

**SCHED7 – Outstanding Natural Landscapes**

SCHEDULE 7

Unique Identifier	Map Ref	Site Name	Location	Site Type	Description of Values
ONL1		Northern Coastline	Northern Coast ONL 1 relates to the densely bush covered ridgelines, slopes and stream valleys throughout the western portion of the LCU 1a and the bush covered coastal hill slopes, wetlands and coastal cliff areas within LCU 1b (- see LCU Mapping). ONL 1 also includes the Te Maika peninsula which defines the western edge of the Kawhia Harbour and is flanked on either side by the bush clad coastal landforms.	Outstanding natural landscape	<p><b>BIOPHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES</b></p> <p>Kawhia harbour: richly indented harbour coastline with rolling to steeply dissected lowland bush clad hill country backdrop. Coastline characterised by a mix of sandy beaches and mud flats interspersed with highly attractive and distinctive coastal cliffs and rock outcrops.</p> <p>West of the harbour: shallow black sand beaches backdropped by steep and dramatic coastal cliffs along north facing coastline interspersed with rocky outcrops, reefs and dramatic coastal cliff promontories culminating in the distinctive landform of Albatross Point.</p> <p>Several sites of geological significance including: around the coastline at Te Maika (Jurassic sequence), Totara Point and Captain Springs Shellbed (Jurassic fossils), Heteri Point (Jurassic macrofossils), Ohaua Point (Jurassic fossils), around Albatross Point (Jurassic sediments and syncline), Anaomaki Point (volcanic) and the Arataura Point-Ururoa Point cliffs (Jurassic sequence with fossil bed).</p> <p>Extensive and contiguous high-quality coastal forest. Identified as Nationally Significant SNA. Kiwi habitat. Large example of an underrepresented habitat type.</p>

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					<p>Kawhia harbour and its margins are habitat for many species of shore and wading birds, including threatened species such as black stilt, Australasian bittern, banded dotterel, banded rail, spotless crane and North Island fernbird. Other species include New Zealand dotterel, black-fronted tern and Caspian tern. The harbour is also used by international migrant species such as bar-tailed godwit, lesser knot, turnstone, Asiatic whimbrel and eastern curlew.</p> <p>Strongly tidal harbour setting.</p> <p><b>PERCEPTUAL (SENSORY) ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES</b></p> <p>Highly attractive and memorable panoramic coastal views to the area from the Kawhia harbour, Kawhia settlement, Whakapirau Road, the DoC track, the air and the surrounding rural and rural residential context in which the area reads as a relatively untouched tract of coastal bush country backdropping the harbour or coastal cliffs. The complex patterning of fingers of bush covered headlands extending into the highly tidal Kawhia harbour create a complex, dramatic and dynamic outlook that is highly engaging.</p> <p>The highly dynamic waters of the Tasman Sea seen against the dramatic coastal cliffs and backdropped by a continuous mantle of bush is both striking and impressive. The visual coherence arising from the contiguous bush cover throughout the area adds to the memorability of the outlook.</p> <p>In places the visibility of Mt Taranaki, Mt Karioi and Pirongia in combination with the bush covered hill slopes,</p>

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					<p>coastal cliffs, and/or highly dynamic sea/harbour waters add to the memorability and drama of the outlook.</p> <p>High degree of naturalness as a consequence of: the strong influence of the tidal harbour and/or exposed coastal waters; the very low level of built development and its modest and low key/informal character (which includes a dark night sky); the dramatic coastal landforms (cliffs, rocky outcrops and reefs) and the scale and dominance of bush cover.</p> <p>Highly memorable landscape as a consequence of the perceptual values discussed above.</p> <p>A relatively high level of legibility as a consequence of richly dissected landform patterning.</p> <p>Harbour and coastal margins strongly expressive of coastal processes.</p> <p>The highly tidal nature of the harbour and avifauna values imbue a high level of transient values. The extreme weather associated with the exposed Tasman Sea coastline also contributes to the transient values.</p> <p>Generally a high perception of remoteness as a consequence of the very limited built development, the inaccessibility of the area and the humble and very modest character of existing built development.</p> <p><b>ASSOCIATIVE ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES</b></p> <p>Coastline richly endowed with cultural heritage sites.</p> <p>The harbour is the birthplace of Te Rauparaha (Ngāti Toa) who lived in the area until the 1920s when he and his tribe, along with Ngāti Rārua and Ngāti Koata, migrated southwards.</p>

