

Appendix 1

Values contributing to areas with outstanding natural features and landscapes and areas with high amenity value

Abbreviations:

DOC – Department of Conservation

ONL – Outstanding natural landscape

ONF – Outstanding natural feature

Areas with outstanding landscape values

Marlborough Sounds Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes

1. Outer Sounds Landscape	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Northernmost part of the highly legible drowned narrow ridge system, noticeably at Cape Jackson. - Numerous Geopreservation Sites of National and Regional Importance, including the submerged ridgeline under French Pass. - Nationally significant seascape (Cook Strait). - Swirling high flow currents of French Pass, Allen Strait, and Tory Channel. - Salt tolerant low growing herb and shrub species. - Island communities nationally and internationally important with distinct rare biotic assemblages (i.e. Motuara, Brothers and White Rocks, Long Island Kokomohua). - Many predator-free island sanctuaries (Motuara Island, Blumine Island and Stephens Island/Takapourewa Island). - Extensive areas of vegetated elevated slopes, notably of D'Urville, Mt Stokes, Mt Furneaux, Bobs Peak. - Extensive areas of modified grasslands. - Subalpine vegetation of Mt Stokes. - Nationally significant broadleaf species and nationally significant endemic cliff vegetation on Arapawa Island.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expansive views of the open sea broken up by the outer peninsulas, rocky outcrops, steep exposed seacliffs and islands. - Exposed, remote and rugged seascape. - All islands have very low modification levels. - High legibility and visual coherency of the grasslands on the drowned ridge coastline. - High sensory values associated with the wild windswept coast and high winds, rough sea, high-energy waves and associated sea spray. - Very high levels of perceived naturalness due to limited modification. - Impressive and weathered coastal cliffs and rocky windswept islands. - Prevalent high winds from Cook Strait and extreme weather conditions providing highly transient conditions.

1. Outer Sounds Landscape	
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rich in past Māori and European cultural use including prehistoric quarries and copper mines, whaling and pa sites. - Strong tangata whenua association and spiritual affinity with outer Sounds seascape and coastline. Many linked to Kupe's visit. - Noted 'entrance points' into Tory Channel, Queen Charlotte Sound and Pelorus Sound. - Strong recreational areas, including walking, boating, fishing and diving. - Noted DOC conservation areas.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, the Outer Sounds Landscape 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>

2. D'Urville Island/Rangitoto Ki Te Tonga Including French Pass	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The island has a unique ultramafic 'mineral belt' that traverses the length of the island. As a result of this mineral belt, unique vegetation flourishes. - Geopreservation sites include: D'Urville Island copper mines; prehistoric argillite quarries; Paddock Rocks; Greville Harbour sand dunes and coastal features; Greville Harbour boulder spit; French Pass submerged ridgeline and equalising waters; Mt. Ears prehistoric argillite quarry and Cape Stephens wind-funnelled sand dune. - 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. - 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. - Very strong currents occur in the vicinity of French Pass with dangerous eddies and undercurrents with strong tidal mixing. - There are abundant populations of native fish found around the island's waters and indented coves and harbours. - There are also native freshwater fish within D'Urville Island's freshwater ecosystems. - Minimal land and marine development with highly natural coastline. - French Pass contains a largely unmodified near-shore coastal marine environment with very sheltered shores. - High flow habitats are associated with Current Basin and French Pass. - Rocky outcrops are a feature of south western D'Urville Island. - 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.

2. D'Urville Island/Rangitoto Ki Te Tonga Including French Pass	
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attractive harbours with sheltered intimate bays and calm waters. - Many visually interesting landforms such as D'Urville Peninsula and the waters at French Pass. - Key views to narrow passage and currents at French Pass from Channel and Collinet Points. - Exposed and dramatic western coastline including long-distance seascape views to adjacent islands. - The waters of French Pass are visually dramatic due to their strong current movement. - The submerged ridge at French Pass forms a distinctive reef. - Minimal land and marine development with highly natural coastline. High experiential values associated with remoteness and lack of modification.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - French connection - named after French Admiral Dumont D'Urville who sailed the <i>Astrolabe</i> through French Pass and just barely managed to get through. - Large proportion of DOC land. - Eco-tourism destination. - Historic development of argillite quarries to extract argillite for cutting tools and the importance of that resource to local tribal identity. - Early copper mines. - Early Māori settlement and activities. - Early European whaling and farming activities. - Heritage New Zealand plaque commemorates Captain Cook's last anchorage point in New Zealand in Whareata Bay.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, all of D'Urville Island / Rangitoto Ki Te Tonga including French Pass have been identified as ONFs within the Outer Sounds ONL due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</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 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.</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, enjoyed by the Island's few residents and its visitors, who are drawn to its remote and highly natural setting.</p> <p>Modifications include the following: Sounds Residential zoning at Kapowai Bay and Whareata Bay; buildings; access roads; power lines; jetties; forestry; and vegetation clearance. Moorings are scattered along the bays within the coastal area, there are marine farms within Catherine Cove and a lighthouse within Middle Bank Reef, French Pass. The French Pass settlement is excluded.</p>

3. Rangitoto Islands, Stephens Island and Trio Islands	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Highly exposed islands, which have steep and exposed sea cliffs and wind-swept rocky coastlines. - 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. - Stephens Island is predator-free. - Jag Rocks/Nga Kiore support some of the largest habitats for the brachiopod community and is of national significance. - The isolated Trio Islands are habitat for tuatara, king shag and are also predator-free. - All islands hold very low level of modification. - Islands contain endemic herbfields and tussock communities. - All islands and their associated coastal waters harbour unique species and hold outstanding levels of natural character.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spectacular rugged coastal cliff features on Rangitoto and Stephens Islands. - 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. - Strong currents sweep through Stephens Passage. - Low modification of water environments. - Sense of remoteness.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A radar station was established on Stephens Island during World War Two. - Diving and fishing.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, the Rangitoto Islands, Stephens Island, Trio Islands and Jag Rocks have been identified as ONF's within the Outer Sounds ONL due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>These isolated 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.</p> <p>Sea conditions range from very exposed around northwestern 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.</p> <p>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 New Zealand brachiopod communities, which are of national significance. Spectacular cliff formations are also clearly legible on the Rangitoto and Stephens Islands.</p> <p>Modifications (mostly on Stephens Island) include: some vegetation clearance; buildings; a lighthouse on Stephens Island; and occasional tracks and moorings.</p>

4. Chetwode Islands, Titi Island and Sentinel Rock	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Highly exposed islands, which hold steep and exposed sea cliffs and wind-swept rocky coastlines. - 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. - Titi Island and Sentinel Rock are also of national significance due to their predator-free status. - All islands hold very low level of modification. - The islands contain endemic shrublands, herbfields and tussockland communities. - All islands and their associated coastal waters harbour unique species and support no or very low levels of modification. All hold outstanding levels of natural character.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Many spectacular rock stacks are present at the southern end of the Chetwode Islands. - 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. - Rugged and exposed in appearance.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A number of Māori pits, middens and terraces are located on the Chetwode Islands.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, the Chetwode Islands, Titi Island and Sentinel Rock have been identified as ONF's within the Outer Sounds ONL, due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Both the Chetwodes and Titi Island are Department of Conservation Nature Reserves, are both of national significance and are 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.</p> <p>Modifications include a lighthouse at Ninepin Rock (Chetwode Islands).</p>

5. Port Ligar, Forsyth Island and Kaitira Headland	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where the waters of exposed Cook Strait and more sheltered Pelorus Sound meet. - 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. - Bird Island is nationally significant for reef heron breeding. - 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.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rugged, exposed outer coastal slopes and narrow isthmus landform at Port Ligar. - Interesting landform of Duffers Reef and the neck at the head of Forsyth Bay. - Dramatic pinch point at Allen Strait in to Forsyth Bay.

