

This entire chapter has been notified using the RMA Part One, Schedule 1 process (**P1 Sch1**). Text shown in **red** (both underlined and ~~struck-out~~) represents all changes recommended by the Panel to those parts of the Chapter considered in Hearing Stream 8 from the notified Plan provisions

SCHED10 – Ngā Hanga Māori Ahurei me Ngā Nohopae

SCHED10 – Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes

It is important to note that where Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes contain cultural values these are identified in SCHED7 as Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori.

Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes

Raukawa Coast Cook Strait	
Site Summary	<p>Outstanding Natural Landscape</p> <p>Known as Wellington’s wild coast, the Raukawa Cook Strait Coast is a rugged, remote, and expressive coastline characterised by steep escarpments above narrow gravel beaches along several notable headlands, bays and rock formations. The landscape extends along the coast from the former quarry at Owhiro Bay around Cape Terawhiti north to Ohau Bay. Outstanding Natural Features Te Rimurapa Sinclair Head/Pariwhero Red Rocks and Terawhiti are contained within this landscape. The largely unmodified coastline is home to seal colonies and important lizard and bird species. Regenerating native vegetation can be found along coastal escarpments and within protected gullies. While there are some scattered primary forest remnants, the slopes and ridgetops are dominated by pasture. There are several important cultural and historic sites within the area.</p>
Relevant values under Policy 25 of the RPS	<p>Natural Science (High)</p> <p>Sensory Factor (Very High)</p> <p>Shared and Recognised (High)</p>
<u>Natural Science Characteristics and Values</u>	<p><u>Rarity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Regionally rare and threatened plant, insect, lizard, and bird species are found throughout the landscape (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2005).</u> <p><u>Ecosystem function</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Indigenous vegetation is prominent within several sheltered gullies and along coastal escarpments and primary forest remnants with sub-alpine vegetation can be found along ridgetops of the Terawhiti hill country (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2001b).</u> • <u>The prominent headlands, Tongue Point and Te Rimurapa Sinclair Head, are seal haul outs and home to important lizard and bird species (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2016).</u>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Several locations along the coastline are recognised for their natural character, Terawhiti (very high), Oteranaga Head/Outlook Hill (high), Karori Coastal Cliffs (high), and Te Rimurapa Sinclair Head (high) (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2016).</u> • <u>Native vegetation is present throughout the area between Pipinui Point and Boom Rock with grey scrubland along the scarps and a high plant diversity that includes uncommon plants such as native broom on Pipinui Point (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2016).</u> • <u>The Makara Estuary has diverse native wetland vegetation with salt marsh providing habitat for feeding and nesting birds, several indigenous fish, native lizard species and katipo spider.</u> • <u>Pipinui Point is a breeding and nesting area for the sooty shearwater and white fronted tern (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2014) (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2016).</u> • <u>The area of Pipinui Point/Boom Rock is recognised as having high coastal natural character (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2016).</u>
<p><u>Sensory Characteristics and Values</u></p>	<p><u>Aesthetic</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The coastline is recognised both locally and regionally as an iconic, memorable and visually striking landscape. There is notable aesthetic value where strong currents break at the Karori Lighthouse and the wave worn cobbles line Opau Bay. Although access to many areas of the coastline is limited, the landscape can be viewed from the sea.</u> • <u>The coastline and escarpments are highly unmodified as evidenced by a limited presence of road, structures, and areas of introduced vegetation. Disturbance is generally limited to grazing within the hill country and small settlements of baches and infrastructure associated with the Raukawa Cook Strait transmission cable at Oteranga Bay. Isolation has contributed to the landscape’s wild and scenic character.</u> • <u>Makara Stream estuary is a significant feature on the coast contrasting with the steep coastal scarps and rocky shoreline. It is unusual for a west coast estuary in having a higher proportion of mud to sand.</u> <p><u>Expressive</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The raised beach platform and sheer coastal escarpment are highly expressive of the forces of uplift and erosion which led to the existing character. Marine terraces and raised beaches are most pronounced at Tongue Point.</u> • <u>The gently undulating surfaces of Terawhiti and Outlook Hills are remnants of an ancient peneplain and gold-veined quartz rock (ridgetops and hilltops).</u> • <u>The red, basaltic pillow lava formed by lava erupting on the sea floor are exposed at Pariwhero Red Rocks.</u> • <u>The Makara Estuary has high experiential values due to low levels of modification.</u> <p><u>Transient</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>There is a rich association with transient coastal experiences due to shifting tides, wave patterns, light conditions, aromatic, and auditory elements, sunset views, and the presence of marine mammals.</u>
<p><u>Shared and Recognised Characteristics and Values</u></p>	<p><u>Shared & Recognised</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Public access to most of the coastal landscape is restricted by private ownership. However, areas such as the Makara walkway and Te Rimurapapa Sinclair Head/Pariwhero Red Rocks are valued for their recreational and wildlife viewing opportunities, otherwise access is limited to fishing and diving.</u> • <u>Oteranga Bay is the location of the electrical transmission cable connection to the South Island.</u> • <u>Te Kopahou Reserve extends along the coast from Owhiro Bay to Rimurapa Sinclair Head, providing access to a wilderness area in close proximity to Wellington city.</u> • <u>The Makara Estuary is valued by the community for its mahinga kai values.</u>

