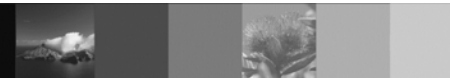


				Attributes (with elements that enhance and diminish natural character)				
Name	Level of natural character	General description of area	Elements that describe natural character	Water	Land cover and land use	Terrestrial biotic	Abiotic systems and landform	Perceptual
		<p>northern dunelands where residential development has occurred upon the frontal and secondary dune lands.</p> <p>The Ōhope Spit has some modification as a result of the golf course, whilst the remainder comprises high levels of natural character.</p> <p>The harbour mouth is highly dynamic with the sand spit changing its form on a frequent basis.</p>	<p>frontal, secondary and tertiary dune profiles.</p> <p>2 Native coastal and dune species dominating the area.</p> <p>3 Natural dune patterns remnant of the interface of the harbour and open coastal water processes.</p> <p>4 Estuarine margins of the Ōhiwa Harbour.</p>	<p>occurring along the harbour and coastal margins.</p> <p>2 The intertidal processes are significant.</p> <p>3 Modification to the distal end has occurred to manage erosion of the spit.</p>	largely intact with native vegetation cover.	coastal area. Some exotic species exist as part of the golf course.	area for the dune formation. The landform depicts the dynamic natural processes that continue to dominate this coastline.	are dominant and recognisable from public viewpoints.
Ōhiwa Harbour Maps 27, 28	Outstanding	Ōhiwa Harbour is considered in two parts; the harbour and its margins. The harbour supports an important habitat for native wildlife and flora. The landform around the margins remains largely unmodified with exception of Wainui Road, the fish and chip shop, the oyster farm and Port Ōhope. In the wider sense these modifications are relatively minor when the whole harbour is considered. The harbour is	<p>1 Large intertidal native habitats.</p> <p>2 Intact natural margins of the harbour.</p> <p>3 Large areas of dominant native vegetation cover on islands and margins.</p> <p>4 Diverse flora and fauna present.</p>	<p>1 Minimal structures exist on the harbour, located at Ōhope Wharf and the far western end jetty.</p> <p>2 The harbour is a water body that displays a diverse habitat of marine aquatic flora and fauna.</p> <p>3 A shallow harbour system the harbour displays distinctive natural patterns.</p> <p>4 A small pocket of marine farming is found at the</p>	<p>1 The rural landscape around the Ōhiwa Harbour has scatterings of dwellings consistent with a rural landscape.</p> <p>2 Much of the coastal vegetation has been lost and all that remains is set within the harbour itself.</p>	<p>1 The harbour margins contain pockets of remnant coastal native bush, including the harbour margins and parts of Ohakana Island.</p> <p>2 The harbour itself is largely unmodified and displays large areas of saltmarsh and mangrove habitats and pockets of freshwater wetlands grading to saltmarsh.</p> <p>3 It includes the</p>	<p>1 Some minimal limitations on the natural processes occurring with seawalls, dune protection measures.</p> <p>2 Most coastal processes still occur with increased siltation of the harbour as a result of inland and coastal erosion processes.</p>	<p>1 The northern end of the harbour is busy with the port commercial activities, residents from Ohakana Island and the users of Wainui Road.</p> <p>2 The scale of the harbour gives a sense of remoteness and the vegetation patterns and water provides a sense of wilderness.</p>

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		approximately 27 km ² in area, with a width of 5.5 km and length of 8 km. Development of the landward extent has been largely from farming practices and associated housing. More recently rural residential subdivision has been a popular activity along the Ōhiwa Harbour coastline, with a small increase in the visual clutter along the landward extent. The harbour mouth is highly dynamic with the sand spit changing its form on a frequent basis. Historical residential lots for Ōhiwa are now located within the harbour's water body, having been eroded.		far western end of the harbour.		nationally significant Uretara Island, Hiwarau coastal vegetation and Pataua and Motuotu Island. 4 The harbour supports a diverse system of flora and fauna and is unique.		
Ōhiwa Harbour Margins (OM) Map 27	High	The margins of Ōhiwa Harbour are the areas that still retain intertidal natural environments but have been physically separated from the harbour as a result of roading infrastructure. These areas contribute to the experience of	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Intertidal saltmarsh habitats. 2 Remnant harbour margin retained. 	1 The water body in these areas is managed for tidal movement.	1 Land use remains as a harbour intertidal zone.	1 The harbour itself is largely unmodified and displays large areas of saltmarsh and mangrove habitats and pockets of freshwater wetlands grading to saltmarsh.	1 The natural processes have been modified for the inlet and outlet of water with modification around the feature. However, the feature has adapted and displays similar patterns to that found on the true	1 The pockets of harbour margin display the natural harbour margin as compared to the modified extent from the road edge. These areas contribute to the scenic quality of the



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		Ōhiwa Harbour however have had some modification to their natural processes and patterns.					harbour edge.	Ōhiwa Harbour as a whole.
Tauwhare Pa Scenic Reserve (Ta) Map 27	High	Pohutukawa and native bush clad escarpment contributes to the overall experience of Ōhiwa Harbour. The bush clad escarpments display an example of the historic vegetation patterns once found around the Ōhiwa Harbour.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Unmodified rocky coastline. 2 Remnant and regenerating native bush. 3 Vegetation extending to the coastal edge. 4 Remote and isolated with pedestrian access only. 5 Dynamic coastal processes occurring. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Unmodified coastal edge with no structures or moorings. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Mixture of regenerating native coastal bush and remnant pohutukawa coastal bush. 2 Modification is limited to the walking tracks that access through the reserve and the historic pa site. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 The mature and regenerating native bush has regional and national significance and provides a habitat for uncommon and threatened indigenous plants. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Excellent example of natural processes with no modifications to the coastal processes. 2 Modification extends only to the access tracks. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 This area contributes to the scenic qualities of the harbour itself and the coastal margin.
Waiotahi Estuary (WEs) Map 28	Very High	The Waioeka wetlands and river mouth comprise a largely unmodified coastal edge with some farming around the edges.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Intertidal areas of the exposed estuary floor with associated flora and fauna. 2 Saltmarsh and native vegetation along the margins. 3 Natural patterns along the estuary edge. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Minimal activity occurs along the open coast with no structures, jetties or moorings. 2 The harbour has been modified through reclamation, retaining and redirection of the water channels. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Modification has occurred to the margins of the estuary through farming practices and reclamation. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 The Waiotahi River estuary and spit consists of a diverse range of indigenous vegetation types from forest to sandfields with high diversity and regional significance. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 The harbour entrances remain unmodified, however, the Waiotahi Estuary has some river and edge modification. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Ōhiwa and Waiotahi are small settlements with the coastal environment having a sense of untouched wilderness and remoteness.
Waiotahi Dunes and Escarpment (WD) Map 28	High	Rolling foothills extend down to a steep escarpment that meets the coastal dunelands between the Ōhiwa and Waiotahi	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Large outcrop of pohutukawa dominated native bush and coastal dune planting. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Open coastal waters unmodified from human activity. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 State highway extends through the centre of the native bush area immediately adjacent to the frontal dune 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Large pohutukawa dominated native bush cover iconic of historical coastal 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Natural coastal processes are moderately affected by inclusion of road network. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Whilst not remote, the perception of the area is of a natural coastal edge, representative

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		settlements. Pockets of native vegetation cover are located along the roadside edge by Waitohi settlement.			edge.	vegetation cover.		of the native bush cover that would have once dominated this coastline.	
Waioeka Estuary (WaE) Map 28	High	The Waioeka wetlands and river mouth comprise a largely unmodified coastal edge with some farming practices around the edges.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Natural dune patterns and vegetation cover. 2 Intertidal estuarine vegetation with an unmodified edge. 3 River mouth and coastal dune edge. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 The natural watercourse within the estuary are largely unmodified with a small intertidal stream extending through the estuary to the Waioeka River. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Large dune land and wetlands are located adjacent to the Waioeka River. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 The Waioeka Estuary and associated wetlands has high diversity and regional significance, and provides habitat for a range of indigenous bird and fish species. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Limitations on the natural processes occurring with dune protection measures and earthworks on the dunes. 2 The harbour entrance remains unmodified, however the estuary has some modification of its natural edge. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Native dune landform and the dynamic natural processes of the coast dominate this area. Whilst not pristine the area is valued for its natural patterns. 	
Omarumutu Dunes (OD) Map 29	High	The Omarumutu dunes and inlet comprise a dynamic frontal and secondary dune system with native vegetation cover. A number of access tracks and the National Cycleway extend along this dune system. The rear dune wetland is a remnant path of the nearby Waiaua River watercourse and supports native wetland vegetation cover.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Native dune landform and vegetation cover. 2 Rear dune wetland water body and formation. 3 Wetland native vegetation cover. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 The natural watercourse of the Waiaua River and wetland and its interaction with the open coastal waters displays a highly natural environment. 2 Minor modification to the stream has resulted in channelled stream outlet. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 A dominant coastal dune landscape the natural patterns are modified from access tracks along and across the dune system. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 The wider section of sand flats, saltmarsh and estuary at the Waiaua River mouth has high diversity with regional significance, and the estuary provides significant habitat for indigenous fish and bird species, but is modified by grazing. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 The natural processes are dominant in this area for the dune formation. 2 The landform depicts the dynamic natural processes that continue to dominate this coastline along with the natural patterns of a river mouth, although partially modified. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Displays a dynamic natural coastal edge with adjoining development and the state highway detracting from the sense of isolation. 	
Tarakeha and Pehitairi Peninsula	Very High	From Opape to the end of the region,	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Rocky shoreline and sandy 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 An unmodified coastline and the 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Native vegetated clad headlands 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 The headlands have vegetation 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 An unmodified natural coastline 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Dominant headland 	

