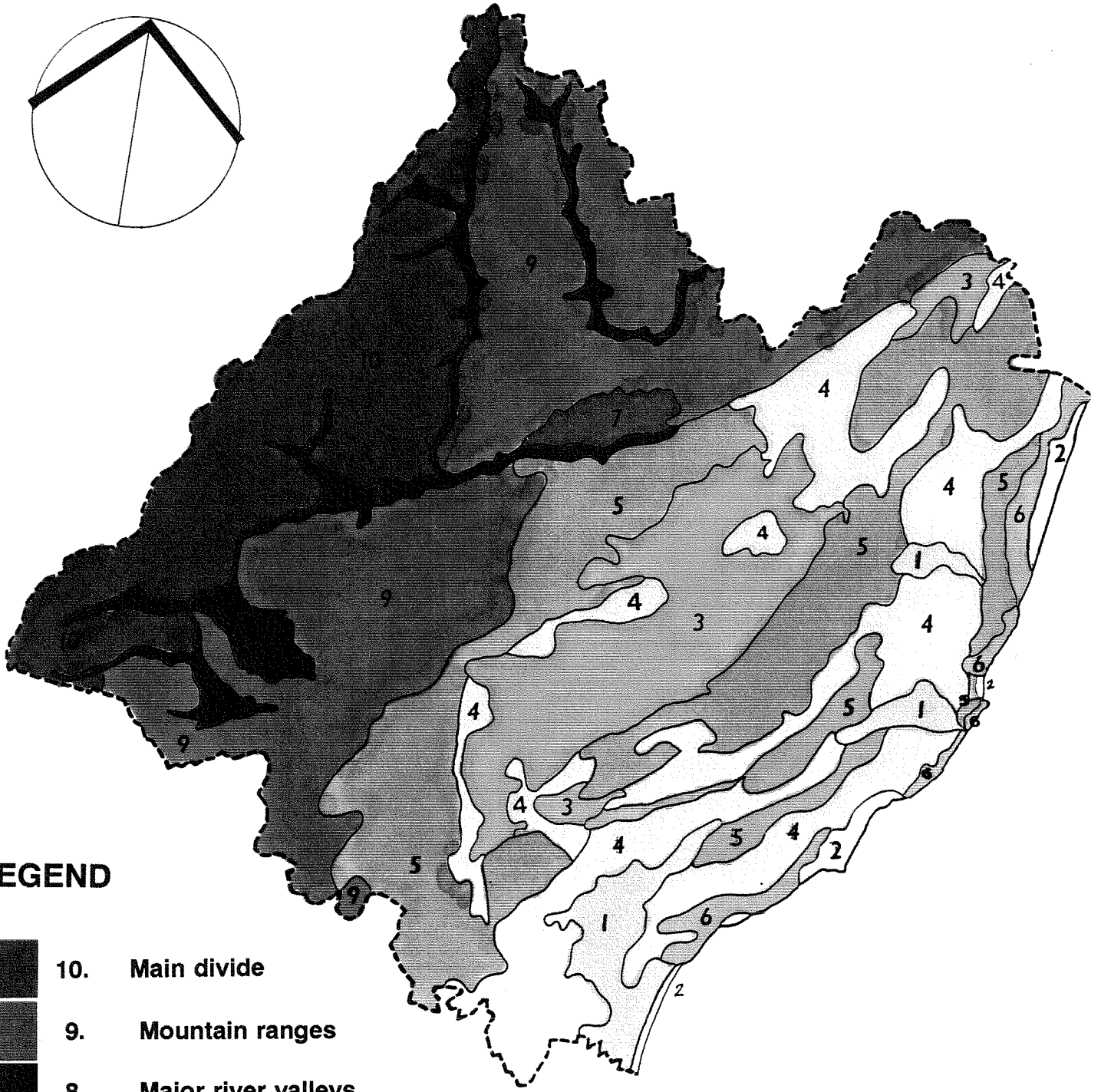
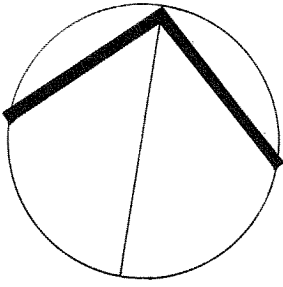














LANDSCAPES
OF THE
**HURUNUI
DISTRICT**



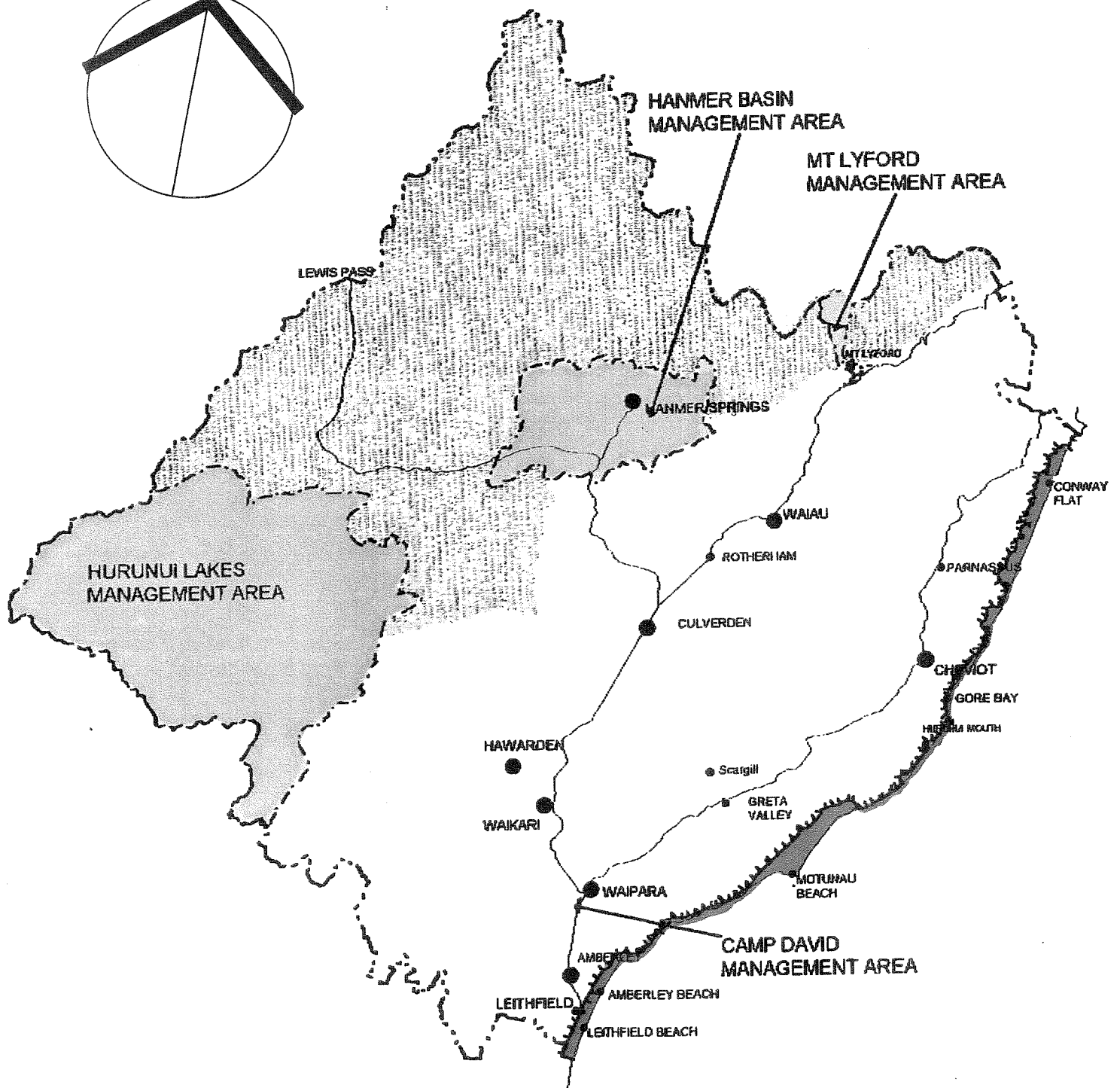
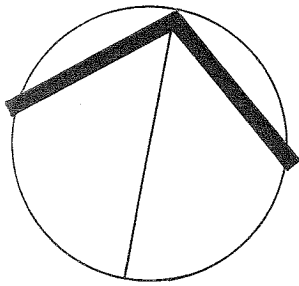
Prepared by
Lucas Associates



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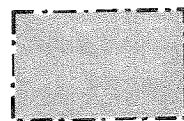
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|--|-----|---------------------|---|----|----------------|
|  | 10. | Main divide |  | 2. | Coastal Plains |
|  | 9. | Mountain ranges |  | 1. | Plains |
|  | 8. | Major river valleys | | | |
|  | 7. | Hanmer basin | | | |
|  | 6. | Coastal hills | | | |
|  | 5. | Hard rock hills | | | |
|  | 4. | Soft rock downlands | | | |
|  | 3. | Inland Basins | | | |

HURUNUI LANDSCAPE TYPES

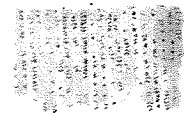


HURUNUI DISTRICT

SCALE 1 : 700 000



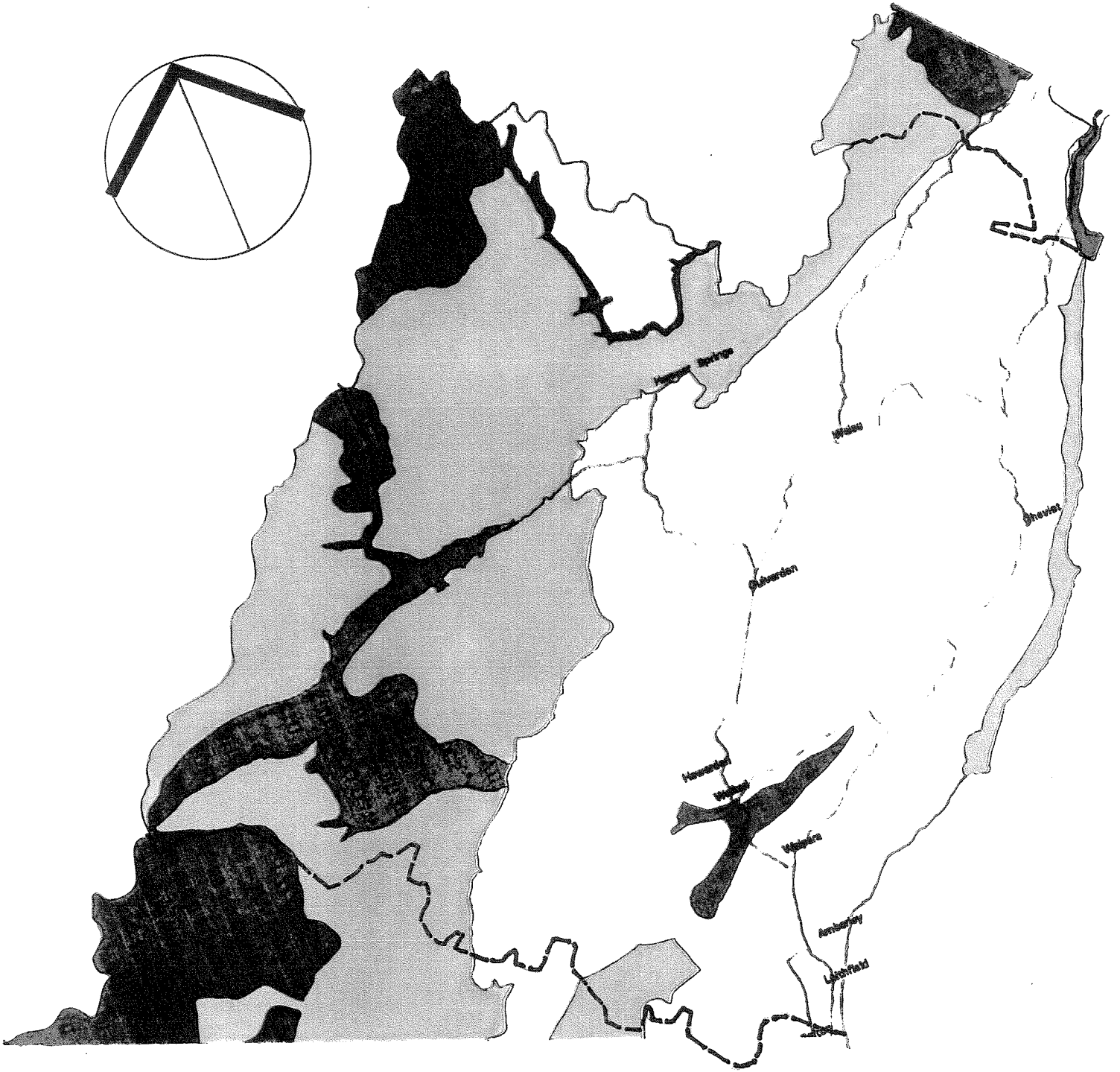
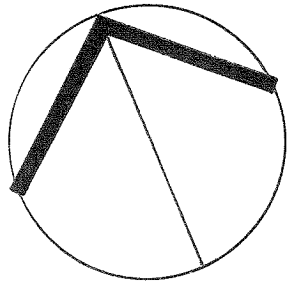
SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS



HIGH COUNTRY
MANAGEMENT AREA





COASTAL ENVIRONMENT
MANAGEMENT AREA



CANTERBURY REGIONAL LANDSCAPE STUDY

Natural Features and Landscapes

-  Significant
-  Outstanding

LANDSCAPES OF THE HURUNUI DISTRICT

DRAFT REPORT TO THE HURUNUI DISTRICT COUNCIL

Diane Lucas, landscape planner B.Sc, MLA, FNZILA

Christchurch, February 1995

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1. SUMMARY

The landscapes of the Hurunui District have been assessed through community comment and document review to identify their distinctiveness, values and importance.

A rapid community consultation programme was undertaken to identify how they relate to the different landscapes. Through a community newspaper questionnaire and public workshop, people described the range of different landscapes.

FRAMEWORK

To provide a framework on which to base comment and evaluation, 10 different landscape types were identified. The preliminary framework with just 7 landscape types formed a basis to community consultation. Following input, the framework was refined to better respond to their perceptions.

The 10 types include 6 lowlands types, three being plains – Plains Landscapes, Coastal Plains Landscapes and Inland Plains; 3 of hills – Soft Rock Downs Landscapes, Hard Rock Hill Landscapes, and Coastal Hill landscapes. Of the 4 high country types, the Hanmer Plain Landscape was identified separately, then the Major River Valley Landscapes, the Mountain Range Landscapes, and finally, the Main Divide Landscapes.

DESCRIBING AND MANAGING

The comments provided by the community and data from previous public processes and other sources have been analysed within this landscape type framework. People described these landscapes and identified issues and effects.

From these responses, landscape management proposals have been developed for each landscape type. That is, landscape change has been addressed for the whole of the District through proposals for each type of country.

IMPORTANT AREAS

Identifying the importance of particular places, 6 criteria to denote "outstanding natural features and landscapes" were utilised at the district level – criteria of natural science, legibility, transient, aesthetic, shared & recognised and tangata whenua. The community responses and other data were all assessed in relation to these 6 criteria.

From the analysis, a schedule and map of outstanding landscapes, and also of significant landscapes, has been produced.

It is intended that the data produced be incorporated in the draft District Plan, to provide a framework for management for the typical as well as for the special.

2. BRIEF

In October 1994 the Council defined two main purposes for this study:

Primarily, to assist the Council in identifying and understanding the landscape as a resource within the district.

Secondarily, to determine in what circumstances and what type of protection mechanisms may be required to preserve landscapes from environmental effects associated with activities.

The brief defined major outcomes:

1. To identify the major elements that make up the present landscape character of the Hurunui District.
2. To identify those landscapes considered by the district community to be significant or outstanding.
3. To identify and report on the major issues relating to landscape character in the district.

Specific tasks requested included:

1. Following a council literature review of landscape studies, undertake a public consultation programme to gain an understanding and evaluation of the landscape principally from the point of view of the districts residents' perceptions and values.
2. Locate, map and categorise the key elements of landscape character identified through the above process.
3. Identify and report on agents changing, or impinging on, the landscape character of the district and report on current and foreseeable issues relating to the maintenance of the landscape quality.
4. Comment on techniques for assessing and measuring changes and impacts on the key parameters contributing to landscape character.

3. BACKGROUND & BASIS

In the process of preparing a District Plan for the Hurunui District under the provisions of the Resource Management Act 1991, the Council found it necessary to undertake a landscape assessment to provide a framework for, and base line information about, the character, values and importance of the district's landscapes.

STATUTORY BASIS

S.31 (b) requires, among other things, the control of any actual or potential effects of the use and development of land. The Council may provide for actual or potential effects of any use development or protection on "*Natural, physical, or cultural heritage sites and values, including landscape, land forms, historic places and waahi tapu.*" (2nd Sched.,Pt II 2(c))

In preparing the District Plan, the Council may provide for the management of any actual or potential effects of any use, development, or protection ... including on – "*(c) Natural, physical or cultural heritage sites and values, including landscape, land forms, historic places, and waahi tapu.*" (Second Schedule, Part II S.2).

The Plan must state the significant issues, objectives, policies and methods and they need to be substantiated. The Plan must have regard to any proposed regional policy statement or regional plan on a matter of regional significance.

In assessing effects on the environment, matters that should be considered include (Fourth Schedule S.2)

"(b) Any physical effect on the locality, including any landscape and visual effects:"

"(d) Any effect on natural and physical resources having aesthetic, recreational, scientific, historical, spiritual, or cultural, or other special value for present or future generations."

In considering actual or potential effects, Council must recognise the term "effect" includes "temporary or permanent effect", "any cumulative effect which arises over time or in combination with other effects", and, "any potential effect of low probability which has a high potential impact". (S.3)

Under Part II of the Act, in terms of S.5(2)(c) addressing adverse effects of activities on the environment, including (by definition) the effects on "amenity values" and the social, aesthetic and cultural conditions which affect amenity values [S.2: definition of "environment"].

S.7(c) of the Act also identifies "*The maintenance and enhancement of amenity values*" as a matter to which the Council must have particular regard.

Amenity values are defined as "*those natural or physical qualities and characteristics of an area that contribute to people's appreciation of its pleasantness, aesthetic coherence, and cultural and recreational attributes.*" (S.2)

"Aesthetic" is not defined in the legislation. A professional working definition is : "*pertaining to the quality of human perceptual experience (including sight, sound, smell, touch, taste and movement) evoked by phenomena or elements or configurations of elements in the environment.*" (Boffa Miskell & Lucas Associates,1993 Vol.1.p.10).

"Landscape" is not defined in the legislation. Current use in the district plan seems unclear, at times limited to key locations, views and visual dimensions. However, locally "landscape" has been shown to have many meanings (Swaffield, 1991). Landscape has

thus been interpreted broadly in this study to embrace more than the visual resource. It is recognised that everyone experiences a different landscape. Both the physical and the perceptual resource have therefore been addressed:

1. The physical resource in any area is expressed in the landscape. Each area has its own unique character and identity which reflects its physical, biological and cultural formation.
2. Each area is perceived and experienced. The values people place on these areas are subjective, however many are widely shared, supported by research, or are already formally recognised by the community.

This basis suggests a landscape management framework is necessary for the entire district to allow assessment of the significance of effects on amenity, visual and landscape resources.

MATTERS OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE

S.6(b) requires recognition and provision for, as a matter of national importance, "*The protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes from inappropriate subdivision, use and development*". This does not imply that natural features and landscapes have to be "outstanding" on a national basis to be considered under S.6(b). The requirement has been interpreted to mean that a natural feature or landscape need be considered to be out of the ordinary on a district basis, and it is then a matter of national importance that these resources be protected from inappropriate effects.

The Canterbury Regional Landscape Study (Boffa Miskell Ltd & Lucas Associates, 1993) interpreted S.6(b) as meaning "*outstanding natural features and (outstanding natural) landscapes*". "Natural" is not defined in the Act and was used as "*a predominant expression of nature rather than culture, i.e. the natural feature or landscape should therefore reflect a dominance of natural elements, natural patterns or natural processes.*"

In identifying outstanding natural features and landscapes, the study recognised that their "protection" could involve maintenance of status quo as well as creative change.

A landscape often covers a large area and is experienced internally. In contrast, features tend to be more localised and often experienced externally from the surrounding landscape. However, features may be very large, and a landscape may be very confined. Therefore, as these concepts overlap, neither this study nor the regional study identified features separately from landscapes.

To date, these interpretations have been supported (e.g. the findings of the Planning Tribunal in *Campbell & Ors vs. Southland District Council*, Decision W114/9).

As a basis to identification, the regional study called on a variety of data from natural science surveys, community values shown through public records and planning processes, creative literature and arts, tangata whenua surveys, historic data and visitor information. The characteristics and values of areas were assessed from perspectives of:-

1. natural science
2. legibility
3. transient
4. aesthetic
5. shared and recognised, and,
6. tangata whenua

In accordance with the Hurunui District Council's background report, "*Landscape Values: Literature Review*" (11/10/94), the definitions and criteria developed in the Canterbury Regional Landscape Study (1993) have been adopted in this report.

"Landscape" has thus been used to encompass both the physical expression of the land and a reflection of the values people place on the land.

In the context of the District, for identification as "outstanding", a landscape would need to have exceptional characteristics or values with regard to at least one of these criteria.

Defined as:

1. Natural Science

Natural features and landscapes of at least district importance for reasons of the rarity or representativeness of their particular landform and landcover. A natural feature may be a landscape feature or an element/component of the landscape. Under S.6(b) geology and soils are elements of particular focus, as flora and fauna values are also considered elsewhere in the Act.

2. Legibility

The landscape (or natural feature) of district significance should clearly express past natural and/or cultural processes. Some may have strong historical connotations and a distinctive sense of place.

3. Transient

The natural feature or landscape of district significance providing predictable or regular experience of dimensions of nature other than landform or landcover e.g. concentrations of wildlife.

4. Aesthetic

Landscapes (and natural features where applicable) that are of high aesthetic value determined on how memorable they are, on their naturalness, on their composition (coherence) and on other important aesthetic factors.

5. Shared and recognised

There should be a substantial measure of agreement between professional and public opinion as to the value of natural features and landscapes, for example as reflected through writings and paintings or through favourite locations to cite or visit. The presence of existing protected sites is also likely to reflect shared and recognised values.

6. Tangata Whenua

The natural feature or landscape identified as having particular district importance to tangata whenua.

4. PROCESS

The study is not an 'expert' assessment of the landscapes of the district. It is predominantly a study of community opinion to identify the character and importance of the landscapes.

To access the community, the Council had programmed for a workshop at Culverden, allowing for other workshops at community request. In addition, circulation of a questionnaire was proposed to enable other people to participate who might not be able to attend. Everyone's landscape is different, and different methods of input suit different people. Involvement of the schools was also sought in an attempt to involve younger people in identifying directions for the future. However, timing constrained opportunities.

The need to identify landscape values of and importance to tangata whenua was recognised. The workshop and questionnaire were recognised as inadequate mechanisms to access many people, but were supplemented by published data, and ongoing consultation through the District Plan preparation process.

The preliminary landscape type framework was developed on the GIS, questionnaire design and distributed in the community newspaper on 13 November 1994. A workshop was then held in Culverden on 22nd November and Culverden High School classes visited the following day. A presentation of preliminary results was made to the Hurunui District Council on 8th December. Documentation was reviewed and the landscape type framework revised for development of the landscape management recommendations.

5. ESTABLISHING A PLANNING FRAMEWORK

Due to the large size and complexity of the district, it was considered necessary to divide the district into areas or themes that could each be addressed in turn. Some traditional approaches include divisions according to:

1. degree of modification (as in Hurunui Section of Transitional Plan) (wild landscape; silvicultural landscapes; pastoral landscape; agricultural landscape; residential landscape; industrial landscape);
2. physical catchments;
3. physical geographic units (e.g. plains, downs, hills)
4. land capability;
5. social geographic units/catchments (communities and local districts; school catchments);
6. visual landscape character (e.g. intensively developed flats; sparsely developed flats; smooth grassed hills; gentle forest covered hills; etc.);
7. visual catchments, mapping the area visible from particular places and routes (e.g. Weka Pass; Amuri Basin; Hanmer Basin; Leader Gorge; etc).

The Council review of existing literature supported use of the bio-geographical framework of landscape types developed in the Regional Study for considering the landscapes of the whole of the Hurunui District.

Variety in landscapes comes from underlying natural differences in geology, soils, climate etc; the different uses and management in the past and present; and, from the different associations and expectations of people.

As there is change in the mode and reasons for going to a place, so too does the experience of the place change. The memories, the expectations, the knowledge and the role of each person is different. Therefore each person experiences a different landscape.

Use, management, association and expectation of a place change over time, whether or not an area is seen also to change over time. Underlying natural differences fluctuate less over time than changes in surface cover to pasture, grapes or pines.

It is desirable the community selects their own landscape framework so that they identify with the different units. However, because a rapid consultation process was required, there was inadequate time to firstly ask people how to divide the District up prior to getting them to describe and value different landscapes. There was not enough time for a multi-stage survey, or a workshop to devise a framework prior to questionnaire distribution. Therefore I devised a framework based on the Regional Study which had been supported by the Council's literature review. It was hoped they would be understood and accepted by the community, and, the framework was revised in response to comment.

Attempting to establish a lasting framework for describing different landscapes, the study thus used the underlying differences in the land as the framework for differentiating and describing landscape characteristics. Different broad types of country were identified. These Major Land Types, types of country, or "landscape types", set the framework for the Hurunui landscape study.

The Canterbury Regional Landscape Study mapped the whole region into 44 Land Types, including 24 Lowland Land Types and 20 High Country Land Types. The Land Types were mapped at 1:250 000 to distinguish major physiographic landform units.

The regional mapping showed 16 of these Land Types occurring within the Hurunui District, 10 Lowland Land Types and 6 High Country Land Types – the most complex district in the region (refer map, and Appendix 1 for details of each land type model).

The Regional Study grouped the 44 Land Types into 10 Landscape Types – 4 Lowland and 6 High Country Landscape Types. The 16 Land Types of the Hurunui District were grouped into just 4 Landscape Types. These were –

2 Lowland:

Low Altitude Plains Landscapes
Foothills and Downlands Landscapes

and

2 High Country:

Inter-Montane Ranges and Basins Landscapes
High Rainfall Divide Landscapes.

PRELIMINARY HURUNUI FRAMEWORK

Addressed at District scale, the grouping into four broad landscape types does not adequately demonstrate local complexity or distinctiveness. The district does not consist of the simple bands of plains, downs, hills and ranges of much of the rest of Canterbury. Sub-groupings were therefore used, separating lowland plains from basins, hills from downs, and, high country ranges from basins. Seven landscape types were mapped as the preliminary framework for Hurunui District Landscape Study consultation:

Lowland Landscape Types

Low Altitude Plains Landscapes:

- ◆ plains
- ◆ basin

Foothills and Downlands Landscapes:

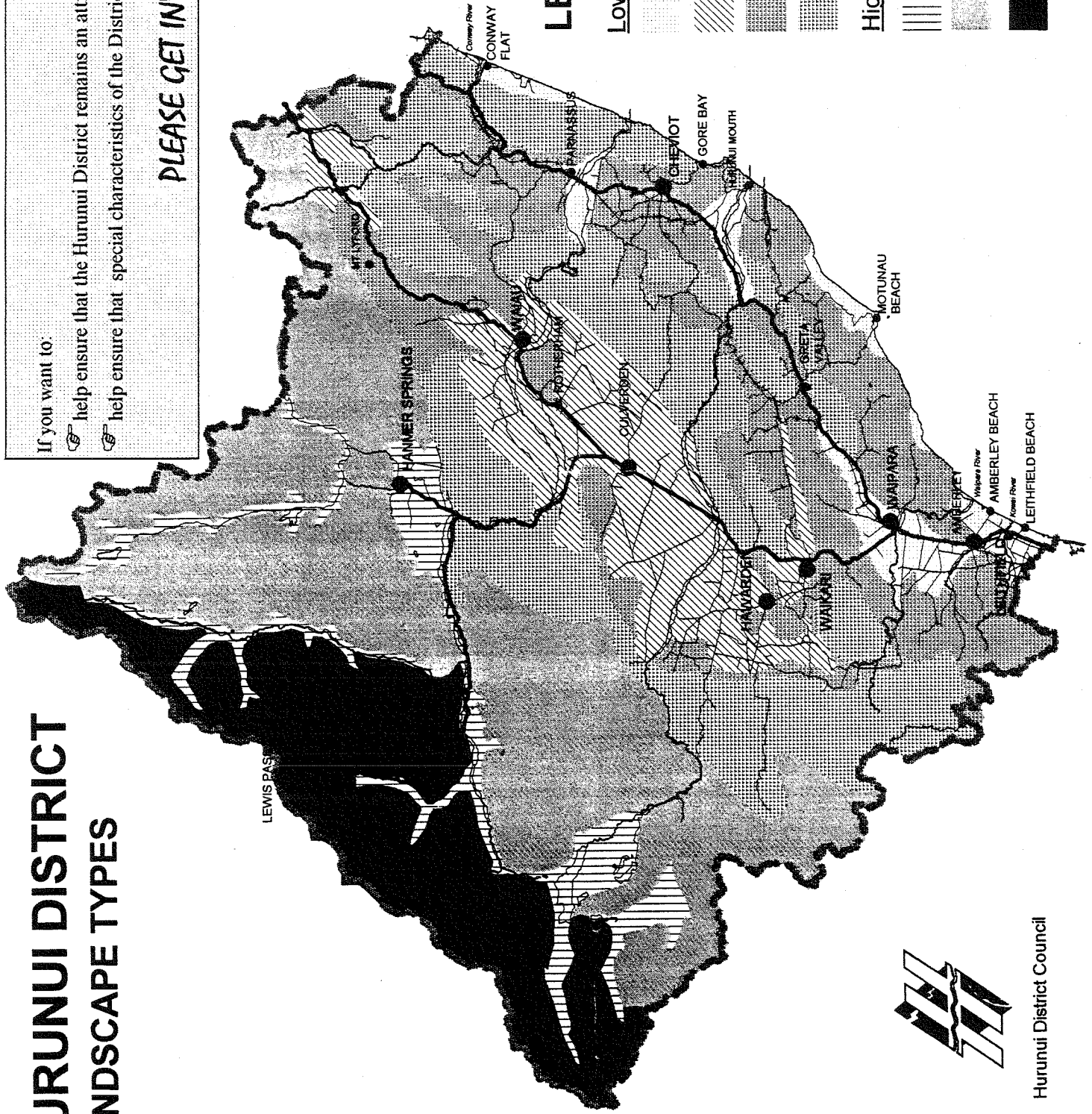
- ◆ soft rock hills (downs)
- ◆ hard rock hills (hills).

HURUNUI DISTRICT LANDSCAPE TYPES

If you want to:

- ☞ help ensure that the Hurunui District remains an attractive and interesting place to live, and
- ☞ help ensure that special characteristics of the District are retained, then...

PLEASE GET INVOLVED!



LEGEND

Lowland:

Plains

Basin

Hills (Soft Rock)

Hills (Hard Rock)

High Country:

Basin, Valley

Mountain Range

Main Divide Ranges



Hurunui District Council

High Country Landscape Types

- ◆ basin & valleys
- ◆ mountain ranges
- ◆ main divide ranges (insert map used in consultation)

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTIONS

Using this preliminary framework, the community was asked to describe the character of different types of country – through a newspaper questionnaire and through a public workshop, also, briefly with high school classes.

This identification of landscape character indicates how this country is perceived, and what are the key characteristics of each landscape type in the district. Issues of landscape change were identified by the community, and ways they might be managed. The community also identified particularly important landscapes and landscape characteristics and their vulnerability to change.

HURUNUI LANDSCAPE TYPES

Following consultation, the landscape types were modified to recognise community perceptions, in particular, separate recognition of coastal landscapes, and separation of Hanmer Basin Floor from other high country valleys. This resulted in 10 landscape types for the Hurunui District. Based on scientific descriptions a simple name and statement has been developed for each landscape type.

	CANTERBURY LANDSCAPE TYPES	CANTERBURY LAND TYPES	HURUNUI LANDSCAPE TYPES	HURUNUI ECOSYSTEM SIGNATURES
Low Land	A Low altitude plains	L2 Lower plains L4 Plains – recent floodplains and low terraces L1 Plains – coastal fringe L5 Raised coastal plains L24 Inland plains and major valleys	1 Plains 2 Coastal plains 3 Inland basins/plains	1 Short tussock plains 2 Coastal flax plains 3 Kanuka woodland plains
	C Foothills and downlands	L11 Northern loess mantled soft rock hills & downs L12 Northern structural soft rock hills L13 Northern soft rock hills and downs L21 Northern hard rock hills	4 Soft rock downlands 5 Hard rock hills 6 Coastal hills	4 Matai–totara downlands 5 Hard rock beech hills 6 Coastal matai–totara hills
High Country	I Intermontane ranges and basins	H5 Small intermontane basins and valleys H1 Major river, valley fill H2 Glacial and fluvial valley floor H7 Isolated mountain H13 Northern subhumid to humid mountain range	7 Hanmer plain 8 Major river valleys 9 Mountain ranges	7 Silver tussock plain 8 Red tussock valleys 9 Snow tussock ranges
	J High rainfall divide	H19 Northern main divide and associated ranges	10 Main divide	10 Alpine divide

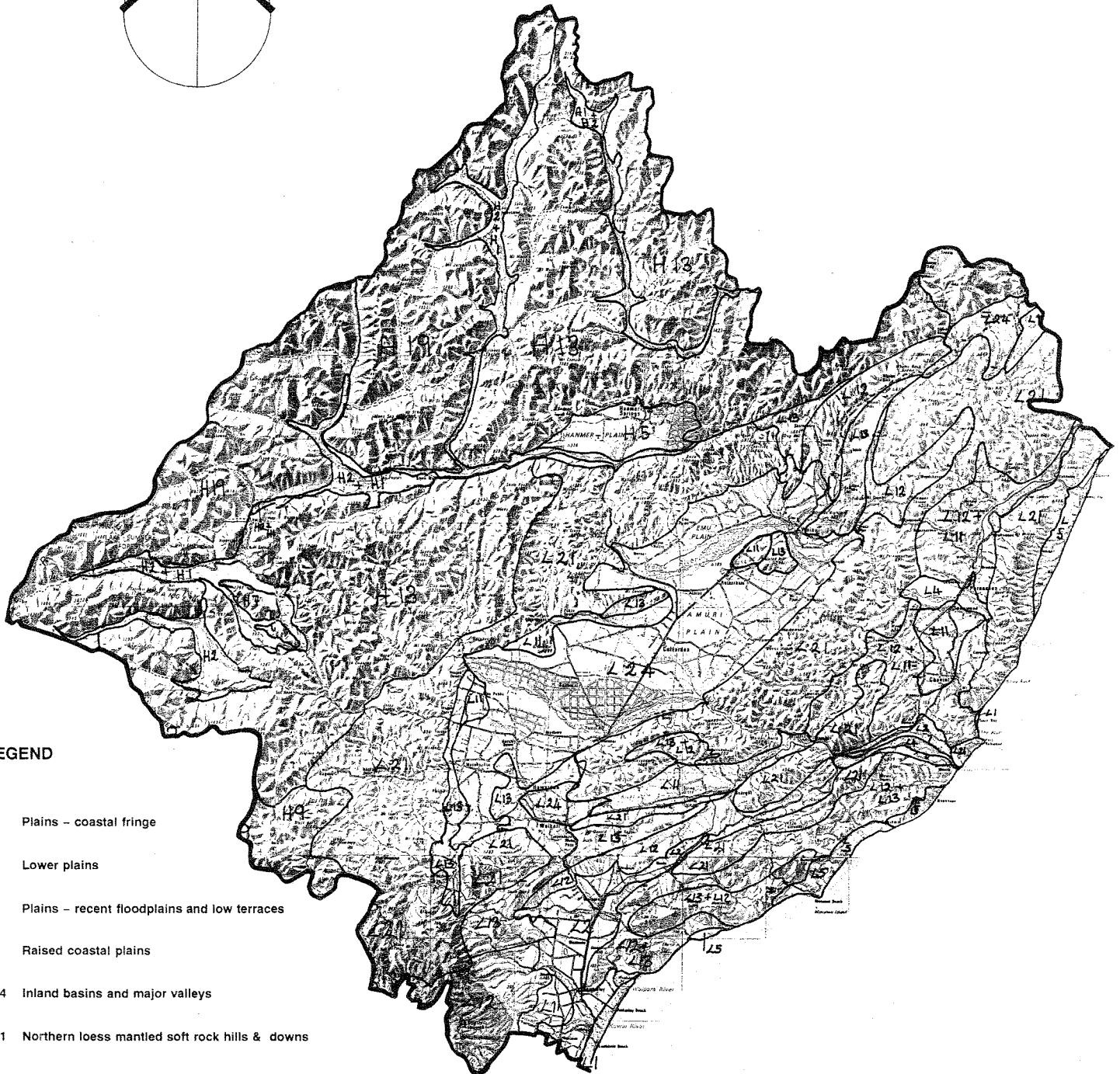
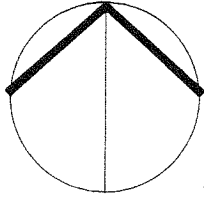
Using this landscape type framework, important landscapes have been identified using community responses and documented material. Based on the regional criteria for "outstanding" status, the various value systems were overlaid to produce a schedule of important landscapes. Also, issues were investigated with regard to these important places, and how change could be managed to maintain their landscape value. To recognise that

vegetation expresses landscape distinctiveness, " ecosystem signature" names have also been suggested that recognise the previous and potential typical vegetation of each landscape type:

STOP PRESS

Basin/Plain Terminology

The landscape type framework involves separation of basin floor from surrounding hills. Although "basin" was used in the graphics, as this implies inclusion of these hills, I suggest "plain" is more appropriate.



LEGEND

- L1 Plains – coastal fringe
- L2 Lower plains
- L4 Plains – recent floodplains and low terraces
- L5 Raised coastal plains
- L24 inland basins and major valleys
- L11 Northern loess mantled soft rock hills & downs
- L12 Northern structural soft rock hills
- L13 Northern soft rock hills and downs
- L21 Northern hard rock hills
- H5 Small intermontane basins and valleys
- H1 Major river, valley fill
- H2 Glacial and fluvial valley floor
- H7 Isolated mountain
- H13 Northern subhumid to humid mountain range
- H19 Northern main divide and associated ranges

CANTERBURY LAND TYPES

HURUNUI LANDSCAPE TYPES

LOWLANDS

LOWLAND PLAINS LANDSCAPES

(regional landscape type A)

Broad low-angle outwash plains and inland basins of recent gravels, silts. Broad landscapes with little topographical relief. traversed by wide braided river beds with associated terraces and wetlands.

Shallow droughty soils, variable loess cover.

1. PLAINS

(land types L1, L2, L4, L5)

Floodplains and wide riverbeds, terraces, fans and wetlands.

2. COASTAL PLAINS

(coastal areas of land types L1 and L5)

Narrow coastal plains with gravel and sand beach ridges, lagoons and backswamps, rolling gently to the beach (L1) (e.g. Leithfield and Amberley Beaches, Gore Bay Settlement); or, raised and dropping over a cliff (L5) (e.g. Motunau Beach and Conway Flat).

3. INLAND BASINS/PLAINS

(land type L24)

Floor of inland basins with extensive gently sloping alluvial fans, floodplains and associated wetlands. Includes Emu Plain, Amuri Plain and Pahau plain, Waikari Plain and inland Conway Plain.

FOOTHILLS AND DOWNLANDS

(regional landscape type C)

Low hills rising gradually from the Canterbury Plains, encircling the northern and southern ends of the Plains and extending right to the coast.

4. SOFT ROCK DOWNLANDS

(land types L11, L12, L13)

Smooth, rounded Tertiary hills and downlands. Loess mantled. Productive soils with intensive agriculture. Infrequent weathered outcroppings of Tertiary limestones. e.g. Weka Pass, Motonau hills.

5. HARD ROCK HILLS

(land type L21)

Steeper dissected, hard rock hill country with rock outcrops on ridges and spurs. Some scrub and native forest. Shallow stony, droughty soils with extensive agriculture. e.g. Lowry Peaks Range.

6. COASTAL HILLS

(coastal areas of land types L11, L12, L13, and L21)

Coast-oriented and influenced hills and downs, ending abruptly in coastal cliffs. e.g. Port Robinson and Waiarau mouth in the hard rock coastal margin (L21); Napenape and around Gore Bay on the soft rock coast (L11, L12, L13).

HIGH COUNTRY

INTERMONTANE RANGES AND BASINS

(landscape type I)

Inland basins with broad valleys separated by high mountain ranges.

7. HANMER BASIN/PLAIN

(land type H5)

Intermontane basin with extensive gently sloping alluvial fans, terrace lands, floodplains.

8. MAJOR RIVER VALLEYS

(land types H1, H2 & H7)

Low angle gentle valleys with wide, braided, active riverbeds, terraces, fans, lakes, moraine, and glacier-shaped, steep isolated mountains. e.g. upper Clarence, Waiau, Boyle and Hurunui valley floors, enclosed by mountains.

9. MOUNTAIN RANGES

(land type H13)

Steep mountain ranges with narrow, rounded ridges, outcrops and scree. Snow tussock, plus beech below.

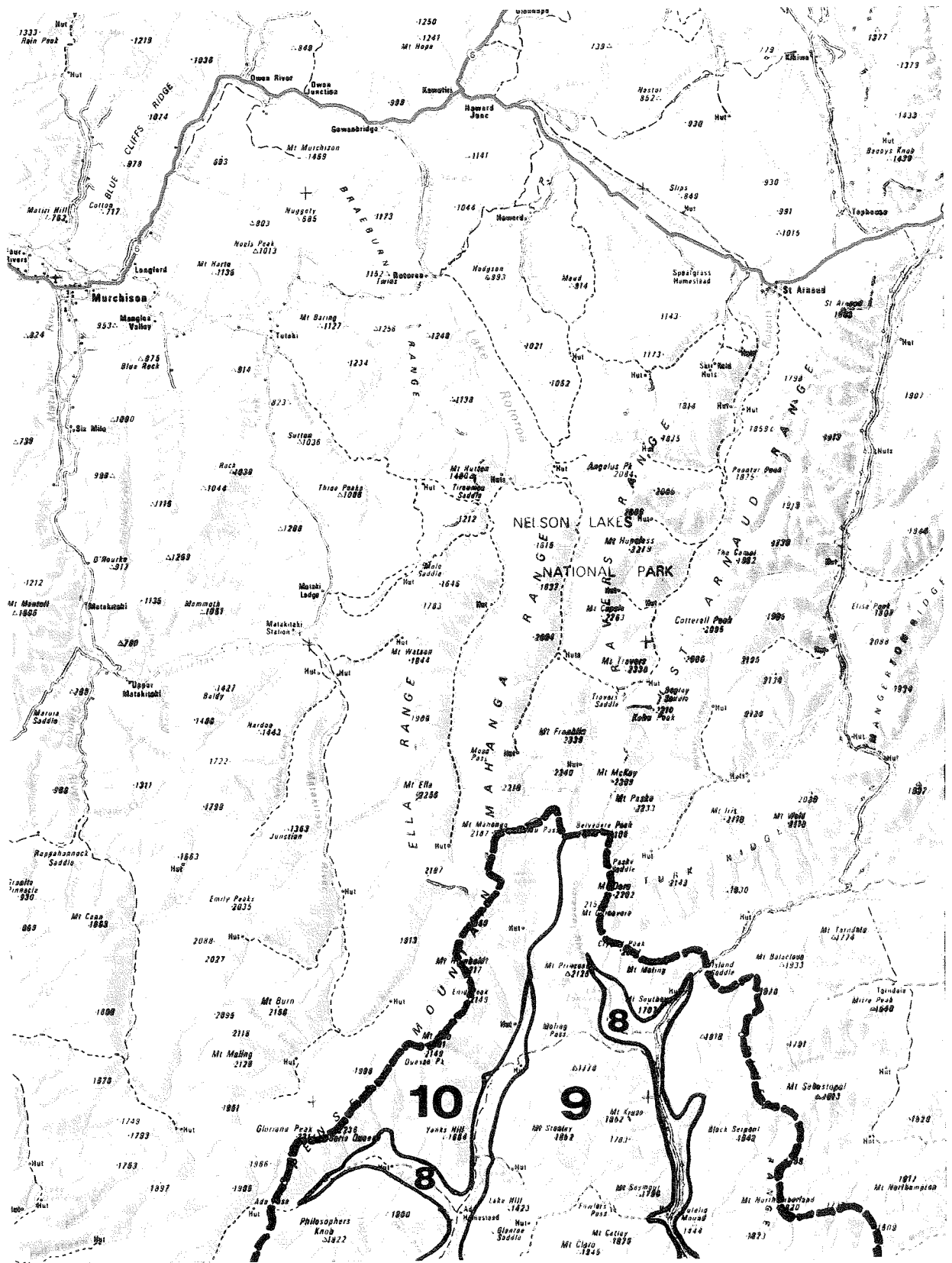
e.g. Organ Ranges, St.James and Hanmer Ranges, Mt.Terako.

10. MAIN DIVIDE

(regional landscape type J)

(land type H19)

Glaciated mountains along the divide with high rainfall, extensive screes on upper slopes, bare rock, but little permanent ice and snow. Major beech forest element survived glaciations to dominate slopes to treeline. e.g. Southern Alps, Poplars Range, Spenser Mountains.



Kilometres



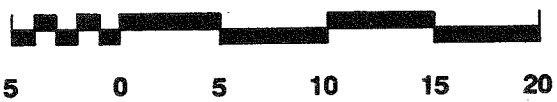
LEGEND

-  Landscape Type Boundary
-  District Boundary

**HURUNUI DISTRICT
LANDSCAPE TYPES**



Kilometres



LEGEND

- Landscape Type Boundary
- District Boundary

**HURUNUI DISTRICT
LANDSCAPE TYPES**

6. DISTINCTIVENESS OF THE DISTRICT

6.1 LITERATURE

CHARACTER OF TYPES OF COUNTRY

In a rapid survey of some key books on the District, some notes are made of their recognition of what landscape characteristics, types and places have been considered important. Also, where landscape change has been perceived as an issue, this has been noted. This historical data allows some basis for assessing the current management, survey data and indicating whether these values are shared in the community today. It is also useful in understanding why certain landscapes are not identified as "important".

WILD AND WON

Sarah Courage considered the tamed foreground and wild background Grey Downs and decided the beauty of the wild appeared more distinct when contrasted with the beauty of the tamed – *"the beauty of the hills lay in their sternness; that of the valley in its softness"*. A simple formula (Eldred-Grigg, 1993). The intense demarcation between old and new, native and introduced, highland and lowland was and remains a major issue.

The old and new, wild and tame is also read as a colour contrast. Gold and green. The abrupt transition from developed to undeveloped country – from "wild" to "won" – was exaggerated at Cheviot Hills Estate by extensive lawns and gardens (Wilson, 1993). The intense contrast between wild and won caused William Pember Reeves to suggest the native landscape of plains and high country is null. Colonists therefore *"set to work to fill this void land with everything British."* The clothing of a "nude" landscape. However *"desire for a colonisation of landscape contradicts a longing for the wild."* Many mourn the loss of the wild. *"The absence of 'culture' is seen increasingly as part of the positive power of such landscapes."* (Eldred-Grigg)

LAND PATTERN

Canterbury is frequently observed as a series of bands of landscape more or less parallel to the coast, with plains, downs, foothills, ranges, basins and alps (Eldred-Grigg). Hurunui district does not display such a simple stepped pattern, having fragmented plains and a complex of hills right to the coast.

Gardner (1983) observed this north-east and south-west "grain" of the country from the mountains, hills and valleys. But that this grain is crossed by rivers – the Hurunui, the Waiau below Ferry Bridge, and the Conway – flowing at right angles to this grain, to reach the sea through a series of gorges through the hills.

PLAINS

The plains have seldom been considered beautiful. They were remarkable for their lack of beauty. Their transformation through development has seldom been mourned. With familiarity the openness, flatness and expanse were perceived as beautiful. The plainscape has become a distinctive signature of Canterbury landscape. The North Canterbury plains contribute to this signature.