	<p><u>Historical Association</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Several structures associated with early gold mining, such as tunnels, machinery, processing plants and settlements remain near Terawhiti Hill and Outlook Hill (Greater Wellington Regional Council, 2015).</u> • <u>The Woollahra Shipwreck site (1907, Tongue Point) and the light at Ohau Point and Karori Rock lighthouse to aid in navigation are significant to Wellington’s maritime history (Greater Wellington Regional Council, 2015).</u> • <u>Several baches along the coast are registered by the New Zealand Historic Place Trust (Wellington City Council, 2016b)</u>
<p>Karori Wildlife Sanctuary</p>	
<p>Site Summary</p>	<p>Outstanding Natural Landscape</p> <p>The Karori Wildlife Sanctuary is a protected conservation area located south of Karori. The 225 hectare area is surrounded by a pest-proof fence, forming an ecological island for native bush regeneration and bird habitat. Although cleared of most of the original indigenous vegetation for farming, native bush has been regenerating since the early 1900s, when the area served as the city’s water catchment and water storage area. The lakes behind the two dams are significant features of the sanctuary.</p>
<p>Relevant values under Policy 25 of the RPS</p>	<p>Natural Science (Very High) Sensory Factor (High)</p> <p>Shared and Recognised (Very High)</p>
<p><u>Natural Science Characteristics and Values</u></p>	<p><u>Research and Education</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Several educational offerings are available within the sanctuary. These include guided walks, custom tours, educational signage, and interactive learning opportunities.</u> • <u>The sanctuary has a research partnership with Victoria University and Massey University, serving as a living laboratory for staff and students.</u> • <u>The success of conservation programs regarding pest control, weed management, native species revegetation, and citizen science have served as a model for wider park management throughout Wellington.</u> <p><u>Rarity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The landscape is home to several rare and threatened birds, arthropods, frogs, reptiles, and tree species.</u> <p><u>Ecosystem Function</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Although the landscape is managed and includes modified features, stream function, successional vegetation patterns, and growth and diversity of bird populations are responding similarly to a natural system. Thus resulting in the presence of a healthy ecosystem.</u> • <u>The landscape is one of the most biodiversity rich areas in Wellington in terms of flora and fauna. Although the efforts of restoration are contained within a fenced enclosure, the diversity of species extends beyond the boundary.</u> • <u>The secondary forest is in the early to middle stages of successional development. The propagation of original indigenous species missing from the seedbank and other rare species have contributed to a highly diverse plant community within the landscape.</u> • <u>The native bush establishment has helped restore rare and threatened bird populations, such as the kakariki (at risk), hibi (threatened), stitchbird (threatened), kiwi (threatened), and takahē (threatened) (Zealandia, 2016).</u> • <u>The sanctuary holds the headwaters of the Kaiwharawhara Stream, the only source to sea stream in Wellington with a ‘natural’ harbour outlet. The restoration and management of the sanctuary significantly contributes to the ecological health of the wider catchment.</u>