5. Port Ligar, Forsyth Island and Kaitira Headland	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visually dramatic headland of Clay Point.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recognised entry/exit point of Pelorus Sound between Kaitira (East Entry Point) and Te Akaroa (West Entry Point). - Evidence of early Māori settlement clustered around Port Ligar and Orchard Bay including a Pa. - Evidence of early European settlement at Port Ligar. - Te Kopi and Sir Bernard Fergusson Scenic Reserves in Waterfall Bay, Port Ligar, Bulwer Scenic Reserve in Waitata Bay. - Historic gun emplacement at Post Office Point on the Kaitira headland. - Private Forsyth Island is a destination for travellers.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, Port Ligar, Forsyth Island, the waters between Te Akaroa and the Kaitira headland and Bird Island have been identified as ONF's due to their exceptional biophysical and associative and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>The rugged, exposed outer coastal slopes and peninsulas give way to the more sheltered embayments of Port Ligar and Forsyth Bay at the entry to Pelorus Sound. Identifiable features include the rugged, narrow isthmus landform at Port Ligar, the interesting landform of Duffers Reef, a chain of small islands and stacks off the north-western tip of Forsyth Island and the neck at the head of Forsyth Bay. The narrow pinch point of Allen Strait, between southern Forsyth Island and the mainland, forms a visually enclosing entrance into Forsyth Bay.</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>Duffers Reef is a nationally significant nesting area for king shags. Areas within Forsyth Bay and Waitata Reach, including Port Ligar have also been identified as being of national significance for king shag feeding and breeding habitat. Bird Island is nationally significant for reef heron breeding.</p> <p>Modifications include: moorings; marine farms adjacent to the Port Ligar headland, extending to Makata Rock; vegetation clearance; forestry; roads and tracks; jetties; buildings; and power lines.</p>

6 Maud Island, Mt. Shewell, Fitzroy Bay and Eastern Tawhitinui Reach	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mt. Shewell is nationally significant for <i>Powelliphanta hochstetteri obscura</i> (New Zealand giant snail) and diverse plant species. - 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. - Fitzroy Bay - nationally significant beech forest/lowland/coastal broad leaf and internationally significant waters. - Largely intact podocarp-broadleaf forest in Kauauroa Bay (eastern Tawhitinui Reach). - Maud Island largely cloaked in regenerating shrubland and forest. - Remnant indigenous forest on the elevated slopes of Mt Drew. - Maud Island is a visually striking, unique landform and holds outstanding natural character. - 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

6 Maud Island, Mt. Shewell, Fitzroy Bay and Eastern Tawhitinui Reach	
	natural character.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impressive peak of Mt Shewell at the head of Admiralty Bay. - Interesting distinct pyramidal form of Maud Island. - Low levels of modification. - Road to Admiralty Bay/French Pass passes through the bush above Fitzroy Bay – contributing to the scenic journey. - Frequent, intimate bays with sheltered waters, notably Fitzroy Bay/Savill Bay/Garne Bay/Waiona Bay and Kauauroa Bay. - Area typified by slender peninsulas (notably Tawero and Whakamawahi Points) and broad bays. - Visually impressive Yellow Cliffs at the southern head of Waitata Bay.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Historic gun emplacement on Maud Island. - Peninsulas of Tawero Point and Whakamawahi Point act as gateway features to central Pelorus Sound.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, Maud Island, Mt Shewell, Fitzroy Bay and Eastern Tawhitinui Reach, have been identified as ONF's due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</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 Shewell, 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.Shewell) and the western slopes of Waiona Bay and around 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.</p> <p>Modifications include: vegetation clearance; forestry and tracks on Maud Island; buildings; jetties; tracks; and limited moorings adjacent to marine farms around Tawhitinui Reach.</p>

7. Islands of Croisilles Harbour and Northern Coastline	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Geopreservation site: Matarau Point beach ridges. - Geopreservation site: Pakiaka Point boulder bank and lagoon. - Nationally significant ecological values on Croisilles Islands (Motuanauru, Moukirikiri and Otuhaereroa Islands). - Nationally significant ecological values of the cusped forelands at Matarau Point. - Nationally significant ecological values of island communities, with distinct and rare biotic assemblages. - 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.

7. Islands of Croisilles Harbour and Northern Coastline	
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scenic bush pockets and key viewpoints to D'Urville Island and French Pass. - Prominent/distinctive coastal ridgelines to Askews Hill. - Impressive sequence of rugged, exposed bays and open waters along northern coastline. - High levels of naturalness due to limited modification. - Cape Soucis/Raetihi and Askews Hill, including the water, form the impressive entrance to Croisilles Harbour.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Numerous Māori archaeological sites, notably around the islands.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, Islands of Croisilles Harbour and Northern Coastline have been identified as ONF's due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</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>At the outer, rugged and exposed coastline, prominent and distinctive costal ridgelines extend 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.</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 herffield and salt marsh communities, extensive sand/mud flat habitats and sinuous tidal channels.</p> <p>The cusplate 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>Modifications include: tracks and power lines; cleared vegetation and pasture; forestry; and buildings.</p>
8. Whangarae Inlet and Okiwi Bay	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Geopreservation site: Whangarae Bay estuary and sand pits. - Nationally significant ecological values in Whangarae Bay associated with the relatively unmodified estuarine habitat. - The Whangarae Estuary is the only spit-formed estuary in the Marlborough Sounds. - Whangarae Bay, Cape Soucis/Raetihi and the elevated parts of Croisilles Hill, Elliott 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.

