

Appendix 2

Values contributing to high, very high and outstanding coastal natural character

(Note that maps showing each of the coastal marine areas and terrestrial areas are included at the end of Appendix 2.)

Coastal Marine Areas

Marlborough Sounds

Coastal Marine Area A: Tasman Bay and south-western D'Urville Island			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional comments
Outer Croisilles Harbour – south western D'Urville Island	Very High	<p>Largely unmodified near-shore coastal marine environment ranging from semi-sheltered to very sheltered shores.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Whangarae Estuary. - Subtidal sand flat and boulder bank habitats/ communities at the mouth of Croisilles Harbour. - High flow habitats associated with Current Basin and French Pass. - Greville Harbour and associated communities. - D'Urville Island Scenic Reserve. - Offshore islands (Croisilles Harbour and rocky outcrops (e.g. Paddock Rocks). - Adjoins Coastal Marine Area B. 	<p>Excludes Squally Cove, which has numerous marine farms.</p> <p>Includes a small number of marine farms in two small bays in Current Basin.</p> <p>Certain offshore areas in Tasman Bay are commercially trawled.</p>

Coastal Marine Area B: D'Urville Island – Northern Cook Strait			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional comments
Western D'Urville Island – Rangitoto Islands	Very High	<p>Largely unmodified and highly diverse near-shore coastal marine environment ranging from very exposed to very sheltered shores.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diverse rocky reef communities. - High current habitats including areas dominated by bryozoan corals. - Port Hardy and associated sheltered Sounds communities. - D'Urville Island Scenic Reserve. - Several offshore islands and rock 	<p>One small marine farm in Port Hardy.</p> <p>Certain offshore areas in Tasman Bay and Cook Strait are commercially trawled.</p>

Coastal Marine Area B: D'Urville Island – Northern Cook Strait			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional comments
		<p>stacks including Stephen's Island, the Rangitoto Islands and Jag Rocks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adjoins Coastal Marine Area A. 	
Eastern D'Urville Island – Waitui Bay	High	<p>Near-shore areas, including around the Trio Islands, Chetwode Islands and Titi Island, retain high natural values.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Variable exposure. - Numerous ecologically significant marine sites. - D'Urville Island Scenic Reserve; Chetwode Island Nature Reserve; Titi Island Nature Reserve. 	<p>Offshore banks between the island groups are commercially trawled, in places relatively intensively.</p> <p>Some commercial scallop dredging in Waitui Bay and northwest of Nukuwaiata Island.</p>
Cape Lambert – Cape Jackson	Very High	<p>Largely unmodified section of coast with exposed rocky bluffs, headlands and reefs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cape Lambert Scenic Reserve. - Adjoins Coastal Marine Area G at Cape Jackson. 	<p>Some commercial trawling offshore.</p> <p>Offshore areas in Waitui Bay are commercially dredged for scallops.</p>
Inner Port Gore	High	<p>Relatively sheltered and largely unmodified intertidal and near-shore marine environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cape Lambert Scenic Reserve. - Eastern and southern shores backed by regenerating scrub/forest. - Some ecologically significant marine sites. 	

Coastal Marine Area C: Pelorus Sound			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional comments
Pelorus Heads	High	<p>Largely unmodified section of coast extending into the entrance of Pelorus Sound to Kaitira and Te Akaroa.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High current communities flanking the main channels. - Includes the offshore main channel entering Pelorus Sound. - Duffers Reef including its associated king shag nesting sites. - Adjoins Coastal Marine Area B. 	<p>Some marine farming north of Te Akaroa.</p>

Coastal Marine Area C: Pelorus Sound			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional comments
Maud Island to Yellow Cliffs, including Apuau Channel	High	<p>Near-shore areas retain high natural values.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sheltered indented coastline with multiple aspects. - Tom Shand Scientific Reserve (Maud Island) and Deep Bay Scenic Reserve on the opposite mainland, separated by Apuau Channel. 	Commercial scallop dredging in Tawhitinui Reach and Waitata Reach.
Fitzroy Bay and western Hallam Cove	High	<p>Near-shore and offshore waters mostly unmodified.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Backed by Garne and Savill Bay Scenic Reserve. - Elephant fish spawning grounds close to shore. 	Two mussel-spat marine farms.
Tennyson Inlet	Very High	<p>The largest marine area in Marlborough surrounded by protected native forest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Largely unmodified, very sheltered inner-Sounds marine environment. - Low natural diversity. - Convoluted shoreline with three small offshore islands. - Three small estuaries. - Several scenic reserves. 	Moorings and a small port area are located in Elaine Bay. A number of moorings are also present in Penzance Bay.
Nydia Bay – Tawero Point	Very High	<p>Largely unmodified section of coast extending over many kilometres from the head of Nydia Bay along the western side of Pelorus Sound to Tawero Point.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Several small bays. - Mostly sheltered but exposed to a wide range of tidal flow conditions including high flow communities. - Large sections of this coast are backed by scenic reserves. 	Two small areas of mussel farms (Fairy Bay and west of Tawero Point).
Pelorus/Kaituna Estuary – Mahakipawa Arm – Kaiuma Bay	High	<p>The largest estuarine area in the Marlborough Sounds. Natural processes within the estuary are largely intact.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extensive saltmarsh beds, intertidal mud flats and other estuarine communities. - Diverse avifauna. - Despite modifications around parts of its perimeter, this large estuarine complex retains many of its natural qualities. 	<p>Excludes Port Havelock.</p> <p>Water quality modified by discharges, port activities and river inputs.</p> <p>Partly modified margins due to the port, an oyster farm, roading and agriculture.</p>