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					<p>DoC tracks together with the popularity of the Kawhia Harbour for boating and expert level surf break at Albatross Point (subject to landowner permission to access private land) confers recreational values.</p> <p><b>SUMMARY OF VALUES</b></p> <p>Generally, the area qualifies in terms of outstanding-ness as a consequence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. its very high ecological values;</li> <li>b. the high degree of naturalness arising from: the wild and/or dynamic coastal context; the very limited human modification which, where visible is subservient to the more natural landscape elements, patterns and processes by virtue of its modest and very low key /informal character; and the dramatic coastal landforms and the dominance of indigenous bush cover;</li> <li>c. the strong sense of remoteness and 'getting away from it all' as a consequence of the very limited level of development and the relative inaccessibility of the area;</li> <li>d. the high aesthetic and memorability values of the area as a consequence of its highly attractive and dramatic visual character and context; and</li> <li>e. cultural landscape values.</li> </ul> <p>The more pasture dominated and inhabited eastern portion of LCU 1a is excluded from ONL 1 as a consequence of the level of human modification combined with the considerably more fragmented patterning of indigenous vegetation. However, the highly attractive</p>

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					character of the area dominated by its almost unbroken visual connection with the dynamic and scenic waters of the harbour means that it is considered to comprise an RMA s7(c) Amenity Landscape – refer <b>LHAV 1 Kawhia Harbour</b> .
ONL2		Western Coast	Western Coast ONL 2 relates to the stretch of coastline extending from Motunau to the flat land around Awakino and encompasses the coastal environment throughout that area together with the bush covered hill slopes extending up the ridgeline system that serves to separate the coastal environment from the Mangatoa and Manganui valleys to the east.	Outstanding natural landscape	<p><b>BIOPHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES</b></p> Highly dramatic coastal cliff and shelf sequence interspersed with: rocky ledges, shoals and reefs; sandy bays with spits, dunes and coastal flats.                     Several sites of very high geological significance (i.e. ONF) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coastal cliffs to the north and south of Kiritehere. (North of Kiritehere: well-exposed examples of submarine slumps, excellent series. Excellent series of numerous zeolitised vitric tuff beds in sedimentary sequence. Important for invertebrate and pollen stratigraphy and best Triassic sequence in the North Island. Rich gastropod fauna. South of Kiritehere: oldest Triassic strata in the North Island.)</li> <li>• Marokopa River mouth sandspits and dune field.</li> <li>• Coastline in the vicinity of Waikawau.</li> <li>• Paparahaia Cave feature.</li> </ul> Extensive and, for the most part, contiguous SNA (of national and international significance) identified throughout the steep elevated bush-clad slopes throughout the eastern portion of the unit and the steep-sided gullies (on the western side) draining to the coast. Rare ecological sequences (eg black beech), nationally

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					<p>endangered plant and avifauna species, under-represented vegetation types (eg coastal forest, scrub and dunes) and under-represented habitat types evident. Numerous intact wetlands.</p> <p>Shore bird and whitebait habitat (in river mouths). Highly dynamic west coast setting.</p> <p><b>PERCEPTUAL (SENSORY) ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES</b></p> <p>Highly attractive views of the coastal cliffs, bays, Waikawau Tunnel, river mouths/dune and spit landforms, Tasman Sea, western coastal cliffs/shelves and bush-clad hill backdrop. From the water and air, the unit reads as a dramatic and highly memorable west coast landscape. The complex patterning of highly sculpted coastal landforms (cliffs, shelves, ledges) backdropped by the moulded pasture covered slopes and rugged bush clad ridge slopes seen alongside the forceful waters of the Tasman is impressive and highly engaging. The patterning of steeply dissected bush clad stream valleys and small-scale bays adds further complexity and interest resulting in an extremely striking coastal landscape.</p> <p>The visibility of Mt Taranaki and Mt Karioi together with the vast stretches of coastal cliffs extending to the north and south of the area, add to the memorability and drama of the outlook.</p> <p>On a clear day, the location enables a quite unique appreciation of the 'shape' of the Taranaki Bight.</p> <p>Very high degree of naturalness as a consequence of: the strong influence of the exposed coastal waters; the</p>