Gardner noted that the Pukahu Plain, lying between the Waiau and Hurunui, is the largest intermontane basin in the South Island. By 1920 the plain *"had given way to a crowded landscape of farmsteads, pine plantations and a changing pattern of pastures and crops."* The Amuri was thus assimilated into rural North Canterbury, *"yet the tussocked hills around the plain were a reminder that farm had not ousted run in the Amuri"*, but a balance achieved between the two.

"High wool cheques are a fine thing, but a healthy landscape is a finer. Seeking for the monuments of our time in the Amuri, future generations will look around them, lifting their eyes to the hills, and across the plains." (Gardner)

Even for early colonists, the treeless landscape had appeal. Andrew Rutherford wrote home in 1860 "*I like this country very well – nothing but grass and wind*". Lady Barker, after two days journey to near Hawarden, notes "*we had entered a plantation, the first trees since we left Christchurch. Nothing seems so wonderful to me as the utter treelessness of the vast Canterbury plains; occasionally you pass a few ti-ti palms (ordinarily called cabbage trees), or a large prickly bush which goes by the name of "wild irishman". but for miles and miles you see nothing but flat ground or slightly undulating downs of yellow tussocks, the tall native grass. It has the colour and appearance of hay, but serves as shelter for a delicious undergrowth of short sweet herbage, upon which the sheep live*" (Barker, 1865).

McRae (1993) describes the Hurunui plain "*surrounded by low, sloping hills, gives it a warm sheltered feeling. It is a 'smiling' land, one could almost say opulent.*" She describes Ethelton Valley as "*limestone and blue clay papa country*".

Differences between the plain and the downs have long been evident. Recording his ride south from Culverdan in 1856, Roberts notes the "*manuka scrub extended ten or twelve miles along the plain*" and then extensive "*splendidly grassed rolling downs*" (Cresswell, 1952).

However, Julius von Haast, at about the same time, had a quite different view – "*After having traversed about eight miles of this monotonous grassplain*". Crossing Jacks Saddle to the Hurunui, von Haast (1879), noted "*small remains of a luxuriant forest are here and there visible, for the romance of the district has been destroyed in nearly all accessible places by the practical hand of the sheepfarmer.. Burnt bare stumps, often of gigantic trees, show everywhere how great this destruction has been.*"

Gardner, recognising it as separate from other plainscapes, stated: "*Hanmer, which is in the Amuri but not entirely of it*".

HILLS AND DOWNS

Canterbury has downlands of the south and downlands of the north. According to George Chamier, the downlands of North Canterbury were a "*wild open country of undulating downs, treeless and bare, but clad in the brightest yellow; the scattered homesteads and patches of cultivation appearing like variegated spots on the uniform texture of the golden native garb.*" They tended to resemble the adjacent high plains.

Eldred-Grigg found that the conversion of downs into pasture and arable land, the "*open downlands, sliced into paddocks by gorse hedges and taut wire fences*" with "*grass burnt tawny yellow*", caused most creative writers to lose interest in them as a landscape. Few seem to have seen the twentieth century downlands as distinctive, as a scene of emotional or symbolic importance. The downlands are not "difficult" landscape. They are regarded as pleasant, easy country, and they seem seldom to provoke a strong literary or emotional response.

Gardner (1983) commented that "*The Amuri landscape in its most familiar aspects may be said to possess character rather than beauty. The extensive plain ... allows a wide prospect in all directions, but they are hills of modest proportions.. The only peaks which stand out clearly are three to the north – Malingson, Tinline and the pyramid of Terako. They are the outposts of another Amuri, the high country beyond them. For the rest, the Amuri foothills are too crowded to impress at first glance.*"

"*Low hills need one of two things to acquire distinction: isolation or long acquaintance. Mount Grey, which is only the end of a ridge ...acquired for Ursula Bethell*

'...a spell

*of greatness, majesty that does not go with measurement,
a mien of kinship with all renowned heights.'*

Commenting that the foothills of North Canterbury are not quickly traced on the memory, Gardner finds "*It is, therefore, only on long familiarity that Amuri foothills reveal their character. They are strong enough to guard but not wild enough to oppress the plain*". After tramping through the high country he

saw *"The succession of closely-packed ridges and glimpsed peaks become stepping stones for the mind to travel to remote majestic valleys and mountains."*

Topography and terrain mark the Cheviot valley off from the rest of the district. The town is the single centre of a clearly defined physiographic unit with linear boundaries of ranges and rivers (Wilson).

Cresswell (1952) notes that the first South Island runholders were at Motonau – with 52 000 ha north of the Waipara. In Pyramid Valley a century ago *"The swamps were full of pukakis and wekas and we boys brought home enough eggs to keep a regiment going."* (Cresswell, 1952)

HIGH COUNTRY

The Lewis Pass Road, opened in 1937, *"enabled travellers to see the beauty of the Amuri high country."* It has *"made the valleys of the Hope, Doubtful, Boyle, and Lewis rivers familiar to travellers. It is fine scenery rather than fine sheep country ... glorious vistas of bush, open river flats, and high bare tops"*.

Gardner acknowledged the importance of existence values – knowing something even when not directly experiencing it, as Ursula Bethell expressed of Mount Grey:

'I do not see you there,

*but I was conscious. I have found you, since,
something familiar, and I salute you now, for your significance."*

Ephemeral or transient values were also recognised. For example *"One learns what changing seasons and lights can do to transform a landscape often drab and colourless."* Features that *"shimmer and shrivel in the midday heat"* can be *"magnified in the calm evening after a nor'-west day."*

Homesteads have been important as oases in a wild, dry or treeless landscape. Homesteads, with structures and plantings, remain a focus in the landscape. Basil Dowling describes the wild garden and ruined structures of an old North Canterbury mansion.

*"Here are the proud gates, guarded by old trees;
There the long winding drive, and over there
The soaring slopes of tussock hills ...
This is high country. Lives were always, here,
Lived in the shadow of magnificence."*

English and Australian influences were soon evident where colonists planted trees – Cheviot Hills employed 12 tree planters by 1866. Broom was also planted for bird cover, even though there was a warning of the threat of spread (Wilson).

"Yet that beauty which lies in the eye of the beholder does not cease to grow for those who are struck by the character of the north Amuri high country with its clear atmosphere and muscular outlines". Gardner noted *"Tussocky level plains and sheer mountain peaks facing each other give the observer a sensation of remoteness without loneliness, and of a landscape largely unmarred by the hand of man, yet not unfriendly to him. The eye of the lowlander, visiting this country in summer, mechanically fills in the clean bare landscape with homesteads, fences and plantations, but nature has decreed otherwise."*

WATER BODIES

Until recent times, coastal landscapes of native swamp, lagoons, tidal estuaries, etc. were perceived as ugly, dull and of no interest (Eldred-Grigg). Beaches have attracted little attention, although Ruth France's *"Near Hurunui"* alludes to *"a shy bay where the water is very blue, a landscape the poet compares with the Mediterranean, a place where yellow headlands 'reach / Blue-shadowed into the blue sea.'* (Eldred Gregg).

Von Haast described the "thickly grassed riverbed" and "grassy rounded roches moutonnees" of the glaciated Hurunui lakes area. "The contrast between these grassy rounded hills and the high rugged mountains, covered to a height of 4,000 feet with dark beech forest, was very attractive." At Sumner Lake "It was indeed a great pleasure to be able once more to enjoy nature in her pure virgin solitude. The quiet mirror of the lake, only disturbed here and there by ducks and other water birds; the dark forest, with the rugged rocky peaks above it, reflected in the lake, formed a landscape of such exquisite beauty that I was very unwilling to leave it."

Along the south bank of the lower Hurunui, McRae notes "stands of healthy cabbage trees, a symbol of native New Zealand that is fast vanishing from the countryside."

The Hurunui River is a boundary for the tangata whenua, and for a time the boundary between Nelson and Canterbury.

"The scenery of the Hurunui has not the extreme wildness which gives so remarkable a character to that of the Rakaia and some other rivers. The river is confined in general within its banks, and within the mountains has cut for itself a rock bed with vertical cliffs of moderate elevation,...The mountains rise at a very steep slope. They are in places wooded, chiefly with black birch, but are in general bare of trees." (Crawford, 1880).

Mrs Shona McRae (1993) describes the South Branch Gorge, bush lined and confined by 100m high cliffs on both sides, as the most spectacular of the six gorges on the Hurunui.

In a report of 1855, Gardner notes "Weld then returned to the Upper Clarence, apparently drawn there by a lake which he had discovered two years ago, from a mountain down the Clarence, and had named "lake Tennyson" and a mountain above it, the "princess" ... Though small ... Lake Tennyson in beauty far surpasses anything I have ever seen in New Zealand. None of the lakes of the Northern Island can, in my opinion, compare to it. It lies in an amphitheatre of lofty peaks, bold in outline, dark in colour.. On its banks clumps of birch [beech] trees, ..whilst in front the Clarence leaving the lake by a pebbly bay, flows away down the level grass plain", with "the blue whistling duck."

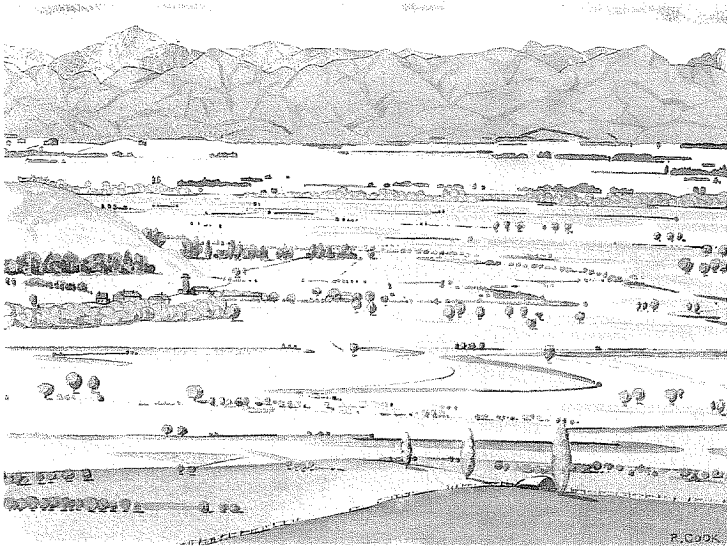
6.2 ARTS

Regional

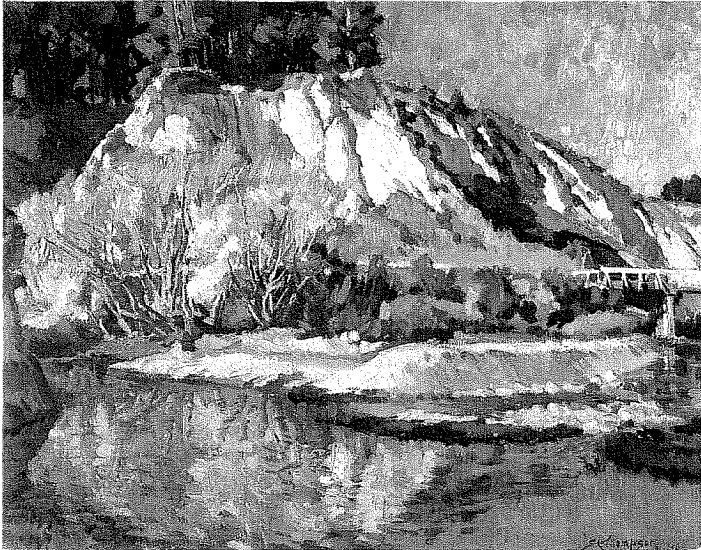
A rapid review of artworks catalogued by the major public art gallery of the region, the McDougall in Christchurch, along with Grant Banbury's review "*Landscape Art in the Canterbury Region*" (1993) identified some significant artworks indicating landscape types, characteristics, and places of significance to the district. These include:

- "*Greta and Bluff Hill*" Lawrence Aberhart
- "*Canterbury Hills Riverbed, Waiiau*" Rita Angus (1931–2)
- "*A Canterbury Landscape*" Bensemann (1983)
- "*Cabbage Tree*" R.Clark
- "*Mt. Spenser Range (The Fairie Queene)*" G.H.Elliot
- "*Mount Grey from Pines Beach*" Doris Lusk (1961)
- "*North Canterbury Landscape*" Colin McCahon (1951)
- "*North Canterbury Landscape*"(2) Colin McCahon (1951)
- "*Hope River*" W. Rayworth (1890s)
- "*Sale Day, Hawarden*" Shurrock
- "*North Canterbury Stream*" Margaret Stoddart
- "*Country Landscape*" Margaret Stoddart
- "*Bridge over the Kowhai*" Margaret Stoddart
- "*Hills and Plains*" W.A.Sutton (1956)
- "*Autumn, Greta Cutting*" Sydney Lough Thompson (1956)
- "*Gum Trees, Amberley Beach*" Wilks
- "*Saltwater Creek and Ashley River*" Wilks

These images cover a full range of landscape types from main divide, mountain ranges, hard and soft rock hills, with rivers and scarps down to various plainscapes.



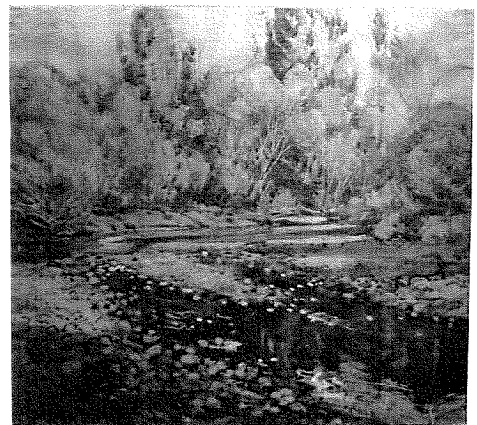
Rita Angus
"Canterbury Hills Riverbed, Wairua"
(1931-2)



S. L. Thompson
"Autumn, Greta Cutting"
(1956)



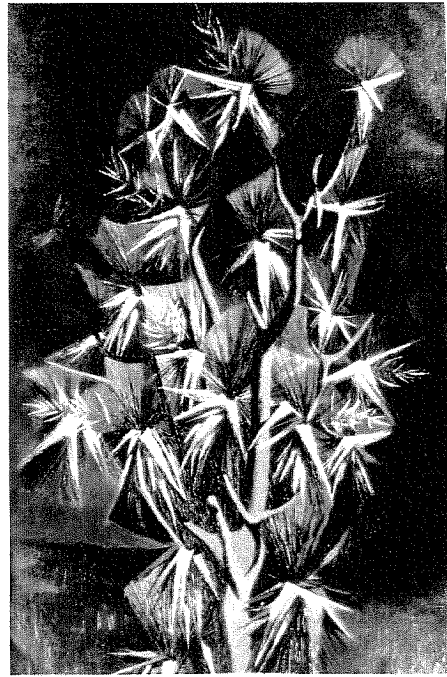
W. A. Sutton "Hills and Plains" (1956)



M. Stoddart "North Canterbury Stream"



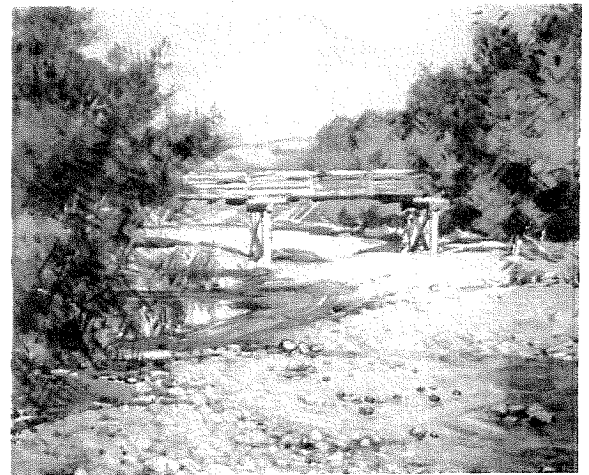
G. H. Elliot "Mt. Spencer Range"



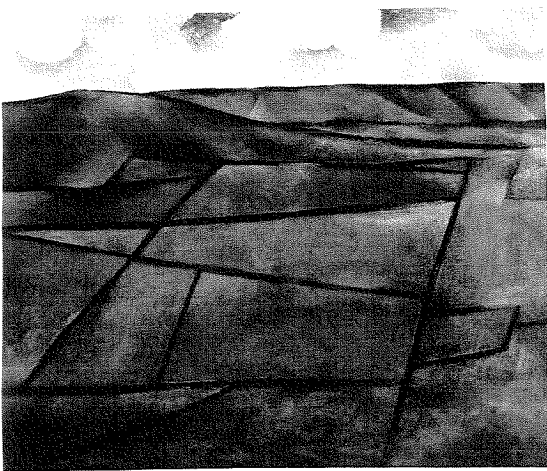
R. Clark "Cabbage Tree"



Doris Lusk "Mt. Grey from Pines Beach" (1961)



M. Stoddart "Bridge over the Kowhai"



Colin McCahon "North Canterbury Landscape"
(1951)



M. Stoddart "Country Landscape"

Local - "TEA COSY" QUESTIONNAIRE

As an attempt to access local interest in the landscape types, places and characteristics of the district, a tiny questionnaire was distributed at the workshop asking:-

"do you have anything displayed in your home or office that reminds you of any landscape of the Hurunui District? - perhaps a photo or painting, even a stone or an embroidered tea cosy?" You do? yes/no

If yes, can you describe the thing or things -

perhaps "a photo of Motonau Island from up the coast"; "my son's painting of hills and cabbage trees above the Leader Road"; or, "auntie's embroidery of Frog Rock" -

This "Tea Cosy Questionnaire" got replies from 20 people. with many local paintings, photographs and mementoes, particularly of the high country and the limestone country. Just 4 did not have some landscape image from the district displayed, among these was the comment *"every window in the house looks out upon it! What more do you want."* Fair enough.

The "yes" responses included:

- ◆ *Mt. Terako - painting by Margaret Forbes*
- ◆ *Mt. Terako, Mt. Tinline, St. Patrick, Amuri Basin and hills beyond - paintings.*
- ◆ *Mandamus catchment - 3 paintings, 1 by Gennett, 1 by Ruby Stratton, 1 by Austen Deans.*
- ◆ *Waiiau riverbed (downstream over Cheddar Valley from Ngawiro, Rotheram) - painting by H. Busby.*
- ◆ *Waikari township - old painting. limestone - lumps in garden.*
- ◆ *Lake Tennyson - painting; Mt Tekoa, Mt TeKooti - painting.*
- ◆ *Amuri - photo; old homesteads - photos.*
- ◆ *snowy mountains on still winter morning - painting; Clarence River - photo rafting down; windows - views and the space.*
- ◆ *White Gorge, Waipara River - painting; Limestone Ridge - shells.*
- ◆ *Hurunui District Council calendar (local photographs); local rocks; locality - own photographs.*
- ◆ *landscapes - 2 paintings; two calendars.*
- ◆ *farm - painting.*
- ◆ *odd shaped rocks in the garden; window view.*
- ◆ *A Paua Shell - with all the colours of the sea and sky, cupped to contain the seas food sources.*
- ◆ *Hurunui District "where I recreate" - photos.*

7. PREVIOUS LANDSCAPE RECOGNITION

Available data was researched to ascertain previous recognition of the significance of Hurunui district landscapes. This was assessed as to whether the community responses in this study endorsed or conflicted with other data.

7.1 REGIONAL IMPORTANCE

Through a review of data, the Canterbury Regional Landscape Study (Boffa Miskell and Lucas Associates 1993) identified a number of areas in (or associated with) the district as regionally "outstanding". Areas and generic features of regional "significance" were also identified (Refer map). Regionally Outstanding:

Haumuri Bluff and Kaikoura Coast
Mid and Upper Clarence River
Spenser Range
Lewis Pass area
Hurunui Lakes area
Weka Pass area

Regionally Significant:

A. Low Altitude Plains Landscapes:
Motonau to Conway coastal plain
Saltwater Creek and Ashley estuary

plus, rivers, springs, wetlands, river terraces, coastal cliffs, dunes, inland sandhills, tussock and flax lands, shrubland and forest, pre-historic sites.

C. Downland and Foothill Landscapes:
Mount Oxford to Mount Grey Range

plus, limestone scarps, outcrops and sinkholes, tussock and wetlands, forest and shrubland, flax and cabbage trees, prehistoric sites, skylines.

I. Intermontane Range and Basin Landscapes.

J. High Rainfall Divide Landscapes.

7.2 LOCAL ASSESSMENT

A community working party is addressing the overall future of the Hurunui Lakes area, and a landscape study has previously been undertaken of the Hanmer Basin. No other district landscape assessments have been sighted.

The "*Landscape of the Hanmer Basin*" (Chris Glasson, 1992), addressed the visual landscape of both the Basin and the Springs village for Hanmer is the focus for tourism growth in the district. Careful management of the corridor to the village through the Waiau Gorge to the Hanmer Plain and on to the river terrace at the town, were considered essential.

The town and its context require careful management to maintain, restore and enhance the appeal and distinctiveness of Hanmer as a high country, thermal village. The character of Hanmer Springs was assessed to be seriously threatened. There is a lack of coherence. Much of the development within the town, often suburban in style, was found to have negated the specialness of the location. The town now lacks containment. Proposed mechanisms included design guidelines and a design assessment panel for any consents within the town.

Management of the wider village context, particularly of Mt Miromiro, Organ range, Amuri Range and Mt. Percival, is needed because of their high visibleness and high visual sensitivity. The ridgelines, skylines and river edges were found to be particularly sensitive to change. It was proposed very tight controls were necessary on any development location or management change on the hill slopes because of their high visibleness.

Glasson found there was a need to address potential effects of agriculture, roads and tracks, building development, transmission lines, shelter belts and forestry on the Hanmer Basin. (Note the Hanmer Forest Covenants (1990) seek to protect landscape values.) There was also a need to address potential effects of residential and tourist development, roading, commercial expansion, and, amenity tree and forest removal on Hanmer Springs. Controls and guidelines were proposed for example to restrict forestry, to contain and define the town within limits, to recognise the hilly knolls as open space features worthy of retention, and to allow no more subdivision on shady slopes of Conical Hill.

The study indicates a need for seriously addressing the landscape management of the Hanmer basin and Hanmer Springs.

7.3 HURUNUI TRANSITIONAL DISTRICT PLAN

The Hurunui transitional district plan provides an indication of the landscape characteristics, places and changes that the public have previously recognised as important under previous legislation. The plan sections vary markedly in the degree to which landscape is addressed. The Cheviot, Amuri and Hurunui Sections are reviewed:

CHEVIOT SECTION

The tree character of the Cheviot township is to be retained and enhanced.

Coastal cliffs are not to be developed, including, for landscape reasons.

Provision of part-time or "stepping stone" land holdings is supported.

AMURI SECTION

Change in the Pahau plains landscape through intensification was noted, plus development of the Waiau Plains, Balmoral and Waiareka Downs Irrigation Schemes.

Although there are no landscape criteria for Rural B or Residential zones, nor for Commercial Forestry as a discretionary use, for the hill and high country, the need "*To ensure the compatibility of tourist development with best use, scenery and habitat preservation, etc*". was recognised.

Notable trees or groups of trees of special historic, scientific, landmark or scenic value are recognised as forming an important part of the landscape and character of the Amuri. They contribute to the visual amenity and beauty of the landscape.

The scenic and recreational values assessed by Egarr (1981, 1982) for the rivers was noted. For example, the Clarence, the Upper Waiau and the Boyle were impressive scenic ranking. Lake Tennyson, a scenic reserve, and Lake Guyon were noted.

For the mountain land resource of the Lewis Pass, enhancement of scenic, and recreational, values, etc. was supported.

Special policies were included for the high country, with recognition of the scenic qualities of many areas. To protect the "*outstanding natural and scenic qualities*" of the Lewis Pass; for subdivision such as at the Boyle River, "*building design and colour is to blend with the natural environment.*"

In the high country, discretionary activities include travellers accommodation, rural industries and skifields are required to not detract from the "*scenic character of the area*" or "*views from any state highway or reserve*". However, forestry is a permitted activity.

The Mt Lyford Log Village is to provide for development "*without detracting from its scenic and natural qualities.*" "*The preservation of the character of the area is of prime importance.*" Houses are to "*blend naturally with the landscape.*"

For Hanmer Springs, to retain some existing landscape character more detailed policies and controls were required to address, for example, "*preservation of landscape features*", "*existing vegetation of landscape significance*", "*open planted space*", "*use of natural materials*", "*natural wood finishes*" and "*colours for buildings and fences in harmony with the environment*".

The Commercial Zones for Waiau and Culverdan recognise the importance of protecting and enhancing amenity values, in seeking for development to be "pleasant".

For public utilities, "*The building shall not detract from the visual amenity of the area*". Advertising signs must not "*affect detrimentally the amenities*" nor be "*visually inappropriate to the neighbourhood*", "*not obtrusively visible from residential, rural or recreational land*", and be visually pleasant, regarding scale, form, harmony etc.

HURUNUI SECTION

To address landscape character as a planning basis for the whole county, not just important locations, the plan provided a landscape type framework based on the degree of modification:

- wild landscape
- silvicultural landscape
- pastoral landscape
- agricultural landscape
- residential landscape
- industrial landscape.

Functional order was seen as closely aligned to visual order, thus the landscape type framework represented a range of land uses. Each type represented a different balance between natural and modified. The task was to manage change to maintain an acceptable balance.

The County was addressed as four geographic units:

- coastline
- alluvial plains (Rural A)
- downlands and plateaux (Rural B)
- mountain ranges (Rural C)

Policies were both generic and specific to special places denoted on schedules. One involved various lakes, rivers, bush patches and ponds, a shag colony site, and Motonau Island.

Another listed numerous Archaeological Sites, such as rock shelters, middens, caves, ovens and occupation sites. There was also a large Historic Sites list.

As part of the amenity planning strategy, landscape character and the physical elements which contribute to it were to be identified. Implementing amenity controls had an objective of ensuring development was designed and developed to promote, not detract, from visual amenity and environment. Then to ensure appropriate design and retention of views, etc. guidelines were to be established "*on design, appearance of buildings and tree planting in relation to the amenities of their locality.*"

Until a County-wide assessment of visual quality, "*each structure, building, shelter belt, or development proposal will be assessed in terms of its impacts on visual quality on a site specific basis.*", to ensure visual compatibility and avoid creating "eyesore".

The objective to ensure visual compatibility with the existing visual character in terms of "*expression of form, line, colour, texture and pattern in the landscape*".

Surprisingly then, there appear to be no landscape criteria in the Control of Trees. In the high country (Rural C) commercial forestry must not be "*in conflict with or incompatible with conservation, landscape or recreational values.*" Regarding noxious weeds, there was a proactive objective, "*To protect clean country from the invasion of noxious plants.*" And, "*Replace noxious plants infestation with competitive plants that will prevent reinfestation.*"

In the Weka Pass and Hurunui River catchment roading and tracking is restricted to more gentle slopes (20 degree) than elsewhere, with the steeper areas indicated on planning maps.

The policy for plains, downs and high country (i.e. Rural A, B & C) is "*To provide for all land uses ... and to protect rural land from any effects that ... would detract from the environmental quality or scenic amenities of the rural area.*"

To keep rural houses well-separated and back from the road, 75m separation and, on small holdings, they must be at least 50 metres north of the Mt Grey-Leithfield Road.

The Rural Coastal Zone for the narrow strip between the Ashley and Waipara Rivers, recognises a number of significant wetlands. The Ashley-River-Saltwater Creek estuary; Waipara River mouth; Amberley Beach Lagoon, Leithfield Beach Lagoon, and Ashworth's Ponds.

Policies for the coast involve preservation of indigenous biota, but also preservation of natural character and visual appearance of the coastline, in particular "*undeveloped stretches of beaches and sand dunes ... settings... access.... recreation.*"

7.4 DRAFT HURUNUI DISTRICT PLAN

A non-statutory draft plan was put out a year ago for discussion purposes. The proposal was to manage the district's resources as:

- urban, or,
- rural

In addition, these were overlain by special management areas:

- Coastal environment
- Hurunui Lakes area
- Hanmer Basin
- High Country, and,
- Mt Lyford area (see map)

The Coast was defined as a 1km strip. Hanmer basin included the enclosing hills. The high country included all mountainous and steep hill country, soils Class VI to VIII in LRI, and, sensitive ecological systems, and thus encompassed more than half the District.

The draft sought to address protection and enhancement of the sense of place of all communities. Also, to protect/enhance resources of significant value in the context of their cultural or environmental function. Special character and uniqueness were to be protected for future generations to appreciate, or for their intrinsic value.

Relevant District issues identified included:

- natural character of the coast.
- important landscapes, the protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes.
- Hanmer Basin, maintenance and enhancement of special amenity and visual values.
- Hurunui Lakes area, providing for conservation and recreation values.
- heritage.
- flora and fauna.
- ecosystem protection.

A landscape assessment was proposed (p.44) to identify the features and landscapes of outstanding importance to the community, and identify significant views, along with use of previous assessments, inventories, Department of Conservation register of sites and areas, and, community consultation. The results to be incorporated in the District Plan, under:

"Policies 12.1 To identify important natural features and landscapes within the district, and the values associated with them."

Implementation methods proposed were consultation and research – this current study contributes to that process.

"12.2 To protect or enhance outstanding natural areas and landscapes and significant views from the adverse environmental effects of activities."

And *"Where such features or landscapes are not of district-wide importance, but still have some importance to the community, efforts to protect and enhance those resources will be promoted."*

"12.3 In circumstances in which the protection and enhancement of outstanding landscapes or natural features is a cross-boundary issue, to work with adjacent local authorities in the management of those landscapes or features."

Implementation methods proposed for 12.2 and 12.3 were rules, promotion of use of covenants, and provision of information and advice. Monitoring and review mechanisms were proposed.

The management proposed focused on protection of views. There was little attention to protecting

landscape experience. There were no rules for protecting high country landscapes. Neither nature nor landscape conservation were listed as permitted activities even in the high country. Neither has subdivision been noted as an activity, which may or may not be permitted.