Coastal Marine Area D: Queen Charlotte Sound			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional comments
Outer Queen Charlotte Sound	Very High	<p>Largely unmodified and mostly sheltered near-shore and offshore marine environment with complex topography, multiple aspects and complex hydrology, leading to a wide variety of environmental conditions. Naturally low sedimentation levels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Long Island – Kokomohua Marine Reserve. - Blumine and Pickersgill Islands. Fast flow habitats through Patten and Pickersgill passages. - Several ecologically significant marine sites, including the entire northern flank of East Bay. - A large proportion of the terrestrial environment is protected land (several scenic reserves). - Adjoins Coastal Marine Area G. 	<p>Excludes an area around Motuara Island and offshore from Ship's Cove, which is commercially dredged for scallops.</p> <p>Excludes Otanerau Bay and the eastern sector of East Bay, which have a relatively high concentration of marine farms.</p>
Inner Queen Charlotte Sound	Very High	<p>Largely unmodified near-shore and offshore marine environment.</p> <p>Very sheltered with a highly indented coastline made up of numerous inlets and bays.</p> <p>Relatively low sedimentation levels due to the absence of any major rivers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grove Arm supports the largest estuarine wetland in Queen Charlotte Sound. - A large proportion of the surrounding terrestrial environment, mainly along the northern shores and in Grove Arm, is protected land. - Several scenic reserves. - Several ecologically significant marine sites. 	<p>Privately owned jetties and moorings are common through various parts of this region, but these are considered to have only small localised effects ecologically.</p>
Tory Channel entrance to Umuwheke Bay	High	<p>Largely unmodified intertidal and near-shore marine environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moderate-strong current communities near the entrance to Tory Channel grading to more typical inner Queen Charlotte Sound communities with distance away from Tory Channel. - Backed by regenerating scrub/forest and scenic in places. 	<p>Commercial scallop dredging occurs in places offshore.</p>

Coastal Marine Area D: Queen Charlotte Sound			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional comments
Ship Cove – Motuara Island	High	<p>Largely unmodified intertidal and near-shore marine environment backed by significant naturally forested hill slopes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Motuara Island. - Bordered by Long Island – Kokomohua Marine Reserve. - Small areas of <i>Macrocystis</i> kelp near Motuara Island. - Adjoins Coastal Marine Area G. 	Offshore areas are modified by commercial scallop dredging between Long Island – Kokomohua Marine Reserve and the mainland at Ship Cove.

Coastal Marine Area E: Tory Channel			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional comments
Eastern entrance to Tory Channel	Very High	<p>Largely unmodified high current communities where Tory Channel meets the outer Cook Strait coast.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mostly protected from wave action except near the heads. - Adjoins Coastal Marine Area G. 	Extension of the Outer Queen Charlotte Sound – Eastern Cook Strait – Rarangi sub area (Coastal Marine Area G).
Tory Channel (excluding centrally located marine farming areas)	High	<p>Narrow deep channel dominated by strong tidal flows, sheltered wave climate and proximity to Cook Strait.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shallow side bays. - Numerous ecologically significant marine sites distinguished by high current communities. - Unique natural character area as a whole. - Adjoins Coastal Marine Area G. 	<p>The main marine farming areas in Tory Channel are excluded.</p> <p>Ferry wash continues to have an effect but is limited to exposed intertidal shores.</p> <p><i>Undaria</i> is widespread in shallow waters but is not considered to affect wider trophic/community structure and function significantly.</p> <p>Strong currents minimise sedimentation impacts along the main channel.</p>

Coastal Marine Area F: Port Underwood			
There are no specific areas within Coastal Marine Area F with Outstanding, High or Very High Coastal Natural Character values.			

Coastal Marine Area G: Eastern Cook Strait and Outer Queen Charlotte Sound			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional comments
Outer Queen Charlotte Sound – eastern Cook Strait – Rarangi	Very High	<p>Largely unmodified coastal marine environment extending over many tens of kilometres.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Semi-exposed to very exposed and subjected in places to strong tidal currents. - Diverse and productive reef communities with high macroalgae diversity. - Large whale (notably humpback whale) migration route. - Several ecologically significant marine sites. - Long Island – Kokomohua Marine Reserve. - Scenic reserves in the outer Queen Charlotte and along the outer coast of Arapawa Island. - Includes the Brothers Islands and the rugged outer coast bordering Cook Strait. - Adjoins Coastal Marine Areas B, D, E, F and H. 	<p>Excludes an area around Motuara Island and offshore from Ship's Cove, which is commercially dredged for scallops.</p> <p>Certain offshore areas in Cook Strait are commercially trawled.</p>
Ship Cove – Motuara Island	High	<p>Largely unmodified intertidal and near-shore marine environment backed by significant naturally forested hill slopes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Motuara Island. - Bordered by Long Island – Kokomohua Marine Reserve. - Small areas of <i>Macrocystis</i> kelp near Motuara Island. - A significant horse mussel bed and reef community at the northern end of Motuara Island. - Adjoins Coastal Marine Area D. 	<p>Offshore areas are modified by commercial scallop dredging between Long Island – Kokomohua Marine Reserve and the mainland at Ship Cove.</p>