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					<p>dramatic coastal landforms; the extremely low level of built development and inaccessibility of the majority of the area; the extensive areas of bush; and the low-intensity character of the farmland.</p> <p>Highly memorable landscape as a consequence of the perceptual values discussed above. The extreme weather and high dynamism associated with the coastal cliffs and shelves often associated with the area adds to its memorability.</p> <p>A relatively high level of legibility as a consequence of bold landform patterning including the coastal cliffs and shelves, the steeply dissected hill slopes and the rugged and prominent ridgeline landforms. In places, the pasture cover throughout some of the steeply dissected hill slopes adds to their legibility.</p> <p>Sandy bays, spits, dunefields, eroding cliffs/shelves and bush lined gullies strongly expressive of landscape shaping processes.</p> <p>The extreme weather associated with the exposed Tasman Sea coastline contributes to the transient values with active cliff/shelf erosion evident in numerous locations.</p> <p>Generally a high perception of remoteness as a consequence of the very limited built development, the inaccessibility of the area and the low key and very modest character of existing built development.</p> <p><b>ASSOCIATIVE ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES</b></p> <p>Coastline richly endowed with cultural heritage sites.</p> <p>Waikawau Tunnel together with the DoC track near Pehimatea confer some recreational values. The regionally</p>

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					<p>significant surf breaks at Marokopa and Kiritehere are also of some relevance, albeit likely to be outside of the ONL itself.</p> <p><b>SUMMARY OF VALUES</b></p> <p>Generally, the area qualifies in terms of outstanding-ness as a consequence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. its very high geological values;</li> <li>b. its very high ecological values;</li> <li>c. the very high degree of naturalness arising from: the strong influence of the exposed coastal waters; the dramatic coastal landforms; the extremely low level of built development and inaccessibility of the majority of the area; the extensive areas of bush; and the low-intensity character of the farmland;</li> <li>d. the strong sense of remoteness and 'getting away from it all' as a consequence of the very limited level of development and the relative inaccessibility of the area;</li> <li>e. the very high aesthetic and memorability values of the area as a consequence of its highly attractive, impressive and striking visual character and context; and</li> <li>f. cultural landscape values.</li> </ul> <p>ONL 2 excludes the coastal flats around Marokopa, Kiritehere, Awakino and Mokau as these are assessed to comprise a smaller 'settled' landscapes nested within the wider western coast landscape. The level of modification in each of these areas together with their generally</p>



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					reduced sense of drama, memorability and remoteness is such that they do not qualify for consideration as ONL. Similarly LCU 2 Taharoa Ironsands and LCU 3 Dune Lakes which are also located within the coastal environment are excluded from ONL 2. Whilst there are a number of very high value landscape features within LCU 3 Dune Lakes (for examples the lakes themselves and the wetland/bush features), overall the influence of the nearby sand mining operation, production forestry, quarry, settlement and generally more fragmented land use patterns are such that despite the highly attractive lake and wetland features, exhibits a reduced sense of naturalness and aesthetic quality such that it does not qualify as outstanding.
ONL3		Mokau Hills	ONL 3 Mokau Hills relates to the extensive patterning of bush clad hills and steeply incised valleys in the south-western quadrant of the district, inland of Mokau and to the south of the Awakino Gorge.	Outstanding natural landscape	<p><b>BIOPHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES</b></p> <p>Steeply dissected and rugged bush clad terrain. Vast expanse of contiguous SNA with the majority ranked as being of National significance. Habitat for threatened or at-risk flora and fauna. Mokau River and estuary, together with complex network of tributaries. Mahoenui Coal Mine.</p> <p><b>PERCEPTUAL (SENSORY) ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES</b></p> <p>Attractive views of the rugged, bush-clad terrain from the air and DoC tracks throughout the area. The mature character of much of the bush cover together with its continuous cover confers a strong sense of 'indigenous New Zealand' and a high level of aesthetic coherence.</p>