8. Whangarae Inlet and Okiwi Bay	
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impressive sequence of rugged, exposed bays. - Impressive enclosing headlands of Symonds Hill and Goat Hill to Okiwi Bay. - Visually dramatic headland of Cape Soucis/Raetihi demarcates south-western boundary between Marlborough and Nelson. - High levels of naturalness due to limited modification.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sheltered bay notable for holiday and recreational pursuits.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, Whangarae Inlet and Okiwi Bay have been identified as ONF's due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>The southern shores of Croisilles Harbour have 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>The Okiwi Bay bach settlement is the main area of settlement in Croisilles Harbour, and popular as a haven for recreational activities including diving, watersports and fishing in the sheltered waters of the harbour and beyond.</p> <p>The forested ridges of the northern Rai River catchment form a mountainous fringe to this area, extending southwards from the 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> <p>Modifications include: cleared vegetation; tracks; forestry; roads; buildings; a jetty; marine farms; and limited moorings.</p>

9. Tennyson Inlet and Northern Nydia Bay	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nationally significant intertidal and subtidal areas - wetlands habitat. - Nationally significant broad leaf/beech forest and bird habitat. - Very high degree of coastal natural character along the majority of Tennyson Inlet. - Nationally significant vegetation flanking the northern side of Nydia Bay. - Nationally threatened plants on Tennyson Inlet islands (Tawhitinui Island, Awaiti Island and Tarakapia Island). - Tennyson Inlet and 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. - 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.

9. Tennyson Inlet and Northern Nydia Bay	
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vegetated southern backdrop ridge from Kaiuma Saddle to Mt. McLaren. - Tennyson Inlet is an attractive deep, enclosed bay with bush to shoreline and frequent, intimate bays with sheltered waters. - Integrity of bush throughout Tennyson catchment – lack of development and coherency of landscape/seascape catchment. - Scenic road journey over Opouri Saddle into Tennyson Inlet. - Nydia Bay has a largely unmodified section of coast from the head of Nydia Bay to Jacobs Bay. - High experiential values due to unmodified vegetation cover.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Almost entire Tennyson catchment is DOC land. - 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. - The Nydia Track connects Tennyson Inlet with Kaiuma Bay, north of Havelock through mainly forested slopes.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, Tennyson Inlet and Northern Nydia Bay have been identified as an ONF's due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>The coastline is moderately dissected with numerous large, deeply indented inlets such as Tennyson Inlet and Nydia Bay between large 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 Tennyson Inlet, and from Nydia Bay to Fairy Bay. The area features a vegetated southern backdrop from Mt. McLaren in the west to Kaiuma Saddle in the east. Tennyson Inlet provides a coherent natural landscape/seascape interface. 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 islands and the intertidal and subtidal areas of wetland habitat at Tennyson Inlet are also considered nationally significant.</p> <p>Tennyson Inlet is an attractive deep, enclosed bay with bush to shoreline and frequent, intimate bays with sheltered waters. Almost the entire Tennyson Inlet catchment is DOC land and has high experiential values due to unmodified vegetation cover. Although largely unmodified, 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.</p> <p>Modifications include: vegetation clearance and pasture; roads; buildings; power lines; and moorings and jetties. The Duncan Bay and Penzance Bay settlements are excluded.</p>

10. Havelock (Pelorus) Estuary, Mt Cawte and Northern Hills	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pockets of nationally significant broad leaf/beech forest. - 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 Mount Cawte. - Geopreservation site: Pelorus and Kaituna river deltas. - 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.

10. Havelock (Pelorus) Estuary, Mt Cawte and Northern Hills	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Important fresh water wetland communities adjoining estuarine areas. - Havelock estuary (or Pelorus River estuary) holds outstanding levels of natural character due to its distinctive intact remnant alluvial communities. Kaiuma Saddle and associated ridges and the southern flanks of Mt. Cawte hold very high levels of natural character. Putanui Point and elevated lands around Havelock retain high levels of natural character.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interesting coastal interface of tidal flats formed by river deltas at Havelock. - Scenic setting of township amongst native bush at water's edge, with boat activity. - Memorable intertidal delta and network of waterways. - The Havelock (Pelorus River estuary) is the largest estuarine area in the Marlborough Sounds. It retains many of its natural qualities. - Putanui Point, with its regenerating lands vegetation cover, is prominent.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cluster of early Māori and European archaeological sites in and around Kaiuma Bay. - The Nydia (walking) Track connects Tennyson Inlet with Kaiuma Bay, north of Havelock through mainly forested slopes. - Noted boating area around Havelock with access to waters of western Marlborough Sounds.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, Havelock estuary, Mt Cawte and Northern Hills have been identified as ONF's due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>The sheltered waters, their tidal influence, and the bustling boating activity around Havelock 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 is present at Mt Cawte and Kaiuma Saddle.</p> <p>Modifications include: roads and tracks; power lines; limited moorings; dredging of Havelock Estuary; and increased presence of boat traffic.</p>

11. Forested Ridges around Crail Bay	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bobs Knob Scenic Reserve – nationally significant for plant and animal diversity (near Crail Bay). - Nationally threatened <i>Powelliphanta hochstetteri obscura</i> (New Zealand native giant snail) on western ridge of Pelorus Sound. - Extensive upland forest, notably at the ridges and peaks. - Much of the forested ridges contain very high levels of natural character due principally to the indigenous, unmodified vegetation. - Very high terrestrial natural character at Yncyca Bay.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ridge dividing Kenepuru and Pelorus Sounds provides a vegetated backdrop to both waterbodies providing high levels of naturalness. - Several interesting peninsula landforms, including Hopai Bay, Kaiaho Point and the indented peninsula around St. Omer, Gold Reef Bay and Weka Point. Unmodified

11. Forested Ridges around Crail Bay	
	and slender Ouokaha Island extends off Hopai Peninsula and acts as a feature of this part of the bay.
Associative Values	- DOC reserve extends along the ridges of much of this area.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, the forested ridges around Crail Bay have been identified as ONF's due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>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 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, 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.</p> <p>Modifications include: road (Kenepuru) and tracks; vegetation clearance; forestry; power lines; buildings; jetties and moorings; and the partial inclusion of a limited number of marine farms.</p>

12. Cape Jackson, Cape Lambert and Alligator Head	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Geopreservation site: Cape Jackson drowned ridge crest. - Cape Lambert headland vegetation, exceptional biodiversity on both Cape Lambert and Cape Jackson. - Steep eroded cliffs and rocky shores, dominated by high energy waves define this exposed landscape. - Cape Jackson, Cape Lambert and the interconnecting outer waters hold outstanding levels of natural character.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cape Jackson is a superb example of a drowned ridge crest. - Impressive ridgeline of the forested high peaks above Guards Bay and Port Gore, leading to Mount Stokes. - 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. - Largely unmodified coast. - Cape Jackson marks the western entrance to Queen Charlotte Sound. The lighthouse is very memorable and used as a reference point. - High experiential values, which are due to remote and expansive seascape vistas of a wild and exposed nature. - The darkness of the night sky adds to the sense of remoteness.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Popular areas for open ocean fishing. - Headlands act as navigational landmarks for boaties.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, Cape Jackson, Cape Lambert and Alligator Head have been identified as ONF's due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</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</p>

12. Cape Jackson, Cape Lambert and Alligator Head	
	<p>bluffs, headlands and reefs. Cape Jackson, Cape Lambert and Alligator Head retain wild and rugged forms that are extremely legible, which assists in defining the two outer Sounds bays of Port Gore and Waitui Bay. 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 Mount Stokes, a prominent feature to this ONF. Due to the factors listed above, the outer peninsulas hold very high experiential and associative values.</p> <p>Modifications include: a lighthouse (Cape Jackson); vegetation clearance; tracks; power lines; buildings; and moorings. There are marine farms in Pig Bay. A small man-made breakwater is located at Anakakata Bay, south of Cape Jackson.</p>

13. Mt. Stokes and surrounds	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The highest peak and one of the most dominant landforms in the Marlborough Sounds, reaching 1,203metres a.s.l. - The slopes of Mt Stokes rises steeply, right from sea level. - 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. - The indigenous vegetation cover is internationally significant as it supports areas of alpine to coast vegetation sequences. - The natural biodiversity is high due to the range of altitude, landform and habitat. - Regionally outstanding primary podocarp-broadleaf forest between Ship Cove and Resolution Bay. - 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. - Mt. Furneaux is nationally significant for its podocarp/broad leaved forest.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impressive forested peak and ridges of Mt. Stokes rising above Endeavour Inlet. - The area straddles the inner and outer Sounds where extreme weather can also contribute to transitory and experiential values. - The area is particularly memorable where the level of modification is least. - The mountain top and ridges define and frame the associated bays and exhibit very high remote and experiential values.

<p>Associative Values</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ship Cove is described by DOC as an 'icon' site, where explorer James Cook once landed. - 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. - Ship Cove is generally known as the start of the Queen Charlotte Track. - The sunken Mikhail Lermontov in Port Gore is one of the world's top wreck dives at 37m deep.
<p>Overview</p>	<p>Based on the above values, Mt Stokes and Surrounds have been identified as ONF's due to the 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 metres a.s.l. 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 Titirangi Bay, Beatrix Bay at Te Puraka Point, Ship Cove, Port Gore and Endeavour Inlet. There are also numerous areas of regenerating native bush within lower parts of Port Gore, Guards Bay, Anakoha Bay and 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>The area straddles the inner and outer Sounds, where extreme weather can also play an important aspect in the area's experiential values. The embayments encircling the central peak of Mt Stokes include some of the most recognisable areas in the Sounds, including Ship Cove, Endeavour Inlet and Port Gore. The impressive peaks and connecting ridges define and frame the bays and seascapes within this ONF and, due to their lack of modification, the area retains very high remote and experiential values. Key peaks surrounding Mt Stokes include Mt Kiwi, above Beatrix Bay, Mt Robinson and Grants Lookout immediately east of Mt Stokes, Mt Furneaux and Puzzle Peak and Oterawhanga, backing Port Gore. The waters around Endeavour Inlet have been identified as having nationally significant ecological values, particularly for Hector's Dolphin.</p> <p>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, a notable site being the stone workings at Titirangi Bay. 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.</p> <p>Modifications include: roads and tracks; power lines; cleared vegetation; buildings; jetties; and properties in Tawa Bay and Resolution Bay. There are marine farms at Te Puraka Point (Beatrix Bay). Residential areas within Endeavour Inlet and the Pines settlement are excluded from the ONF.</p>

14. Arapawa Island and Tory Channel including West Head	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Geopreservation site: Tory Channel East Head. - Arapawa Island Reserves – nationally significant original cliff vegetation and rare species. Possum free. - The eastern flanks of Arapawa Island support some of the best remaining examples of Cook Strait mixed broadleaf forests and are nationally significant. - Highly natural coastal cliffs and large southerly swells are typical of this high-energy coastline, which is minimally modified. - Steep coastal cliffs and rocky reefs dominated by high-energy wave action provide a unique coastal habitat. - Easternmost parts of Arapawa Island hold outstanding natural character due to the unmodified cliffs. Remaining northern parts of Arapawa Island and Kaitapeha hold high levels of natural character.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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. - Dramatic coastal processes are highly legible along the length of the Arapawa Island's steep coastal cliffs and rocky reefs. - Semi-exposed to very exposed coast. - Strong tidal currents on the outer edge of the Sounds. - Experiential and naturalness values high along Kaitapeha Peninsula and northern Arapawa Island, including East Bay and parts of Tory Channel.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Early whaling stations including first shore whaling station at Te Awaiti and Fisherman's Bay. - Pa sites and other archaeological evidence of early Māori settlement line the coast of Tory Channel.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, Arapawa Island and East and West Heads have been identified as ONF's due to the exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>Dramatic coastal processes are highly legible along the length of Arapawa Island's steep coastal cliffs and rocky reefs. 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>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. Kaitapeha Peninsula, at the entrance to Tory Channel, is a legible forested landmark. The waters around East Bay have nationally significant ecological values, particularly for Hector's dolphin.</p> <p>There is considerable evidence of early Māori settlement/activity throughout the area, with sites particularly intense around East Bay, Arapawa Island. The first whaling station in New Zealand was established in Tory Channel, at Te Awaiti in 1827 by Londoner John Guard and is reputed to be the first European settlement in the South Island.</p> <p>Modifications include: cleared vegetation and pasture; power lines; tracks; buildings; and moorings. Modifications also include the heritage sites at Okukari Bay. Aquaculture is present in East Bay and isolated parts of Tory Channel.</p>

15. Exposed Eastern Coastline	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nationally significant seascape – steep coastal cliffs, rocky reefs, boulder beds, coves and bays. - Geopreservation site: Fighting Bay (regionally important) Torlesse Schist. - Exposed, steep, rugged sea-cliffs, rocky reefs, boulder beds and coves/bays. - Highly natural coastal cliffs and large southerly swells typify a high-energy coastline. - Highly indented coastline and intricate bluff system between Robertson Point (Port Underwood) and Tory Channel. - The lower portions of this exposed coastline retain very high levels of natural character.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dramatic cliffs and rocky shoreline define the eastern coastline and are extremely memorable, despite the plantation forestry on the upper ridge. - Numerous, continuous sequence of rocky bays and coves.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pa sites and other archaeological evidence of early Māori settlement line the coast of Port Underwood. - Signing of the Treaty of Waitangi on Horahora Kakahu Island in 1840. - Early whaling station at Robertson Point.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, the Exposed Eastern Coastline has been identified as an ONF due to its exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</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. The Treaty of Waitangi was signed on Horahora Kakahu Island, the site of the former Horikaka Pā.</p> <p>Modifications include: cleared vegetation; forestry; tracks; roads; buildings; high voltage cable station (Fighting Bay); and a limited number of moorings in Cutters Bay and Whangatoetoe Bay. Adjacent to marine farms in Cutters and Whangatoetoe Bay.</p>

16. Islands of North-Eastern Queen Charlotte Sound including White Rocks and The Brothers	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Geopreservation site: Long Island cusped foreland. - The islands have an exposed, steep and rocky character and are remnants of mountain ridges that pre-date submergence of the former landscape. - Long Island is an island sanctuary and of international significance as a marine reserve. - Internationally and nationally significant are the Brothers islands (for tuatara) and White Rocks (for Duvaucel's gecko). - There are very low levels of modification evident on all islands. - The islands are important for their uninterrupted natural sequences, from ridgetop to sea floor. - 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. - The waters around these islands and up the Endeavour Inlet have been identified as having nationally significant ecological values, particularly for Hector's Dolphin. - Pickersgill Island is recognised as regionally significant for its flora and fauna.

16. Islands of North-Eastern Queen Charlotte Sound including White Rocks and The Brothers	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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. - The south Brothers Island is one of the most pristine seabird islands in New Zealand. - All islands and most interconnecting waters hold outstanding natural character.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - These rugged, exposed outer islands are highly legible and are highly natural due to their bush clad slopes and lack of modification. - Their location at the entrance to Queen Charlotte Sound makes them excellent reference points for boaties. - Strong tidal currents and considerable wave action are present. - The Brothers Islands are clearly legible as a group of islands that are amongst the most exposed islands in Marlborough.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A 12 metre-high wooden lighthouse built in 1877 stands on The Brothers. - There are numerous Māori and European heritage and archaeological sites on these islands.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, Islands of North-Eastern Queen Charlotte Sound Including White Rocks and The Brothers have been identified as ONF's due to the exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</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, Motuara Island, Kokomohua Islands, The Twins, Motungarara Island and White Rocks. 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 and Arapawa Island Reserves are considered nationally significant for ecological values.</p> <p>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 Brothers Islands, are of international and national significance due to their tuatara populations and the high wooden lighthouse built in 1877.</p> <p>Modifications include: lighthouse on eastern part of the Brothers Island; track (Motuara Island); and gun emplacements on Blumine Island.</p>

17. Northern Lands of Inner Queen Charlotte Sound	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allports Island, Kaipakirikiri Bay and southern flanks of Onahau Bay are of localised ecological value. - Predator-free island of Allports Island. - Forested headland of Kaipupu Point managed as a “mainland island” with high natural character values. - Regionally important tracts of primary forest in Kumutoto Bay and impressive forest sequences on southern flanks of Onahau Bay. - 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.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impressive views into Kenepuru Sound and wider Queen Charlotte Sound from Queen Charlotte Track. - Intriguing regular indentation of bays between Houhou Point and Snake Point. - Land cover remains predominantly native bush and regenerating scrub, providing an attractive contrast to and setting for the towns and baches. - High experiential values in Queen Charlotte Sound, especially in relation to Kaipupu Point and Mabel Island where they are visible from Picton.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Popular area for recreational activities and habitation. The popular Queen Charlotte Track extends through this area as a well-known walking/mountain biking track. - Travellers enjoy views from the Cook Strait ferries, which pass through Queen Charlotte Sound to, and from, Picton. - Evidence of early Māori settlement and activities around the coastline. - The bush-covered islands of Allports and Mabel assist boaties as navigational landmarks.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, Northern Lands of Inner Queen Charlotte Sound have been identified as ONF's due to the exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>Queen Charlotte Sound is the eastern-most 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 most commonly visited part of the Sounds, Queen Charlotte Drive, is a well-known slow and winding route between Havelock and Picton with scenic views down to the bays.</p> <p>The intriguing regular indentation of bays is 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>Modifications include: cleared vegetation; tracks; power lines; forestry; buildings; and jetties and moorings.</p>

18. Mt. Robertson	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Robertson Range extends down to the coast at Rarangi, providing shore-to-ridgetops altitudinal sequence of national significance. - 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.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visually important backdrop to Wairau Valley. - The sheltered nature of Whites Bay is extremely memorable, retaining high levels of visual amenity.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Whites Bay Cable Station. - Popular destination for camping and recreational activities (including walking the Mt. Robertson Summit Route).
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, Mt. Robertson has been identified as an ONF due to the exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>Situated at the northern-most point of the Robertson Range, Mt Robertson features a large scenic reserve, which skirts the majority of its mid to upper eastern slopes from Rarangi to the peak of Mt McCormick, which separates Queen Charlotte Sound and Port Underwood. The area features regenerating and mature beech forest. Of particular importance is the coast at Rarangi and Whites Bay where a shore-to-ridgetop altitudinal vegetation sequence is of national significance. The rocky headlands and sandy shores of Whites Bay are backed by regenerating native bush. 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 include: cleared vegetation; power lines; buildings; Port Underwood Road; and tracks.</p>

South Marlborough Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes

19. Mt. Duncan/Mt. Rutland/Mt. Cullen	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Geopreservation site: Okiwa Bay Pelorus Schist. - The hilly ranges are largely covered in indigenous beech and broadleaf forest. - Unencumbered by development.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visually important elevated backdrop of indigenous and regenerating vegetation to the Rai, lower Pelorus and Kaituna River valleys. - These, undeveloped and vegetated ridges in northern parts of the valleys provide visually attractive natural patterns, noticeably the Mt. Duncan ridge.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mount Richmond Forest Park provides a semi-remote forest experience currently characterised by unmodified landscape. - The area is managed by DOC.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, Mt. Duncan/Mt. Rutland/Mt. Cullen have been identified as ONFs due to their exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values. 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.</p> <p>Modifications include: occasional walking tracks; back country huts; masts and overhead transmission line to Okiwi Bay; part of Ronga/Croisilles Road (by Ronga Saddle); a disused mine (near Mt. Cullen); and trig stations.</p>

20. The Wairau Lagoons	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wairau Boulder Bank/Te Pokohiwi, lagoon and delta are geopreservation sites identified as nationally significant landforms. - Highly natural wetland, being a large coastal lagoon-estuarine system and unique estuarine ecosystem, protected as a DOC Reserve. - The lagoons are of national importance for wading birds. - Wairau Bar dry shrublands.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aesthetically interesting and broadly unmodified landforms of the estuarine landscape and boulder bank. - Expansive open sea views out to Cloudy Bay and White Bluffs/Te Parinui o Whiti. - Ebb and flow of weather-protected coastal waters.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Māori/early polynesians archaeological sites, including middens, campsites and moa remains on the boulder bank and around the Wairau Lagoons. New Zealand's oldest archaeological site. - One of the first landing points in New Zealand by early Polynesians, some 700 years ago. - Cultural importance of the Wairau Lagoon and Wairau Boulder Bank acknowledged by the Crown in iwi Treaty of Waitangi settlement. - Wairau Lagoons Walkway. - Impressive SS Waverley shipwreck.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, The Wairau Lagoons has been identified as an ONF due to its exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>The coastal area and river mouth, which includes the Wairau Boulder Bank/Te Pokohiwi and lagoon, contributes important biophysical values to the Wairau River valley</p>

20. The Wairau Lagoons	
	<p>landscape. The Wairau Boulder Bank and lagoons are nationally significant as intact geological landforms, and provide nationally significant habitats for native, vulnerable and rare waterfowl and birds. The lagoon features extensive glasswort herbfields alongside rushes, sedges, estuarine herbs and grasses. The lagoon and boulder bank afford expansive sea views out to Cloudy Bay and the backdrop of White Bluffs/Te Parinui o Whiti.</p> <p>The Wairau Lagoons are significant culturally to tangata whenua and are exceptional generally for the archaeological remains that have been identified there. A number of Māori/early Polynesian archaeological sites, including middens, campsites, and moa remains, are located on the boulder bank and around the Wairau Lagoons; the oldest archaeological site in New Zealand. There is evidence to suggest that the boulder bank was one of the first landing points on New Zealand by early Polynesians some 700 years ago. The Crown, through iwi settlements, has declared the Wairau Lagoons and Wairau Bar as areas of cultural importance.</p> <p>Modifications include: Wairau Lagoons Walkway track; small footbridges over watercourses; the southern extent of the Wairau Bar Road; a house close to the tip of the Wairau Bar; and the shipwreck of the SS <i>Waverley</i>. This ONF excludes the oxidation ponds, the small collection of buildings at the terminus of the Wairau Bar Road and modified farmland south of the road, as well as modified land south of the lagoons, close to the southern hills.</p>

21. Te Parinui o Whiti/White Bluffs	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High legibility of the predominantly grass-covered hills and exposed coastal bluffs. - Geopreservation site: White Bluffs/Te Parinui o Whiti. - Dry coastal forest and treeland vegetation within gully systems. - Significance as the largest sea-cliffs in Marlborough.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visually dramatic and striking geological form, resultant of various tectonic, erosional and climatic forces at work.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A Ngāi Tahu conservation covenant is overlaid on White Bluffs/Te Parinui o Whiti.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, White Bluffs/Te Parinui o Whiti have been identified as an ONF due to its exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>The visually dramatic White Bluffs/Te Parinui o Whiti are a striking feature, a landform that is regionally significant for its geomorphological values, and has the largest tract of native forest vegetation in the area. White Bluffs/Te Parinui o Whiti mark an important territorial boundary, with Ngāi Tahu claiming rights on the east coast of the South Island up to White Bluffs/Te Parinui o Whiti. A Ngāi Tahu conservation covenant is overlaid on the bluffs.</p> <p>There are limited or no modifications. Modified pasture land on top of the bluffs is excluded from the ONF.</p>

22. The Limestone Coastline	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Geomorphology of limestone coastline includes several coastal geopreservation sites: Needles Point Cretaceous-Tertiary boundary, Flaxbourne River folds and thrusts, and the Chancet Rocks. - Broad and deeply incised mudstone shore platforms and offshore reefs characterise the marine environment around Cape Campbell. - Colonies of New Zealand fur seals at Chancet Rocks and the Needles. - Coastal platforms and ecological values of importance, with Marlborough endemic flora common, rocky areas (including the Marlborough rock daisy) and gullies. - All of these features are interlinked by beaches, cliffs and back dunes and hill country, which share the same geology and erosional and tectonic forces, culminating in an extremely impressive and legible coastline that clearly expresses its formative processes.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unencumbered, predominantly pastoral land retains a high level of visual coherence. - Highly expressive coastline from the slender Cape Campbell to Waima/Ure River. - Complex geology creates spectacular landforms and features that are particularly scenic along the coastline.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A number of Māori archaeological sites are associated with this area, including two ancient pa sites on the coast, as well as a number of ovens and middens. - Possible European associations relating to the limeworks at Chancet. - High recreational values, particularly at Marfells Beach and Ward Beach.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, The Limestone Coastline has been identified as an ONL due to the exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>The Limestone Coastline provides the greatest visual drama in the south Marlborough landscape. The spectacular rocky outcrops of the Needles and Chancet Rocks along the Limestone Coastline south of Cape Campbell are extremely memorable and display very high levels of naturalness. The State Highway 1 coastal road from the Waima Bridge to the southern point of the District contains high scenic values.</p> <p>The coastline of this ONL is largely unmodified and very exposed. The area has remote values and access is limited to a few locations, including Ward Beach and a small number of points south of the Waima River. Walks along the sandy shoreline to the impressive limestone outcrops of the Needles and Chancet Rocks are backed by steep terrain where views towards the open ocean are gained. Views from Cape Campbell lighthouse are spectacular, where panoramic vistas of the sweeping curve of Clifford Bay and the southern shores of the North Island are evident. Other than farm-related activity on the land, this coastline is unmodified, with no aquaculture or jetties/ wharves. The area, once visited, is extremely memorable.</p> <p>Prominent reef areas in the north (including Cape Campbell), give way to extensive sand/gravel shores in the south and large offshore <i>Macrocystis</i> (kelp) beds are also present off this coastline. The coastal cliffs and escarpments have small low indigenous forest remnants and unusual, highly distinctive herbfields with nationally threatened species. The dunes and coastal flats also contain nationally threatened species. The Canterbury Gully dunefield, located just south of Cape Campbell, contains nationally threatened ecosystem types and plant species. The coastal scarps and flats have nationally significant ecosystems, including dunes and salt turfs, and good sequences of native coastal vegetation. Several areas are set aside for conservation of natural values through QEII National Trust covenants.</p> <p>Modifications include: pastoral land, occasional fences, farm tracks, a gravel road leading to the lighthouse, a lighthouse and collection of small buildings (including a small overhead powerline), an airstrip, a small quarry, and the Ward beach buildings and road end. This area also includes the eastern extent of Marfells Beach Road.</p>

23. Bryant Range, Upper Pelorus River Area, Richmond Range Conservation Estate and Red Hills Ridge	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High geological legibility. - Geopreservation sites include: Lake Chalice debris dam; Wellington Gold Mine, Top Valley; Pelorus Bridge river gorge; Onamalutu Valley metachert; Dun Mountain and Alfred Stream earthflow (regionally important geological feature). - The ecological values are of national significance. - A band of ultramafic rock extends through Red Hills area, which leads to stunted, sparsely distributed plants that are quite unique to the area. - Mount Richmond Forest Park contains relatively unmodified native vegetation including alpine herbfields, beech forest and ultramafic zone vegetation. - The small Onamalutu Scenic Reserve and its unique remnant of virgin podocarp forest provide an example of the forests that once covered the alluvial plains of the Wairau and surrounding valleys. - The Pelorus Bridge Scenic Reserve is one of the last stands of river-flat forest in Marlborough. - Mount Richmond Forest Park provides habitat for native bird species, including Blue duck, New Zealand falcon and South Island kaka. - Lake Chalice, located in the Forest Park, is unusual in that its only fish are the native koaro.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very high levels of natural character, due to unmodified landscape in the upper Pelorus River catchment. - Visually interesting rusty tinge in Red Hills and Dun Mountain, which is discernible from the Wairau Valley and Nelson, and is extremely memorable. - The skyline of the Richmond Range forms a key feature in the Marlborough landscape, especially as the northern backdrop of the Wairau Valley. - Mt Richmond and Johnston Peak are the highest peaks, and highly visible. Mt Fishtail is a distinctive peak. - Very high scenic quality of Lake Chalice, one of the few natural lakes in this area.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The remains of old gold mines in valleys of the Richmond Range and Wairau River north bank. Some interest by early European prospectors in minerals around Dun Mountain. - Archaeological sites in the area indicate use of the argillite resource. - A number of tramping tracks in DOC-managed Mount Richmond Forest Park, including tracks to Mt Richmond and Lake Chalice. The park provides a semi-remote, forest wilderness experience.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, Bryant Range, Upper Pelorus River Area and Richmond Range Conservation Estate and Red Hills Ridge have been identified collectively as an ONL due to the exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>The hills, valleys, ridges and mountains of the Bryant, upper Pelorus area and Richmond Range include the highest and most recognisable peaks of north Marlborough. The ONL covers peaks, ridgetops and remote conservation land, extending from the peaks backing Pelorus Sound to the upper, narrow valley of the Wairau River at the Red Hills Ridge.</p> <p>Much of this large area lies within conservation estate and remains predominantly in indigenous forest. It contains high ecological and biological values and is of scientific interest due to the underlying geology of the mineral belt.</p> <p>Being under DOC management, this area also incorporates a high level of scenic and recreational value, providing public access to many semi-wilderness recreational</p>