<p><u>Sensory Characteristics and Values</u></p>	<p><u>Aesthetic</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The landscape appears largely unmodified as evidenced by a limited presence of roads, structures and communities of exotic vegetation. Modification to the landscape is generally associated with hydrologic modification related to the dam, walking paths, perimeter fence, and small buildings associated with tourism and maintenance of the landscape.</u> • <u>The lush native bush re-establishment contributes to the landscape's high aesthetic value.</u> • <u>The two dams, while artificial, are important features contributing to the experience within the sanctuary.</u> <p><u>Expressive</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The expressive Wellington fault and splinter faults are highly recognisable within the sanctuary.</u> <p><u>Transient</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>There is a rich association with wildlife transient movement, most notably through bird flight and auditory elements such as bird song and calls.</u>
<p><u>Shared and Recognised Characteristics and Values</u></p>	<p><u>Shared & Recognised</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The landscape is highly valued for recreational and wildlife viewing opportunities.</u> • <u>The volunteer programme highly contributes to the success of the sanctuary. Volunteers are involved with research, education, and maintenance programs.</u> <p><u>Historical Association</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The dams and associated structures that were once part of the city's original water catchment remain features of historic interest.</u>
<p>Otari-Wilton's Bush</p>	
<p>Site Summary</p>	<p>Outstanding Natural Landscape</p> <p>Otari-Wilton's Bush is Wellington's best example of a primary podocarp broadleaf native forest. Primary and secondary forest spans over 100 hectares from the suburb of Wilton to the Otari hilltop. The landscape includes both a botanic garden and bush reserve. The area was valued by Māori as a place for hunting and it is historically significant for its preservation, despite traditional colonisation land clearing practices. The highly diverse plant species within the landscape have high habitat, conservation, education, and research value.</p>
<p>Relevant values under Policy 25 of the RPS</p>	<p>Natural Science (Very High)</p> <p>Sensory Factor (High)</p> <p>Shared and Recognised (High)</p>
<p><u>Natural Science Characteristics and Values</u></p>	<p><u>Research and Education</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The area was gazetted as a scenic reserve in 1906 under the Preservation Act of 1903.</u> • <u>Leonard Cockayne established the Otari Open Air Native Plant Museum, a public botanic garden for the display of native plants. The labelled plant collections and forested bush walks provide educational opportunities for visitors.</u> • <u>The landscape is used for research about economic uses of native plants as well as plant structure and form (Wellington City Council, 2016a).</u> <p><u>Rarity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The plant collection contains many rare and threatened indigenous species.</u> • <u>The landscape contains one of the few remaining dense primary podocarp forests in the Wellington urban/suburban setting.</u>