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					<p>Forms rugged bush clad hill backdrop in views from SH3 to the north and south of Awakino Gorge.</p> <p>Very high degree of naturalness as a consequence of: the dominant influence of the large-scale rugged bush-clad terrain interspersed with numerous watercourses; the inaccessibility of the area; and the generally very limited level of human modification evident.</p> <p>Memorable landscape as a consequence of the perceptual values discussed above.</p> <p>A relatively high level of legibility as a consequence of bold landform and watercourse patterning including the steeply dissected hill slopes and the rugged and prominent ridgeline landforms.</p> <p>Complex ridgeline patterns, steeply incised valleys and winding streams/rivers expressive of landscape shaping processes.</p> <p>Generally a very high perception of remoteness/wilderness as a consequence of the strongly endemic character of the landcover, very limited built development, the inaccessibility of the area, and the low key/very modest character of existing built development.</p> <p><b>ASSOCIATIVE ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES</b></p> <p>Some cultural heritage sites throughout unit, largely along stream and river margins. Historically the Mokau River was an important boundary between the Tainui and Taranaki tribal areas.</p> <p>DoC tracks and popularity of the area for hunting and whitebaiting confers some recreational values.</p>

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					<p><b>SUMMARY OF VALUES</b></p> <p>Generally the area qualifies in terms of outstanding-ness as a consequence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. its very high ecological values;</li> <li>b. the very high degree of naturalness arising from: the dominant influence of the large-scale rugged bush-clad terrain interspersed with numerous watercourses; the inaccessibility of the area; and the generally very limited level of human modification evident;</li> <li>c. the very strong sense of remoteness and wilderness as a consequence of the strongly endemic character of the landcover, very limited built development, the inaccessibility of the area, and the low key/very modest character of existing built development;</li> <li>d. the high aesthetic and memorability values of the area as a consequence of its attractive visual character and context in both closer range and long-range views (including from DoC tracks and SH3); and</li> <li>e. cultural landscape values.</li> </ul> <p>The recreational values of the area associated with its use for tramping, hunting and whitebaiting also contribute to these values.</p> <p>The more gently sloping pastoral terraces interspersed with bush lined stream valleys throughout the northern margins of the unit are excluded from the ONL 3 as a consequence of: the level of human modification</p>

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					<p>combined with the considerably more fragmented patterning of indigenous vegetation. The location of these terraces on the edge of the wider bush setting reinforces their perception of a smaller and slightly different landscape nested within the wider Mokau Hills landscape unit.</p>
ONL4		Herangi-Pomarangai	ONL 4 Herangi-Pomarangai relates to the extensive patterning of bush clad and rugged ranges, foothills and narrow inland valleys along the western side of the District.	Outstanding natural landscape	<p><b>BIOPHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES</b></p> <p>Steeply sloping and dissected landforms interspersed with numerous stream valleys.</p> <p>Dramatic and distinctive ridgelines and peaks in places.</p> <p>Highly sculpted pastoral landforms frame stream valleys in places.</p> <p>Fossil features at Rauroa Stream.</p> <p>Vast expanse of contiguous SNA with the majority ranked as being of National significance. The proximity to the west coast provides an unusually cold and moist climate.</p> <p>Whareorino features tawa, hinau, kamahi, and rewarewa as well as podocarps, and is particularly valued for its range of vegetation, from coastal and lowland vegetation types to subalpine and montane. At the top of the Herangi Range, 600–800 m above sea level, the ridges are covered in low scrub and kaikawaka along with neinei, pepperwood and divaricating shrubs interspersed with areas of cushion bog. This vegetation is sub-alpine and uncommon in the King Country. Riroriro (grey warbler), miromiro (tomtit), tītiti pounamu (rifleman) and koekoeā (long-tailed cuckoo), kereru (wood pigeon), korimako (bellbird), pōpokotea (whitehead), kārearea (bush falcon), kaka , kiwi, kokako, native bats, Archey's frogs and</p>

