

## Chapter 6 – Natural Features and Landscapes

### Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes



#### Overview

Council is required under the requirements in the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) to identify and protect Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes. These have been identified through a review of an existing landscape study which reassessed all identified significant landscapes within the City against assessment criteria.

It is proposed to identify these natural features and landscapes on the City Plan Maps, providing appropriate rules to manage subdivision, use and development in these areas.



#### Current Rules

- There are currently 11 Outstanding Landscapes identified in the District Plan.
- Other than the use of zoning techniques and resource consent monitoring, there are no specific rules relating to the protection of these Natural Features and Landscapes.



#### Key Changes Proposed

- A new Natural Features and Landscapes Chapter (Chapter 6), with associated plan maps, has been developed to clearly identify key landscapes and features that should be protected.
- The identified Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes are identified as below:
  - Tauranga Harbour margin and estuaries (including Rangataua Bay, Waimapu and Matua Saltmarshes);
  - Mauao;
  - Hopukiorie (Mt Drury), Moturiki Island and Motuotau Island;
  - Mangatawa;
  - Coastal Dunelands (in part);
  - Otamataha.



#### Reason for the Change

- New criteria for the identification and assessment of these areas has recently come out of the Environment Case Law and through the Regional Council. Council is required to act on this.

*(see detailed image over page)*

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## Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes



Mauao is identified as an Outstanding Natural Features and Landscape



Managatawa and the margins of the Tauranga Harbour are identified as Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes