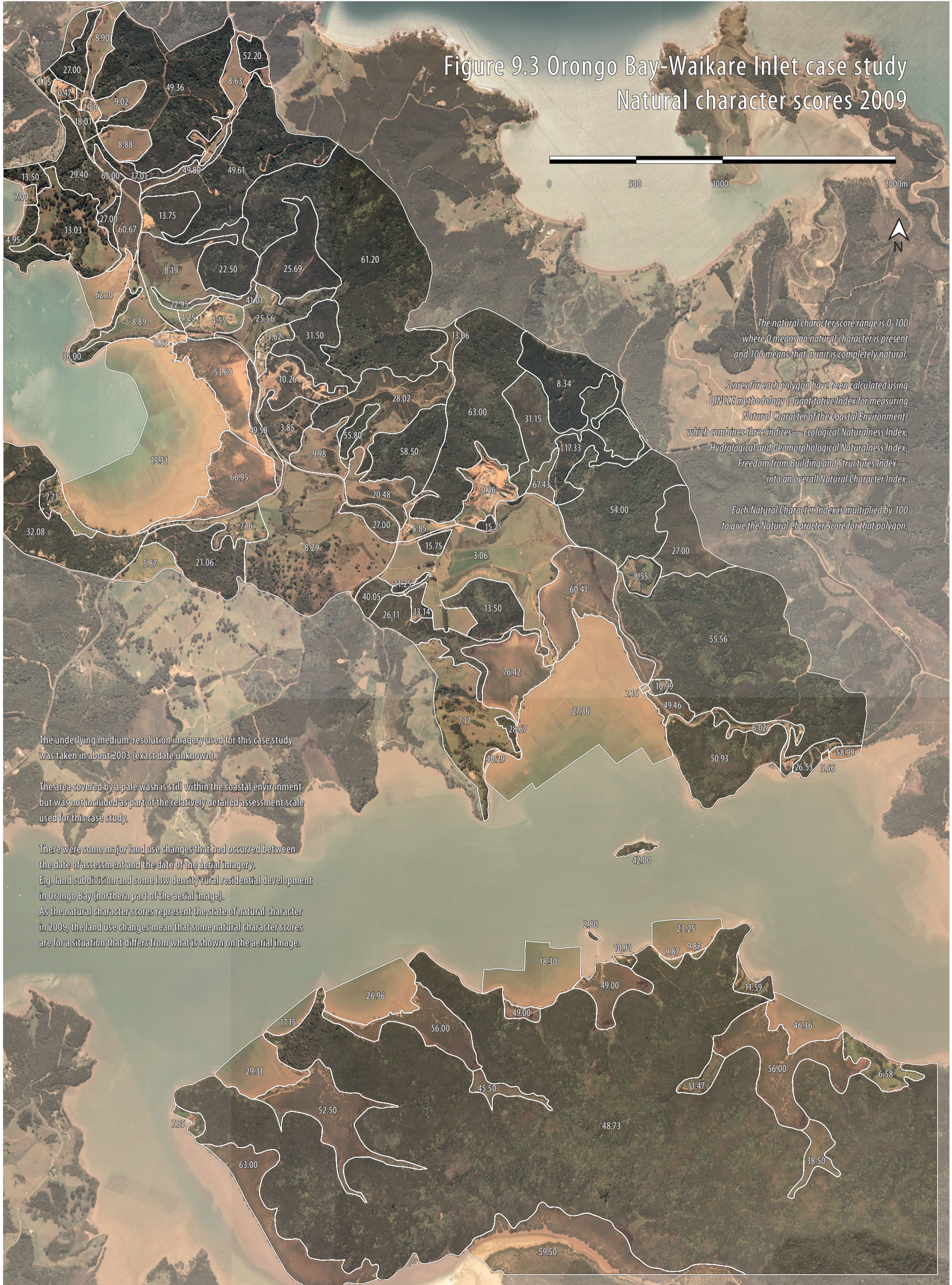


Figure 9.3 Orongo Bay-Waikare Inlet case study
Natural character scores 2009



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 QINCE 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.

The underlying medium-resolution imagery used for this case study was taken in about 2003 (exact date unknown).

The area covered by a pale wash is still within the coastal environment but was not included as part of the relatively detailed assessment scale used for this case study.

There were some major land use changes that had occurred between the date of assessment and the date of the aerial imagery. E.g. land subdivision and some low density rural residential development in Orongo Bay (northern part of the aerial image).

As the natural character scores represent the state of natural character in 2009, the land use changes mean that some natural character scores are for a situation that differs from what is shown on the aerial image.