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					<p>Hochstetter's frog recorded in Whareorino Forest. Habitat for threatened or at-risk flora and fauna.</p> <p>Much of the bush cover is in DoC ownership or protected by way of QE II Covenant.</p> <p><b>PERCEPTUAL (SENSORY) ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES</b></p> <p>Highly attractive and memorable views of the rugged and dramatic large-scale bush-clad ridgeline and peak landforms, and steeply incised valleys from local roads and walking tracks. Longer range memorable views to the bush clad ranges and distinctive peaks from the lower lying land to the east (including SH3) and west (eg Waikawau Valley).</p> <p>The dense and extensive bush mantle extending throughout the dramatic ridgelines and peaks, together with the very low intensity pastoral farming and modest buildings throughout valleys confers a strong sense of 'indigenous and old school New Zealand' that is highly attractive and generally displays a high level of aesthetic coherence.</p> <p>Very high degree of naturalness as a consequence of: the dominant influence of the large-scale rugged bush-clad terrain; the relatively inaccessibility of the area; and the generally very limited level of human modification evident. Localised areas of reduced naturalness associated with pastoral farming, although the limited scale within the wider footprint and/or with its limited visibility means that it does not contribute an appreciable landscape character-shaping influence on the wider ONL.</p>

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					<p>Highly memorable landscape as a consequence of the perceptual values discussed above.</p> <p>A relatively high level of legibility as a consequence of the bold landform and watercourse patterns. Gully vegetation patterning serves to reinforce landscape legibility in places.</p> <p>Complex ridgeline patterns, winding streams and gully remnant patterning expressive of landscape shaping processes.</p> <p>Generally, a very high perception of remoteness/wilderness as a consequence of the strongly endemic character of the landcover, very limited built development, the inaccessibility of the area, and the low key/very modest character of existing built development.</p> <p><b>ASSOCIATIVE ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES</b></p> <p>Some cultural heritage sites throughout unit.</p> <p>DoC tracks and popularity of the area for tramping, hunting, fly fishing and as a scenic route (Pomarangai Road, Mangatoa Road and Manganui Road) confers high recreational values.</p> <p><b>SUMMARY OF VALUES</b></p> <p>Generally, the area qualifies in terms of outstanding-ness as a consequence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. it has very high ecological values;</li> <li>b. the very high degree of naturalness arising from: the dominant influence of the large-scale rugged bush-clad terrain interspersed with numerous watercourses; the inaccessibility of the area; and</li> </ul>

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					<p>the generally very limited level of human modification evident;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. the very strong sense of remoteness and wilderness as a consequence of the dramatic scale of the rugged terrain, peaks and ridgelines, the strongly endemic character of the landcover, the (relative) inaccessibility of the area, the very limited built development, and the low key/very modest character of existing built development;</li> <li>d. its high recreational values associated with the network of walking tracks, scenic route and popularity of the area for tramping, hunting and fly fishing;</li> <li>e. the high shared and recognised values associated with the area, borne out in its popularity as a place to visit and recreate in;</li> <li>f. the high aesthetic and memorability values of the area as a consequence of its highly attractive visual character and context in both closer range and long-range views (including from DoC tracks, local roads and SH3) and its remoteness / naturalness qualities; and</li> <li>g. the cultural landscape values associated with the area.</li> </ul> <p>The majority of the narrow inland pastoral valleys within the Herangi-Pomarangai LCU are included within ONL 4. This includes pastoral land and slivers of production forestry around Moeatoa and Paparahia Station, straddling the road corridor and pastoral land along the Gribbon</p>