	<p><u>Ecosystem Function</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Over 1200 native plant species are present (Wellington City Council, 2016a).</u> • <u>The dense native bush provides habitat for many regionally significant bird species.</u> • <u>The landscape is part of the Kaiwharawhara catchment, the only source to sea stream in Wellington with a 'natural' harbour outlet.</u>
<p><u>Sensory Characteristics and Values</u></p>	<p><u>Aesthetic</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The landscape is highly unmodified with no roads and few structures. The primary forest was fenced off and preserved since the early European settlement of Wellington, contributing to the landscape's naturalness.</u> • <u>The lush native bush reestablishment contributes to the landscape's high aesthetic value.</u> <p><u>Transient</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>There is a rich association with wildlife transient movement, most notable through bird flight and auditory elements such as bird song and calls.</u>
<p><u>Shared and Recognised Characteristics and Values</u></p>	<p><u>Shared & Recognised</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>An extensive series of tracks within the bush provide opportunities for forested walks and wildlife viewing.</u> • <u>The landscape is a popular destination for picnics, botanising and 'wilderness' experience.</u> • <u>The landscape recently won a Green Flag Award, recognising it as a well-managed park and green space that sets the benchmark standard for management of recreational outdoor spaces.</u> • <u>The volunteer programme highly contributes to the conservation of the bush. Volunteers are involved with research, education, and maintenance programs.</u> <p><u>Historical Association</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The landscape is historically significant because of its size, scale and native vegetation despite the effects of colonisation land clearing practices, for timber and farming, as well as for its role in the preservation and display of native species.</u> • <u>The botanic gardens were established in 1927 by Leonard Cockayne, considered to be New Zealand's greatest botanist and a founder of modern science in New Zealand.</u>
<p>Te Rimurapa Sinclair Head/Pipinui Point Pariwhero Red Rocks</p>	
<p>Site Summary</p>	<p>Outstanding Natural Feature within the Raukawa Coast Cook Strait Outstanding Natural Landscape</p> <p>Te Rimurapa pa Sinclair Head/Pariwhero Red Rocks is a prominent headland and rock sequence along the Raukawa Cook Strait Coast. Metamorphic facies are framed by pillow lava and notable red and green rock formations. These features are noted as geopreservation landforms of national significance. The headland is home to seal colonies and threatened and rare lizard and bird species. Both wildlife and the scenic character of the coastline attract many visitors to the area, and several cultural sites and Māori legends are associated with the feature.</p>
<p>Relevant values under Policy 25 of the RPS</p>	<p>Natural Science (High)</p> <p>Sensory Factor (Very High)</p> <p>Shared and Recognised (Very High)</p>
<p><u>Natural Science Characteristics and Values</u></p>	<p><u>Research and Education</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The Red Rocks Scientific Reserve was established in 1972 (Wellington City Council, 2016b).</u>

	<p><u>Rarity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Five threatened at risk bird species, black shag, variable oystercatcher, re-billed gull, white fronted tern, and NZ pipit frequent the headland.</u> • <u>Shrubby tororaro (Muehlenbeckia astonii), identified as a nationally vulnerable and regionally critical plant, is growing along the headland escarpment (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2014).</u> <p><u>Ecosystem function</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The headland is an important seal haul-out area.</u> • <u>The feature is recognised as having high coastal natural character (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2016).</u>
<p><u>Sensory Characteristics and Values</u></p>	<p><u>Aesthetic</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Te Rimurapapa Sinclair Head/Pariwhero Red Rocks is recognised both locally and regionally as an iconic and memorable feature with high scenic value.</u> • <u>The headland and rock formations are highly unmodified with no structures, introduced vegetation, or designated road (though restricted four-wheel drive vehicle access is permitted).</u> <p><u>Expressiveness</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The oceanic metabasalt pillow lava and coloured argillites within the Torlesse Complex greywacke of Pariwhero Red Rocks are evidence of submarine volcanic eruptions formed 200 million years ago (Greater Wellington Regional Council, 2015).</u> • <u>The steep escarpment and rocky shore platform are expressive of the forces of uplift and erosion which led to the existing character of the headland.</u> <p><u>Transient</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>There is a rich association with transient coastal experiences due to shifting tides, wave patterns, light conditions, aromatic and auditory elements, bird migration patterns and the presence of marine mammals.</u>
<p><u>Shared and Recognised Characteristics and Values</u></p>	<p><u>Shared & Recognised</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The feature is highly valued for both terrestrial and aquatic recreation opportunities, most notably for seal wildlife viewing.</u> <p><u>Historical Association</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Concrete remnants from a WWII observation post remain at the top of the headland.</u> • <u>The Tyne Shipwreck (1845) at Pariwhero Red Rocks has high historical significance for its association with prominent early immigrants to the colony (Greater Wellington Regional Council, 2015).</u>
<p>Terawhiti</p>	
<p>Site Summary</p>	<p>Outstanding Natural Feature within the Raukawa Coast Cook Strait Outstanding Natural Landscape</p> <p>Terawhiti is a large promontory along the west edge of Wellington’s wild coast. The feature begins at the coastal edge of Ohau Bay, following the ridgetop to Terawhiti Hill, and then down to the coast at Oteranga Bay. It has a narrow gravel beach platform with steep slopes that rise to a folded and faulted ridgeline. It is recognised more for the expressive landform and scenic and cultural value rather than its habitat. Vegetation and habitat is impacted by the harsh coastal conditions, historic mining activities, and current grazing practices. However, there are native grasses and shrubs establishing in sheltered areas, and sub-alpine vegetation at the top of Terawhiti Hill.</p>