7.5 COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO DISCUSSION DRAFT

PLANNING FRAMEWORK

1. A number of respondents had difficulty with the extent of the high country area, particularly with the inclusion of hill country, Paringa, Horsford, etc.
2. More logical definition sought for the coastal area. Rather than a 1km strip, proposed defining by local visual catchment, e.g. "*first major ridge line back from the coast.*"
3. Recognition sought for important and valued landscapes, significant landscapes, important landscape types, important landscape characteristics, and, significant views.
4. Particular recognition sought by respondents to manage **important landscapes** associated with:
 - ◆ *The coast landscape.*
 - ◆ *Weka Pass.*
 - ◆ *Mt Grey and associated downlands.*
 - ◆ *Inland Road, particularly Mt Terako area.*
 - ◆ *Clarence River valley, Lake Tennyson and Lake Guyon.*
 - ◆ *Upper Hurunui River west of Jacks Pass, the total catchment, including the North and South Branches and lakes.*
 - ◆ *Lewis Pass, west of Gorge Creek (Glynn Wye Station) or Marble Point.*
5. Specific recognition of *significant landscapes* was sought, particularly:
 - ◆ *Saltwater Creek margins, tidal variations, at/from highway crossing.*
 - ◆ *The Ashley-Saltwater Lagoon.*
 - ◆ *Pyramid shaped hills of Pyramid Valley.*
 - ◆ *The karst or limestone low cliffs around Mouse Point past Culverden on the way to Hanmer;*
 - ◆ *The karst low cliffs around between the Waikari and the Hurunui Hotel.*
 - ◆ *Inland Road from Annandale onwards towards Kaikoura.*
 - ◆ *small lakes at Mt Lyford.*
 - ◆ *from Hanmer leading toward the Lewis Pass.*
 - ◆ *River and rocky bluffs in the Island Hills-Tekoa Gorge (Mandamus Gorge).*
 - ◆ *crater on Glens of Tekoa as a volcanic feature.*

"There are landscapes within the District which add significantly to the character of the district. They are not outstanding so much as being outstandingly significant. The district's character would be the poorer without them."
6. **Important landscape characteristics** needing recognition:
 - ◆ *open space as a landscape quality of the District.*
 - ◆ *open space vistas*
 - ◆ *interaction of state highways and landscape.*
 - ◆ *indigenous on roadside e.g. Annandale*
 - ◆ *coastal landscape*
 - ◆ *indigenous vegetation including tussock grasslands, forests and alpine areas.*
 - ◆ *much of the high country, particularly legible and unmodified landforms; the extensive nature of landuse activities (pastoral farming, recreation, conservation, and, landscape appreciation)*

LANDSCAPE ISSUES

- IN GENERAL

- ◆ *all activities need to be assessed with respect to potential effects on natural features and landscapes – forestry should not be singled out.*
- ◆ *the need to restrict forestry only where it may have adverse visual, landscape or other environmental effects. The issue is not necessarily size, but location.*
- ◆ *address the adverse landscape, visual and amenity effects of:*
 - *pastoralism and farming e.g. from clearance and tracking;*
 - *woody weeds, particularly gorse, broom and wilding trees, and address control and containment;*
 - *inappropriately designed and located structures;*
- ◆ *communications facilities required with good line-of-sight, requiring hilltop and ridgeline siting, and thus change landscape.*
- ◆ *the need to protect open space character.*
- ◆ *subdivision potentially resulting in diverse management effects which cause landscape fragmentation.*

- OF SPECIAL AREAS

- ◆ *necessary to survey residents and other interested individuals, groups and organisations in order to identify important sites, places and values, and provide for them in the plan.*
- ◆ *need to consult community/landowners in identifying important landscapes.*
- ◆ *recognise the vulnerability of important landscapes to inappropriate use; fragmentation; loss of natural values; insensitive design; and, siting of activities.*
- ◆ *necessary to protect the surrounds, the setting, of heritage sites and features, not just the site or object alone.*
- ◆ *potential major impacts of forestry on outstanding and significant natural features and landscapes and on significant indigenous flora and fauna.*
- ◆ *landscape impacts of forest harvest on Mount Grey.*
- ◆ *cross-boundary landscape values and management – e.g. Mount Grey, Clarence catchment.*
- ◆ *weed spread on local authority boundaries e.g. broom creeping into riparian saltmarsh vegetation at Saltwater Creek.*

HIGH COUNTRY:

- ◆ *visual sensitivity of the high country to landuse change.*
- ◆ *vulnerability of high country landscapes (vegetation, landforms, and extensiveness) to significant adverse effects from forestry; weeds and wildings; earthworks; tracking and benching; vegetation clearance, modification or burning; shelterbelt plantings; and, erection of structures.*

MECHANISMS OPPOSED BY RESPONDENTS:

- forestry as a controlled activity everywhere (some discretionary status sought).
- further forestry restrictions, particularly regarding size.
- amenity planting requirements.
- tracking restrictions – grade and length.
- limits to 1 house per title.
- minimum subdivisions of 4 or 5 ha.

As rules were proposed, it is necessary for these to be JUSTIFIED, therefore they sought:

- ◆ identification of effects of subdivision and of extra dwellings.
- ◆ identification of effects of structures and of steep land cultivation in the high country.

MECHANISMS SUGGESTED BY COMMUNITY FOR MANAGING LANDSCAPE CHANGE:

ALL LANDSCAPES

1. SUPPORT:

- ◆ a consultative and cooperative approach with landowners.
- ◆ non-regulatory methods – education, advocacy, information provision, and incentives.
- ◆ positive support for individual responsibility, rather than traditional regulatory approach.
- ◆ where protection and enhancement of outstanding or locally significant landscapes is a cross-boundary issue, work with adjacent local authorities in their management.
- ◆ present awards to encourage pride in the environment.

2. DEFINE:

- ◆ clear standards for permitted activities.
- ◆ design and siting STANDARDS for activities – forestry, earthworks, erecting structures, hazard mitigation – to reduce adverse effects on landscape values generally, and protect areas or resources with high amenity value.
- ◆ precautionary approach to weed management re. earthworks and ground disturbance; subdivision patterns; structure location and design; exotic plantings; and, clearance or modification (including burning) of indigenous vegetation.
- ◆ for exotic tree planting, provide standards to protect views, streams, and high altitude areas.
- ◆ area limits on clearance.
- ◆ develop design and location standards and criteria similar to Waimakariri landscape corridor (Bennett & Lucas, 1992) and Mackenzie Basin proposal (Boffa Miskell, 1993).
- ◆ vegetation height and species limits.
- ◆ design and siting guidelines where appropriate for management of activities with impacts on natural values and the visual landscape.

- ◆ use conditions on consents to protect heritage resources. Use ICOMOS New Zealand Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural heritage Value.
- ◆ use of tree register to protect important specimens.
- ◆ building setback and separation distances.
- ◆ creation of urban boundaries around settlements.

3. CONTROL:

- ◆ define rules specific to management areas – e.g. for forestry, earthworks, amenity standards.
- ◆ forestry as discretionary or non-complying activity for areas where such landscape protection is required.
- ◆ require co-siting of service and supply structures.

SPECIAL AREAS

1. SUPPORT:

- ◆ identification in the Plan of outstanding landscapes and natural features at district, regional and national level, and those landscape values which are important to the community generally.
- ◆ community input to identification of important local landscapes and their component values.

2. DEFINE:

- ◆ in the coast area, define controlled activities that potentially cause adverse effects on coastal values.
- ◆ in the high country, allow limited, controlled vegetation clearance and earthworks.
- ◆ in the Hurunui Lakes area, control subdivision and confine settlement; limit the standard of the access track; limit recreational facilities; and manage riparian values.

3. CONTROL:

- ◆ in the coast area, discretionary activities to include buildings within 50m of MHWS; indigenous vegetation clearance; and coastal hazard protection works.
- ◆ all forestry a discretionary activity in the high country, and notified.
- ◆ structures as a controlled activity, e.g. in the high country, and a discretionary activity where associated with any outstanding landscape or natural feature.

8.0 COMMUNITY LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTIONS

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER/CHARACTERISTICS

For the workshop maps were provided at 1:250,000 scale showing each of the seven preliminary landscape types. People considered each particular landscape type and described its character. Its characteristics. "*What is its essence and what makes it distinctive?*" They noted key words and phrases to describe the particular country, and differentiate it from elsewhere in the Hurunui, in Canterbury, and in New Zealand. (see appendix 2 for full text of workshop questions.)

For each landscape type, the newspaper questionnaire asked people "*To identify what makes each type of country distinctive, please note their characteristics e.g. rugged skylines, sea view, beech forest.*"

LANDSCAPE CHANGE

At the workshop, people were asked to quickly note types of change that have happened in a particular landscape type in the past; current change; expected change, and, potential effects.

The questionnaire sought a rating of the change expected (lots, some or little) over the next 20 years in each landscape type.

Expected change and possible effects on landscape characteristics were then noted; the needs for controls, and the need for encouragement with regard to any changes or effects.

Suggestions of methods for implementation for invited. However, those who saw extensive controls on changes/effects, frequently did not complete this final section. Thus the data shows a clear mismatch between "control" and "method".

The responses to both workshop and questionnaire are summarised below under the revised landscape types. (The full responses are also available for perusal).

Each summary is followed by my suggested interpretation for landscape management.

LOWLAND LANDSCAPE TYPES:

8.1 PLAINS LANDSCAPES

As these were previously combined, the workshop and questionnaire data also includes:

8.2 COASTAL PLAINS

Workshop responses:

5 areas of plains were noted – Amberley – Waipara, Hurunui, S.H.1 major river terraces; Parnassus, Motonau, Conway.

CHARACTER

Coastal, climatic influence, good soils, Flat or near flat and confined. Intensive, potential for alternatives to pastoral farming. Close proximity to hills – hill vistas. Good climate to live.

Questionnaire responses:

Flat land. Big areas of flats with a few hillocks. Coastal area extensiveness. Flax patches. Wetlands. Little estuaries. Some interesting terraces. Rivers. Braided river.

Extensively modified, relatively intensive farming. Forming the main population base for the District. Extensive agri/horticulture. viticulture. green.

1. PLAINS

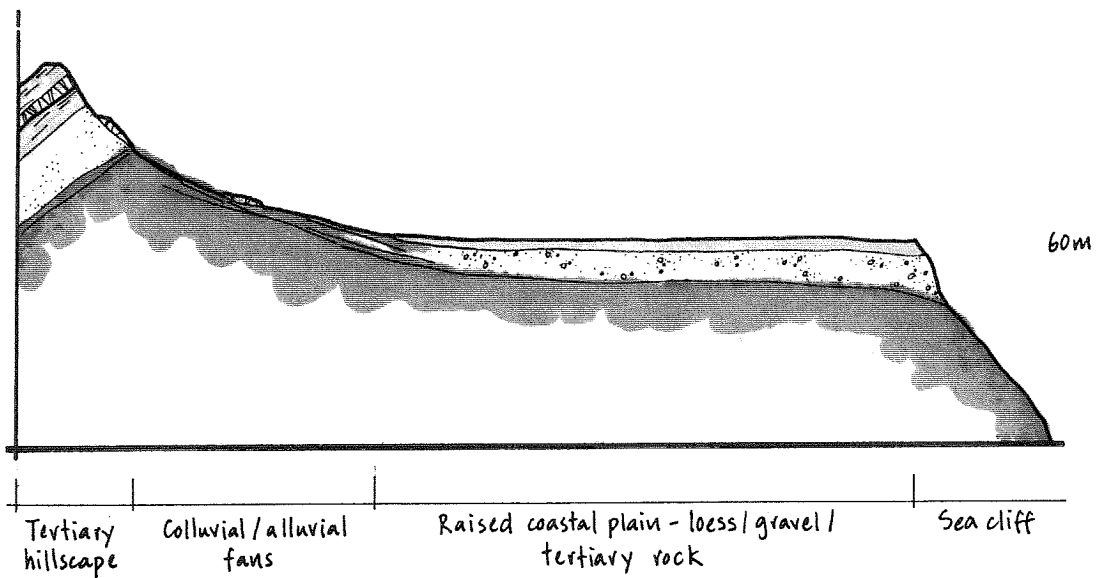
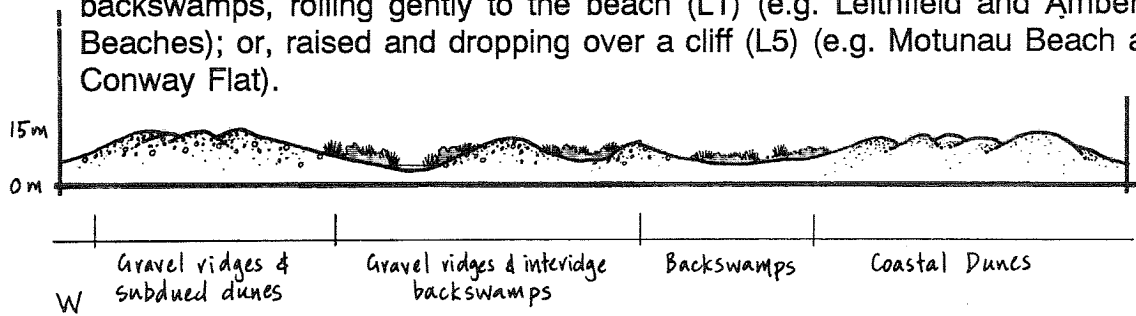
(land types L1, L2, L4, L5)

Floodplains and wide riverbeds, terraces, fans and wetlands.

2. COASTAL PLAINS

(coastal areas of land types L1 and L5)

Narrow coastal plains with gravel and sand beach ridges, lagoons and backswamps, rolling gently to the beach (L1) (e.g. Leithfield and Amberley Beaches); or, raised and dropping over a cliff (L5) (e.g. Motunau Beach and Conway Flat).



Sense of space. Wide views. Spaciousness. Although open, uncluttered views, richness, extensive open vistas giving feeling of uncluttered space. very low horizon, sea views, rolling skyline. Wonderful backdrop of hills making plains warm. Sparsely populated. Distant mountain views.

Farming patterns. farming, cultivation. Absence of native trees. exotic plantings, tree plantings, Shelter belts, windbreaks, irrigation pattern. Dryland not intensively used.

CHANGE

Workshop responses–
landscape change:

past:

More intensive rural blocks, especially south end.

now:

land use change – intensive use (Amberley–Waipara)

expect:

land use change – different colours, shelter belts, poplars irrigation. more buildings.
Economic constraints e.g. power cost so roadside buildings.

NO serious bad effects.

Questionnaire responses:

Considering these plains of the lowlands, more than half the respondents expected lots of landscape change over the next 20 years. Hardly any thought there would be little change.

Changes expected included:

Greater intensification, many more trees planted, more structures. More intensive farming, viticulture, horticulture, processed food production.

Subdivision of land blocks. Lifestyle blocks.

Increased settlement with loss of rural character.

Waipara flat area into small farms with horticulture. dairying, more subdivision, more shelter.

Different crop types.

More pasture development. More horticulture. Lifestyle blocks. More urbanisation, more subdivision.

More fragmentation, more patches. More highways bypassing smaller towns.

Subdivision and amalgamation of large farms. townships growing, taking more land. more people.

Exotic plantation forestry. Growth of trees. felling and replanting forests & shelter belts. Increased forest planting. Tree planting. More horticulture. Less traditional, more hobby farms. More subdivision for vineyards. Perhaps more forestry & firewood blocks. Perhaps more dairying. Perhaps pond and wetland creation.

Opening up for recreation and tourism.

ISSUES

Expected **effects** of these changes included:

Lose views, vistas. Change colours. Lose New Zealandness. Prettying up roadsides so lose open character and native remnants.

Loss of rural character. less cohesive if not careful.

No effect.

Changes/effects that were considered should be **controlled** included:

Visibly inappropriate and unnecessary structures and roads. (Not pretty up roadsides and lose native remnants).

Rural rubbish disposal (needs tightening).

Subdivision. Settlement concentrated at existing towns. Development e.g. housing that is not cohesive.

Use of sprays in waterways.

Forestry industry. Forestry a controlled use.

Planting of native trees to break up a landscape dominated by cultivation and exotics.

Subdivision in coastal zone.

Protection of small native patches e.g. flax near Amberley. Discourage lifestyle blocks.

Subdivision of land.

Discourage hobby farms. Minimum subdivision 25 acres.

Recreation and tourism kept discrete, not blatant.

Water destroying/polluting landuses. Unbridled water usage, building, industrial waste.

Power pylons. Visual pollution – power supply lines (local & National).

Siting of buildings.

Siting of tree planting.

Water and road pollution from dairy farming.

Commercial, industrial, pastoral – controlled. (Unbridled building – need codes).

Spray gorse and broom. Protect river beds. animal pests.

no controls – education.

Changes/effects that should be encouraged included:

More planning. More planning before development. Better development.

Carefully sited and designed diversification & development.

Good use of micro climates e.g. Waipara.

Horticulture as a more intensive landuse.

Development into highly productive farming. But not too small.

Innovative landuse, supervised.

Keep production uses. Protect soil and water (lifestyle blocks not acceptable). Appropriate shelter belts. Mixed shelter plantings. Shelter rows of other than pines. Tree planting especially deciduous.

Amenity planting. Riparian work. Wetland creation and planting. Native scrub and trees in gullies.

Forestry. Set aside reserves to protect indigenous values.

Settlement around existing settlements.

Well-laid out tidy village type townships with community facilities and life.

Keep uncluttered feeling. Recreation and tourism (tightly controlled). Environmental building.

Suggested **methods** of managing change included:

Rate relief if Council restricts land use.

Education.

A SUGGESTED MANAGEMENT INTERPRETATION

8.1 PLAINS LANDSCAPES

These highly modified plains are more lived-in and driven through than looked at. However they have a role as context and foreground for viewing the hills beyond. Therefore some landscape management mechanisms might be considered, for example:

1. Together with the community, develop voluntary guidelines for plains development to retain the spacious, "uncluttered", unpretentious plain and enhance their distinctiveness.
2. Identify areas where intensification of plantings, management and structures is considered desirable and will not have significant adverse landscape or visual effects (e.g. Waipara flats perhaps) and make this known.
3. Identify areas where structures and plantings potentially adversely affect significant open space

values and views of the plains.

