

Figure 9.1 Ruakaka case study
Natural character scores 2009



The underlying high-resolution imagery used for this case study was taken in about 2007 (exact date unknown) and the assessments were made in 2009.

The extent of the imagery did not include all the coastal environment and the extent of coverage of this case study should not be considered to include all the near-shore and terrestrial coastal environment.

Refinements were made to the methodology as a result of these case studies and further methodology development work. As a consequence if the case studies were to be repeated the boundaries of some polygons as well as some natural character scores may be different to those shown here.

The natural character score range is 0-100 where 0 means no natural character is present and 100 means that a unit is completely natural.

Scores for each polygon have been calculated using QINCCE methodology (Quantitative Index for measuring Natural Character of the Coastal Environment) which combines three indices—Ecological Naturalness Index, Hydrological and Geomorphological Naturalness Index, Freedom from Building and Structures Index—into an overall Natural Character Index.

Each Natural Character Index is multiplied by 100 to give the Natural Character Score for that polygon.