Cove and Resolution Bay hold outstanding levels of natural character due to regenerating bush and low modification. Remaining areas retain high and very high levels of natural character.</li> <li>- Regionally outstanding primary podocarp-broadleaf forest between Ship Cove and Resolution Bay.</li> <li>- Mt Furneaux is nationally significant for its podocarp/broad leaved forest.</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Experiential and naturalness values high on northern Arapaoa Island including East Bay.</li> <li>- These rugged, exposed outer islands are highly legible and are highly natural due to their bushclad slopes and lack of modification.</li> <li>- Their location at the entrance to Queen Charlotte Sound makes them excellent reference points for boaties.</li> <li>- Strong tidal currents and considerable wave action are present.</li> <li>- Impressive forested peak and ridges of Mt Stokes rising above Endeavour Inlet contributes to the sensory values of the landscape.</li> <li>- The area straddles the inner and outer Sounds where extreme weather can also contribute to transitory and experiential values.</li> <li>- The area is particularly memorable where the level of modification is least.</li> <li>- The mountain top and ridges define and frame the associated bays and exhibit very high remote and experiential values</li> </ul>
Associative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There are numerous Māori and European heritage and archaeological sites on these islands.</li> <li>- Ship Cove is described by DOC as an 'icon' site, where explorer James Cook once landed.</li> <li>- There are numerous Māori archaeological sites around the shores of Mt Stokes, including many pa sites and middens and pre-historic stoneworks at Titirangi Bay.</li> <li>- Ship Cove is generally known as the start of the Queen Charlotte Track.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	<p>Based on the above values the majority of this nested landscape is considered to be an ONL, holding exceptional biophysical and associative values and very high sensory values. This ONL extends into landscape areas 03, 04, 06, 07 and A, C and F.</p> <p>The cluster of smaller islands at the mouth of Queen Charlotte Sound form an attractive land/water interface. These Islands include Blumine Island, Pickersgill Island, Long Island and Motuara Island. The smaller islands are island sanctuaries and are valued internationally and nationally for their significant ecological values. The area is highly valued for its European and Māori heritage, including the World War Two infrastructure that remains evident, the early whaling history and the extensive early Māori archaeological sites and stories relating to the area. The area is also valued for the recreational use and nature tourism potential of this part of Queen Charlotte Sound.</p> <p>Large areas of the waters in Queen Charlotte Sound are of international and national scientific ecological significance. Blumine Island is considered nationally significant for ecological values.</p>

Mt Stokes is one of the most dominant landforms in the Marlborough Sounds, with upland ridge crests and summits reaching 1,203m asl. A number of watercourses that extend from this central massif have long, high gradients in which the water quality is amongst the highest in the Sounds. Original forest covers most of the upper slopes of the Stokes massif and its summit supports the only occurrence of subalpine vegetation in the Sounds.

Alpine to coast vegetation sequences descend from the summit in several locations, including Ship Cove and Endeavour Inlet. There are also numerous areas of regenerating native bush within lower parts of Endeavour Inlet and East Bay. Natural biodiversity is high due to the range of altitude, landform and habitat types, especially enhanced by subalpine communities. This is part of the larger Mt Stokes area managed by the Department of Conservation and is identified as having internationally significant ecological values.

The landform of Mt Stokes and its associated ridgelines define the boundaries of other nested landscapes and extends into landscapes 03, 06, 07, areas C and F.

This nested landscape of 05 Queen Charlotte Sounds is situated close to the inner Sounds. While it shares some characteristics, extreme weather more akin to the outer Sounds can also play an important aspect in the area's experiential values. The embayment's to the east of Mt Stokes include some of the most recognisable areas in the Sounds including Ship Cove and Endeavour Inlet. The impressive peaks and connecting ridges define and frame the bays and seascapes within this landscape and, due to their lack of modification, the area retains very high remote and experiential values. Key peaks surrounding Mt Stokes include Mt McMahon, Mt Robinson, Grants Lookout and Mt Furneaux and form the northern and western containing elements to this landscape. The waters around Endeavour Inlet have been identified as having nationally significant ecological values, particularly for Hector's Dolphin.

Ship Cove, with its mature native bush setting, is described by DOC as an 'icon' site. The Queen Charlotte Track starts in this area – it is a popular, well-known walking/mountain biking track. There is considerable evidence of early Māori settlement/activity throughout the area. As Captain Cook's first landing point in the Sounds and point of sustained early European and Māori contact, Ship Cove is a key heritage site in the Sounds.

Archaeological sites also feature at Endeavour Inlet, associated with later antimony workings.

Modifications within this ONL include roads and tracks, power lines, cleared vegetation, buildings, jetties, a track at Motuara Island, a gun- emplacement on Blumine Island, and properties in Resolution Bay. Residential areas within Endeavour Inlet and the Pines settlement are excluded from the ONF.

<b>Regional Landscape: Outer Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: 06 – Port Gore</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<p><b>Character Description:</b> <i>The Port Gore nested landscape is a large, irregularly shaped bay opening directly onto Cook Strait to the north east. It is enclosed to the west and east by steep, undulating, razor backed ridges that extend north east to Cape Lambert and Cape Jackson and to the south by a series of vegetated hilltops, including Oterawhanga, Mt Furneaux and Puzzle Peak to the west. The peaks are connected via a ridge which is over 500m asl. A section of the Titirangi Road follows the ridge above Melville Cove. Below this strongly enclosing landform the coastline displays a variety of characteristics. The line of the eastern shoreline follows a distinctively zig zag course with well-defined headlands (Gannet Point, Black Head, Papatorea, Onehunga) and sharply angled bays backed by steep rugged cliffs. A series of minor bays (Otaki, Tunnel Bay and Tinui) with only weakly defined headlands (e.g. Pool Head) define the southern part of this embayment. The western shore is more complex with the double bay of Melville Cove, the prominent cleared peninsula of Hunia and a series of shallow bays, i.e. Pig Bay, separated by minor headlands such as Papatua, Taratara and Akina. This shoreline is backed by cliffs. A small number of dwellings and huts are located within this bay, along with a road, tracks, an airstrip and powerlines. A lighthouse is located at the end of Cape Jackson. Aquaculture is located within Melville Cove, along with a greater area of modification. The open exposed expanse of the waters of the bay and the isolated location are strong characteristics of the landscape.</i></p>	
<p><b>Naturalness:</b> This landscape retains large amounts of indigenous and regenerating vegetation cover, notably in its upper elevations, and around its lower elevations within Inner Port Gore. There is a very low level of modification overall, which is focused in a small area around Melville Cove and parts of the head of the bay. Modification here includes a road, a small amount of houses, an airstrip, and farm tracks located on Hunia peninsula. The rest of the landscape area is sufficiently natural to be considered outstanding.</p>	
<p><b>Features of this landscape include:</b> The peninsulas of Cape Lambert and Cape Jackson and the smaller peninsula of Hunia, the steep and vegetated slopes of Inner Port Gore, numerous headlands and defined undulating ridge that defines the visual catchment of this nested landscape.</p>	
	<b>Landscape Values</b>
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Geopreservation site: Cape Jackson drowned ridge crest.</li> <li>- Cape Lambert headland vegetation, exceptional biodiversity on both Cape Lambert and Cape Jackson.</li> <li>- Steep eroded cliffs and rocky shores, dominated by high energy waves define this exposed landscape.</li> <li>- Cape Jackson, Cape Lambert and the interconnecting outer waters hold outstanding levels of natural character.</li> <li>- The indigenous vegetation cover is internationally significant as it supports areas of alpine to coast vegetation sequences.</li> <li>- The natural biodiversity is high due to the range of altitude, landform and habitat.</li> <li>- Mt Furneaux and its associated connecting peaks and ridges hold outstanding levels of natural character due to regenerating bush including subalpine vegetation and low modification. Remaining areas retain high and very high levels of natural character.</li> <li>- Mt Furneaux is nationally significant for its podocarp/broad leaved forest.</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cape Jackson is a superb example of a drowned ridge crest.</li> <li>- Impressive ridgeline of the forested high peaks above Guards Bay and Port Gore, leading to Mt Stokes.</li> <li>- Cape Jackson, Cape Lambert and Alligator Head have wild and rugged forms that are extremely legible and assist in defining the two outer Sounds bays of Port Gore and Waitui Bay.</li> <li>- Largely unmodified coast.</li> <li>- Cape Jackson marks the western entrance to Queen Charlotte Sound. The lighthouse is very memorable and used as a reference point.</li> <li>- High experiential values, which are due to remote and expansive seascape vistas of a wild and exposed nature.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The darkness of the night sky adds to the sense of remoteness.</li> <li>- Impressive forested peak and ridges of inner Port Gore.</li> <li>- The area is particularly memorable where the level of modification is least.</li> <li>- The mountain top and ridges define and frame the associated bays and exhibit very high remote and experiential values.</li> </ul>
Associative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Popular areas for open ocean fishing.</li> <li>- Headlands act as navigational landmarks for boaties.</li> <li>- The sunken Mikhail Lermontov in Port Gore is one of the world's top wreck dives at 37m deep.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	<p>Based on the above values, the majority of this nested Port Gore landscape is considered to be an ONL, holding exceptional biophysical and associative values and very high sensory values. This ONL extends into landscape areas 03, 05, 07 and 08.</p> <p>Steep eroded cliffs and rocky shores, dominated by high energy waves, define this exposed Outer Sounds nested landscape. Outer Port Gore is a largely unmodified section of coast, with exposed rocky bluffs, headlands and reefs. Cape Jackson and Cape Lambert retain wild and rugged forms that are extremely legible. Cape Jackson is a superb example of a drowned ridge crest and is a listed Geopreservation Site. Exceptional biodiversity is exhibited at Cape Lambert and in the threatened plants, remnant forest and regenerating native vegetation of Cape Jackson.</p> <p>The night skies here are some of the darkest in the country and add to the sense of remoteness. Access is primarily by boat, and the area is popular for fishing in the more exposed ocean waters. A privately maintained track (known as the Outer Queen Charlotte Track) extends from Ship Cove to the Cape Jackson lighthouse, providing direct land access with this exposed coastline where expansive open ocean vistas are experienced. Cape Jackson lighthouse is very memorable and used as a reference point, marking the western entrance to Queen Charlotte Sound. An impressive ridgeline of forested high peaks above Guards Bay and Port Gore, leads to Mt Stokes, a prominent feature to this landscape. Due to the factors listed above, the outer peninsulas hold very high experiential and associative values.</p> <p>Modifications include a lighthouse at Cape Jackson, vegetation clearance (particularly to the west of Por Gore), tracks, power lines, buildings and moorings. There are also marine farms in Pig Bay as well as numerous dwellings at the head of Port Gore, along with a powerline, and an airstrip.</p>

<b>Regional Landscape: Outer Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: 07 – Forsyth</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<p><b>Character Description:</b> <i>This nested landscape area of the broader Outer Sounds Landscape encompasses the waters of Forsyth Bay to the west, the waters of Anakoha Bay and Guards Bay to the east and the surrounding steep enclosing peninsulas extending from Mt Stokes in the south; with Alligator Head and the Kaitira headland forming the north-east and north-west containing arms. Forsyth Island is centrally located, providing separation between the coastal areas to the east and west. Allen Strait, is located at the southern point of Forsyth Island and the mainland and is a body of water known for its strong tidal currents. The land use at higher elevations around Mt Stokes comprises indigenous vegetation, with much of the lower slopes being more modified for grazing purposes, notably around Guards Bay and Anakoha Bay. The south-west boundary is notable for its very narrow isthmus separating Forsyth Bay from Beatrix Bay. The remaining parts of this landscape are a mosaic of regenerating scrub, pockets of indigenous vegetation and pasture. Bird Island, with the centre of Forsyth Bay is a collection of rocks significant for reef heron breeding. Development is focussed in Anakoha Bay and Titirangi Bay, which is south of Guards Bay. Aquaculture is prominent in Anakoha Bay and around the perimeter of Forsyth Bay and parts of western Forsyth Island.</i></p>	
<p><b>Naturalness:</b> This landscape retains large amounts of indigenous vegetative cover, notably in its upper elevations, which form part of the broader Mt Stokes mountain range. Steep eroded cliffs, rocky shores, peninsulas, islands and reefs also have a very high level of naturalness. These areas are considered sufficiently high level of naturalness to be considered outstanding. At lower elevations, a greater level of modification is noted, particularly around the numerous bays, where roads, power lines, buildings, pasture, commercial forestry and foreshore infrastructure, including aquaculture is present.</p>	
<p><b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Steep vegetated eastern slopes of Mt Stokes and the associated peninsulas extending into Cook Strait, including Alligator Head and Kaitira Headland, Bird Island, Forsyth Island, Allen Strait, rocks associated with Duffers Reef and Sugar Loaf.</p>	
	<b>Landscape Values</b>
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mt Stokes, the highest peak and one of the most dominant landforms in the Marlborough Sounds, reaching 1,203m asl.</li> <li>- The slopes of Mt Stokes rises steeply from sea level.</li> <li>- Original forest covers most of the upper slopes of Mt Stokes and its summit supports the only occurrence of subalpine vegetation in the Marlborough Sounds.</li> <li>- The indigenous vegetation cover is internationally significant as it supports areas of alpine to coast vegetation sequences.</li> <li>- The natural biodiversity is high due to the range of altitude, landform and habitat.</li> <li>- Mt Stokes and its associated connecting peaks and ridges and hold outstanding levels of natural character due to regenerating bush and low modification. Remaining areas retain high and very high levels of natural character.</li> <li>- Steep eroded cliffs and rocky shores, dominated by high energy waves define the waters of Guards Bay, defined by Alligator Head</li> <li>- Areas within Forsyth Bay and Waitata Reach, including Port Ligar have been identified as being of national significance for king shag feeding and breeding habitat, including Duffers Reef.</li> <li>- Bird Island is nationally significant for reef heron breeding.</li> <li>- Both Forsyth Island and the Kaitira headland hold high levels of natural character. The open waters between Port Ligar, the Kaitira headland and northern Forsyth Island also hold high levels of natural character, principally due to low levels of modification.</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Impressive forested peak and ridges of Mt Stokes rising above Anakoha and Titirangi Bays.</li> <li>- The area is particularly memorable where the level of modification is least.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The mountain top and ridges define and frame the associated bays and exhibit very high remote and experiential values.</li> <li>- Interesting landform of Duffers Reef and the neck at the head of Forsyth Bay.</li> <li>- Dramatic pinch point at Allen Strait in to Forsyth Bay.</li> <li>- High experiential values, which are due to remote and expansive seascape vistas of a wild and exposed nature.</li> <li>- The darkness of the night sky adds to the sense of remoteness.</li> </ul>
<p>Associative</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There are numerous Māori archaeological sites around the shores of Mt Stokes, including many pa sites and middens and pre-historic stoneworks at Titirangi Bay.</li> <li>- Private Forsyth Island is a destination for travellers.</li> <li>- Recognised entry/ exit point of Pelorus Sound between Kaitira (East Entry Point) and Te Akaroa (West Entry Point).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Evaluation</b></p>	<p>Based on the above values, the vegetated upper slopes of Mt Stokes, Mt Robinson, Puzzle Peak and the noted peninsulas of Alligator Head and Tawaroa Point are identified as ONFs within the Outer Sounds ONL. These ONFs extend into landscape areas 05, 06, 08 and F.</p> <p>Further, the advanced regenerating Forsyth Island and its associated Duffers Reach and Allen Strait, the sanctuary of Bird Island, and the Kaitira Headland, are also considered to hold outstanding natural values and to be ONFs, with the interconnecting seascapes holding ONL value. These ONFs extend into landscape areas 08 and 09. All identified ONFs hold exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>Mt Stokes is one of the most dominant landforms in the Marlborough Sounds, with upland ridge crests and summits reaching 1,203 m asl. A number of watercourses that extend from this central massif have long, high gradients in which the water quality is amongst the highest in the Sounds. Original forest covers most of the upper slopes of the Stokes massif and its summit. The ONF supports the only occurrence of subalpine vegetation in the Sounds. Alpine to coast vegetation sequences descend from the summit in several locations throughout the ONF, including at Titirangi Bay. There are also numerous areas of regenerating native bush within lower parts of Anakoha Bay. Natural biodiversity is high due to the range of altitude, landform and habitat types, especially enhanced by subalpine communities. This is part of the larger Mt Stokes area managed by the Department of Conservation and is identified as having internationally significant ecological values.</p> <p>The impressive peaks and connecting ridges define and frame the eastern bays and seascapes within this nested landscape and, due to their lack of modification, the area retains very high remote and experiential values. Key peaks surrounding Mt Stokes include Mt Robinson, Grants Lookout and Puzzle Peak.</p> <p>There is considerable evidence of early Māori settlement/activity throughout the area, a notable site being the stone workings at Titirangi Bay.</p> <p>Forsyth Island is naturally regenerating and contributes ecologically to the many islands in the broader Outer Sounds landscape. At the Island's northern point, Duffers Reef is considered a nationally significant nesting area for king shags. Within central Forsyth Bay, Bird Island is nationally significant for reef heron breeding. The narrow pinch point of Allen Strait, between southern Forsyth Island and the mainland, forms a visually enclosing entrance into Forsyth Bay.</p> <p>Modifications include moorings, vegetation clearance, forestry, roads and tracks, jetties, buildings, and powerlines. Aquaculture has been excluded from the overlay, apart from the sole farm in Guards Bay.</p>

<b>Regional Landscape: Outer Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: 08 – Cook Strait</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<b>Character Description:</b> <i>This landscape forms the outer north-eastern extent of the Marlborough Sounds and is notable for being open, wild and exposed to Cook Strait and Tasman sea. Bound by D'Urville Island to the west and Cape Lambert to the east. This highly exposed maritime area retains a high visual coherence of cliff face landforms and a collection of jagged stacks and harsh rocky islands. Steep, exposed and imposing sea cliffs, peninsulas and headlands are dominant landforms creating a wild and highly aesthetic coast. Modifications are reasonably limited and concentrated to a few small areas. Elevation is low with much of the biota being at the mercy of the exposed maritime climate. The marine environment is highly diverse, due to its complex coastal topography. The coral reef habitat at the Chetwode Islands for example, supports a high diversity of fish species. Some trawling has occurred, which has reduced the level of naturalness to parts of the sea.</i>	
<b>Naturalness:</b> This seascape/landscape of islands and peninsulas retains much of its original naturalness, most notably on the islands and surrounding waters. Modification is largely limited to northern parts of D'Urville Island that have been cleared for pastoral use and aquaculture in Catherine Cove south of Clay Point. Other development is restricted to parts of mid D'Urville Island. Overall, the area retains a level of naturalness that is sufficient to be considered outstanding.	
<b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Rocky islands including Chetwode, Rangitoto and Stephens Islands and the northern extent of Forsyth Island, reefs, stacks, cliffs, slender peninsulas including D'Urville Peninsula, Cape Stephens, Clay Point, Culdaff Point, Alligator Head, and Cape Lambert, embayments, wildlife sanctuaries, and open exposed seascape as well as the French Pass submerged ridgeline and associated waters.	
	<b>Landscape Values</b>
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All islands and their associated coastal waters have a very low level of marine and land modification, harbour unique species, and hold outstanding levels of natural character.</li> <li>- Islands are highly exposed to high energy waves and hold steep sea cliffs and wind-swept rocky coastlines.</li> <li>- D'Urville Island has a unique ultramafic 'mineral belt' that traverses the length of the island. As a result of this mineral belt, unique vegetation flourishes.</li> <li>- Geopreservation sites include: French Pass submerged ridgeline and equalising waters; Mt Ears prehistoric argillite quarry and Cape Stevens wind-funnelled sand dune.</li> <li>- The islands are above-water remnants of ancient ridges and spurs directly associated with the drowned valley system which formed the Marlborough Sounds; comprising of strata and schist.</li> <li>- Very strong currents occur in the vicinity of French Pass and Current Basin. There are dangerous eddies and undercurrents with strong tidal mixing creating high flow habitats.</li> <li>- French Pass contains a largely unmodified near-shore coastal marine environment with very sheltered shores.</li> <li>- Stephens Island is predator-free.</li> <li>- Jag Rocks/ Nga Kiore support some of the largest habitats for the brachiopod community and is of national significance.</li> <li>- The isolated Trio Islands are habitat for tuatara, king shag and are also predator-free.</li> <li>- The Chetwode Islands are considered the most ecologically significant predator-free islands in the Sounds, harbouring the yellow-crowned parakeet, robin, kaka, rare vegetation species and coral reef habitat for a high diversity of fish species.</li> <li>- Titi Island and Sentinel Rock are also of national significance due to their predator-free status.</li> <li>- The islands contain endemic shrublands, herbfields and tussockland communities.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A large proportion of indigenous land cover on D'Urville Island from coast to mountain tops, including lowland forest, is intact; and is one of the largest tracts of indigenous vegetation cover remaining in Marlborough.</li> <li>- There are abundant populations of native fish found around D'Urville Island's waters and indented coves and harbours, as well as native freshwater fish within D'Urville Island's freshwater ecosystems.</li> <li>- Exceptional biodiversity on Cape Lambert.</li> <li>- Cape Lambert and its interconnecting outer waters hold outstanding levels of natural character.</li> <li>- Where the waters of exposed Cook Strait and more sheltered Pelorus Sound meet.</li> <li>- Areas close to Port Ligar have been identified as being of national significance for king shag feeding and breeding habitat, including Duffers Reef, off Forsyth Island.</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Spectacular rugged coastal cliff features on Rangitoto and Stephens Islands.</li> <li>- The outer islands are the most exposed to the sea of any areas in the Sounds and act as visual reference points from Cook Strait.</li> <li>- Strong currents sweep through Stephens Passage.</li> <li>- Many spectacular rock stacks are present at the southern end of the Chetwode Islands.</li> <li>- Many visually interesting landforms such as D'Urville Peninsula.</li> <li>- Exposed and dramatic western coastline including long-distance seascape views to adjacent islands.</li> <li>- Cape Lambert and Alligator Head have wild and rugged forms that are extremely legible.</li> <li>- High experiential values associated with a strong sense of remoteness and lack of modification, including of the water environment</li> <li>- Rugged, exposed outer coastal slopes and narrow isthmus landform at Port Ligar.</li> <li>- Interesting landform of Duffers Reef and the neck at the head of Forsyth Bay.</li> <li>- The waters of French Pass are visually dramatic due to their strong current movement.</li> <li>- The submerged ridge at French Pass forms a distinctive reef.</li> <li>- Visually dramatic headland of Clay Point.</li> </ul>
Associative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- French connection - D'Urville Island named after French Admiral Dumont D'Urville who sailed the Astrolabe through French Pass and just barely managed to get through.</li> <li>- Large proportion of DOC land in this landscape.</li> <li>- D'Urville Island is also an eco-tourism destination.</li> <li>- Historic development of argillite quarries to extract argillite for cutting tools and the importance of that resource to local tribal identity.</li> <li>- Early copper mines and early Māori settlement and activities found on D'Urville Island.</li> <li>- Early European whaling and farming activities evident on D'Urville Island.</li> <li>- Heritage New Zealand plaque commemorates Captain Cook's last anchorage point in NZ in Whareata Bay, eastern D'Urville Island.</li> <li>- A radar station was established on Stephens Island during World War Two.</li> <li>- Diving and fishing popular.</li> <li>- A number of Māori pits, middens and terraces are located on the Chetwode Islands.</li> <li>- Headlands act as navigational landmarks for boaties.</li> <li>- Private Forsyth Island is a destination for travellers.</li> </ul>

## Evaluation

Based on the above values, the entire Cook Strait nested landscape is an ONL due to its exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values. This ONL extends into landscape areas 03, 06, 07, 09, 11 and 13.

This highly exposed seascape/landscape contains many spectacular landforms and island sanctuaries.

Based on the above values, all of D'Urville Island / Rangitoto Ki Te Tonga have been identified as an ONL within the Outer Sounds landscape due to the exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values present.

D'Urville Island (Rangitoto Ki Te Tonga) is the largest island in the Sounds and the eighth largest island in New Zealand. Situated at the northern extremity of the Sounds, it is separated from the mainland by French Pass. The submerged ridgeline under French Pass, a Geopreservation Site, causes unusually swift tidal currents that are highly legible and fascinating to watch.

French Pass has been identified as an ONF within the Outer Sounds ONL due to exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values. This ONF extends into landscape area 12.

Other Geopreservation Inventory Sites identified on D'Urville Island include a cluster of argillite source sites. These have important archaeological values due to their potential to provide information about the extractive techniques used to obtain the stone material and to better understand New Zealand prehistory and cultural change. The location of argillite quarries appears in at least one legend that tells the story of the flight of Poutini (the taniwha of the god Ngahue) from Whatini. Each place of refuge identified in the story relates to a stone resource location including Tahanga, Mayor Island and D'Urville Island thereby serving as a form of oral map of source sites (NZHPT report on Oparapara (Samson Bay) Argillite Quarries, 2008).

Considerable archaeological evidence and documentation remains to tell of the Island's rich Māori and European history, including connections with two early European explorers, D'Urville and Cook. Although much of the Island was cleared by early European settlers, approximately a third of it remains in native bush today. Much of it is managed as conservation land and has significant ecological values, enjoyed by the Island's few residents and its visitors, who are drawn to its remote and highly natural setting.

Islands at the northern to north-eastern tip of D'Urville Island display exceptional characteristics that are clearly linked with the area's exposure to the sea. Their weathered sea-cliffs and hardy vegetation, tilted from the wind, are highly expressive of their exposed maritime position and are highly memorable. The area is visited by divers and fishing expeditions.

Sea conditions range from very exposed around north-western D'Urville and Takapourewa (Stephens Island) to exposed further south-east at Trio Islands. Stephens Passage between Stephens Island and D'Urville Island is noted for its extremely strong currents. Takapourewa (Stephens Island) is particularly noteworthy for its complex reef habitats and high diversity of macroalgae, invertebrates and fish. The island is predator-free and supports many nationally threatened species including New Zealand's largest population of tuatara.

The smaller Trio Islands are also predator-free, supporting populations of tuatara and king shag. Jag Rocks/ Nga Kiore is one of many rock stacks off the coastline of D'Urville Island but is particularly noteworthy as the rocks support some of the largest NZ brachiopod communities, which are of national significance. Spectacular cliff formations are also clearly legible on the Rangitoto and Stephens Islands.

The Chetwodes, Titi Islands and Sentinel Rock are characterised by their rugged, exposed isolation. These waters are infrequently visited and are amongst the most remote in the Sounds. The islands themselves have a

very low level of modification, containing endemic vegetation and are surrounded by numerous offshore reefs. A number of Māori pits, middens and terraces are located on the Chetwode Islands.

Both the Chetwodes and Titi Island are Department of Conservation Nature Reserves, and are of national significance and predator-free. The Chetwodes are the most ecologically significant islands in the Sounds, harbouring the yellow-crowned parakeet, robin, kaka, rare vegetation species and coral reef habitat for a high diversity of fish species.

Cape Lambert and Alligator Head retain wild and rugged forms that are extremely legible, which assist in defining outer Sounds bays. Exceptional biodiversity is exhibited at Cape Lambert.

Modifications (mostly on Stephens Island) include: some vegetation clearance, buildings, a lighthouse on Stephens Island and occasional tracks and moorings. lighthouse at Ninepin Rock (Chetwode Islands).

<b>Regional Landscape: Outer Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: 09 – Waitata</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<p><b>Character Description:</b> <i>This landscape area encompasses Waitata Reach, which acts as the northern part of Pelorus Sound and connects the Inner Sounds with Cook Strait. Maud Island partly defines the southern part of this landscape area. The headlands of Te Akaroa (West Entry Point) and the Kaitira headland (East Entry Point) define the northern extent. This landscape area is relatively open in character, with the waters of Waitata Reach being broad (typically 2.5km). Numerous large embayments are features of the eastern and western shores, providing different characteristics within this landscape. Along the north/north-western shores are the embayments of Waitata Bay, Waihinau Bay and Port Ligar. These bays are framed by steep, indented land and are typically settled with sporadically located buildings adjacent to the shore, accessed by boat and by Te Towaka – Port Ligar Road. In the east is Horsehoe Bay and the larger Richmond Bay and Ketu Bay. Land use is typically a mosaic of grazed pastoral land, regenerating scrub and areas of indigenous vegetation, notably along the western shore, with Maud Island characterised by regenerating native shrubland and forest. Aquaculture typically is located within all of the embayments, apart from Ketu Bay. There are three salmon farms, one in Richmond Bay, one off White Horse Rock in Waitata Reach and the remainder in Waihinau Bay.</i></p>	
<p><b>Naturalness:</b> Despite much of this landscape incorporating some modification, there are highly natural areas within it that are sufficiently natural so as to be considered outstanding.</p>	
<p><b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Broad open waters of Waitata Reach, large embayments, Maud Island, gateway features of Te Akaroa (West Entry Point) and the Kaitira headland (East Entry Point), vegetated upper slopes within west.</p>	
	<b>Landscape Values</b>
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Where the waters of exposed Cook Strait and more sheltered Pelorus Sound meet.</li> <li>- Areas within Waitata Reach, including Port Ligar have been identified as being of national significance for king shag feeding and breeding habitat.</li> <li>- The Kaitira headland holds high levels of natural character. The open waters between Port Ligar, the Kaitira headland and northern Forsyth Island also hold high levels of natural character, principally due to low levels of modification.</li> <li>- Maud Island is internationally significant, as a predator-free island sanctuary, harbouring nationally threatened species of invertebrates, birdlife and the entire population of the Maud Island frog.</li> <li>- Maud Island is largely cloaked in regenerating shrubland and forest.</li> <li>- Remnant indigenous forest on the elevated slopes of Mt Drew.</li> <li>- Maud Island is a visually striking, unique landform and holds outstanding natural character.</li> <li>- Mt Drew/ Mt Shewell holds very high levels of natural character due to the indigenous bush cover.</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Impressive entrance/ exit of Pelorus Sound through the Te Akaroa/ Kaitira gateway.</li> <li>- Broad open coastal waters of Waitata Reach connecting the Inner Sounds to Cook Strait.</li> <li>- Rugged, exposed outer coastal slopes and narrow isthmus landform at Port Ligar.</li> <li>- Interesting distinct pyramidal form of Maud Island.</li> <li>- Low levels of modification.</li> <li>- Road to Waitata and Waihinau Bay passes through the bush– contributing to the scenic journey.</li> <li>- Visually impressive Yellow Cliffs at the southern head of Waitata Bay.</li> </ul>
Associative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recognised entry/ exit point of Pelorus Sound between Kaitira (East Entry Point) and Te Akaroa (West Entry Point).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Evidence of early Māori settlement clustered around Port Ligar including a Pa.</li> <li>- Historic gun emplacement on Maud Island.</li> <li>- Evidence of early European settlement at Port Ligar.</li> <li>- Te Kopi and Sir Bernard Fergusson Scenic Reserves in Waterfall Bay, Port Ligar, Bulwer Scenic Reserve in Waitata Bay.</li> <li>- Historic gun emplacement at Post Office Point on the Kaitira headland.</li> <li>- Eco tourism ventures and numerous private conservation initiatives in the area.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	<p>Based on the above values, Port Ligar, the Te Akaroa and Kaitira headlands and the waters between have been identified as ONF's due to their exceptional biophysical and associative and very high sensory landscape values. These ONF's extend into landscape areas 07 and 08.</p> <p>Maud Island and the vegetated slopes of Mt Drew to the Yellow Cliffs, have also been identified as ONF's due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values. They extend into landscape area G.</p> <p>The rugged, exposed outer coastal slopes and rocky peninsulas that form the entrance/ exit of Pelorus Sound at Te Akaroa and the Kaitira headland are extremely significant and memorable. The incised coastal landform of Port Ligar and Cannon Hill provide important Outer Sounds shelter.</p> <p>Whilst some land has been cleared for pasture, there are limited structures on the land, especially around northern Port Ligar. Waterfall Bay features native vegetation of local value, fragmented bird habitat and some uncommon plant species.</p> <p>Areas within Waitata Reach, including Port Ligar have been identified as being of national significance for king shag feeding and breeding habitat.</p> <p>Maud Island is an important island sanctuary containing nationally threatened species. The island landform provides a distinctive pyramidal skyline linking to the slender neck of Harter Point. Most of the Island is cloaked in regenerating shrubland and forest. Māori settlement and use of the resources in this part of the outer Sounds is evident in the intense clusters of archaeological remains.</p> <p>The impressive peak of Mt Drew, the sheltered waters of Apuau Channel and intimate bays of this coastline are highly legible. Of the remaining indigenous forests within the area, much appears on more elevated slopes (Mt Drew and extending to Mt Shewell) and the western slopes north of Waiona Bay and south to the elevated slopes of Fitzroy Bay. The continuous undeveloped coastline in this area is highly natural. Mt Shewell Scenic Reserve features nationally significant, diverse plant species that extend into this landscape area.</p> <p>Modifications within these ONFs include vegetation clearance, forestry, tracks, and the gun emplacement on Maud Island, a small collection of buildings in Port Ligar, and jetties, powerlines, tracks, and limited moorings.</p>

<b>Regional Landscape: Outer Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: 10 – Admiralty</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<b>Character Description:</b> <i>This nested landscape area is confined to the inner embayment of Admiralty Bay. The bay is enclosed by steep, dissected hills. They form a relatively incised coastline with many embayments of varying sizes. A narrow isthmus connects the east arm to the west at the head of the bay. Mt Shewell is the highest of the surrounding peaks at 775m asl and forms a backdrop to the head of the bay. The western peninsula is generally lower in elevation than the hills to the east of the bay where there are several peaks above 600m asl. Houses within Admiralty Bay are mostly located around the head of the bay and along the eastern shoreline with one house (a farm homestead) on the western side at Deep Bay. There are also several subdivided, residential sections along the southern and eastern coastlines. Several roads and tracks cross the faces above the eastern and southern parts of the Bay, providing access to the various houses and properties. It is difficult to establish the exact number of dwellings within the Bay. Aquaculture is located around virtually the entire inner shores of Admiralty Bay.</i>	
<b>Naturalness:</b> Despite much of this landscape being modified, this area retains moderate to high levels of naturalness, with high levels of naturalness at French Pass headland and on the more elevated land to the south; sufficiently natural to be considered outstanding.	
<b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Vegetated peaks of Mt Shewell and Mt Drew, Karaka (Hamilton Island), indented shoreline.	
	<b>Landscape Values</b>
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mt Shewell is nationally significant for <i>Powelliphanta hochstetteri obscura</i> (New Zealand giant snail) and diverse plant species.</li> <li>- Remnant indigenous forest on the elevated slopes of Mt Drew.</li> <li>- Mt Shewell holds very high levels of natural character due to the indigenous bush cover.</li> <li>- The French Pass headland contains a largely unmodified near-shore coastal marine environment with very sheltered shores.</li> <li>- Vegetated Karaka (Hamilton Island)</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Impressive peak of Mt Shewell at the head of Admiralty Bay.</li> <li>- Interesting distinct pyramidal form of Maud Island.</li> <li>- Low levels of modification on upper slopes.</li> </ul>
Associative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- French connection - named after French Admiral Dumont D’Urville who sailed the Astrolabe through French Pass and just barely managed to get through.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	<p>Based on the above values, the upper parts of Mt Shewell and the French Pass headland are recognised as being ONFs, due to their very high biophysical, associative and sensory values. These ONFs extend further into nested landscapes 08, 09, 12 and G.</p> <p>Modifications include limited cleared vegetation around the French Pass headland.</p>