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Coastal Marine Area H: Cloudy and Clifford Bays			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional comments
Cloudy and Clifford Bays (excluding Wairau Lagoons and Lake Grassmere)	Very High	<p>Largely unmodified and mostly exposed east coast South Island coastal environment extending over tens of kilometres from Rarangi to Cape Campbell.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extensive sand/gravel shores. - Cape Campbell reef systems and patchy offshore <i>Macrocystis</i> beds. - Adjoins Coastal Marine Areas G and I. - High remote values. 	<p>Certain offshore areas are commercially trawled; those grounds closer to shore are expected to be reasonably resilient to the effects of trawling.</p> <p>Effects of the Blenheim sewage discharge on the outer coast are considered minor.</p> <p>A large marine farm approved south of the Awatere River mouth, which will alter seabed values at the site once it becomes operational, is excluded.</p>
Wairau Lagoons	High	<p>Large tidal lagoons and extensive salt marsh beds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diverse avifauna. - An ecologically significant marine site. - Despite modifications, this large estuarine complex retains many of its natural qualities. - High remote values. 	<p>The estuary has been modified through historical stop-banking and alterations to river flows.</p> <p>The Blenheim sewage outfall discharges into the mouth of the Wairau River on the outgoing tide.</p>

Coastal Marine Area I: Cape Campbell to Willawa Point			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional comments
Cape Campbell to Willawa Point	Very High	<p>Largely unmodified and very exposed east coast South Island coastal environment extending south from Cape Campbell.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prominent reef areas in the north (including Cape Campbell) giving way to extensive sand/gravel shores in the south. - Large offshore <i>Macrocystis</i> beds. - Adjoins Coastal Marine Area H at Cape Campbell. - High remote values. 	<p>Certain offshore areas are commercially trawled; inshore areas are expected to be reasonably resilient to the effects of trawling.</p>

Terrestrial Areas

Marlborough Sounds

Coastal Terrestrial Area 1: D'Urville			
General values and characteristics applicable to the whole of Coastal Terrestrial Area 1			
<p>This area is characterised by a unique combination of ultramafic dominated basement rock types. The sheltered coastal lagoons are regionally rare.</p> <p>Upland vegetation is largely intact.</p>			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
D'Urville Island	Very High with small parts High	<p>Nationally important geological and landform features including Greville Harbour boulder spit; and serpentinitic breccias along parts of western coast. It contains regionally important landforms including: the Greville Harbour barrier dune system, and associated lagoon and swamp; French Pass partly submerged ridgeline and reef; and the D'Urville Island limestone outcrops.</p> <p>Island communities here are nationally important with distinctive biota, communities and habitats. Some communities, especially tussocklands, rocklands, shrublands and stunted forests are endemic to the ultramafic "mineral belt" and nationally important, with the coastal ultramafic communities, being unique in New Zealand. Also present are dune, spit, beach, lagoon, freshwater wetland, estuarine and alluvial communities, which are all very distinctive and rare in the Sounds. Overall, natural biodiversity of communities and species is exceptional.</p> <p>D'Urville Island is a refuge for nationally threatened fauna and flora. It is one of the largest areas that is free of possums and feral goats in New Zealand.</p> <p>D'Urville Island and its smaller islands hold extremely high experiential values, partially due to its semi-remoteness and dark, night-time skies, but equally due to its perceived lack of modification.</p>	Areas of pasture and commercial forestry included within 'High' rating.

Coastal Terrestrial Area 1: D'Urville			
General values and characteristics applicable to the whole of Coastal Terrestrial Area 1			
<p>This area is characterised by a unique combination of ultramafic dominated basement rock types. The sheltered coastal lagoons are regionally rare.</p> <p>Upland vegetation is largely intact.</p>			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
Croisilles Harbour Area	Very High with small parts High	<p>Nationally important geological and landform features including Matarau Point beach ridge gravel foreland.</p> <p>Regionally important landforms including: Pakiaka Point barrier island and lagoon; Taipare and Whangarae limestone outcrops.</p> <p>Island communities here are nationally important with distinctive biota, communities and habitats. Some mainland communities, especially tussocklands, rocklands, shrublands and stunted forests are endemic to the ultramafic "mineral belt" and nationally important, with the coastal ultramafic communities, being unique in New Zealand. Also present are dune, spit, beach, lagoon, freshwater wetland, estuarine and alluvial communities, which are all very distinctive and rare in the Sounds. Overall, natural biodiversity of communities and species is exceptional.</p> <p>High experiential values due to lack of modification.</p>	

Coastal Terrestrial Area 2: Cook Strait			
General values and characteristics applicable to the whole of Coastal Terrestrial Area 2			
<p>Island communities are nationally important, with distinct and rare biotic assemblages, which are vulnerable to disturbance and loss and difficult to recover. These are vital habitats for threatened species due to their lack of introduced predators.</p> <p>Shrublands, herbfields and tussockland communities are nationally important habitats as they are highly distinctive and endemic to Cook Strait.</p> <p>The Area also supports a nationally high concentration of rare, relictual and endemic fauna, which is vulnerable to predation and/or collection.</p> <p>The islands and outer peninsulas hold very high experiential values due to the remote, rugged and expansive seascape vistas. The weathered sea-cliffs and hardy vegetation tilted from the wind are characteristic of their exposed maritime position.</p> <p>Remoteness values amplified through natural darkness of the night sky.</p>			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
Cape Lambert and Cape Jackson	Very High	Exceptional biodiversity at Cape Lambert. Threatened plants, remnant forest and regenerating native vegetation at Cape Jackson.	
Western Cook Strait, Port Underwood to Tory Channel	Very High	Intricate bluff system between Robertson Point (Port Underwood) and Tory Channel. Regionally important geological features including the Fighting Bay schist sea cliffs.	Much of the upper slopes beyond the bluffs are commercial forestry.
Western Cook Strait, Arapawa Island	Very High and High	Towering cliffs and native vegetation sequences of the Cook Strait narrows. Exceptional natural biodiversity. The eastern flanks of Arapawa Island support some of the best remaining examples of Cook Strait mixed broad-leaved forests and are nationally important, especially as possum-free environments.	