23. Bryant Range, Upper Pelorus River Area, Richmond Range Conservation Estate and Red Hills Ridge	
	<p>opportunities, such as in and adjacent to the Pelorus River. These ranges also form a visual backdrop north-west of Blenheim and the Wairau River Plains, the steep, bush-covered upper slopes and impressive skyline appreciated from a number of well-travelled roads.</p> <p>Cultural heritage values relate to the Māori archaeological sites identified in the area (particularly along the Wairau side of the ONL) and the legible fabric that remains from the history of gold mining, and, to a lesser extent, timber milling and farming that occurred in the area.</p> <p>Modifications include: numerous backcountry tracks and huts; overhead power line over Maungatapu Saddle; and a small section of Mount Richmond Road. Onamalutu Reserve area contains a track and interpretation boards. The ONL excludes forestry areas, tracks and modified lower valley slopes.</p>

24. The Chalk Range	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Particularly interesting geology with limestone outcrops, including geopreservation sites in Isolated Creek and Sawcut Gorge. - Highly legible limestone features and outcrops along Waima River and Chalk Range. - Landscape clearly expresses its formative processes, via tectonic forces and fluvial and glacial activity. - Endemic Marlborough plants on limestone scarps.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prominent limestone ridge of the Chalk Range is visually impressive and memorable. - Towering cliffs and enormous boulders add visual drama to the landscape. - Spectacular chasm of 150 metre-deep Sawcut Gorge, in places only 2 metres wide, is visually dramatic.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sawcut Gorge area valued for its unique DOC-managed recreation opportunities.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, The Chalk Range has been identified as an ONF due to its exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>The limestone country within the northern Kekerengu Valley is exceptional, displaying towering cliffs of considerable height, overhanging vegetation and the spectacular Sawcut Gorge.</p> <p>Modifications include: farm tracks, walking tracks, backcountry huts, pasture, sparsely-located farm related buildings and structures (i.e. stockyard), fencing, and a mast on Ben More.</p>

25. The Inland Kaikoura Range	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The high, exposed and jagged ridge of the Inland Kaikoura Range is extremely legible. - Geopreservation sites include Tapuae-o-Uenuku zirconium aegirine; Hodder River weathering features; Lake McRae fault trace and landslides (Clarence Valley); and Lake McRae debris and dam. - A diverse range of indigenous fauna, especially insects and lizards. - A number of nationally threatened plant species are present.

25. The Inland Kaikoura Range	
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The rugged form, grand scale and sheer vertical prominence make the entire range a visually spectacular and dramatic landscape. - Range forms backdrop to the eastern side of the District from within the Awatere Valley. - Visually impressive peaks of Mount Tapuae-o-Uenuku, Mount Alarm and Mitre Peak.
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tapuae-o-Uenuku is the highest peak in Marlborough (and highest mountain in New Zealand outside of the Southern Alps). It is highly recognised as an icon by many trampers and climbers. - The Inland Kaikoura Range is imbued with spiritual and traditional values. Tapuae-o-Uenuku is acknowledged in Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act for cultural, spiritual, historical and traditional associations.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, The Inland Kaikoura Range has been identified as an ONF due to its exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>The mountains of the Inland Kaikoura Range gain the highest elevation within Marlborough, with Tapuae-o-Uenuku at 2,885 metres a.s.l. being the highest mountain in the District. This mountainous range comprises a series of glaciated valleys, rugged mountain tops and major high country river valleys. The Inland Kaikoura Range denotes a visually impressive backdrop in views from the Awatere Valley. The Inland Kaikoura Ranges are imbued with spiritual and traditional values. Tapuae-o-Uenuku is significant to local iwi and was named as the 'watcher' by James Cook. The area is also highly regarded by mountain climbers and trampers and is one of the first places on Earth to see in the new day.</p> <p>Modifications include: farm tracks, walking tracks, backcountry huts, pasture, sparsely-located farm related buildings and structures (i.e. stockyard), fencing, and trig stations.</p>

26. The Main Divide and Leatham Conservation Area	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Geomorphological legibility of tectonic movement. - Constriction of Wairau River by Hell's Gate. - Geopreservation sites include Upper Wairau landslide, Turkeys Nest Basin solifluction slope, Waterfall Stream and Cow Stream moraines, Barber Stream rock glacier/landslide. - Highly legible and impressive straight glacial-carved U-shaped valley of main divide. - Overwhelmingly indigenous beech forest covers the sides of the upper Wairau River valley. - Wairau River and tributaries provide braided riverbed habitats, important for several native bird species.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visual dominance of the large braided river, primarily in the upper valley. - Surrounding steep slopes and skyline ridges are key features on the journey up the valley. - Contrast of snowy peaks and dark indigenous vegetation on the mountain sides is highly memorable. - Openness and magnificent large-scale alpine character of elevated mountain peaks leads to high degree of visual coherence. - Highly natural appearance of upper Wairau River valley with human modification limited to the transmission line and road. - Very high levels of natural character in Leatham and Branch Rivers.

26. The Main Divide and Leatham Conservation Area	
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Majority of landscape within conservation areas. Leatham Conservation Areas and Rainbow Valley popular for skiing, fishing, four wheel driving, mountaineering and tramping. - Remote recreational opportunities. - Passes in the upper Wairau River valley were part of overland routes used by Māori.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, The Main Divide and Leatham Conservation Area has been identified as an ONL due to its exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>The upper Wairau River valley primarily derives its landscape value from the steep, beech-clad mountain slopes and tussock-clad tops of the main divide that enclose it. This visually distinctive valley provides access to a variety of wilderness recreation experiences. The Leatham Conservation Area in the remote ridges and valleys above the true right bank of the river is popular with experienced hunters and trampers who take advantage of DOC routes such as the Leatham to Molesworth Route. The Leatham and Branch Rivers have very high natural character and the Leatham Conservation Area is also popular for fishing and four wheel driving. The Main Divide area of this ONFL features the headwaters of the Rainbow and Wairau Rivers and includes the Turk, Stafford and Mangerton Ridges and the Raglan Range. The area is largely experienced from the Wairau-Hanmer Springs Hydro Road, which extends from Hanmer Springs into the upper Wairau River valley. The Wairau River valley was also used by Māori to access overland routes through the mountains, including the saddles of the Branch, Leatham and Waihopai to the upper Awatere and Acheron/Saxton catchments of the Clarence River.</p> <p>Modifications within Leatham Conservation Area include: tracks, backcountry huts, occasional small quarries, some exotic vegetation, and trig stations. Modifications within the Main Divide include: Wairau–Hanmer Springs Hydro Road, HDVC transmission line (and exclusion zone), Rainbow ski field road, backcountry tracks and huts, RNZAF training camp, buildings, stockyards, small areas of pasture, trig stations and masts, and areas of exotic vegetation around the river. The ONL excludes the Rainbow ski field.</p>

27. Molesworth Station and Upper Clarence	
Biophysical Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High geomorphological legibility with geopreservation sites, including Saxton River faulted terraces, Isolated Flat, Tarndale-Sedgemere fault trace (Awatere Fault) and Tarndale flats. - Altitude ranges from 549 metres a.s.l. to over 2,100 metres a.s.l. - Molesworth area is of national ecological significance, with over 70 threatened species within the conservation area. - Molesworth supports one of New Zealand's most diverse lizard faunas. - Wetlands around Lake Sedgemere support a variety of native flora.
Perceptual Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Molesworth Station is one of Marlborough's and Canterbury's iconic high country landscapes. - Molesworth Station and Upper Clarence retain high legibility through its remoteness and unencumbered land use. - Molesworth Station and Upper Clarence retain high levels of naturalness. - The ONL holds memorable and visually dramatic landscape elements, such as rugged mountain tops, valleys, scree slopes, unmodified rivers, tarns and cultural features. - The entire mountainous area is subject to extreme weather conditions, with hot, dry summers and harsh winters.

27. Molesworth Station and Upper Clarence	
Associative Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Molesworth Station is a New Zealand icon and destination for heritage tours. - Remote recreational opportunities, including horse trekking, cycling, rafting, fishing, hunting and camping. - The Molesworth area has both rich Māori and European heritage values. - At 180,787 hectares, Molesworth is home to New Zealand's biggest farm, supporting the country's biggest herd of beef cattle. - An early inland route via the upper Wairau was used by Māori travelling south through Molesworth. The Clarence River valley was used by Māori travelling from the river mouth to Waiau.
Overview	<p>Based on the above values, Molesworth Station and Upper Clarence have been identified as an ONL due to its exceptional biophysical and associative landscape values and very high sensory landscape values.</p> <p>This area is almost entirely contained within conservation estate, containing many remote and scenic mountain ranges including the Boddington, Rachel and Inkerman Ranges and the Bullen Hills. The ONL area includes the upper reaches of many Canterbury and Marlborough rivers. There are numerous tarns and lakes. Notable rivers include the Clarence, Wairau and Awatere. Molesworth Station is a remote area surrounded by snow-capped peaks, stunning river valleys, extensive tussock lands and pasture. It is a working farm, but, nevertheless contains high levels of ecological interest. The Molesworth Station is highly significant for the presence of endemic and rare species of flora and fauna, with over 70 threatened species present. The wetlands around Lake Sedgemere are of notable value and the Molesworth area in general supports one of New Zealand's most diverse lizard faunas.</p> <p>The station, which occupies the southern portions of the District, is one of Marlborough and Canterbury's iconic high country landscapes. Molesworth contains memorable and dramatic landscape elements, including, rugged mountain tops, valleys, scree slopes, unmodified rivers and cultural features. The entire mountainous area is subject to extremes of weather, with hot summers and harsh winters, typical of continental climates. Although not as numerous as in other parts of the District, the heritage values within this area are highly evident, especially at Molesworth and Tarndale Stations. Access to the area is from the Wairau-Hanmer Springs Hydro Road, which extends from Hanmer Springs into the upper Wairau and the Awatere valleys. The Molesworth area was a link within the network of Ngai Tahu trails developed throughout the South Island for mahinga kai purposes. The journeys, sites and stories relating to the trails are recorded in Ngai Tahu traditions and are of high significance.</p> <p>Modifications include: farm tracks; walking tracks and backcountry huts; Awatere Valley Road and Wairau–Hanmer Springs Road; buildings; stockyards; HDVC transmission line (and exclusion zone); occasional small quarries; some exotic vegetation around rivers; pasture; trig stations and masts.</p>

Areas with high amenity landscape values

A. Marlborough Sounds Coastal Landscape	
Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Distinctive, fractured pattern of the Marlborough Sounds coastline. - Slender peninsulas and range of islands provide distinctive landscape containing very high aesthetic values. - Combination of rocky coastlines, vegetated and grassy ridges and small coves, bays and inlets portrays an overwhelming sense of naturalness.

A. Marlborough Sounds Coastal Landscape	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The area is imbued with cultural and historic values. It is extremely memorable. - Outer Sounds are more rugged and exposed to the varying climatic conditions in the Cook Strait. - Inner Sounds more sheltered and visually defined by forest-clad ridges and mountain tops which promote the intimacy experienced from within the waters. - Many of the smaller bays in Inner Sounds show little evidence of human intervention, and the level of visual intactness remains high. - Small settlements, generally nestled closely at the head of a bay, retain a high level of aesthetic coherence, contained by the steep, often vegetated sides of the enclosing ridge. - High levels of naturalness, recreational values and visual coherence.
Overview	<p>The network of headlands, bays, inlets and islands of this distinctive coastline contain very high aesthetic and associative values. The rich cultural history of the Marlborough Sounds, including its high levels of naturalness and recreational values combine to create a highly memorable coastal landscape. Within this Coastal landscape there are ONLs and ONFs.</p>

B. Wairau Dry Hills Landscape	
Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Soft, undulating hills act as an important backdrop to Blenheim and contrast with the varied land use practices across the Wairau Plains. - Southern Hills provide topographical relief to the flat plains. - The Hills provide a high level of visual coherence due to their prominent and mostly unencumbered nature from buildings and noticeably 'clean' ridges and spurs. - Dry hills around Dashwood Pass and Redwood Pass are particularly scenic. - Golden, homogenous undulating form is an iconic feature of Marlborough. - The openness of the hills provides recreational and transient values, offering panoramic views of the Wairau Valley. - Wither Hills Farm Park is a popular recreation area and Redwood Pass is popular for mountain biking.
Overview	<p>The key values of this area are sensory values related to the visual coherence of the hills in terms of their homogenous undulating form and colour, and the way in which they provide a visual contrast to the rows of vines that stretch across the plains.</p> <p>They have become so evocative of south Marlborough. This is due in part to their presence as the visual backdrop to the population centre of Blenheim and because so many people pass through these hills on State Highway 1.</p>