<b>Regional Landscape: Outer Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: 11 – Northern D'Urville</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<p><b>Character Description:</b> <i>This nested landscape includes the central and north-western part of D'Urville Island and the two sheltered inlets of Greville Harvour and Port Hardy. This part of D'Urville Island retains very limited levels of modifications, with much of the land being covered in indigenous or regenerating vegetation. The northern part of the island is cleared for grazing as is the northern parts of Port Hardy. Port Hardy Road extends from the east of the island, along the ridge defining the catchment between Port Hardy and Greville Harbour, with this ridgeline also representing the eastern extent of this landscape, extending out to Cape Stephenson in the north. The southern boundary is marked by the submerged ridgeline and turbulent waters of French Pass. The western boundary follows a central ridge out to Ragged Point at the south-west edge of Greville Harbour. The western coastline of this landscape area retains very steep and rocky shores. Numerous small rocks and islets are located immediately of the coast, including Tu Araiawa Island (Fin Island) just north of Ragged Point. This coastline is wild, dramatic and isolated in character. Some trawling has occurred, which has reduced the level of naturalness to parts of the sea.</i></p>	
<p><b>Naturalness:</b> This part of D'Urville Island retains very high levels of naturalness due to low levels of modification. The entire landscape area is sufficiently natural to be considered outstanding.</p>	
<p><b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Steep, exposed rocky coastline with interesting rock outcrops and islands and other coastal features including lagoons, the sheltered embayments of Greville Harbour and Port Hardy and the Greville Harbour boulder spit, as well as extensive indigenous and regenerating slopes.</p>	
<b>Landscape Values</b>	
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- D'Urville Island has a unique ultramafic 'mineral belt' that traverses the length of the island. As a result of this mineral belt, unique vegetation flourishes.</li> <li>- Geopreservation sites include: Greville Harbour sand dunes and coastal features; Greville Harbour boulder spit; Mt Ears prehistoric argillite quarry and Cape Stevens wind-funnelled sand dune.</li> <li>- A large proportion of indigenous land cover from coast to mountain tops, including lowland forest, is intact; and is one of the largest tracts of indigenous vegetation cover remaining in Marlborough.</li> <li>- There are numerous other biotic communities that include dune, spit, beach, lagoon, freshwater wetland, estuarine and alluvial that are all very distinctive and rare in the Marlborough Sounds.</li> <li>- There are abundant populations of native fish found around the island's waters and indented coves and harbours.</li> <li>- There are also native freshwater fish within D'Urville Island's freshwater ecosystems.</li> <li>- Minimal land and marine development with highly natural coastline.</li> <li>- Rocky outcrops are a feature of western D'Urville Island.</li> <li>- The vegetated elevated slopes of central D'Urville Island illustrate one of the most extensive and exceptional tracts of lowland forest in the district. This tract, coupled with the largely unmodified marine environment all hold outstanding levels of natural character. The remaining parts of D'Urville Island hold high and very high levels of natural character.</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Attractive harbours with sheltered intimate bays and calm waters.</li> <li>- Many visually interesting landforms, bluffs, islands and rocks along the coast such as Bottle Point, Rakiura Rocks, Nelsons Monument and Victory Island.</li> <li>- Exposed and dramatic western coastline including long-distance seascape views to adjacent islands.</li> <li>- Minimal land and marine development with highly natural coastline. High experiential values associated with remoteness and lack of modification.</li> </ul>

<p>Associative</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- French connection - named after French Admiral Dumont D'Urville who sailed the Astrolabe through French Pass and just barely managed to get through.</li> <li>- Large proportion of DOC land.</li> <li>- Eco-tourism destination.</li> <li>- Historic development of argillite quarries to extract argillite for cutting tools and the importance of that resource to local tribal identity.</li> <li>- Early copper mines.</li> <li>- Early Māori settlement and activities.</li> <li>- Early European whaling and farming activities.</li> <li>- Heritage New Zealand plaque commemorates Captain Cook's last anchorage point in NZ in Whareata Bay.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Evaluation</b></p>	<p>Based on the above values, all of D'Urville Island / Rangitoto Ki Te Tonga has been identified as an ONL within the Outer Sounds landscape due to its exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values. This ONL extends into landscape areas 08 and 12.</p> <p>D'Urville Island (Rangitoto Ki Te Tonga) is the largest island in the Sounds and the eighth largest island in New Zealand. Situated at the northern extremity of the Sounds, it is separated from the mainland by French Pass.</p> <p>A range of Geopreservation Sites have been identified on the Island, including a cluster of argillite source sites. These have important archaeological values due to their potential to provide information about the extractive techniques used to obtain the stone material. They are also important to better understand New Zealand prehistory and cultural change. The location of argillite quarries appears in at least one legend that tells the story of the flight of Poutini (the taniwha of the god Ngahue) from Whatini. Each place of refuge identified in the story relates to a stone resource location including Tahanga, Mayor Island and D'Urville Island thereby serving as a form of oral map of source sites (NZHPT report on Oparapara (Samson Bay) Argillite Quarries, 2008).</p> <p>Considerable archaeological evidence and documentation remains to tell of the Island's rich Māori and European history, including connections with two early European explorers, D'Urville and Cook.</p> <p>Although much of the Island was cleared by early European settlers, approximately a third of it remains in native bush today. Much of it is managed as conservation land and has significant ecological values. These are enjoyed by the Island's few residents and its visitors, who are drawn to its remote and highly natural setting.</p> <p>Modifications in this ONL include buildings, access roads, power lines, jetties, forestry and vegetation clearance. Moorings are scattered along the bays within the coastal area.</p>

<b>Regional Landscape: Outer Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: 12 – Eastern Tasman</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<p><b>Character Description:</b> <i>This exposed maritime area retains a high coherence of steep rocky coasts, cliff face landforms, small embayment's and cleared pasture. The outer, rugged and exposed coastline facing Tasman Bay retains prominent and distinctive coastal headlands and ridgelines. The seascape is dotted with numerous rocky stacks and islands. Current Basin is more enclosed with strong tides effecting the surface of the water, becoming more evident towards French Pass where the narrow channel, broken reefs, whirlpools and powerful currents can resemble a river and create a treacherous stretch of water. Some trawling has occurred, which has reduced the level of naturalness to parts of the sea.</i></p> <p><i>Extending from the northern mouth of Croisilles Harbour and Lagoon Hill/ Askews Hill in the south to the southern extents of D'Urville Island, this landscape is open to the sea. Much of this landscape area has been cleared for pastoral grazing with some tracts of forestry on D'Urville Island and the southern coast of the mainland. However, there are limited structures evident. Many of the buildings are within Waikawa Bay, with the remaining bays of Okuri Bay, Papawai Bay and Taipare Bay being largely devoid of structures. Numerous farm tracks are evident, as are powerlines. The Croisilles – French Pass Road crosses this landscape.</i></p>	
<p><b>Naturalness:</b> This landscape area retains a moderately high degree of naturalness, sufficiently natural to be considered outstanding. This is due in part to the overall lack of structures and to those areas of regenerating bush, most notably in southern D'Urville Island and south of Okuri Bay.</p>	
<p><b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Indented bays south of Current Basin, steep rocky and often cleared terrain, strong currents in Current Basin, the submerged ridge at French Pass and turbulent waters of French Pass, islands and rocks off southern D'Urville Island, and the broad seascape.</p>	
	<b>Landscape Values</b>
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- D'Urville Island has a unique ultramafic 'mineral belt' that traverses the length of the island. As a result of this mineral belt, unique vegetation flourishes.</li> <li>- Geopreservation sites include: D'Urville Island copper mines; prehistoric argillite quarries; Paddock Rocks; Ohana Bay prehistoric quarry; French Pass submerged ridgeline and equalising waters;</li> <li>- A large proportion of indigenous land cover from coast to mountain tops, including lowland forest, is intact; and is one of the largest tracts of indigenous vegetation cover remaining in Marlborough.</li> <li>- There are numerous other biotic communities that include dune, spit, beach, lagoon, freshwater wetland, estuarine and alluvial that are all very distinctive and rare in the Marlborough Sounds.</li> <li>- Very strong currents occur in the vicinity of French Pass with dangerous eddies and undercurrents with strong tidal mixing.</li> <li>- There are abundant populations of native fish found around the island's waters and indented coves and harbours.</li> <li>- There are also native freshwater fish within D'Urville Island's freshwater ecosystems.</li> <li>- Minimal land and marine development with highly natural coastline.</li> <li>- French Pass contains a largely unmodified near-shore coastal marine environment with very sheltered shores.</li> <li>- High flow habitats are associated with Current Basin and French Pass.</li> <li>- Rocky outcrops are a feature of south-western D'Urville Island.</li> <li>- The vegetated, elevated slopes of central D'Urville Island illustrate one of the most extensive and exceptional tracts of lowland forest in the district. This tract, coupled with the largely unmodified marine environment and the waters of French Pass all hold outstanding levels of natural character. The remaining parts of D'Urville Island hold high and very high levels of natural character.</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Attractive harbours with sheltered intimate bays and calm waters.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Many visually interesting landforms such as the dramatic waters at French Pass, and rocks of the southern coastline of D'Urville Island.</li> <li>- Key views to narrow passage and currents at French Pass from Channel and Collinet Points.</li> <li>- Exposed and dramatic western coastline including long-distance seascape views to adjacent islands.</li> <li>- The submerged ridge at French Pass forms a distinctive reef.</li> <li>- Minimal land and marine development with highly natural coastline. High experiential values associated with remoteness and lack of modification.</li> <li>- Impressive scenic bush pockets and key viewpoints to D'Urville Island and French Pass from sections of the French Pass Road.</li> <li>- Prominent/distinctive coastal ridgelines to Askews Hill.</li> <li>- Impressive sequence of rugged, exposed bays and open waters along northern coastline, including Taipare Bay, Papawai Bay extending to Okuri Point.</li> </ul>
<p>Associative</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- French connection - named after French Admiral Dumont D'Urville who sailed the Astrolabe through French Pass and just barely managed to get through.</li> <li>- Large proportion of DOC land.</li> <li>- Eco-tourism destination.</li> <li>- Historic development of argillite quarries to extract argillite for cutting tools and the importance of that resource to local tribal identity.</li> <li>- Early copper mines.</li> <li>- Early Māori settlement and activities.</li> <li>- Early European whaling and farming activities.</li> <li>- The dolphin, Pelorus Jack, accompanied ships between French Pass and the entrance to Pelorus Sound and was the first dolphin in the world to be protected by law.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Evaluation</b></p>	<p>Based on the above values, all of D'Urville Island / Rangitoto Ki Te Tonga have been identified as an ONL within the Outer Sounds landscape due to the exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values present. This ONL extends into landscape areas 11, 13, 08, and G.</p> <p>French Pass has been identified as an ONF within the Outer Sounds ONL due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values. This ONF extends into landscape area 08.</p> <p>D'Urville Island (Rangitoto Ki Te Tonga) is the largest island in the Sounds and the eighth largest island in New Zealand. Situated at the northern extremity of the Sounds, it is separated from the mainland by French Pass. The submerged ridgeline under French Pass, a Geopreservation Inventory Site, causes unusually swift tidal currents that are highly legible and fascinating to watch.</p> <p>Other Geopreservation Sites identified on the Island include a cluster of argillite source sites. These have important archaeological values due to their potential to provide information about the extractive techniques used to obtain the stone material and to better understand New Zealand prehistory and cultural change. The location of argillite quarries appears in at least one legend that tells the story of the flight of Poutini (the taniwha of the god Ngahue) from Whatini. Each place of refuge identified in the story relates to a stone resource location including Tahanga, Mayor Island and D'Urville Island thereby serving as a form of oral map of source sites (NZHPT report on Oparapara (Samson Bay) Argillite Quarries, 2008).</p> <p>Considerable archaeological evidence and documentation remains to tell of the Island's rich Māori and European history, including connections with two early European explorers, D'Urville and Cook.</p>

Although much of the Island was cleared by early European settlers, approximately a third of it remains in native bush today. Much of it is managed as conservation land and has significant ecological values, enjoyed by the Island's few residents and its visitors, who are drawn to its remote and highly natural setting.

South of D'Urville Island, the outer, rugged and exposed coastline facing Tasman Bay retains many prominent and distinctive coastal headlands and ridgelines extending from Okuri Point southwards to Askews Hill. Whilst some of this land is cleared or planted in exotic forestry, there are intact indigenous forests on the more elevated slopes of Askews Hills, Bobs Peak and Okuri Peak. A rare, nationally important altitudinal sequence from ridgetop to seafloor exists at Big Bay.

The seascape in this area is inextricably linked to the land, creating dramatic open vistas and high levels of transient values.

Modifications include buildings, access roads, power lines, jetties, forestry and vegetation clearance, and lighthouse within Middle Bank Reef, French Pass. Moorings are scattered along the bays within the coastal area. French Pass Settlement is excluded.

<b>Regional Landscape: Outer Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: 13 – Croisilles</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<b>Character Description:</b> <i>This landscape area includes the waters associated with Croisilles Harbour, Squally Cove and Okiwi Bay. Croisilles Harbour is the western-most entry point into the Marlborough Sounds, between Cape Soucis (Raetihi) to the west and the small islands off Askews Hill to the east. The harbour is broadly indented, with smaller embayment's, including Whangarae Bay, Whakitenga Bay and Wairangi Bay separated by well-defined headlands such as Symonds Hill, Goat Hill and Clockpoint Hill. The landscape is contained by the steep vegetated slopes of Croisilles Hill, North Castor Peak and Editor Hill to the south and south-west, Matapehe and Mt McLaren to the east and Bobs Peak and Askews Hill to the north. In a number of locations, indigenous vegetation extends from the ridge to the sea, notably around Bush Hill, Whangarae Bay and its associated estuary and Croisilles Hill to the south. Commercial Forestry is evident especially on the southern coastline of Squally Cove on the flanks of Mt McLaren. The Croisilles Road provides road access to the small settlement of Okiwi Bay and further north towards French Pass. Aquaculture is evident in Squally Cove.</i>	
<b>Naturalness:</b> The south-western parts of this landscape area retain very high levels of naturalness, typically around Cape Soucis and Whangarae Bay, as well as the more elevated slopes in the eastern and northern parts of this landscape. At lower elevations around Squally Cove, a greater level of modification is apparent on the land and within the marine environment, with the exception of Symonds Hill that largely retains its naturalness. Overall, this landscape area retains a moderately-high level of naturalness, sufficiently natural to be considered outstanding.	
<b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Rocky islands and reefs including Motuanauru and Otuhaereroa at the mouth of Croisilles Harbour, indigenous vegetated slopes in south-western part of landscape, Whangarae Bay and estuary, Geopreservation Inventory Sites along the northern coast, and Pakiaka Point boulder bank and lagoon.	
	<b>Landscape Values</b>
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Geopreservation site: Matarau Point beach ridges.</li> <li>- Geopreservation site: Pakiaka Point boulder bank and lagoon.</li> <li>- Geopreservation site: Whangarae Bay estuary and sand spits.</li> <li>- Nationally significant ecological values on Croisilles Islands (Motuanauru, Moukirikiri and Otuhaereroa Islands).</li> <li>- Nationally significant ecological values of the cusped forelands at Matarau Point.</li> <li>- Nationally significant ecological values of island communities, with distinct and rare biotic assemblages.</li> <li>- The marine environment and islands of Croisilles Harbour and part of the northern coastline hold outstanding levels of natural character. The remaining coastal waters of the northern bays (Taipare Bay and Papawai Bay) and Askews Hill hold very high levels of natural character.</li> <li>- Nationally significant ecological values in Whangarae Bay associated with the relatively unmodified estuarine habitat.</li> <li>- The Whangarae Estuary is the only spit-formed estuary in the Marlborough Sounds.</li> <li>- Whangarae Bay, Cape Soucis/Raetihi and the elevated parts of Croisilles Hill, Elliot Peak, Editor Hill and Matapehe hold outstanding levels of natural character due to their upland intact vegetation assemblages. The remaining area (except Symonds Hill which holds high natural character) retains very high levels of natural character.</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prominent/distinctive coastal ridgelines to Askews Hill.</li> <li>- Impressive sequence of rugged, exposed bays and open waters along northern coastline.</li> <li>- High levels of naturalness due to limited modification.</li> <li>- Cape Soucis/Raetihi and Askews Hill, including the water and cluster of islands, notably Motuanauru and Otuhaereroa, form the impressive entrance to Croisilles Harbour.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Impressive sequence of rugged, exposed bays from Clock Point Hill west.</li> <li>- Impressive enclosing headlands of Symonds Hill and Goat Hill to Okiwi Bay.</li> <li>- Visually dramatic headland of Cape Soucis/Raetihi demarcates south-western boundary between Marlborough and Nelson.</li> </ul>
Associative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Numerous Maori archaeological sites, notably around the islands.</li> <li>- Sheltered bay notable for holiday and recreational pursuits.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	<p>Based on the above values, the majority of this landscape is considered to hold outstanding landscape values, principally around the mouth of Croisilles Harbour including the islands of Motuanauru, Motukirikiri and Otuhaereroa, Whangarae Inlet and the upper elevations of the ridge that defines this landscape to the south. The collective features of this landscape are considered an ONL due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values. This ONL extends into landscape areas 12 and H.</p> <p>Croisilles Harbour opens into Tasman Bay and is the westernmost part of the mainland Sounds. The area's key values relate to the number of Geopreservation Sites and ecologically significant areas, which are expressive of the coastal location and are also valued for the important habitat they provide.</p> <p>The southern shores of Croisilles Harbour retain a number of identifiable features. The exposed, prominent rugged headland of Cape Soucis/Raetihi forms Marlborough's south-western extent whilst the impressive enclosing headlands of Clock Point Hill, Goat Hill and Symonds Hill enclose Whangarae Bay and estuary and Okiwi Bay.</p> <p>Whilst some of the land within the northern part of this landscape area is cleared or planted in exotic forestry, there are intact indigenous forests on the more elevated slopes of Askews Hill.</p> <p>The Geopreservation Sites include the Matarau Point beach ridges and the Pakiaka Point boulder bank and lagoon, both at the base of Askews Hill at the eastern entrance of Croisilles Harbour. The Pakiaka Point boulder bank and lagoon shelters largely intact herbfield and salt marsh communities, extensive sand/mud flat habitats and sinuous tidal channels.</p> <p>The cusped forelands at Matarau Point have been identified as having ecological values of national significance. Also identified as nationally significant are, the Croisilles Islands for a range of ecological values. Motuanauru Island and Otuhaereroa Island have distinct and rare biotic assemblages, which are highly productive. The waters surrounding the islands exhibit high levels of naturalness due to limited modification to the waterbody. The Islands create a highly natural, bush-clad visual entrance to Croisilles Harbour and are unmodified.</p> <p>The forested ridges of the northern Rai River catchment form a mountainous fringe to this area, extending southwards from Whangarae estuary and Okiwi Bay to North Castor Peak at the end of the Bryant Range and Elliott Peak at the end of the Bull Range. Intact upland vegetation is evident on the slopes above Okiwi Bay, and a finger of this extends to the coast near Taiwhati Point.</p> <p>Despite a history of land clearance and farming around its margins, Whangarae estuary is an excellent example, in the context of Marlborough of a relatively unmodified estuary. The only spit-formed estuary in the Marlborough Sounds, Whangarae estuary is a habitat for several regionally rare birds including banded rail and fern bird. Outside of the estuary, the Croisilles Harbour marine environment supports a unique shallow sand community notable for the presence of the New Zealand lancelet (the southern-most population of this patchily distributed species).</p>

	Modifications in this ONL include tracks, power lines, cleared vegetation and pasture, commercial forestry, buildings and limited moorings, and aquaculture.
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## **INNER SOUNDS LANDSCAPES**

<b>Regional Landscape: Inner Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<p><b>Character Description:</b> <i>It is often the inner Sounds with their bush-clad hills enclosing tranquil bays that are represented in popular images of the Marlborough Sounds. These inner reaches tend to have a more intricate coastline with small beaches, tidal estuaries and a sheltered, enclosed environment.</i></p> <p><i>While much of the inner Sounds is characterised by steep hill slopes, it also contains some of the flattest land in the Marlborough Sounds, particularly in the river valleys at the heads of the large Sounds. The river deltas form tidal wetlands in these areas. In contrast, the upper south-west facing slopes of the Mt Stokes massif are sufficiently high that alpine plants can be found there.</i></p> <p><i>The land of the inner Sounds is partially covered in indigenous forest remnants, generally occupying the upper slopes. The lower slopes and shoreline contain a more diverse range of vegetation types including regenerating forests and shrublands, exotic grassland, and commercial afforested areas.</i></p> <p><i>A large proportion of the land in the inner Sounds is managed by the Department of Conservation. Particularly extensive areas of DOC land include much of Tennyson Inlet, Mt Stokes and the north arm of Queen Charlotte Sound. Maud Island is an important island sanctuary that straddles the inner and outer Sounds.</i></p> <p><i>The inner Sounds are generally the focus of most intensive tourism and recreational activities and the location of the majority of the housing. While Havelock and Picton are the main settlements, smaller bach settlements occur in many of the bays and inlets in these areas. Aquaculture is a notable characteristic of some areas in the inner Sounds.</i></p>	
<p><b>District Scale Landscape Areas:</b> There are a number of smaller 'nested' landscapes within the broader Inner Sounds Landscape and these are described over the following pages and include: A- Inner Queen Charlotte Sound; B- Grove Arm; C- Kenepuru Sound; D- Havelock; E- Nydia; F- Beatrix/Crail; G- Tawhitinui and H- Tennyson.</p>	
<p><b>Naturalness:</b> This broad landscape area retains large amounts of indigenous vegetative cover, notably in its upper elevations, above the indented coves and bays. Certain areas including Tennyson and Nydia retain much higher levels of naturalness than other more modified parts. Much of the waters within Pelorus Sounds are occupied by aquaculture, in contrast to the waters that are largely free of aquaculture within Queen Charlotte Sound. Overall, the Inner Sounds retains high levels of naturalness and there are many areas that are sufficiently natural to be considered outstanding.</p>	
<p><b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Series of reaches and inlets defined by steep, often vegetated slopes, vegetated peaks and ridges, tranquil bays and coves, greater level of development, sheltered waters.</p>	
<b>Landscape Values associated with the Inner Sounds</b>	
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Highly indented bays, many of which are vegetated.</li> <li>- Greater level of indigenous vegetation present than in Outer Sounds.</li> <li>- Tennyson Inlet supports some of the largest tracts of lowland coastal forests in Marlborough.</li> <li>- The majority of Tennyson Inlet and northern Nydia Bay hold outstanding levels of natural character due to the exceptional tract of unmodified indigenous forest from ridgetops to seafloor.</li> <li>- Maud Island is internationally significant, as a predator-free island sanctuary, harbouring nationally threatened species of invertebrates, birdlife and the entire population of the Maud Island frog.</li> <li>- High estuarine values throughout the complex estuarine delta system at the head of Pelorus Sound (Kaituna/Pelorus and Mahakipawa), which supports extensive saltmarsh and invertebrate communities.</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tranquil and sheltered coves and bays.</li> <li>- High experiential values due to unmodified vegetation cover.</li> <li>- Much of the ridges and peaks in this landscape are undeveloped and covered with predominantly indigenous vegetation and provide visually attractive natural patterns, and a sense of enclosure.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Associative</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Popular area for recreational activities and habitation. The popular Queen Charlotte Track extends through this area as a well-known walking/mountain biking track.</li> <li>- Travellers enjoy views from the Cook Strait ferries, which pass through Queen Charlotte Sound to, and from, Picton.</li> <li>- High amounts of DOC land, notably along ridges and along northern parts of this landscape area.</li> <li>- High recreational values.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Evaluation</b></p>	<p>Based on the above values, parts of the Inner Sounds Landscape (as mapped) have been identified as an ONL/ ONF due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>Refer to the different nested landscape areas for details of mapped ONL/ONFs.</p>