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					<p>Road valley. The relatively small scale of these pastoral/production forestry areas within the wide bush clad hill and range landscape is such that they do not read as separate landscapes deserving of exclusion. Further, the highly sculpted landforms evident in these areas means that they also make a positive (albeit slightly different) contribution to the values of the wider landscape setting.</p> <p>The exception to this is the broader pastoral valley system around Waikawau. This area is of sufficient scale and contrasting character (small scale settlement with extensive flat and gently rolling pastoral farming areas and some larger areas of production forestry) to warrant consideration as a smaller landscape nested within the broader Herangi-Pomarangai landscape. The level of human modification within the area coupled with the paucity of indigenous vegetation means that it does not qualify for inclusion within the ONL.</p> <p>Elsewhere, the extent of ONL 4 is defined by bush edges.</p>
ONL 5		Rock Peak	ONL 5 Rock Peak Bush relates to the steep bush clad terrain in the northern margins of LCU 13 Elevated Central Hills and Valleys. NB the extent of ONL 5 corresponds to extent of International Significant Bush adjoining the Otorohanga ONL.	Outstanding natural landscape	<p><b>BIOPHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES</b></p> <p>Steeply sloping and dissected landforms interspersed with numerous stream valleys.</p> <p>Dramatic and distinctive ridgelines and peaks in places.</p> <p>Vast expanse of contiguous and extremely high-quality SNA with the majority ranked as being of International or National significance. Habitat for threatened or at-risk flora and fauna.</p> <p>Much of the bush cover is in DoC ownership or protected by way of QE II Covenant.</p>



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					<p><b>PERCEPTUAL (SENSORY) ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES</b></p> <p>Highly attractive and memorable views of the rugged and dramatic large-scale bush-clad ridgeline and peak landforms, and steeply incised valleys from local roads and walking tracks (including Te Araroa).</p> <p>The dense and extensive bush mantle extending throughout the dramatic ridgelines and peaks, confers a very strong sense of 'indigenous New Zealand' and aesthetic coherence.</p> <p>Very high degree of naturalness as a consequence of: the dominant influence of the large-scale rugged bush-clad terrain; the relatively inaccessibility of the area; and the generally very limited level of human modification evident.</p> <p>Highly memorable landscape as a consequence of the perceptual values discussed above.</p> <p>Complex ridgeline patterns and winding streams expressive of landscape shaping processes.</p> <p>A relatively high level of legibility as a consequence of the bold landform and watercourse patterns.</p> <p>Generally a very high perception of remoteness/wilderness as a consequence of the strongly endemic character of the landcover, the very limited level of built development and the inaccessibility of the area.</p> <p><b>ASSOCIATIVE ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES</b></p> <p>Te Araroa confers high recreational values.</p> <p><b>SUMMARY OF VALUES</b></p> <p>Generally the area qualifies in terms of outstanding-ness as a consequence of:</p>

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. its extremely high ecological values;</li> <li>b. the very high degree of naturalness arising from: the dominant influence of the large-scale rugged bush-clad terrain interspersed with numerous watercourses; the inaccessibility of the area; and the very limited level of human modification evident;</li> <li>c. the very strong sense of remoteness and wilderness as a consequence of the dramatic scale of the rugged terrain, peaks and ridgelines, the strongly endemic character of the landcover, the (relative) inaccessibility of the area and the very limited built development;</li> <li>d. its high recreational values associated with Te Araroa;</li> <li>e. the moderate-high shared and recognised values associated with the area, associated with Te Araroa;</li> <li>f. the high aesthetic and memorability values of the area as a consequence of its highly attractive visual character and context in both closer range and long-range views (including from DoC tracks and local roads) and its remoteness / naturalness qualities.</li> </ul> <p>The extent of ONL 5 is defined by bush edges. NB ONL 5 adjoins and ONL in the Ōtorohanga District adjacent (to the north)</p>

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