Coastal Terrestrial Area 3: Bulwer			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
Land to west of Waitata Reach	Very High and High	Whilst some land has been cleared for pasture, there are limited structures on the land, especially around northern Port Ligar and land west of Waitata Reach. Of the remaining indigenous forests within the Area, much appears on more elevated slopes (Mt. Shewell, Mt. Drew, Bobs Peak, Okuri Peak), but with substantial tracts at lower coastal altitudes, especially east and south aspects (Apau Channel,	Many bays contain houses, jetties and wharves.

Coastal Terrestrial Area 3: Bulwer			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
		Fitzroy Bay). Very High perceived naturalness values.	
Maud Island	Very High	Maud Island is distinctive, rare and nationally important due to its predator-free status and nationally threatened fauna.	
Eastern Waitata Reach, Forsyth Island and land south of Allen Strait	High (small part Very High at Kauauroa Bay)	Relatively low levels of modification and extensive areas of regenerating bush, especially on Forsyth Island. Largely-intact podocarp-broadleaved forest at Kauauroa Bay.	Also contains low intensity grazed pastoral land.
North West Bay	Very High and High	Indigenous forested peninsula at Stafford Point.	Modification to the immediate north.

Coastal Terrestrial Area 4: Arapawa			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
Blumine, Pickersgill and Long Islands	Very High	The Long Island gravel cusped foreland is considered a regionally important landform feature. Island refuges support communities with an absence of major introduced mammals, and are regionally and nationally important. These islands are also important for their uninterrupted natural sequences from ridge top to sea floor, and relatively intact coastal communities. Very high perceived naturalness values.	
Remaining areas of Arapawa	High	Extensive areas of regenerating bush. Extensive area of indigenous forest at Wharehunga Bay. Experiential values are high along parts of Queen Charlotte Sound, the Kaitapeha peninsula, parts of northern Arapawa Island, including East Bay and western parts of Tory Channel due to the numerous indented bays holding limited modification.	Occasional house and pastoral land included within rating.

Coastal Terrestrial Area 5: Portage			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
Mt. Cawte and Southern Queen Charlotte Sound	Very High and High	<p>Tracts of primary coastal forest (e.g., Kumutoto Bay) found in this area are regionally important. Most of the remainder of the land is clad in regenerating native forests.</p> <p>South-facing biotic communities are generally more intact (greater cover, less vulnerable to past and ongoing disturbance) than north-facing communities.</p> <p>Areas of high experiential values along both Queen Charlotte Sound and Kenepuru Sound.</p>	Areas of residential land adjacent to shoreline excluded from rating.
Northern Queen Charlotte Sound and Motuara Island	Very High	<p>There is good primary forest at the eastern end of the Coastal Terrestrial Area. Remaining areas of coastal forest are well-represented on headlands in Queen Charlotte Sound.</p> <p>Motuara Island is nationally important as an island refuge for “marooning” nationally threatened species.</p> <p>Primary podocarp-broadleaf forest between Ship Cove and Resolution Bay is distinctive and regionally outstanding, displaying intact natural sequences from ridge top to sea floor.</p> <p>Very high experiential values around Resolution Bay.</p>	Refer to Coastal Terrestrial Area 8: Stokes for more on northern Queen Charlotte Sound.

Coastal Terrestrial Area 6: Nydia			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
Tennyson Inlet and Nydia Bay area	Very High	<p>Original forests on lower altitude hillslopes and toeslopes, and coastal forests are largely intact in Tennyson Inlet, and Nydia Bay to Fairy Bay.</p> <p>Small areas of alluvial forests and beach communities are still intact in Tennyson Inlet and Nydia Bay and contribute significantly to the biodiversity of the area.</p> <p>Tennyson Inlet and Nydia Bay supports some of the largest tracts of lowland and coastal forests in Marlborough. These are largely intact altitudinal sequences of primary forest, extending from ridgetops to seafloor and are therefore nationally important.</p>	Some modification around Tuna Bay, Penzance Bay and North West Bay restricts those areas to High Natural Character.

Coastal Terrestrial Area 6: Nydia			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
		<p>There are nationally threatened plants on the Tennyson Inlet islands.</p> <p>Tennyson Inlet and parts of Nydia Bay retain extremely high experiential values, due mainly to its unmodified indigenous vegetation cover that extends from the shore line to the ridges and peaks that contain the inlet.</p>	
Southern and eastern parts	Very High and High	<p>Extensive upland forest, although some regenerating to slopes around Hikapu Reach.</p> <p>High experiential values.</p>	

Coastal Terrestrial Area 7: Robertson			
General values and characteristics applicable to the whole of Coastal Terrestrial Area 7			
Upland forest tracts are intact (some exceptionally so) and are vital habitats for nationally threatened species. Tracts of primary lowland hillslope forests are still quite extensive and regionally important.			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
Port Underwood area	High	Numerous indented bays in Port Underwood from Whites Bay to Willawa Point/Oyster Bay hold high experiential values.	Most modification occurs closest to the shoreline.
Queen Charlotte Sound areas	High	Forested headland of Kaipupu Point, now managed as a "mainland island".	
Upper parts of Mt Robertson and Kahikatea	Very High	<p>Upland indigenous forest tracts provide vital habitat for nationally threatened species.</p> <p>Very high perceived naturalness.</p>	Some exotic forestry occupies the lowlands.

Coastal Terrestrial Area 8: Stokes			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
Mt. Stokes massif	Very High (and High around inner Port Gore and Camp Bay)	<p>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. It is the largest and highest forest tract in the Marlborough Sounds, and includes largely-intact shore-to-tops sequences. The area also straddles the inner and outer Sounds, where extreme weather can also play an important aspect in the Area's experiential values.</p> <p>Unique sub-alpine rockland vegetation [i.e. <i>Celmisia macmahonii</i> var. <i>macmahonii</i> only occurs here, on bluffs].</p> <p>More settled areas of inner Port Gore retain High levels of natural character due to regenerating bush and limited modification.</p> <p>Limited modification and indigenous forest cover along the Queen Charlotte shores of Endeavour Inlet and Ship Cove.</p>	Parts of Titirangi Road and Anakoha Road connecting Port Gore and Guards Bay/Anakoha Bay are included within the rating due to their limited visual and physical presence.
Southern extents	Very High	Original forest covers most of the upper slopes around Bob's Knob and the lowlands around Golf Reef Bay in Kenepuru Sound.	

Coastal Terrestrial Area 9: Pelorus			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
Pelorus/Kaituna Estuary	Very High	<p>Distinctive remnant alluvial communities, although now reduced to scattered treelands, are regionally important and include fertile podocarp and mixed broadleaf treeland, and semi-deciduous kowhai-ribbonwood-lacebark treelands.</p> <p>Estuarine and adjoining freshwater wetland communities are extensive, very distinctive, regionally outstanding, and provide important habitats.</p> <p>The estuarine system also has biotic patterns and sequences, dynamics and processes that are largely intact.</p> <p>The intertidal river delta, with its network of small waterways holds very high perceived naturalness values.</p>	Refer also to Coastal Marine Area C.

Coastal Terrestrial Area 9: Pelorus			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
Upper vegetated slopes	High	The forested upper slopes of Mt. Rutland assist in framing this intimate part of the Sounds. Biotic patterns and sequences, dynamics and process functioning are largely intact at higher altitudes on the hillslopes.	Lower slopes retain commercial forestry. Area delineated by vegetation cover.

Coastal Terrestrial Area 10: Kaituna			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
Cullen Point	High	Cullen Point is a noted vegetated headland where views are obtained towards Havelock. High levels of perceived naturalness from the walking track on Cullen Point.	
South of Grove Arm	High	Biotic patterns and sequences south of Grove Arm. High levels of perceived naturalness from Queen Charlotte Drive.	Many houses reduce naturalness close to the shore.
Elevated parts of Mt Duncan	Very High	Upland indigenous forest tracts provide vital habitat for nationally threatened species. Very high perceived naturalness.	Pasture, forestry and scrub dominate lower slopes.

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Coastal Terrestrial Area 11: Wairau			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
Wairau Lagoons and boulder bank	High	<p>The river mouth lagoon–estuary, bird's foot delta, and fringing wetlands and islands are some of the country's best examples and provide extensive wildlife habitat.</p> <p>The whole wetland ecosystem is of national importance for wading birds (including migratory species), waterfowl and other wetland birds and is equally outstanding for freshwater and estuarine fauna.</p> <p>Boulder Bank/Wairau Bar is a nationally important landform.</p> <p>Open and expansive nature of the lagoons retains high levels of perceived naturalness.</p>	<p>The estuary has been modified through historical stop-banking and alterations to river flows.</p> <p>The Blenheim sewage outfall discharges into the mouth of the Wairau River on the outgoing tide.</p>
Rarangi-Wairau Bar beach ridge system	High	<p>Nationally important landform: a sequence of beach ridges and swales created by tectonic uplift events.</p> <p>Remnant native vegetation: forest, treeland, dry shrubland and wetland.</p>	<p>Areas of housing and land use modifications have eroded the legibility of some of these ridge systems.</p>

Coastal Terrestrial Area 12: Vernon			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
White Bluffs	High	<p>The dissected hill country terminates in the regionally significant White Bluff sea cliff overlooking Cloudy Bay.</p> <p>With the constant erosion on these cliffs, vegetation is scarce, but it proliferates within the slot gorges where reclusive forests of ngaio, mahoe, mapou, akiraho, akeake, kohuhu, five-finger and lancewood are found.</p> <p>The White Bluffs form a visually strategic and striking point along the Marlborough coast, acting as the headland that divides Cloudy Bay to the north from Clifford Bay to the south. Based on this they are extremely memorable.</p>	<p>Area delimited by cliff faces only.</p>

Coastal Terrestrial Area 13: Awatere			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
Awatere River Mouth	High	<p>Incised gullies to river mouth containing ngaio, mahoe and harakeke forest.</p> <p>Lower part of river important habitat for freshwater fish (bullies, galaxids, eels and torrentfish.</p>	Contained by river cliffs.

Coastal Terrestrial Area 14: Blind			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
Blind (Otuwhero) River Mouth and coastal cliffs	High	<p>The most significant valley floor meandering floodplain-low terrace sequence occupies the Blind (Otuwhero) River valley, terminating in a small river mouth backswamp-lagoon developed behind and inland of a coastal sand dune-active beach complex.</p> <p>Remnant coastal escarpment forest support nationally threatened species [coastal treebroom].</p> <p>The lower Blind River and lagoon habitat support banded dotterel, black shag, scaup and other waterfowl.</p>	

Coastal Terrestrial Area 15: Grassmere			
There are no specific areas within Coastal Terrestrial Area 15 with Outstanding, High or Very High Coastal Natural Character Values.			