A – INNER QUEEN CHARLOTTE SOUND

<b>Regional Landscape: Inner Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: A – Inner Queen Charlotte Sound</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<p><b>Character Description:</b> <i>Inner Queen Charlotte Sound is the easternmost of the main Sounds and the part that New Zealanders are generally most familiar with. For many inter-Island ferry travellers, Queen Charlotte Sound may be their only experience of the Marlborough Sounds. The highly indented northern bays of Inner Queen Charlotte Sound support a large number of residences, which are typically located close to the coastal edge and are accessed by boat. Extensive tracts of indigenous vegetation cover the more elevated slopes to the ridge. Along the ridge, the Queen Charlotte Track offers recreationalists opportunities to explore this area. Within the southern part of this landscape area are Picton and Waikawa, which together represent the largest settlement in the Marlborough Sounds. The settlement includes a terminal port at Picton for both passenger and freight ferries which introduces an industrial character to Picton Harbour and Shakespeare Bay. The Waikawa Marina is a relatively large marina where many recreational boaties keep their vessels. Beyond this, the land rises to form the northerly facing slopes of the Mt Robertson Range, which are predominantly clothed in indigenous vegetation. Aquaculture is not characteristic of the landscape of Inner Queen Charlotte Sounds.</i></p>	
<p><b>Naturalness:</b> This part of the Inner Sounds sustains the greatest levels of modification in the broader Sounds context, where roads, power lines, buildings, pasture, commercial forestry and foreshore infrastructure are present. However, there are large amounts of indigenous vegetative cover, notably in the upper elevations above the indented northern bays and associated with the westerly facing steep vegetated slopes above Picton and Waikawa. Overall, these more elevated and unmodified parts of this landscape retain the highest levels of landscape naturalness and are sufficiently natural to be considered outstanding.</p>	
<p><b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Slender peninsulas defining indented northern established bays, steep vegetated slopes above developments on northern bays steep vegetated western slopes of Mt Robertson above Picton and Waikawa, Kaipupu and Allports Island and calm, sheltered waters</p>	
<b>Landscape Values</b>	
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Allports Island, Kaipakirikiri Bay and southern flanks of Onahau Bay are of localised ecological value.</li> <li>- Predator-free island of Allports Island.</li> <li>- Forested headland of Kaipupu Point managed as a “mainland island” with high natural character values.</li> <li>- Regionally important tracts of primary forest in Kumutoto Bay and impressive forest sequences on southern flanks of Onahau Bay.</li> <li>- Allports Island, Kaipakirikiri Bay and southern flanks of Onahau Bay retain very high levels of natural character and the remaining areas hold high natural character values.</li> <li>- Elevated parts of Mt Robertson that are within the coastal environment hold very high levels of natural character, and lower parts hold high levels of natural character.</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Impressive views into Kenepuru Sound and wider Queen Charlotte Sound from Queen Charlotte Track.</li> <li>- Intriguing regular indentation of bays between Houhou Point and Snake Point.</li> <li>- Land cover remains predominantly native bush and regenerating scrub, providing an attractive contrast to and setting for the towns and baches, especially on the Northern Lands and parts of Mt Robertson.</li> <li>- High experiential values in Queen Charlotte Sound, especially in relation to Kaipupu Point and Mabel Island where they are visible from Picton.</li> </ul>
Associative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Popular area for recreational activities and habitation. The popular Queen Charlotte Track extends through this area as a well-known walking/mountain biking track.</li> <li>- Travellers enjoy views from the Cook Strait ferries, which pass through Queen Charlotte Sound to, and from, Picton.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Evidence of early Māori settlement and activities around the Northern Lands coastline.</li> <li>- The bush-covered islands of Allports and Mabel assist boaties as navigational landmarks.</li> <li>- The northern facing slopes of Mt Robertson are popular destinations for camping and recreational activities (including walking the Mt Robertson Summit Route).</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	<p>Based on the above values, the northern lands of Inner Queen Charlotte Sound have been identified as ONFs due to the exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>This ONF extends into landscape area 05, and B.</p> <p>In addition, the upper slopes of the flanks of the Mt Robertson Range have been identified as an ONF due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values. This ONF extends into landscape area 01.</p> <p>The regular indentation of bays that make up the northern lands in the sound are highly memorable, providing an attractive contrast to, and setting for, the towns and baches of Queen Charlotte Sound. Large proportions of the bays, headlands and ridges on the northern side of Queen Charlotte Sound are in DOC ownership. Within these areas, the impressive forested peak of Mt Bolton, the lower southern slopes of Mt Stokes, and the bays and headlands of the mainland between Onahau Bay and the Bay of Many Coves are of ecological value. Of particular value is the predator-free island of Allports Island, north-east of Picton. Large areas of the waters in Queen Charlotte Sound are of international or national scientific ecological significance.</p> <p>The Māori name for Queen Charlotte Sound is Totaranui, for the totara trees that grew there. Totaranui was an important trade route for early Māori, with evidence of their settlements and activities throughout the area. A large number of people also use the Queen Charlotte Track, which follows the ridge that divides Kenepuru Sound from Queen Charlotte Sound, providing panoramic viewing into both areas.</p> <p>The Mt Robertson ONF forms part of a broader ONF that extends into adjacent landscape areas and is noted for its indigenous forest cover which is contained predominantly within a scenic reserve. The impressive north-facing slopes provide an important backdrop to Picton and Waikawa. Tracks enable people to enjoy this area.</p> <p>Modifications within the Northern Lands include cleared vegetation, tracks, powerlines, forestry, buildings, jetties, and moorings. Modifications on Mt Robertson include tracks, small bridges and occasional huts.</p>

B- GROVE ARM

<b>Regional Landscape: Inner Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: B – Grove Arm</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<b>Character Description:</b> <i>This landscape area is defined by the vegetated hills and slopes of Mt Cullen and Mt Duncan to the south and by vegetated hill of Onahau and the slender northern peninsula containing the Queen Charlotte Track to the north. The eastern part of this landscape area contains Grove Arm, the western-most part of Queen Charlotte Sound. Two deep bays, Onahau Bay and Lochmara Bay extend at right angles to the waters of Grove Arm, where numerous houses, tracks, jetties and wharves are located. The Queen Charlotte Track extends from the small settlement of Anakiwa, through the southern flanks of the forested Onahau and onto the delicate vegetated ridge above both Onahau and Lochmara Bays. To the south-west is a large flat pastoral area, containing the small settlement of Linkwater, with exotic forestry covering much of the surrounding lower and mid slopes of Mt Cullen and Mt Duncan. Queen Charlotte Drive connects this small settlement to Picton in the east and skirts the sinuous southern coastline of Grove Arm. Numerous houses are located within the bush along this road. Boating activity is frequent. Whilst there are frequent jetties and moorings along the coastal edge, especially in the more populated bays, aquaculture is not part of the character of this nested landscape.</i>	
<b>Naturalness:</b> Due to much of the indigenous bush cover on the elevated land in this landscape area being predominantly unmodified, this landscape area retains areas with a high level of naturalness, sufficient to be considered outstanding.	
<b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Grove Arm, the southern flanks of Onahau, Onahau Bay and Lochmara Bay, vegetated upper peninsula separating Onahau Bay from Lochmara Bay, northerly facing slopes of Mt Cullen and Mt Duncan, the flat pastoral land associated with Linkwater, the defining peninsula of Wedge Point.	
<b>Landscape Values</b>	
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The elevated ranges associated with Mt Cullen and Mt Duncan are largely covered in indigenous beech and broadleaf forest and are unencumbered by development.</li> <li>- Southern flanks of Onahau Bay are of localised ecological value.</li> <li>- Southern flanks of Onahau (down to Umungata and Bottle Bays) retain very high levels of natural character due to the forest sequences from ridge to shore.</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Much of the southern and northern ridges in this landscape area are undeveloped and covered with predominantly indigenous vegetation and provide visually attractive natural patterns, and a sense of enclosure.</li> <li>- Along the northern shores, land cover remains predominantly native bush and regenerating scrub, providing an attractive contrast and setting for the more settled development around the lower slopes of Onahau Bay and Lochmara Bay.</li> </ul>
Associative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mount Richmond Forest Park provides a semi-remote forest experience currently characterised by unmodified landscape.</li> <li>- The area is managed by DOC.</li> <li>- The popular Queen Charlotte Track extends through this area as a well-known walking/mountain biking track.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	<p>Based on the above values, the upper slopes of Mt Duncan/ Mt Cullen, the southerly flanks of Onahau and the vegetated peninsula between Onahau and Lochmara Bays have been identified as ONFs due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values. These ONF extends into landscape areas A, C and D and south into those associated with the Richmond Ranges.</p> <p>The indigenous forest in conservation estate, which covers the elevated ridges, assists in framing the adjacent valleys as well as providing a strong and continuous natural framework connecting a number of valleys. Modifications within these ONFs include back country huts, masts,</p>

	overhead transmission line, part of the Queen Charlotte Track, a disused mine (near Mt Cullen) and trig stations.
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C– KENEPURU SOUND

<b>Regional Landscape: Inner Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: C – Kenepuru Sound</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<b>Character Description:</b> <i>This landscape area is centred on Kenepuru Sound, a small yet highly indented waterway associated with Pelorus Sound. The area is framed by steep vegetated slopes associated with the ridges and peaks of Mt McMahon to the north, which extend from the larger vegetated landmass of Mt Stokes further southwards. To the south, the landscape is defined by the steep and vegetated, but less elevated slopes of the narrow isthmus connecting the Mt Stokes landmass to the mainland. Development is concentrated along much of the lower slopes, with the settlement of Portage on the southern shore being the largest in this landscape. This southern area is connected by the sinuous Kenepuru Road, which connects Linkwater/ Picton to Port Gore. At Kenepuru Head, areas of pastoral land are evident on the lower, gentler slopes. To the north, Kenepuru Road extends along the much of the entire shoreline, connecting the numerous northern bays. Within the water, aquaculture is present along the western shores and north-eastern shores, with jetties, wharves and moorings evident in between. Interesting and pronounced peninsulas extend into the Sound, many of which are covered with indigenous or regenerating vegetation.</i>	
<b>Naturalness:</b> Due to much of the indigenous bush cover on the elevated land in this landscape area being predominantly unmodified, this landscape area retains a reasonably high level of naturalness.	
<b>Features of this landscape include:</b> The waters of Kenepuru Sound, the upper vegetated peaks and ridges of the northern part of this landscape area (Mt McMahon to Pelorus Sound), the vegetated peninsulas of Putanui Point, Weka Point and Kaiaho Point), the indented bays, the southern steep sided vegetated hills containing the Queen Charlotte Track.	
<b>Landscape Values</b>	
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Original forest covers most of the upper slopes of Mt McMahon which is associated with the broader landmass of Mt Stokes.</li> <li>- The indigenous vegetation cover is internationally significant as it supports areas of alpine to coast vegetation sequences.</li> <li>- The natural biodiversity is high due to the range of altitude, landform and habitat.</li> <li>- Bobs Knob Scenic Reserve – nationally significant for plant and animal diversity.</li> <li>- All of the elevated indigenous vegetation extending along the peaks and ridges to the north of this landscape area retain very high levels of natural character, including headlands at Gold Reef Bay and Weka Point. Putanui Point and elevated lands around the southern shores of Kenepuru Sound, including Kaiaho Point retain high levels of natural character.</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The mountain top and ridges (from Bobs Knob to Mt McMahon) define and frame the associated northern bays of Kenepuru Sound and exhibit very high remote and experiential values.</li> <li>- Impressive forested peak and ridges of Mt McMahon which extend from Mt Stokes further northwards</li> <li>- Several interesting peninsula landforms, including Hopai Bay, Kaiaho Point and the indented peninsula around St. Omer, Gold Bay Reef and Weka Point.</li> <li>- Impressive views into Kenepuru Sound from Queen Charlotte Track.</li> <li>- Putanui Point, with its regenerating lands vegetation cover, is prominent.</li> </ul>
Associative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DOC reserve extends along the ridges of much of this area.</li> <li>- Popular area for recreational activities and habitation. The popular Queen Charlotte Track extends along the southern ridge of this landscape area and is a well-known walking/mountain biking track.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	Based on the above values, the forested ridges around Kenepuru Sound (extending from the northern ridge to the west, including Bobs Knob to Mt McMahon and the southern ridge encompassing the Queen Charlotte

walking track and Putanui Point) have been identified as ONFs due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values. These ONFs extend into landscape areas E and F as well as into landscape area 05.

Situated on the landform separating Pelorus Sound from Kenepuru Sound, the upland forested ridges of this area are largely under DOC management. Upland vegetation communities, including those of the Bobs Knob Scenic Reserve, are nationally significant for plant and animal diversity. A large area of indigenous vegetation extends in places from Bobs Knob to the water's edge and, at the northern side of Kenepuru Sound, at St Omer Bay, Gold Reef Bay, Weka Point and Mills Bay. Distinctive peninsula landforms at Hopai Bay and Kaiaho Point are interesting and highly memorable.

The elevated southern flanks of Kenepuru Sound are also noted for their high associational values, due to the popular Queen Charlotte track extending along this ridge.

Modifications in this ONF include a road to Waitaria Bay (Manaroa Road), tracks (including Queen Charlotte Track), limited vegetation clearance, powerlines, buildings, jetties, moorings and the partial inclusion of a limited number of marine farms.