4. In consultation with the community, supply and service authorities, define performance standards to minimise potential adverse landscape and visual effects in these areas. In particular, develop area-specific performance standards for minimal lot size, setbacks and separation of structures and substantial plantings in relation to key plains locations.
5. Provide incentives for retention of spaciousness through allowing closer development through trade-offs for minimum impact development, securing view retention, or, for securing ecosystem conservation, enhancement or restoration (e.g. wetland development, riparian restoration)
6. Encourage recognition and conservation of any indigenous remnants and landform features. e.g. by providing information about the natural feature and possible conservation management.
7. Provide incentives/encouragement/guidance for the restoration of any plains ecosystems, such as the short tussock "signature" lands.
8. Provide for landscape definition and containment of settlements through provision or encouragement of appropriate "edges" - e.g. change of slope, substantial plantings, open space or town belt.

8.2 COASTAL PLAINS LANDSCAPES

In recognition of the importance of the coast, both to the community and in the legislation, careful management is required. Therefore, a preliminary suggestion is to:

1. Together with the community, develop a coastal plains management plan that addresses the effects of agriculture, forestry, residential, etc. activities on the coastal landscape and ecology.
2. Limit and visually confine settlement areas, including rural residential activity.
3. Perhaps using a charette process (community design workshop), develop performance standards and guidelines for coastal settlements to retain and enhance their character, prevent over-development and urbanisation.
4. Provide for conservation as an "activity".
Encourage the conservation and restoration of coastal ecosystems, e.g. the "signature" flaxlands and dry coastal forest of Amberley Beach, raupo wetlands and pingao dunelands, or, the matai-kowhai forests of the Conway flats.

8.3 INLAND PLAINS LANDSCAPES

Workshop responses:

Lowland basins included the Conway, Emu, Amuri, Medbury and Hawarden plains areas.

CHARACTER

Confined basins intersected by rivers. Intensively developed – shelter belts, forests, more intensively settled. Defined by the surrounding hard rock and soft rock hills. Predominantly flat, the basins are dry and stoney however with some pockets of loess.

Questionnaire responses:

Rural character. Few Structures. Clear vistas. Interest in small oasis of contrast within predominant landscape. More "dramatic" skylines as plains roll into hills. Flat to concave. Concave basin. A natural dip in the earth's surface e.g. Hawarden. Mountain surroundings.

Spaciousness. Openness with long views to grass/tussock hills. Perimeter hill views. Distant mountain views.

Levelling of ground and irrigation. Culverden Basin almost completely modified by irrigation and dairying.

Pasture. Grassland. Cropping. Cultivated land. Intensive farming. Sheep and beef dairy farming. Fences not hedges. Shelter belts subdivide space. Extensive exotic plantings.

Stretches of open verges and precious remnants.

No indigenous vegetation evident

CHANGE

Workshop responses:

Changes noticed included:

Irrigation has created change,

- from matagouri/tussock and extensive pastoralism to intensive dairying.*
- more houses, paddocks and shelter belts.*
- colour change from yellows to greens.*
- water the major change agent.*

These changes were assessed as **positive**.

The hills that define the basins were noted to have had a major change in terms of weed spread.

Questionnaire responses:

Changes expected included crop diversification, increased forestry, and willow infestation.

METHODS

Controls were seen as necessary for swamp drainage.

Encouragement was sought for wetland enhancement.

A SUGGESTED MANAGEMENT INTERPRETATION

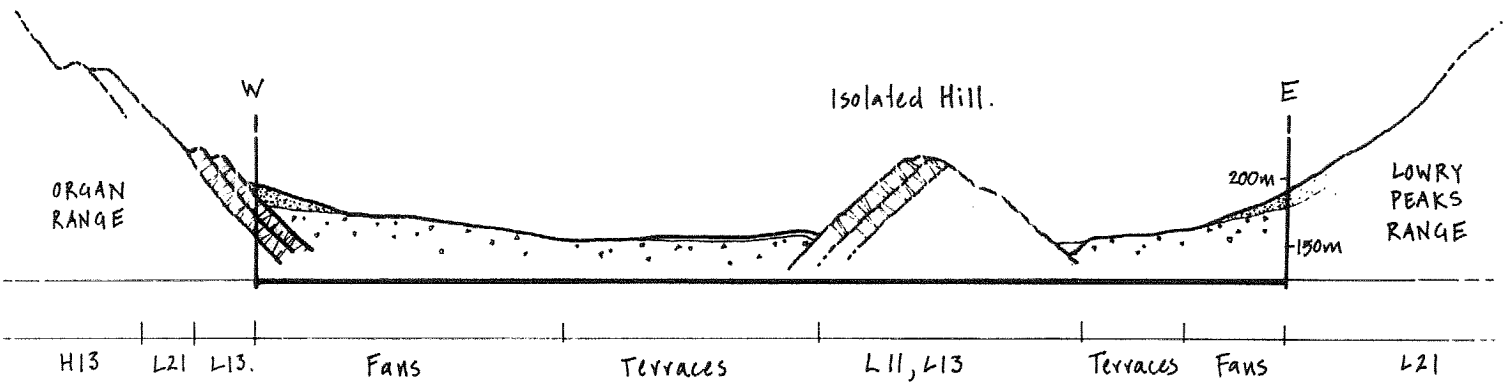
The Inland Plains have been extensively modified and the community appears to enjoy the new landscape.

1. Assess the appropriateness of seeking to retain key views and spacious character, by identifying areas where these may be particularly important and vulnerable to further development. Together with the community, investigate management options, such as guidelines or performance standards for view shafts
2. Recognise the importance and vulnerability of the open, braided river landscapes through

3. INLAND BASINS

(land type L24)

Inland basin with extensive gently sloping alluvial fans, floodplains and associated wetlands. Includes Emu Plain, Amuri Plain and Pahau plain.



provision of information and discouragement of introduction of potentially invasive plant material.

3. Encourage recognition of the plains as originally kanuka woodland landscapes, through information for the conservation and restoration of local ecosystems, and use of local woodland species in shelter and amenity plantings, for example.

8.4 SOFT ROCK DOWNS LANDSCAPES

(The workshop and questionnaire data includes the downs coastal margins, later taken into landscape type: **6. COASTAL HILLS**).

CHARACTER

The workshop defined the character as:

Rolling, developed topography. Variable and diverse country, with good soils, Good pasture or forestry country. Distinctive seascapes too.

The intense green of much of these downlands in spring is followed by the brown of summer and autumn. Native tussock has minor scenic value.

Much of the distinctiveness was considered to be from the fact that the soft rock hills are very developed. This contrasts with the adjoining undeveloped hard rock hill country.

From the questionnaire, this soft rock hill country was described as:

Soft, rounded, open hills, through gently rolling to semi-steep hills.

Cultivated downlands with smooth outlines, plus bands of limestone, limestone scarps, with craggy summits. Natural limestone outcrops, caves and forms. Dramatic shapes. Interesting ridge forms. Except in spring, the hills having a dry, withered, muscular, lean look. Tussock coloured. The soft rock hills especially dramatic in morning and evening light.

Comfortable but rather monotonous rounded skyline usually intensively farmed.

Typically little built development. Few structures visible. Few roads visible. Some village development.

Exotic blending with indigenous. Plant habitat. Some gradual recovery of native vegetation. native and exotic scrub and cabbage trees. Tussock, prostrate kowhai. Tussock interfaces with beech forest. Scrub in gullies. Plantations.

CHANGE

The workshop noted change from:

Huge change has occurred with conversion from bush and tussock to pastoral and increasing forestry.

Major change was **expected** for the next 20 years from trees and woody weeds. It was considered the landscape would be enhanced and more sustainable. Traditional forms of farming were expected to decline.

From the questionnaire, over half of the respondents assessed there would be "**some**" change in the next 20 years. Almost a third expected lots of change.

ISSUES

Expected change included:

Subdivision of farms. Vineyard, dairying, forestry development. Lifestyle blocks. Different and more intensive agriculture. Farm and forestry growth. Exotic forestry. Many more trees planted, including natives. Many expected there will be more forestry in this soft rock country. Forestry was the change most expected. Loss of hill outlines. Loss of landscapes. Pasture improvement and removal of broom and bracken.

Weed spread. Increased trees and weeds. Broom was especially noted as a threat. More dark green, less brown.

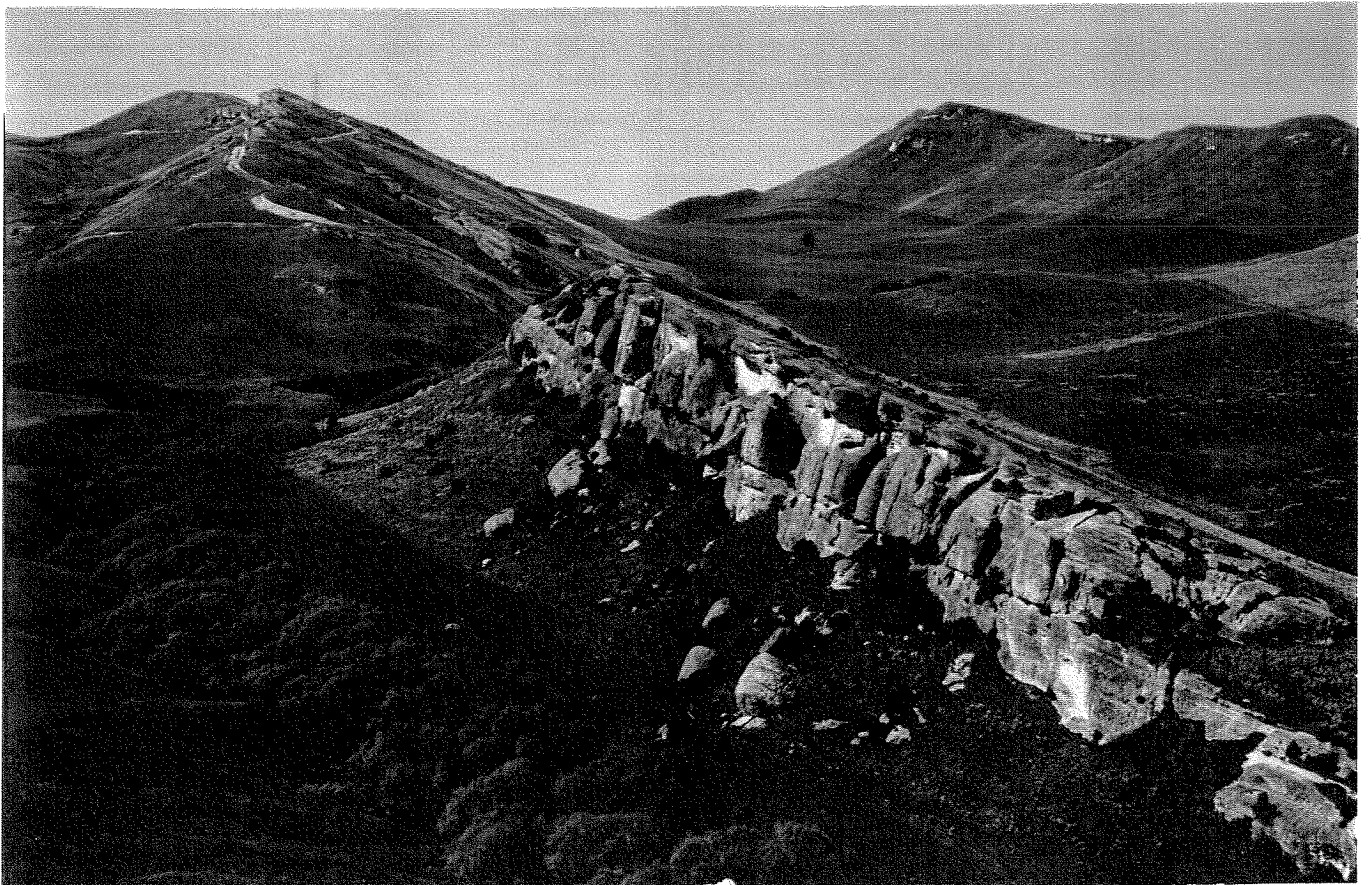
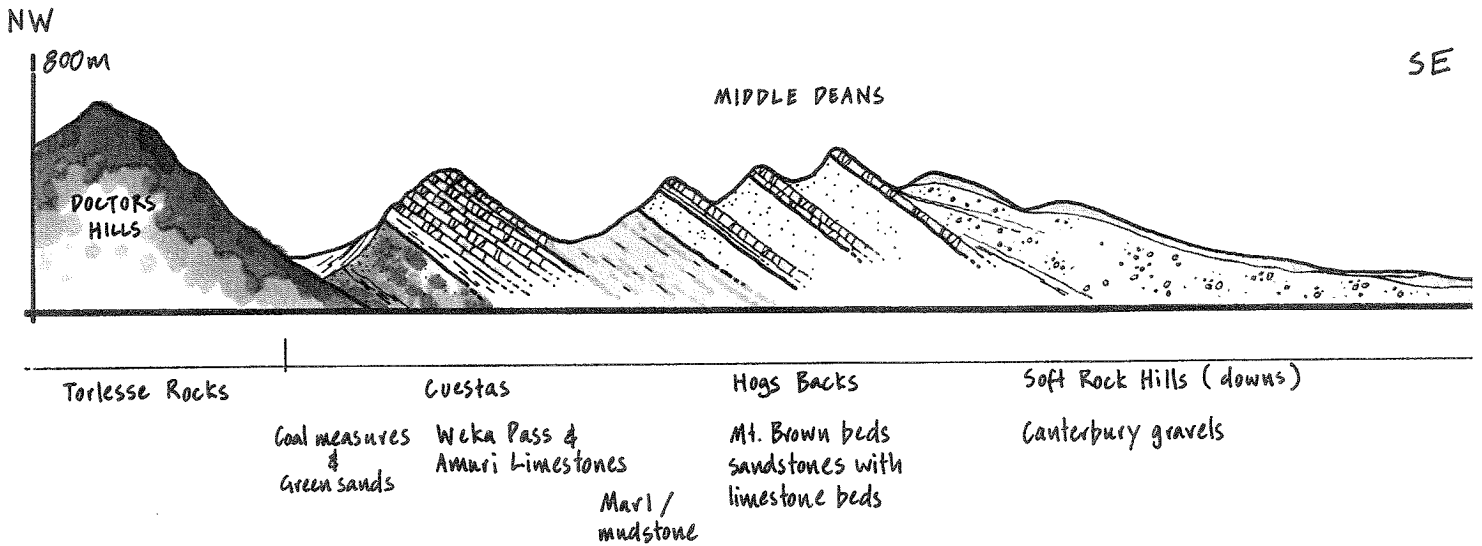
Destruction of indigenous remnants e.g. prostrate kowhai.

Tracking.

4. SOFT ROCK DOWNLANDS

(land types L11, L12, L13)

Smooth, rounded Tertiary hills and downlands. Loess mantled. Productive soils with intensive agriculture. Infrequent weathered outcroppings of Tertiary limestones. e.g. Weka Pass, Motunau hills.



Areas opened to recreation and tourism.

Changes/effects that were considered should be **controlled** included:

Indiscriminant development. Controls were sought to prevent the loss of distinctive landscape characteristics. Damage to limestone areas. Loss of rocks, views. Quarrying.

Protection of landscapes was sought. Discrete recreation and tourism development.

Subdivision of land, discouragement of "hobby farms".

Broom and other weeds. Greater weed control and pest control.

Although some subdivision of farms was considered acceptable, it was suggested that subdivision keeps within the natural landscape patterns.

Forest planting. Exotic planting that obscures hill landforms. Requiring contour patterns of planting.

Control on species planted, to ensure variety and for a variety of reasons, e.g. riparian management, erosion control, aesthetic pleasure, economic return.

Siting of structures, tracking, etc.

Subdivision. Building.

Tracking on slopes.

Power pylons.

Water use.

Changes/effects that were considered should be **encouraged** included:

Landscape protection. Retention of uncluttered character. Open landscape character protected.

Avoidance of development that disrupts skylines.

Innovative landuse.

Recreation and tourism, tightly controlled.

Good soil structure – increased humus (stubble mulch, green crops ploughed in, etc.) to reduce vulnerability to drought.

Establish reserves to protect native shrublands and other communities. Covenants on scarps and outcrops of outstanding form. Prostrate kowhai valued and protected.

Maori drawings protected as part of landscape.

Careful forestry in some places, avoiding impacting on views. Suitable afforestation to diversify economy and control erosion. Riparian work, appropriate shelter belts. Tree planting, especially deciduous trees. Native trees and shrubs in gullies.

To keep land broom and weed free. Replacement of woody weeds by desirable species, native and exotic. Pest control. Reduced chemical usage.

Avoidance of building and tracks.