Coastal Terrestrial Area 16: Campbell			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
Coast west of Cape Campbell	Very High	<p>The coastal cliffs and escarpments have small low indigenous forest remnants and unusual, highly distinctive herbfields with nationally threatened species.</p> <p>The dunes and coastal flats also contain nationally threatened species.</p> <p>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.</p>	

Coastal Terrestrial Area 16: Campbell			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
Canterbury Gully mouth	Very High	Canterbury Gully dunefield contains nationally threatened ecosystem types and plant species.	
Southern Coast	High	<p>Modification is limited to light grazing and the occasional track, fence and small building.</p> <p>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.</p>	

Coastal Terrestrial Area 17: Wharanui			
Sub Area	Rating	Key Values	Additional Comments
Chancet Rocks to Waima/ Ure River Mouth	High	<p>The coastal zone contains localised endemic plants, nationally threatened plants and naturally rare ecosystems (calcareous bluffs, stacks and scree; dunes, gravel beaches, small wetlands and marine mammal haulouts). There are two NZ fur seal colonies (Chancet Rocks and Needles Point). There is also a ventifact field.</p> <p>The coastline from the Chancet Rocks to the Waima River holds high experiential values. The dramatic coast-sculpted limestone features of Weld Cone, the numerous coastal stacks as well as the wave cut platforms and reefs of Chancet Rock and the Needles are prominent features displaying limited modification, despite the agricultural land use.</p>	Light grazing dominates the land use.

Outstanding Natural Character Areas

1. D'Urville Island	
Abiotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nationally important geological features including Greville Harbour boulder spit and serpentinitic breccias along parts of western coast. - The island has a unique mineral belt geology including many heavily mineralised ultramafic areas. - Complex and varied marine environment with a range of aspects and exposures.
Biotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indigenous vegetation on the upland parts of D'Urville Island is largely intact and includes possum-free tracts of kohekohe, titoki and southern rata. Island communities here are nationally important. - Nationally important, unique ultramafic vegetation is extensive and includes species that are endemic to the island due to their adaptation to the high levels of trace elements found in the soil. - Other communities include dune, spit, beach, lagoon, freshwater wetland, estuarine and alluvial communities, which are all very distinctive and rare in the Sounds. - Waters of inner Greville Harbour and southern Port Hardy are flanked by extensive tracts of indigenous forest. - D'Urville Island contains one of the more extensive tracts of lowland forest remaining in Marlborough. - Largely unmodified and highly diverse near-shore coastal marine environment ranging from exposed to very sheltered shores. - Abundant populations of native freshwater fish. - Healthy stands of sea sedge at the head of Greville Harbour.
Experiential Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimal land and marine development with a highly natural coastline. - D'Urville Island holds extremely high experiential values, partially due to its semi-remoteness, but equally due to its perceived lack of modification.
2. French Pass	
Abiotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very strong currents occur in the vicinity of French Pass. - Dangerous eddies and undercurrents. - Strong tidal mixing. - Submerged ridge at French Pass.
Biotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Largely unmodified near-shore coastal marine environment; very sheltered shores. - High flow habitats and communities associated with Current Basin and French Pass.
Experiential Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visually dramatic current movement. Submerged ridge forming a distinctive reef across the narrows of French Pass.

3. D'Urville Islands	
Abiotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Highly exposed islands and headlands, which display steep and exposed rocky sea cliffs and windswept coastlines. - Strong currents sweep around the top of D'Urville Island and through Stephens Passage. - The islands are above water remnants of ancient ridges and spurs directly associated with the drowned valley system which formed the Marlborough Sounds. - Outer Islands are largely made up of sedimentary strata and schist.
Biotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Isolated Islands contain unique species including tuatara and king shag. - Very low levels of modification to all islands which contain endemic shrublands, herbfields and tussockland communities. - Largely unmodified and highly diverse near-shore coastal marine environment ranging from very exposed to very sheltered shores. - Complex rock reef and high current habitats distinguish the marine area. - Extensive bryozoan coral beds, notably between Rangitoto Islands and D'Urville Island. - Trio and Stephens Islands are predator free. - Spectacular coastal cliffs on Rangitoto and Stephens Islands.
Experiential Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exceptional characteristics that are clearly linked with the area's exposure to the sea, and its rugged and exposed appearance. - Limited or no levels of modification.
4. Chetwode and Titi Islands	
Abiotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Chetwode and Titi Islands are generally characterised by steep rock scarps and exposed cliffs. - Many spectacular rock stacks are present at the southern end of the Chetwode Islands.
Biotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Titi and Chetwode Islands are predator free. - Very low levels of modification to all islands, which contain endemic shrublands, herbfields and tussockland communities. Steep rock scarps contain tough native shrubs and species endemic to the region such as the Cook Strait Kowhai. - The Chetwodes are the most ecologically significant islands in the Marlborough Sounds harbouring the yellow crowned parakeet, mohua, robin, kaka and rare indigenous vegetation and plant species. - Near-shore areas retain high marine natural values, including high current habitats supporting bryozoan corals, sponges, hydroids, ascidians, horse mussels and associated species (e.g. fish).
Experiential Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Characteristics clearly linked with the area's exposure to the sea, rugged and exposed in appearance.
5. Eastern Arapawa Island and The Brothers	
Abiotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dynamic features and processes are largely driven by southerly winds and swells which impact upon the exposed eastern shores, creating a very high energy coastline. - Strong tidal currents are a feature especially around The Brothers Islands, near Tory Channel and off major headlands.
Biotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The eastern flanks of Arapawa Island support some of the best remaining examples of Cook Strait mixed broad-leaved forests and are nationally important, especially as possum-free environments.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Brothers Islands harbour nationally important reptiles (tuatara, duvaucels gecko). - South Brothers Island is one of the most pristine seabird islands in New Zealand. - Largely unmodified exposed rocky coastal marine environment extending over many tens of kilometres. - Diverse and productive reef communities with high macroalgae diversity.
Experiential Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dramatic coastal processes are highly legible along the length of these steep coastal cliffs and rocky reefs, with minimal modification. - The Brothers Islands are a clearly legible group of islands representing some of the most exposed islands in the Region. - The eastern entrance to Tory Channel is the gateway to the Marlborough Sounds for passengers on the Cook Strait ferries.
6. Croisilles Harbour	
Abiotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Whangarae Estuary is the only spit-formed estuary in the Marlborough Sounds. - Pakiaka Point barrier island and lagoon are regionally significant features. - Exposed, prominent rugged headland of Cape Soucis forms the regions western extent. - Islands to north of harbour.
Biotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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). - Largely unmodified near-shore coastal marine environment ranging from semi-sheltered to very sheltered shores. - Whangarae Estuary is an excellent example of a relatively unmodified estuary in Marlborough. - Subtidal sand flat and boulder bank habitats/communities at the mouth of Croisilles Harbour. - Island communities here are nationally important (Motuanauru Island and Otuhaereroa Island). They are distinct and rare biotic assemblages, which are highly productive. - Upland altitudinal forest tracks.
Experiential Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High levels of naturalness due to limited modification to the waterbody. - Islands to north of harbour and Cape Soucis headland create a visual entrance and are unmodified.

7. Maud Island	
Abiotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Island landform of steep to moderately steep coastal hills with inlets and bays retains a high maritime influence. - The Island forms a distinct pyramidal form with a slender landform connecting Maud Island to Harter Point.
Biotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Internationally significant, predator free island sanctuary. - Harbours nationally threatened species of invertebrates, birdlife and the entire population of the Maud Island Frog. - Home Bay contains 15 hectares of remnant bush including kohekohe, tawa, nikau, pukatea and mahoe. - Most of the Island is cloaked in regenerating shrubland and forest. - Several species of plants uncommon in Marlborough Sounds occur on Maud Island including the large-leaved milk tree, <i>Sonchus kirkii</i> and renga renga lily. - Sheltered coastline with multiple aspects. - Near-shore marine areas retain high natural values.
Experiential Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Distinct island landform, pyramidal skyline and slender neck of Harter Point is very evident. - Vegetation predominates views of the island which straddles the inner and outer Marlborough Sounds.
8. Tennyson Inlet and Inner Pelorus Sound	
Abiotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The coastline is moderately dissected with numerous large, deeply indented inlets and smaller bays. - Very sheltered with limited wave fetch. - Three islands are strategically located at the entrance of Tennyson Inlet.
Biotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Much of the area is backed by native forest clad hillslopes. - Intact coastal forest extends to the water's edge, some of the largest tracts of lowland forest in Marlborough. - Largely intact and nationally significant altitudinal sequences of primary forest, extending from ridgetops to seafloor. - Vegetation comprises coastal podocarp/broadleaved forest at lower altitudes and mature beech forest that stretches to the summits of the hills. These sequences extend north into Tennyson Inlet and south into Nydia Bay. - Some plant communities are possum free. - Tennyson Inlet is the largest marine area in Marlborough surrounded by protected native forest. Much of the coast extending from the head of Nydia Bay along the western side of Pelorus Sound to Jacobs Bay is also clad in native bush. - Marine habitats and communities are mostly unmodified and retain high natural values.
Experiential Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This area retains an overwhelming sense of naturalness, from shore to ridge. - Access is limited to this area by one road: Tennyson Inlet Road. - The Nydia Track connects Tennyson Inlet and Nydia Bay with Kaiuma Bay, north of Havelock through mainly forested slopes. - The area includes rare examples of sheltered inland inlets with limited modification to the water and the shores.

9. The Capes	
Abiotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cape Jackson is a superb example of a drowned ridge crest. - Cliffs and very steep slopes flank the sea and are being continually eroded by high energy waves. - Strong tidal currents off headlands. - Reefs fringe the shore and extend into deeper water, especially off the headlands.
Biotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brutal exposure to the elements has shaped unique Cook Strait vegetation on the headlands of Capes Lambert and Jackson. - Largely unmodified section of coast with exposed rocky bluffs and headlands and reef communities extending into deep water. - Cape Lambert Scenic Reserve. - High current communities in the vicinity of The Capes.
Experiential Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Capes and the waters they enclose are remote and retain a wild and exposed nature due to their narrow and rugged form. - They act as the outer 'arms' of Port Gore, where rocky outcrops and partially submerged platforms extend into the sea and offer opportunities for fishing. - Cape Jackson forms the western entrance to Queen Charlotte Sound where biotic patterns extend from Mt. Stokes and Mt. Furneaux further inland.
10. Ship Cove and Resolution Bay	
Abiotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very steep sided faces clothed in indigenous vegetation. - Highly indented coastline comprising several sheltered small bays.
Biotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mt Furneaux features nationally significant podocarp/broadleaved forest. Forest between Ship Cove and Resolution Bay is distinctive and regionally outstanding, displaying intact natural sequences from sea to ridge top. - Largely unmodified sheltered near-shore and in places offshore marine environment backed by bush clad hills.
Experiential Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This mostly sheltered coastline with its clear waters and forested backdrop is particularly memorable. - Ship Cove is generally the start of the Queen Charlotte Track. - The area retains a reasonably high level of remoteness, due to its location between the inner and outer Sounds.