<p>Relevant values under Policy 25 of the RPS</p>	<p>Natural Science (High) Sensory Factor (Very High) Shared and Recognised (High)</p>
<p><u>Natural Science Characteristics and Values</u></p>	<p><u>Ecosystem Function</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The harsh coastal conditions and current grazing practices impact ecosystem function throughout the feature.</u> • <u>The summit of Terawhiti Hill is recognized as an ecological site of significance due to the presence of sub alpine native grasses and shrubs within pasture (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2003).</u> • <u>The feature is recognized as having very high natural character (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2016).</u>
<p><u>Sensory Characteristics and Values</u></p>	<p><u>Aesthetic</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The coastline is recognised both locally and regionally as an iconic, memorable and visually striking landscape. While access to many areas of the coastline is limited, it can be viewed from the sea.</u> • <u>The landform is generally unmodified apart from farm tracks and remains of former gold mining workings. The land cover is reflective of the harsh coastal environment and grazing practices, which have diminished the ecological value.</u> <p><u>Expressive</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The raised beach platform and sheer coastal escarpment are highly expressive of the forces of uplift and erosion which led to the existing character.</u> • <u>Terawhiti Hill is a remnant of an ancient peneplain and gold-veined quartz rock (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2001b).</u> • <u>Black Gully, a branch of the Pukerua Fault, forms the eastern edge of the feature (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2014).</u> <p><u>Transient</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>There is a rich association with transient coastal experiences due to shifting tides, wave patterns, light conditions, aromatic, and auditory elements, and sunset views.</u>
<p><u>Shared and Recognised Characteristics and Values</u></p>	<p><u>Shared & Recognised</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Land access is restricted by private ownership, therefore recreational opportunities are limited to fishing and diving along the coastal edge.</u> <p><u>Historical Associations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Several structures associated with early gold mining, such as tunnels, machinery, processing plants and settlements remain near Terawhiti Hill (Greater Wellington Regional Council, 2015).</u> • <u>The Grassmere shipwreck (1896) at Cape Terawhiti is significant to Wellington's maritime history (Greater Wellington Regional Council, 2015).</u>
<p>Hue tē Taka Peninsula/Rangitatau Palmer Head</p>	
<p>Site Summary</p>	<p>Outstanding Natural Feature</p> <p>Hue tē Taka Peninsula/Rangitatau Palmer Head refers to the southern headland, escarpment and rock stacks at the southern end of Motu Kairangi Miramar Peninsula. The feature is characterised by a vegetated steep above a narrow beach platform that extends to form the Hue tē Taka Peninsula. The headland extends from the top of the southern ridge of Rangitatu Palmer Head to include the escarpment and edge of the shore and rock stacks along Tarakena Bay. The peninsula and part of the headland are designated as conservation areas. The feature is known for its scenic, habitat, cultural, and historic value. The rock formations and regenerating coastal vegetation attract a diverse range of indigenous coastal birds and lizards. Two pā are located above the escarpment, and the headland was a strategic defence location for Māori, and later for military during WWII.</p>

