

## **NATURAL CHARACTER**

## **BACKGROUND**

From the rugged beauty of Ripiro beach, the powerful Kaipara Harbour through to the idyllic Mangawhai on the East Coast, the Kaipara District proudly contains many areas that have high or outstanding natural character. It is vital to maintain and enhance these areas as these environments undoubtedly contribute towards our District's distinct identity.

The Resource Management Act 1991(RMA) requires protection of the natural character and the Regional Policy Statement for Northland (RPS) provides criteria to use when assessing natural character in Northland.

## **KEY ISSUE**

Natural character areas are not mapped in the Operative District Plan which means the Plan does not give effect to the natural character provisions in the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement and the RPS. The new District Plan will need to include these maps.

## THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

The content of a district plan ranges from fulfilling legal requirements made by Central Government and regional councils to proposing specific provisions that meet the needs of our District and its communities. This list includes any changes required to meet legal obligations as well as some ideas Council wants to explore further with our communities.

The policy framework and protective rules relating to natural character need to be developed to avoid significant adverse effects on outstanding natural character areas.





Private Bag 1001 Dargaville 0340 Freephone: 0800 727 059 districtplanreview@kaipara.govt.nz www.kaipara.govt.nz/kaipara-district-plan

Your Kaipara, your say.