D- HAVELOCK

<b>Regional Landscape: Inner Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: D – Havelock</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<b>Character Description:</b> <i>This landscape area contains the Pelorus River mouth and estuary and the coastal waters at the head of Pelorus Sound. The area is contained by the vegetated hills associated with Kaiuma, Goat Knob and Mt Rutland to the north, and the more modified flanks of the southern hills. These form the southern backdrop to the settlement of Havelock and its associated port and marina. The coastal waters of Pelorus Sound are defined by prominent vegetated headlands and slopes, such as Mt Cawte in the south and Kaiuma in the north, which, by virtue of their shape, creates smaller stretches of waters, including Mahakipawa Arm to the south and the smaller Kaiuma Bay to the north. Development is concentrated along the lower slopes of much of the land adjacent to Pelorus Sound, including Havelock close to the mouth of the Pelorus River. SH6 passes through Havelock, with smaller roads, including Queen Charlotte Sound Drive extending along the southern coastline of Mahakipawa Arm. Forestry is present in Kaiuma Bay and above Kenepuru Road on the slopes of Mt Oliver and Mt Bolton. Havelock includes a busy industrial port and marina, frequented by forestry and aquaculture vessels, barges and recreational boats. Aquaculture farms are not part of the coastal character of this nested landscape, becoming more prevalent in the adjoining landscape to the north.</i>	
<b>Naturalness:</b> Due to much of the indigenous bush cover on the elevated land in this landscape area being predominantly unmodified, and the high degree of intactness of the Pelorus estuary, these areas are sufficiently natural for the landscape to be considered outstanding.	
<b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Pelorus estuary and associated river deltas, vegetated steep slopes of adjacent ridges and peaks, enclosed and sheltered waters, settlement of Havelock, coastal development defined to shore-level.	
<b>Landscape Values</b>	
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pockets of nationally significant broad leaf/beech forest.</li> <li>- Attractive areas where native bush remains dominant, particularly where it extends from hilltops to water's edge and where forestry and other signs of development are less evident, such as Kaiuma Saddle and Mt Cawte.</li> <li>- Geopreservation site: Pelorus and Kaituna river deltas.</li> <li>- High estuarine values throughout the complex estuarine delta system at the head of Pelorus Sound (Kaituna/Pelorus and Mahakipawa), which supports extensive saltmarsh and invertebrate communities.</li> <li>- Important fresh water wetland communities adjoining estuarine areas.</li> <li>- Havelock estuary (or Pelorus River estuary) holds outstanding levels of natural character due to its distinctive intact remnant alluvial communities.</li> <li>- Kaiuma Saddle and associated ridges and the southern flanks of Mt Cawte hold very high levels of natural character.</li> <li>- Putanui Point and elevated lands around Havelock retain high levels of natural character.</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interesting coastal interface of tidal flats formed by river deltas at Havelock.</li> <li>- Scenic setting of township amongst native bush at water's edge, with boat activity.</li> <li>- Memorable intertidal delta and network of waterways.</li> <li>- The Havelock (Pelorus River estuary) is the largest estuarine area in the Marlborough Sounds. It retains many of its natural qualities.</li> <li>- Putanui Point, with its regenerating lands vegetation cover, is prominent.</li> </ul>
Associative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cluster of early Māori and European archaeological sites in and around Kaiuma Bay.</li> <li>- The Nydia (walking) Track connects Tennyson Inlet with Kaiuma Bay, north of Havelock through mainly forested slopes.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Noted boating area around Havelock with access to waters of western Marlborough Sounds.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	<p>Based on the above values, Havelock estuary, Mt Cawte, Northern Hills and Putanui Point have been identified as ONF's due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values. These ONFs extend into landscape areas B, C and E as well those associated with the Richmond Ranges to the south.</p> <p>The sheltered waters, their tidal influence, and the bustling boating activity around Havelock marina contribute to the aesthetic, shared and recognised, heritage and ecological values of the area. The two river deltas that drain into the Sounds are particularly highly valued as geological features, however they also have high legibility, aesthetic and transient values as the rise and fall of the tide dramatically changes their appearance and that of the wider valley.</p> <p>A Geopreservation Site is present at the Pelorus and Kaituna river deltas, where a complex estuarine delta system also supports important freshwater wetland communities including extensive saltmarsh and invertebrate communities. There are areas of significant broadleaf/beech forest on the upland slopes and an altitudinal sequence from ridge to water's edge are present at Mt Cawte and Kaiuma Saddle.</p> <p>Modifications include roads and tracks, powerlines, limited moorings, dredging of the estuary and evident increased presence of boat traffic.</p>

<b>Regional Landscape: Inner Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: E – Nydia</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<b>Character Description:</b> <i>This landscape area predominantly comprises the mid-sections of Pelorus Sound, which include Hikapu Reach, Nydia Bay and numerous smaller embayments, including Maori Bay, Fairy Bay, Yncyca Bay and North West Bay. This landscape area is clearly defined by the steep and enclosing vegetated hills of Mt Stanley and Devils Staircase in the north, unnamed peaks to the east and Kaiuma Saddle and Opouri Peak to the south and west. The indigenous vegetated northern slopes of Nydia Bay from ridgetop to seafloor are strongly associated with Tennyson Inlet to the immediate north. These slopes retain very high degrees of naturalness with low levels of modification. A mosaic of landuse is evident within the eastern part of this nested landscape, with forestry more prevalent on the slopes of the eastern bays. Access is achieved predominantly by boat. Development is located predominantly on the lower slopes at the head of the embayments, such as at Nydia Bay and Nikau Bay, however some buildings are also evident within the vegetated lower slopes along certain coastlines, such as Yncyca Bay and North West Bay. Aquaculture is located throughout this landscape area, however is typically prevalent along the eastern coastlines, and southern coastline of Nydia Bay. Three farms are evident in Fairy Bay.</i>	
<b>Naturalness:</b> The northern shores of this landscape, along with elevated areas of upland forest retain very high levels of naturalness, sufficiently natural to be considered outstanding. There is a greater level of development apparent on the lower slopes and shoreline to the east.	
<b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Sequence of sheltered, enclosed and tranquil bays and coves, many of which are unmodified, vegetated slopes, notably to northern parts.	
	<b>Landscape Values</b>
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Very high degree of coastal natural character along the majority of the northern coast of Nydia Bay/ Pelorus Sound.</li> <li>- Nationally significant vegetation flanking the northern side of Nydia Bay.</li> <li>- Nydia Bay support some of the largest tracts of lowland coastal forests in Marlborough. Nationally important altitudinal sequences of primary forest from ridgetop to sea floor.</li> <li>- The majority of northern Nydia Bay hold outstanding levels of natural character due to the exceptional tract of unmodified indigenous forest from ridgetops to seafloor.</li> <li>- Extensive upland forest, notably at the ridges and peaks within the eastern part of this landscape.</li> <li>- Much of the forested ridges contain very high levels of natural character due principally to the indigenous, unmodified vegetation.</li> <li>- Very High terrestrial natural character at Yncyca Bay.</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Vegetated northern backdrop ridge from Kaiuma Saddle to the Devil's Staircase.</li> <li>- Parts of the northern shores of Nydia Bay retain highly attractive deep, enclosed and sheltered bays with bush extending to the shoreline.</li> <li>- Integrity of bush throughout northern Nydia is exceptional, especially due to the lack of development and coherency of landscape/seascape catchment.</li> <li>- Nydia Bay has a largely unmodified section of coast from the head of Nydia Bay to Jacobs Bay.</li> <li>- High experiential values due to unmodified vegetation cover.</li> <li>- Impressive slender peninsula of Tawero Point.</li> </ul>
Associative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- High amounts of DOC land, notably along ridges and along northern parts of this landscape area.</li> <li>- The Nydia Track connects Tennyson Inlet with Kaiuma Bay, north of Havelock through mainly forested slopes.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	Based on the above values, the Northern Nydia Bay, Kaiuma Saddle ridges and eastern upper ridges above Nikau and Yncyca Bays have been identified as ONFs due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values. These ONFs

extend into landscape areas C, D, F, G and H as well as into the landscape to the south, associated with the Richmond Ranges.

The northern coastline of Nydia Bay/ Pelorus Sound is relatively intricate with numerous large, deeply indented inlets and prominent headlands. Today, the area's upland forest communities and estuaries are still largely intact. Original forests are featured on lower altitude hillslopes and toe slopes, and coastal forests are largely intact in from Nydia Bay to Fairy Bay and extending beyond the ridge to the north into Tennyson Inlet (Landscape area H). The area features a vegetated southern backdrop from Devils Staircase in the north to Kaiuma Saddle in the south.

The northern waters and hills of Nydia Bay/ Pelorus Sound provides a coherent natural landscape/seascape interface. The areas intertidal/ subtidal areas, its broadleaf/beech forest and altitudinal sequences of primary forest from ridgetop to sea floor is considered a nationally significant broad leaf/beech forest and bird habitat.

The northern waters and hills of Nydia Bay/ Pelorus Sound provide an attractive series of enclosed bays with bush to shoreline. Much of this identified land is managed by DOC and retains high experiential values due to its unmodified vegetation cover. The area is accessed by land via the Nydia Track which connects Tennyson Inlet with Nydia Bay.

Modifications within these ONFs include tracks (the Nydia Track), a small number of buildings (in Nydia Bay, Penguin Bay and Fairy Bay), moorings and jetties. Fairy Bay contains a small number of mussel farms.

<b>Regional Landscape: Inner Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: F – Beatrix/ Crail</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<p><b>Character Description:</b> <i>This landscape area encompasses the sheltered and indented embayments of Beatrix Bay, Crail Bay and Clova Bay. The steep and vegetated slopes of Mt Stokes frame the eastern part of this landscape, whilst the vegetated peninsulas provide enclosure to the west. Aquaculture is evident along much of the shoreline with land development more prevalent along the lower slopes within the eastern and southern parts of this landscape. The western extent of this nested landscape marks the gateway from Pelorus into Tawhitinui Reach. To the north, a very narrow low isthmus separates Beatrix Bay from Forsyth Bay. Land development is typically a mosaic of activities, including pastoral grazing, commercial forestry, roads, powerlines and houses. A number of slender peninsulas extend from the east into the coastal waters assisting to partly define embayments and include Te Puraka Point (defining broadly the southern extents of Beatrix Bay) and the peninsulas associated with Hopai Bay (defining the northern parts of Crail Bay). Large tracts of indigenous vegetation are present within this landscape area, however mostly related to more elevated areas such as the slopes of Mt Stokes. Indigenous vegetation is also apparent in western parts of Beatrix Bay where it extends from the ridge to the coastline.</i></p>	
<p><b>Naturalness:</b> The eastern elevated slopes and parts of the western peninsulas that enclose this landscape area retain very high levels of naturalness, despite the modification that is apparent, and are sufficiently natural to be considered outstanding. The waters, due to the high level of aquaculture activity, retain lower levels of naturalness, however, higher levels of naturalness are noted within the centre of bays, away from aquaculture.</p>	
<p><b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Steep vegetated slopes of Mt Stokes, enclosing vegetated peninsulas to the west, slender peninsulas (Te Puraka Point and at Hopai Bay), aquaculture present along much of the shoreline.</p>	
<b>Landscape Values</b>	
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mt Stokes is the highest peak and one of the most dominant landforms in the Marlborough Sounds, reaching 1,203m asl</li> <li>- The slopes of Mt Stokes rise steeply, immediately from sea level.</li> <li>- Original forest covers most of the upper slopes of Mt Stokes and its summit supports the only occurrence of subalpine vegetation in the Marlborough Sounds.</li> <li>- The indigenous vegetation cover is internationally significant as it supports areas of alpine to coast vegetation sequences.</li> <li>- The natural biodiversity is high due to the range of altitude, landform and habitat.</li> <li>- Mt Stokes and its associated connecting peaks and ridges hold outstanding levels of natural character due to regenerating bush and low modification. Remaining areas retain high and very high levels of natural character.</li> <li>- Bobs Knob Scenic Reserve – nationally significant for plant and animal diversity (near Crail Bay).</li> <li>- Nationally threatened <i>Powelliphanta hochstetteri</i> obscura (NZ native giant snail) on western ridge of Pelorus Sound.</li> <li>- Extensive upland forest, notably at the ridges and peaks.</li> <li>- Much of the forested ridges contain very high levels of natural character due principally to the indigenous, unmodified vegetation.</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Impressive forested peak and ridges of Mt Stokes rising above Clova Bay and Mt Kiwi.</li> <li>- The area is particularly memorable where the level of modification is least.</li> <li>- The mountain top and ridges define and frame the associated bays and exhibit very high remote and experiential values.</li> <li>- Ridge dividing Kenepuru and Pelorus Sounds provides a vegetated backdrop to both waterbodies providing high levels of naturalness.</li> <li>- Sheltered embayments.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interesting slender peninsula landform at Hopai Bay and Te Puraka Point.</li> <li>- Slender vegetated peninsula of Whakamawahi Point encloses Beatrix Bay to the west.</li> </ul>
Associative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DOC reserve extends along the ridges of much of this area.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	<p>Based on the above values, the forested slopes and ridges associated with Mt Stokes and around Crail Bay, and the distinctive landforms of Te Puraka Point, Whakamawahi Point, and Hopai Bay peninsula have been identified as ONFs due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values. These ONFs extend into landscape areas C, E and G and 05 and 07.</p> <p>Mt Stokes is one of the most dominant landforms in the Marlborough Sounds, with upland ridge crests and summits reaching 1,203m asl. A number of watercourses that extend from this central massif have long, high gradients in which the water quality is amongst the highest in the Sounds.</p> <p>Original forest covers much of the area, which is also home to the only occurrence of subalpine vegetation in the Sounds. Alpine to coast vegetation sequences descend from the summit in several locations, including at Beatrix Bay at Te Puraka Point. There are also numerous areas of regenerating native bush within lower parts of Beatrix Bay. Natural biodiversity is high due to the range of altitude, landform and habitat types, especially enhanced by subalpine communities. This is part of the larger Mt Stokes area managed by the Department of Conservation and is identified as having internationally significant ecological values.</p> <p>Extending from the peaks and ridges of Mt Stokes, the upland forested landform separating Crail and Clova Bays from Kenepuru Sound, is under DOC management. Upland vegetation communities, including those of the Bobs Knob Scenic Reserve at the south-eastern head of Crail Bay, are nationally significant for plant and animal diversity. A large area of indigenous vegetation extends in places from Bobs Knob to the water's edge and into adjacent Kenepuru Sound landscape to the south.</p> <p>The distinctive peninsula landforms at Hopai Bay, Whakamawahi Point and Te Puraka Point are interesting and highly memorable.</p> <p>Modifications include tracks and the partial inclusion of a limited number of marine farms (at Te Puraka Point).</p>

G- TAWHITINUI

<b>Regional Landscape: Inner Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: G – Tawhitinui</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<b>Character Description:</b> <i>This landscape area encompasses the broad waters of Tawhitinui Reach and the numerous smaller embayments of Kauauroa Bay and Tawhitinui Bay to the east and the frequent small bays and inlets associated with Fitzroy Bay and Hallam Cove to the west. Maud Island is located centrally, partly defining the northern part of this landscape from the waters of Waitata Reach. The eastern part of this landscape is defined by the slender peninsulas of Tawero Point and Whakamawahi Point. This landscape area retains a more open character than other Inner Sounds landscapes due to the broader waters of the Reach (up to 3.5km from Cregoe Point to Picnic Bay) and the generally lower elevated land that contains this area. Much of this area is actively regenerating and retains advanced stands of indigenous bush, including Kaurauoa Bay, Tawhitinui Bay and much of Fitzroy Bay. The southern part of this landscape retains an indented coastline and is typically cleared land for pastoral grazing, although patches of native bush are apparent. Aquaculture is present along much of the shoreline, with notable exceptions being around Maud Island, Savill Bay and parts of Garne Bay, Hallam Cove, Kauauroa and Tawhitinui Bays.</i>	
<b>Naturalness:</b> Despite the modification apparent, largely in the form of cleared grazing land to the south, this nested landscape retains large areas with a high level of naturalness, sufficiently natural to be considered outstanding.	
<b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Maud Island, slender peninsulas of Tawero Point, Whakamawahi Point and Harter Point on Maud Island, open broad waters of Tawhitinui Reach, more intimate vegetated enclosed bays of Fitzroy Bay and Kauauroa Bay and Tawhitinui Bay.	
	<b>Landscape Values</b>
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mt Shewell is nationally significant for <i>Powelliphanta hochstetteri</i> obscura (New Zealand giant snail) and diverse plant species.</li> <li>- Maud Island is internationally significant, as a predator-free island sanctuary, harbouring nationally threatened species of invertebrates, birdlife and the entire population of the Maud Island frog.</li> <li>- Fitzroy Bay - nationally significant beech forest/lowland/coastal broad leaf and internationally significant waters.</li> <li>- Largely intact podocarp-broadleaf forest in Kauauroa Bay (eastern Tawhitinui Reach).</li> <li>- Maud Island largely cloaked in regenerating shrubland and forest.</li> <li>- Remnant indigenous forest on the elevated slopes of Mt Shewell and Mt Drew.</li> <li>- Maud Island is a visually striking, unique landform and holds outstanding natural character.</li> <li>- Fitzroy Bay, Mt Shewell and parts of Kauauroa Bay hold very high levels of natural character due to the indigenous bush cover. The remaining areas hold high levels of natural character.</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Impressive peak and forested ridge of Mt Shewell as it appears from the central waters of Tawhitinui Reach.</li> <li>- Interesting distinct pyramidal form of Maud Island.</li> <li>- Low levels of modification.</li> <li>- Road to Admiralty Bay/French Pass passes through the bush above Fitzroy Bay – contributing to the scenic journey.</li> <li>- Frequent, intimate vegetated bays with sheltered waters, notably Fitzroy Bay/ Savill Bay/ Garne Bay/ Waiona Bay and Kauauroa Bay.</li> <li>- Area typified by slender peninsulas (notably Tawero and Whakamawahi Points) and broad bays.</li> </ul>
Associative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Historic gun emplacement on Maud Island.</li> <li>- Peninsulas of Tawero Point and Whakamawahi Point act as gateway features to central Pelorus Sound.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	Based on the above values, Maud Island, Mt Shewell, Fitzroy Bay and Eastern Tawhitinui Reach (including Kauauroa Bay and the peninsulas of

Tawero Point and Whakamawahi Point), have been identified as ONFs due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values. These ONFs extend into landscape areas E, F and H as well as 09, 10 and 12.

The impressive peak of Mt Shewell, the sheltered waters of Apuau Channel and Kauauroa Bay and the intimate coves and inlets of this coastline are highly legible landscape features.

Remnant indigenous forests occur on the more elevated slopes in the area, including Mt Shewell, the slopes above Fitzroy Bay, parts of Kauauroa Bay and the western slopes of Waiona Bay. Mt Shewell Scenic Reserve features nationally significant, diverse plant species.

Maud Island is an important island sanctuary containing nationally threatened species. The island landform provides a distinctive pyramidal skyline linking to the slender neck of Harter Point. Most of the Island is cloaked in regenerating shrubland and forest.

Māori settlement and use of the resources in this part of the outer Sounds is evident in the intense clusters of archaeological remains.

Modifications include vegetation clearance, forestry and tracks on Maud Island, buildings, jetties, tracks, and limited moorings adjacent to marine farms around Tawhitinui Reach.



H- TENNYSON

<b>Regional Landscape: Inner Marlborough Sounds</b>	
<b>District Landscape: H – Tennyson</b>	
<b>Method of identification:</b> Visual Catchment	
<b>Character Description:</b> <i>This landscape area is focussed on the enclosed waters of Tennyson Inlet. The Inlet comprises numerous smaller bays and islands and represents the only Inner Sounds catchment where the majority of the landscape is unmodified and indigenous bush is evident from shore to peak. Steep vegetated slopes and ridges define this landscape area, with Mt Stanley to the east, Lookout Peak and Editor Hill to the south and Matapehe and Mt McLaren to the west. The vegetated islands of Tarakaipa, Awaiti and Tawhitinui and headland of Camel Point, broadly define the northern waters. Forestry is limited to the head of Tennyson Inlet and Elaine Bay. Small areas of settlement are apparent at Penzance Bay, Duncan Bay and Elaine Bay. Tennyson Inlet Road provides access via Opouri Saddle while Elaine Bay is accessed via the Croisilles – French Pass Road. Modification is concentrated at these small settlements and particularly around Elaine Bay to the north-west. Aquaculture is limited immediately south of Camel Point.</i>	
<b>Naturalness:</b> This landscape retains very high levels of naturalness, sufficient to be considered outstanding. This is largely due to its low level of development, and where modification is apparent, it tends to be concentrated and localised.	
<b>Features of this landscape include:</b> Steep vegetated slopes, tranquil and sheltered waters, Tarakaipa, Awaiti and Tawhitinui islands, indented smaller embayments, the small settlements of Penzance Bay, Duncan Bay and Elaine Bay.	
<b>Landscape Values</b>	
Biophysical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nationally significant intertidal and subtidal areas which support important wetlands habitat.</li> <li>- Nationally significant broad leaf/beech forest and bird habitat.</li> <li>- Very high degree of coastal natural character along the majority of Tennyson Inlet.</li> <li>- Nationally threatened plants on Tennyson Inlet islands.</li> <li>- Tennyson Inlet supports some of the largest tracts of lowland coastal forests in Marlborough. Nationally important altitudinal sequences of primary forest from ridgetop to sea floor.</li> <li>- The majority of Tennyson Inlet and northern Nydia Bay hold outstanding levels of natural character due to the exceptional tract of unmodified indigenous forest from ridgetops to seafloor.</li> </ul>
Sensory/ Perceptual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Vegetated southern backdrop ridge from Nydia Saddle to Mt McLaren.</li> <li>- Tennyson Inlet is an attractive deep, enclosed bay with bush to shoreline and frequent, intimate bays with sheltered waters.</li> <li>- Integrity of bush throughout Tennyson catchment – very low levels of development and coherency of landscape/seascape catchment.</li> <li>- Scenic road journey over Opouri Saddle into Tennyson Inlet.</li> <li>- High experiential values due to unmodified vegetation cover.</li> </ul>
Associative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Almost entire Tennyson catchment is DOC land.</li> <li>- The Nydia Track connects Tennyson Inlet with Kaiuma Bay, north of Havelock through mainly forested slopes.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	<p>Based on the above values, Tennyson Inlet has been identified as an ONL due to its exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values. This ONL extends south and eastwards into landscape area E and north and westwards into landscape area 13. This ONL also extends to the south into the Richmond Range.</p> <p>The coastline is moderately dissected with numerous large, deeply indented inlets between large and prominent headlands.</p> <p>Today, the area's upland forest communities and estuaries are still largely intact. Original forests are featured on lower altitude hillslopes and toe slopes, and coastal forests are largely intact. The area features a vegetated</p>

southern backdrop from Mt McLaren in the west to Nydia Saddle in the east.

The inlet's intertidal/ subtidal areas, its broadleaf/beech forest and altitudinal sequences of primary forest from ridgetop to sea floor are considered a nationally significant broad leaf/beech forest and bird habitat. Nationally threatened plants are also present on Tennyson Inlet island's and the intertidal and subtidal areas of wetland habitat at Tennyson Inlet are also considered nationally significant.

Tennyson Inlet is an attractive deep, enclosed bay with bush to shoreline and frequent, intimate bays with sheltered waters and provides a coherent natural landscape/seascape interface.

Almost the entire Tennyson Inlet catchment is DOC land and has high experiential values due to unmodified vegetation cover. The area is accessed by land via the scenic road journey over Opouri Saddle into Tennyson Inlet or via the Nydia Track which connects Tennyson Inlet with Nydia Bay.

Modifications include vegetation clearance and pasture, roads, buildings, power lines, moorings and jetties. Duncan Bay, Penzance Bay, and Elaine Bay settlements are excluded. The Nydia Track connects Nydia Bay to Tennyson Inlet via the Nydia Saddle.

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**Legend**

- ONF and ONL
- Coastal Environment Boundary
- Inner Outer Sounds Landscapes
- Marlborough Sounds Landscapes

**Inner Sounds Landscapes (A-H)**

- A - Inner Queen Charlotte Sounds
- B - Grove Arm
- C - Kenepuru Sound
- D - Havelock
- E - Nydia
- F - Beatrix/Craik
- G - Tawhitinui
- H - Tennyson

**Outer Sounds Landscapes (01-13)**

- 01 - Robertson
- 02 - Port Underwood
- 03 - Exposed Eastern Coastline
- 04 - Tory Channel
- 05 - Outer Queen Charlotte Sounds
- 06 - Port Gore
- 07 - Forsyth
- 08 - Cook Strait
- 09 - Waitata
- 10 - Admiralty
- 11 - Northern D'Urville
- 12 - Eastern Tasman
- 13 - Croisilles