<p>Relevant values under Policy 25 of the RPS</p>	<p>Natural Science (High)</p> <p>Sensory Factor (Very High)</p> <p>Shared and Recognised (Very High)</p>
<p><u>Natural Science Characteristics and Values</u></p>	<p><u>Rarity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The Hue tē Taka Peninsula has one of the largest lizard populations in the Wellington region (Greater Wellington Regional Council, 2015).</u> <p><u>Ecosystem Function</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Successional patterns of regenerating indigenous coastal vegetation occupy the south-facing flanks of Tarakena Bay and the Hue tē Taka Peninsula.</u> • <u>The headland and peninsula provide habitat for a diverse range of indigenous coastal birds including the blue penguin.</u> • <u>The feature is recognised as having high coastal natural character (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2016).</u>
<p><u>Sensory Characteristics and Values</u></p>	<p><u>Aesthetic</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The Hue tē Taka Peninsula is fairly undisturbed amongst a generally unmodified headland and coastal edge. Modifications are limited to the coastal road, parking areas, and sewage outfall.</u> • <u>The landmark landform and rock stacks are valued by the community for their scenic and aesthetic character.</u> <p><u>Expressive</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Steep coastal escarpments, beach platforms, and rock stacks are expressive of the forces of uplift and erosion that led to the existing character.</u> <p><u>Transient</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>There is a rich association with a transient coastal experiences due to shifting tides, wave patterns, light conditions, aromatic and auditory elements, and bird migration patterns.</u>
<p><u>Shared and Recognised Characteristics and Values</u></p>	<p><u>Shared & Recognised</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The feature is highly valued for terrestrial and aquatic recreation and wildlife viewing opportunities. The peninsula is a notable diving, fishing, and shellfish collection area, and is also valued as a place to enjoy and observe the coastal experience.</u> <p><u>Historical Association</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The feature was a strategic site during WWII. Fortification and search light emplacement remnants remain on the headland ridge.</u> • <u>Tarakena Bay is the site of an old Pilot Station that served as home to Captain Lancelot Holmes, the pilot in command during the 1870s and 1880s (Raukura Consultants, 2014).</u>
<p>Taputeranga Island</p>	
<p>Site Summary</p>	<p>Outstanding Natural Feature</p> <p>Taputeranga Island is an iconic feature off the south coast within the Island Bay Marine Reserve. Known as the 'Isle of Hallowed Ways', the island is the subject of many Māori legends and traditions. Although the feature is dominated by weed species, its location along the coastal edge attracts a wide range of regionally significant bird species.</p>
<p>Relevant values under Policy 25 of the RPS</p>	<p>Natural Science (High)</p> <p>Sensory Factor (Very High)</p>

	Shared and Recognised (Very High)
<u>Natural Science Characteristics and Values</u>	<p><u>Rarity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>The island provides habitat for a variety of threatened and at risk bird and lizard species. It is one of only two breeding sites for the reef heron and home to the rare common skink and minimac gecko (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2014)(Greater Wellington Regional Council, 2015).</u> <p><u>Ecological Function</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Although the land cover mainly consists of weed species, there are some regionally significant flora that attract a diverse range of regionally significant wildlife including birds, geckos, and skinks (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2011).</u> <u>The island is a nesting area for blue penguins.</u> <u>The feature is recognised as having very high coastal natural character (Greater Wellington Regional Council, 2015).</u>
<u>Sensory Characteristics and Values</u>	<p><u>Aesthetic</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>The form of the island is highly unmodified. Disturbances are limited to indigenous vegetation which has been slow to regenerate due to harsh coastal conditions.</u> <u>The island is an iconic feature within the Island Bay community and is the subject of paintings by many different artists (e.g. Rita Angus). It is highly valued for its dramatic and scenic character.</u> <p><u>Expressive</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>The exposed coastal greywacke rock feature is expressive of the forces of uplift and erosion that led to its existing character.</u> <p><u>Transient</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>There is a rich association with transient coastal experiences due to shifting tides, wave patterns, light conditions, aromatic and auditory elements, and bird migration patterns.</u>
<u>Shared and Recognised Characteristics and Values</u>	<p><u>Shared & Recognised</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>The feature is highly valued for its aquatic recreational opportunities within the marine reserve.</u> <u>The sheltering effect that the island provides to the bay has allowed the bay to be used as a harbour for fishing boats. The long association with fishing is an important characteristic of Island Bay identity (e.g. Boats, Island Bay by Rita Angus).</u>
Oruaiti	
Site Summary	<p>Outstanding Natural Feature</p> <p>Oruaiti is a made up of steep coastal cliffs, sand dunes, beaches, and rock sequences along the east coast of the Motu Kairangi Miramar Peninsula. The feature extends south from the escarpment at Te Aroaro-o-Kupe Steeple Rock to include Point Dorset and west along Breaker Bay. Located at the entrance to Te Whanganui a Tara Wellington Harbour, Oruaiti is the site of a strategic pā and was later used as a defensive position during both world wars. Prominent rock formations and steep coastal cliffs are recognised for their scenic and recreational value. The beaches below are a breeding ground for blue penguins and the rock formations are habitat for coastal bird species.</p>
Relevant values under Policy 25 of the RPS	<p>Natural Science (High)</p> <p>Sensory Factor (Very High)</p> <p>Shared and Recognised (Very High)</p>

