

land area: PARAPARA INLET				
PIGEON BAY CRITERIA				
(a) THE NATURAL SCIENCE FACTORS:	geological	topographical	ecological	dynamic components
	<p>Quaternary; slightly weathered beach deposits consisting of gravel and sand on raised terraces on the northern seaward side of the Inlet, with well sorted gravel forming the barrier arm to the west. The southern and south western extent through which flows Washbourne and Glen Gyle Creek, consists of well sorted gravel forming modern flood plains and young fan gravels. The western edge of Parapara Inlet includes calcareous mudstone and muddy sandstone as well as a slither of bioclastic limestone and muddy limestone. (Geological & Nuclear Sciences 1:250 000 Geological Map 9)</p>	<p>coastal barrier beach swamp, dune deposits. Scrub clad hills (manuka) form backdrop, with causeway cutting across head of inlet. Parapara river feeds into the head of the inlet. A bridge cuts across with a causeway giving access for SH60 to Golden Bay to the north. Large sandspit from southern end of Inlet.</p>	<p>Lemonwood amongst manuka scrub with small pine plantations to the southwest. Pohutukawa along causeway. The Golden Bay ED covers the alluvial valleys of Takaka and Aorere, as well as their adjoining older alluvial terraces. The Golden Bay ecological district was dominated by podocarp forest with totara dominant on drier alluvium. Occasional black beech and kahikatea swamp forest in wetter areas, associated with pukatea. Northern rater 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. 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>Parapara Peak based catchment flowing down to Parapara river in to Parapara Inlet (also includes Glen Gyle, Limonite and Washbourne Creeks). Sediment carried down by these streams and rivers deposited in to Parapara Inlet and out to sea. Sand bars forming along the inlet mouth. Wave action is a dynamic component along coastline.</p>
(b) AESTHETIC VALUES	memorability		naturalness	
	<p>high aesthetic when tide is in, due to presence of water and its calm reflective qualities. Semi enclosed by lower slopes of Parapara Peak, with the steep nature of the mountain side contrasting with the ancient river terraces into which Parapara Inlet has nestled. Views of Wakamarama range on the skyline visible from the southeastern area of the Inlet. Aesthetic also associated with the warm brown colours of the salt marsh. High natural character around the verges of the inlet.</p>		<p>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 (see Appendix 7). high degree of naturalness associated with the biota and ecology of the inlet, with subdivision and houses mainly on the northern edge (around Lookout Road). Houses also along sandspit. High value of coastline - large curve around to Farewell Spit. Power lines cross at the head of the inlet.</p>	
(c) EXPRESSIVENESS (LEGIBILITY)	formative processes			
	<p>The surrounding catchment area is semi enclosing with the river and streams running down into the flat of the inlet. Process of the catchment area associated with Parapara Peak down to the coast is still legible as is the process of sedimentation associated with this both within the estuary and at the mouth. Barrier island running along the coast closely associated with the current process along the coast.</p>			
(d) TRANSIENT VALUES	occasional presence of wildlife		values at certain times of day/year	
	<p>hawks hunting, international and national wader species, banded rail, fernbird - potential presence of white heron, whitebait.</p>		<p>the ebb and flow of tide. Wind creates a wilderness experience of coast, with the calmer seas more relaxing and reflective. Gradiated colour of the rushes provide value, sound of estuary filling or when walking across (popping/gurgling/bubbling sounds), wave patterns and channels exposed at low tide. Flood waters change water to brown and bring debris into inlet.</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 around the estuary (Department of Conservation, Nelson/Marlborough Conservancy, 1993; Occasional Publication No.14 pg 40). Also limestone outcrops are important landform feature with freshwater springs "bubbling up" near this area (Ibid; page 55). Area of expansion with new developments along Parapara sandspit and inlet mouth as well as back along the western side of SH 60 and up Parapara Valley Road, with houses generally set in native environment. Elevated areas have views out to sea or along the coastline - especially north towards the Wakamarama Range and Farewell Spit. Mixture of residential and holiday home. Houses located facing the estuary and estuary mouth as well as facing out to sea. Holiday/recreational area appreciated for sea views, natural character, estuary views; walking, kayaking, whitebaiting.</p>			
(f) VALUE TO TANGATAWHENUA				
	<p>Maori mythology: Kaiwhakanaki (a giant taniwha) lived in Parapara stream. Local tribes including Ngaitahu warriors from the west coast co-ordinated an attack with weapons crafted from the only Pohutukawa tree in the district. The hunt was successful and in the Taniwha's death throes, Parapara Inlet was created with its tail. The meaning of Parapara is "the soft mud used for dyeing flax" (pg 23 of Beautiful Golden Bay New Zealand - compiled by Golden Bay Promotion assn). Parapara Inlet was important source for food - from forests, estuaries, streams, swamps and coastline (Te Tau Ihu O Te Waka; Hilary and John Mitchell;2004; page 28)</p>			
(g) HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS				
	<p>Difficult to cross before causeway was built.</p>			
CONCLUSION:	PARAPARA INLET AND COASTLINE: OUTSTANDING NATURAL LANDSCAPE/FEATURES			