

land area:WAINUI BAY & INLET					
PIGEON BAY CRITERIA					
(a) THE NATURAL SCIENCE FACTORS:	geological	topographical	ecological	ecological cont	dynamic components
	<p>The inlet at Wainui consists of quaternary sand nestled in between cretaceous equigranular biotite granite. Taupo Point (the north east headland) is an isolated area of limestone joining on to the granite base rock of Taupo Hill. (Geological & Nuclear Sciences 1:250 000 Geological Map 9).</p>	<p>Wainui Inlet is approximately 275 hectares in size and forms the northern entrance to Abel Tasman National Park. A large barrier spit has formed from the east, with a smaller peninsula to the west forming the mouth of the inlet. Surrounding granite hills create an enclosing form, with a relatively large area of flat land at the head of the estuary used for farming. The surrounding hill forms are clad in regenerating native bush. The sand spit/ island forms a crescent in the middle of the bay.</p>	<p>Northern rata along coastal and lower limestone areas. coastal flax and cabbage tree swamp was common, wetter terraces held pakihī shrubland and rimu/silver pine forest. low on drier slopes was red, hard and black beech & rimu. Western section part of the Golden Bay ED. Eastern part of Tōtaranui ED. The Golden Bay ED has almost completely been cleared of its original vegetation. patches of alluvial forest remain (totara, black beech, kahikatea) and remnant rata on coastal limestone. Pakihī forest now replaced by manuka-dominant shrub. Extensive estuaries remain and sand dunes have been largely covered by marram grass. Kanuka replaced beech forest on drier hills. Farming, logging, mining all contributed to vegetation clearance. bracken fern, kanuka and manuka regenerating on abandoned farmland with some significant patches of totara. Gorse, barberry, hawthorn, buddleia and spanish heath are widespread weeds with banana passionfruit prominent around the coast.(see Appendix 7).</p>	<p>The Tōtaranui ED represents distinctive coastal granite country - largely composed (70%) of the Abel Tasman National Park.The original ecosystem was largely covered in beech forest (silver on the higher elevations, black beech on lower slopes, red beech in gullies and hard beech (Nothofagus truncata) in drier gullies. Gully geech forest was a mix of broadleaf - especially northern rata; and podocarps (especially rimu). Lowland areas had a greater mix of broadleaf species with kahikatea swamp forest in lower valleys. Estuarine habitats bordered the inlets, with swampland behind the dunes and the mouths of some valleys. The majority of the area remains in original beech forest, although most of the valley floor forest has been removed. Swamp areas have also been reduced. Coastal forest was burnt and regenerating bush dominated by tree ferns and kanuka now covers large areas - especially in the north and south.coastal flax and cabbage tree swamp was common, wetter terraces held pakihī shrubland and rimu/silver pine forest. low on drier slopes was red, hard and black beech & rimu (see Appendix 7).</p>	<p>debris brought on to the beaches during flooding, wave action eroding shoreline, sedimentation brought in to estuary from rivers above, and out along the mouth of the estuary in floods; sand dune/ spit movements along coast due to currents.</p>
(b) AESTHETIC VALUES	memorability		naturalness		
	<p>Highly memorable due to enclosing land forms of Abel Tasman Point and Taupo Point and the contrast between their steep sides and the flatness and considerable size of the estuarine valley floor - which can be walked across two hours either side of high tide. The mix of Poplar and Willow at the head of the valley differs from the predominantly natural native cover on the hillsides. The established Macrocarpa trees that are placed by the Road also contribute to the memorability of the landscape. the juncus and the graduated brown and tan colours which turn more green in summer contribute to the aesthetics. Calm days and a high tide has reflective qualities. wave and wind patterns on the sand along the coastline create an aesthetic pattern.</p>		<p>reduced through mining of sand; aquaculture in the bay. Mussel farms in the eastern section of Abel Tasman Bay reduce seascape naturalness. Views from the bay have high seascape value. At the head of the valley, the landscape is typified by a pastoral landscape with willow trees, poplars, gums and a scattering of houses. This landscape has a naturalness associated with a working farm(percieved naturalness) surrounded by the regenerating bush clad hills with small pine plantations. Powerlines cut across the inlet above ground.Presence of the native corkwood whau (<i>Entelea arborescens</i>), overwintering site for banded dotterel (<i>Charadrius bicinctus bicinctus</i>), banded rail (<i>Rallus philippensis assimilis</i>), marsh crake (<i>Porzana pusilla affinis</i>), South Island fernbird (<i>Bowdleria punctata punctata</i>) and penguin (<i>Eudyptula minor variabilis</i>) breed in remnant coastal vegetation surrounding the estuary and on headlands. Puaa beds (<i>Haliotis iris</i>) on the western headland of Wainui bay. Saltmarsh vegetaton and coastal vegetation. The Department of Conservation is currently revegetating the eastern sandspit. (Department of Conservation, Nelson/Marlborough Conservancy.1993; Occasional Publication No.14 pg 76-77).</p>		
(c) EXPRESSIVENESS (LEGIBILITY)	formative processes				
	<p>Granite base rock and sediment differs from landscape to the north west. Enclosed bay form with headlands differs from more open wide beach/inlet form of Golden Bay to north west. The estuary is visually linked to the flatness of the land with sediment brought down the rivers that flow in to the estuary and is clearly linked to tidal activities which cover the estuary during high tide. Aggradation patterns can be seen in the sand bar and spit formations along the coastline.</p>				
(d) TRANSIENT VALUES	occasional presence of wildlife		values at certain times of day/year		
	<p>the tip of the Wainui sandspit or the intertidal banks at the mouth of the river form the high tide roost for national and international wader species.</p>		<p>highly influenced by tidal activity given the large size of the inlet. The variable colour of the juncus adds rich brown colours to the estuary</p>		
(e) VALUES SHARED/RECOGNISED	<p>considered of national importance due to presence of the vulnerable banded rail and due to high degree of naturalness due to lack of extensive human development (Department of Conservation, Nelson/Marlborough Conservancy.1993; Occasional Publication No.14 pg 40). Wainui inlet is the western gateway to the Able Tasman National Park with trampers crossing the Waimea inlet at low tide as a short cut to the Abel Tasman National Park to the East. access to Wainui walk and waterfall up the head of the valley. Values associated with both the naturalness of the estuary and the working farmland located around the estuary on the valley floor.</p>				
(f) VALUE TO TANGATAWHENUA	<p>significant evidence of Maori occupation. Wainui River used (from the Taupo Pt pa) for eel gathering and the inlet for flounder. Puaa also harvested. Taupo Point to the north is tapu. Wainui: translated as "Big bay, may waters, (name for the Ocean, the ancestor of all rivers); (pg 23 of Beautiful Golden Bay New Zealand compiled by Golden Bay Promotion assn). Mythical home of Ngarara Huarau - a supernatural being (part lizard, part human) from Hawaiki that was banished to Wainui to live in a cave by the chief of his tribe due to his destructive tendencies (Te Tau Ihu O Te Waka; Hilary and John Mitchell,2004; page 26)</p>				
(g) HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS	<p>The Tui Community have had a commune on the eastern side of the valley floor since the 1970's and sell natural products. Farming has also been associated with the flatter valley floors (with Pine forestry on the hillsides)</p>				
CONCLUSION:	COASTLINE AND INLET: OUTSTANDING NATURAL LANDSCAPE/FEATURES; WAINUI BAY PART OF ABEL TASMAN OUTSTANDING NATURAL LANDSCAPE				