11. Islands of Queen Charlotte Sound and White Rocks	
Abiotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marine submergence has created Blumine, Pickersgill, Long, The Twins, Motungarara and Motuara Islands, which are separated from the mainland and the larger Arapawa Island by narrow passages. - Long Island cusplate foreland is a regionally important geological feature. - The islands have an exposed, steep and rocky character to the north and more sheltered southern tips. - White Rocks are a good example of a very small, exposed, sparsely-soiled rock stack system.
Biotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All Islands within this outstanding natural character area are predator free. - Long Island harbours the endangered little spotted kiwi. - Pickersgill Island is regionally significant for its flora and fauna. - Motuara Island features regenerating bush and many species of native bird endangered on mainland New Zealand. - Blumine Island is home to the world's most endangered Kiwi, the rowi and other endangered New Zealand birds. Features regenerating bush. - A marine reserve of national significance surrounds Long Island and Kokomohua Island. - Largely unmodified near-shore and in places off-shore marine environment. - Unmodified White Rocks holds a unique ecosystem with limited flora and is a breeding colony for the nationally endangered king shag.
Experiential Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The steep and often rugged bush clad slopes are highly natural. - This network of islands and rocks combine to create a memorable experience for visitors to the outer Queen Charlotte Sound.
12. Mt Stokes	
Abiotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mt. Stokes is one of the most dominant landforms in the Marlborough Sounds, with its upland ridge crests and summits reaching 1,203m above sea level. - A number of watercourses extend from this central massif, and have long, high gradients with the water quality being amongst the highest in the Sounds.
Biotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Original forest covers most of the upper slopes of Stokes massif and its summit supports the only occurrence of subalpine vegetation in the Sounds. - Natural biodiversity is high due to the range of altitude, landform and habitat types; especially enhanced by subalpine communities.
Experiential Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The area straddles the inner and outer Sounds, where extreme weather can also play an important aspect in the areas experiential values. - The mountain top and associated ridges define and frame the associated bays and due to their lack of modification, retain very high remote and experiential values.

13. Pelorus Estuary	
Abiotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extensive and uniform intertidal flats at the mouth of the Pelorus River. - Largely intact estuarine hydrological processes.
Biotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Biotic patterns and sequences, dynamics and process functioning are largely intact. - Distinctive remnant alluvial communities are largely intact in the estuary and also for the upper hillslopes, although now reduced to scattered treelands, and include fertile podocarp and mixed broadleaved treeland, and semi-deciduous kowhai-ribbonwood-lacebark treelands. - Estuarine and adjoining freshwater wetland communities are extensive, very distinctive, regionally outstanding, and provide important habitats.
Experiential Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The intertidal river delta, with its network of small waterways and extensive saltmarsh beds is extremely memorable. - Despite modifications around parts of its perimeter, this large estuary holds high levels of perceived naturalness.
14. Wairau Lagoons	
Abiotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Wairau Lagoons estuary is a distinctive feature of this coastline – a 2,300ha system of interlinked channels, broad shallow lagoons, small islands and expansive intertidal flats, forming a unique and nationally significant coastal lagoon-estuarine system. - The Wairau Lagoons and Bar have been identified as nationally significant intact landforms. - Geopreservation site includes: Wairau boulder barrier; lagoon; and delta.
Biotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extensive glasswort herbfields are a distinctive feature. Other species such as rushes, sedges, estuarine herbs and grasses feature around the fringes. - Nationally significant for wading birds (including migratory species), waterfowl and other wetland birds with almost 90 recorded species – the majority being native and more than a quarter endangered, vulnerable or rare.
Experiential Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aesthetically interesting and broadly unmodified landforms of the estuarine landscape and boulder bank. - Expansive sea views out to Cloudy Bay, backdropped by the White Bluffs/Te Parinui o Whiti, which are visually impressive.

15. Cape Campbell	
Abiotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This area is influenced by the cold Southland Current, and is frequently exposed to high energy swells and storms from the south and east. - Broad and deeply incised shore platforms and offshore reefs characterise the marine environment in the vicinity of Cape Campbell. - Mussel Point forms another prominent reef structure marking the western boundary of this area. - High limestone cliffs extend between Mussel Point and Cape Campbell.
Biotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The reefs support moderate numbers and diversity of plants and animals with the greatest diversity located subtidally within channels, pools and partially sheltered areas of the reefs. - Large offshore beds of giant kelp (<i>Macrocystis pyrifera</i>). - Largely unmodified coastal marine environment.
Experiential Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access to this remote and rugged coastline is limited. - The coast is largely unmodified with no aquaculture or jetties/wharves. The area, once visited, is extremely memorable.
16. Chancet Rocks and The Needles	
Abiotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This area is influenced by the cold Southland Current, and is frequently exposed to high energy swells and storms from the south and east. Inshore coastal waters are cloudy due to sedimentation from the Flaxbourne, Clarence and Waima (Ure) Rivers and erosion of the soft cretaceous rocks of this coast by wave action. - The limestone features and wave cut platforms of the Needles and Chancet Rocks are unique to this coastline and have been identified as individual geopreservation sites due to their unique geological makeup.
Biotic Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are colonies of NZ fur seals at Chancet Rocks and The Needles. - Limestone reef communities.
Experiential Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The wave cut platforms and reefs of Chancet Rock and the Needles are prominent features displaying limited modification. - This coast is characterised by rocky reefs and stacks interspersed with sand or gravel beaches. Access is limited to only a few locations.

Source: Boffa Miskell. June 2014. Natural Character of the Marlborough Coast: Defining and Mapping the Marlborough Coastal Environment. Prepared for Marlborough District Council.