<p><u>Natural Science Characteristics and Values</u></p>	<p><u>Rarity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The sand dunes below the eastern escarpment are one of the few remaining along Wellington’s south coast (Wellington City Council, 2011).</u> • <u>The escarpment contains <i>Desmoschoenus spiralis</i>, a rare sedge.</u> <p><u>Ecosystem Function</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Through restoration efforts, indigenous coastal vegetation is regenerating along the escarpment (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2001a).</u> • <u>The eastern shore is a breeding area for blue penguins.</u> • <u>The headland is an important nesting area for penguins. The rocks at Point Dorset are a roosting area for shags and gulls.</u> • <u>The feature is recognised as having high coastal natural character (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2016).</u>
<p><u>Sensory Characteristics and Values</u></p>	<p><u>Aesthetic</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The relatively unmodified headland is the only part of the eastern shoreline of Motu Kairangi Miramar Peninsula without immediate road access. Disturbance is generally limited to the nearby former military structures, interpretive signage, and pedestrian stair access on the headland.</u> • <u>The landmark feature signals the Te Whanganui a Tara Wellington Harbour gateway for sea vessels (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2001a).</u> • <u>The headland is important to the community and recognized for its scenic and aesthetic value.</u> <p><u>Expressive</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Steep coastal escarpments and beach platforms are expressive of the forces of uplift and erosion that led to the existing character of the feature.</u> • <u>Te Aroaro a Kupe (Steeple Rock) and Point Dorset are expressive rock formations extending along the headland.</u> <p><u>Transient</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>There is a rich association with transient coastal experiences due to shifting tides, wave patterns, light conditions, aromatic and auditory elements, and bird migration patterns.</u>
<p><u>Shared and Recognised Characteristics and Values</u></p>	<p><u>Shared & Recognised</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The feature is highly valued for recreation and wildlife viewing opportunities. The connection to the Eastern Walkway, isolated character from the road, and the panoramic views of the harbour from the top of the escarpment contribute to the feature’s attraction. The sheltered, sandy beach along Breaker Bay is a popular area for surfing, swimming, and surfcasting.</u> • <u>The feature is the official tsunami evacuation location for the nearby school and surrounding neighbourhood.</u> <p><u>Historical Association</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Point Dorset was a strategic defence location during both world wars (Wellington City Council, 2011). Remnants of the former gun emplacements and observation bunkers remain on the site.</u> • <u>Several shipwrecks, notable in Wellington’s maritime history, occurred near the features, Subraon (1848), Tui (1886), Willie McLaren (1889), and the Wahine (1968) (Wellington City Council, 2011).</u>