Well-laid out and tidy villages.

Roadside enhancement and maintenance.

Suggested mechanisms to assist in managing change included:

No controls – only education.

Rate relief if the District plan restricts land use.

A SUGGESTED MANAGEMENT INTERPRETATION

Change in the downs was of general concern to people, yet considerable change in these landscapes is almost certain to happen, and although it will create different landscapes, they need not be of any lesser quality for the community, for change could enhance the Downs.

A major issue identified by the community was adverse effects on downlands landscapes from the visual impact of landuse change, particularly forest plantings. The downlands are major production areas, they are also very visible. Excepting Cheviot nestled in the heart of downlands, almost all other towns in the district are on or near the downs–plains junction. State Highway 1 follows the downlands down through the district, as does the Inland Road. The dramatic Waipara to Hurunui highway cuts across several downland blocks. However, because the downs are very much a lived in and accessible landscape type, it is not merely highway corridors or town surrounds that require care.

Much of the downlands has been developed to a very simple cover and pattern, particularly with paddocks of pasture. This simplicity allows clear expression of landforms with uninterrupted skylines and slopes, and exposed outcrops. Thus any structure or woody vegetation, particularly on upper slopes, can have considerable visual effects. As these downland soils have the capacity to support more diverse and intensive production managing for acceptable landscape change requires careful consideration.

A preliminary proposal is to:

1. Together with the community, investigate possible, desirable and likely landscape change in each of the downland land types (L11, L12, and L13) and consider their potential effects, both positive and adverse, with regard to significance re. location etc.
3. Develop voluntary design guidelines for landowners and authorities undertaking any development in the downs landscapes.
4. Where considered necessary or desirable, develop positive landscape guidelines encouraging landscape enhancement, as well as defining performance standards, to address the landscape and visual effects of change in land use activities. Location and design guidance may be appropriate for plantings, structures and earthworks activities in the downlands.
5. Identify any particularly sensitive areas where it may be desirable for an activity such as afforestation to be either a discretionary or a controlled activity, and requiring subdivision to be limited.
6. Encourage the conservation and restoration of distinctive downlands landforms, features and biota, through information, guidance, and incentives.
7. Encourage pondering of the potential for any restoration or cue to the "signature" ecosystem, matai-totara forest.

8.5 HARD ROCK HILL LANDSCAPES

(The workshop and questionnaire data includes the Hard Rock Hills coastal margins, later taken into landscape type: 6. COASTAL HILLS).

CHARACTER

The workshop defined the character as:

Sweeping open and uncluttered country. Special skyline character. Less spectacular than the mountain country.

Clean/green to broom and gorse.

Manuka cover

Pastoral vista under jagged outcrops.

Accessible via tracks to lower areas. Partially challenging country.

Questionnaire responses identified the character as:

Rugged, blocky imposing country contrasting with the soft hills. Rolling to semi-steep hills. The start of high peaks and rugged skylines. Wonderful skylines. Dry withered muscular hills. Tussock country. Rocky greywacke outcrops and craggy summits. Sharp rock. Scree slopes, steep slopes. Pasture, forests and "waste land". Outcrops, tussock and cabbage trees. Forestry.

Tussock cover, shrublands, indigenous tree cover and forest remnants. Bush. Swamps with flax.

Matagouri scrub. Prostrate kowhai, especially on drier hills. Leafless clematis. Some gradual recovery of native cover.

Weeds especially gorse and broom. Some areas weed-free.

The lack of development was identified as an important characteristic.

"I lift mine eyes to the hills" – a restorative counterpoint to the plains.

CHANGE

Less than half the questionnaire respondents expect some change over the next 20 years. The rest were divided as to whether there would be lots or little change. That is, there was a wide range of opinion as to the likelihood of change in the hard rock hill country.

From the workshop, change was noted:

Change has occurred from loss of original bush through burning. Regeneration of manuka.

Future visual change was expected from pine trees. Whilst seen as having good effects on economics, it was considered the change would have bad visual effects. The northern hard rock country was expected to see more forestry than the southern.

ISSUES

Questionnaires showed the **changes expected** include:

Many more trees planted, which could have good effects. Increased vegetation variety.

Afforestation. "Waste" land expected to be cleared and planted. Forestry will not only change the landuse, in changing the landcover it will completely change the landscape. Forestry was the greatest change expected. Loss of tussock and visual values.

Spread of woody weeds (particularly broom, gorse, blackberry) and wildings.

More intensive agriculture. Change due to subdivision and lifestyle blocks was also expected.

Tracking.

Burnoffs.

Controls were identified as appropriate to address:

Loss of openness and natural character.

Landscape protection.

Loss of indigenous biodiversity.

Loss of tussock cover to weeds.

Tussock burning.

Trees, woody weeds. Greater weed control. Wildings.

Forestry plantings. Forestry effects. Forestry kept to natural landscape patterns.

5. HARD ROCK HILLS

(land type L21)

Steeper dissected, hard rock hill country with rock outcrops on ridges and spurs. Some scrub and native forest. Shallow stony, droughty soils with extensive agriculture. e.g. Lowry Peaks Range.



*Planting to achieve diversity e.g. for erosion, riparian, economic reasons and pleasing aesthetics.
Siting of structures and tracking.
Power pylons.
A high level of control sought for hill landscapes.*

It was identified as necessary to **encourage**:

Preservation of the landscape character of this country.

Covenants, scenic reserves, geological reserves, historic reserves. Reserves to protect native shrublands and other communities.

Retain the uncluttered character. Retain skylines uncluttered.

Protection of representative open sweeps up the hills. Native trees and shrubland in gullies.

Respect for open landscape character, particularly by forestry. Forestry encouraged on suitable land for financial return and erosion management. Contour planting. Deciduous trees encouraged.

Appropriate shelter belts encouraged.

No buildings or tracks on the hard rock hills.

Containment and management of woody weeds. Keeping areas broom and weed-free. Substitution of bad woody species (broom and gorse) by good woody species, both native and introduced.

Landscape appreciation through careful low impact recreation and conservation. Liaison with other authorities with respect to water, weed and pest management.

Keeping skylines free of any disruption from development.

Suggested **mechanisms** to address change included:

No controls, education.

Rate relief if District Plan restricts landuse.

Forestry discretionary to protect landscapes and limit wildings.

8.5 SOFT ROCK DOWNLANDS – A SUGGESTED MANAGEMENT INTERPRETATION

The hard rock hills are generally more prominent and "scene-setting" than spectacular or memorable. Woody exotics, as forestry or weeds, will change the landscape. The upper slopes, the bumps, ridgelines and skylines, would be most vulnerable, as well as key localities where there is high public expectation of naturalness.

Therefore, the preliminary suggestion is that:

1. On the lower half of hard rock hill slopes, forestry be a controlled use assessed according to location and design guidelines.
2. For the upper half of hard rock hills, any planting be a discretionary and notified activity assessed according to landscape criteria.
3. Information on the ecological value, conservation and restoration potential for the hard rock hills biota – and possible management scenarios – be developed with and made available to land managers and relevant authorities.
4. As landscape continuity is important on these prominent hills, that the potential adverse effects of subdivision into small blocks be recognised and avoided.

8.6 COASTAL HILLS LANDSCAPES – A SUGGESTED MANAGEMENT INTERPRETATION

The coastal margins of hard rock hills and soft rock downs require careful management in response to community concerns and legislative requirements – to preserve the natural character and protect from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development. Therefore, a preliminary suggestion is to:

1. Provide for conservation as an "activity". Encourage the conservation (and restoration) of coastal hill ecosystems, particularly the rich coastal matai-totara forests and associated shrublands.

2. Develop a management approach with the community to address the sustainable management of the coastal hills with regard to erosion and the effects of agriculture, forestry, conservation, recreation etc. activities on the coastal landscape and ecology.

3. Due to the ecological and landscape vulnerability and importance of these coastal hills, prohibit development of settlements, visitor complexes or small holdings.

HIGH COUNTRY LANDSCAPE TYPES:

8.7 HANMER PLAIN LANDSCAPE

As these were previously combined, the workshop and questionnaire data also includes:

8.8 MAJOR RIVER VALLEY LANDSCAPES

CHARACTER

The questionnaires identified the character of the high country basins and valleys (Hanmer, Clarence, Hurunui, etc.):

Very precious basin country. Concave basins. Open space. No settlement. Calmer, more relaxing. Peaceful but remote.

Uncluttered valley floors. Wide vistas. Lack of development, settlement.

Grazed, sometimes cultivated. Extensive pastoral.

Native vegetation. Matagouri flats, flax and kowhai, tussock. Bush on slopes above. Manuka, kanuka. Rock outcrops.

"Here be ancient passways". Tussock flats and shingle fans. River or stream as central feature. Great braided rivers, mountain rivers. Bird habitat.

Tramping, hiking routes. recreation areas.

4WD access, fishing, boating.

Natural forests. Views to tops and skylines. Sky.

Weeds, especially broom. Gorse and broom. Weeds in creeks, especially around Hanmer.

Hanmer Basin very modified – different character to rest.

CHANGE

Half of the respondents expected **some** landscape change. Very few expected no or little change. A third expected lots of change.

ISSUES

Changes **expected** include:

More recreation tourism.

More recreation, fishing, tramping.

More tourists, as lead onto mountainous areas.

More woody weed invasion. Broom, gorse, blackberry spread. Hieracium, Old Man's Beard, etc.

Pollution.

Increased farm development and forest planting.

Tree planting. More exotic forestry. Plantations. Hope NOT forestry. Hope matagouri NOT removed.

Farming practices. Less tussock. More greenery. Grassland change through OSTD.

Threat of water extraction, holiday subdivision, loss of indigenous qualities.

More subdivision. More urbanisation. More housing.

Electrical reticulation – national grid, supply lines.

Increased development at Hanmer Springs as tourist resort.

Changes and effects that should be **controlled** included:

Weeds. Greater effort on weed control. Kept weed-free (except Hanmer basin and back of Hawarden).

Wide river margins protected from subdivision. Planting close to rivers. Naturalness of flows protected.

Greater control or prohibition on tree planting.

Siting of structures. Any building required to blend into landscape.

Tracking.

Water and weed pollution. Pests.

"Urban" activities. No subdivision. Subdivision.

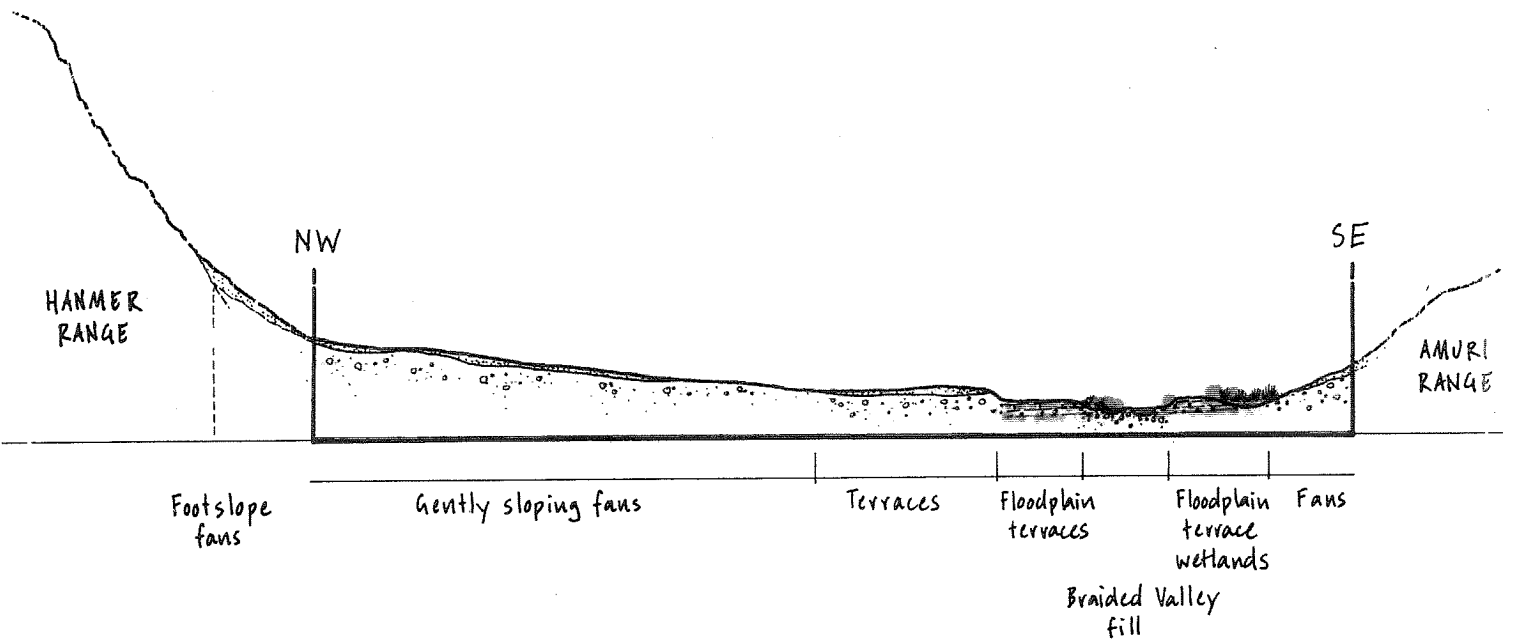
Alpine character of Hanmer.

4WD use. Tourism. Recreation tourism. Low impact eco-tourism is preferable.

7. HANMER BASIN

(land type H5)

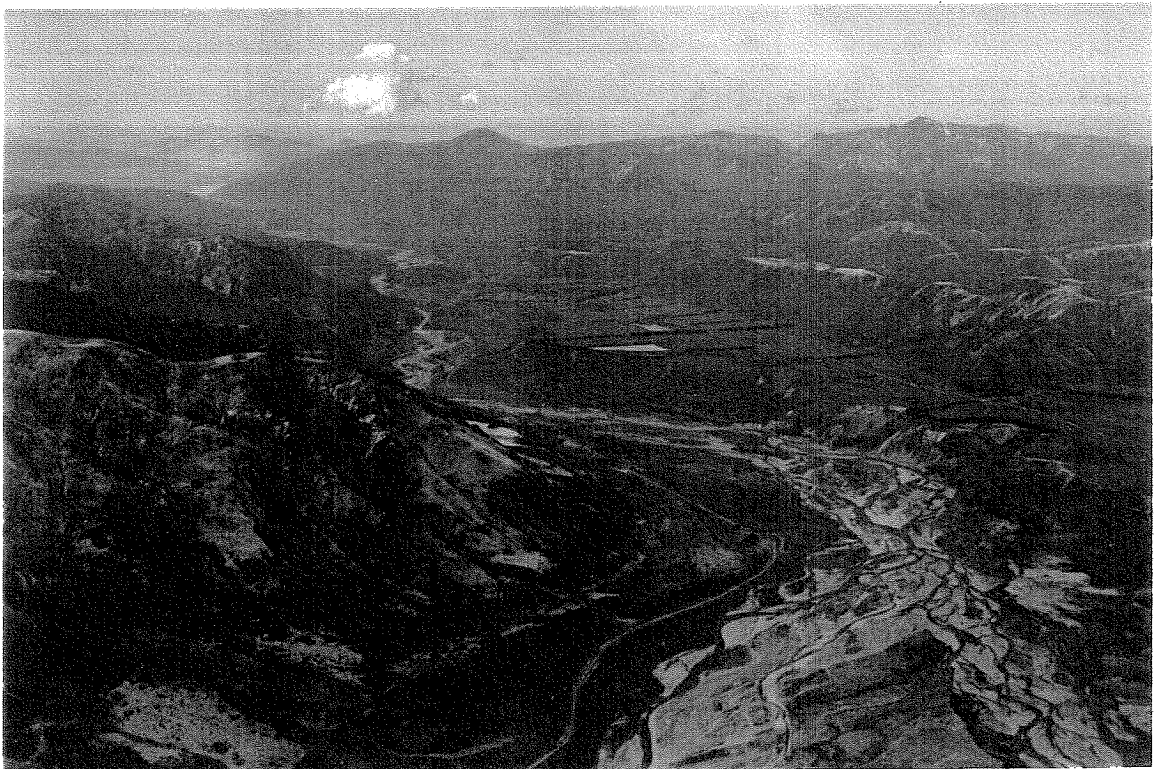
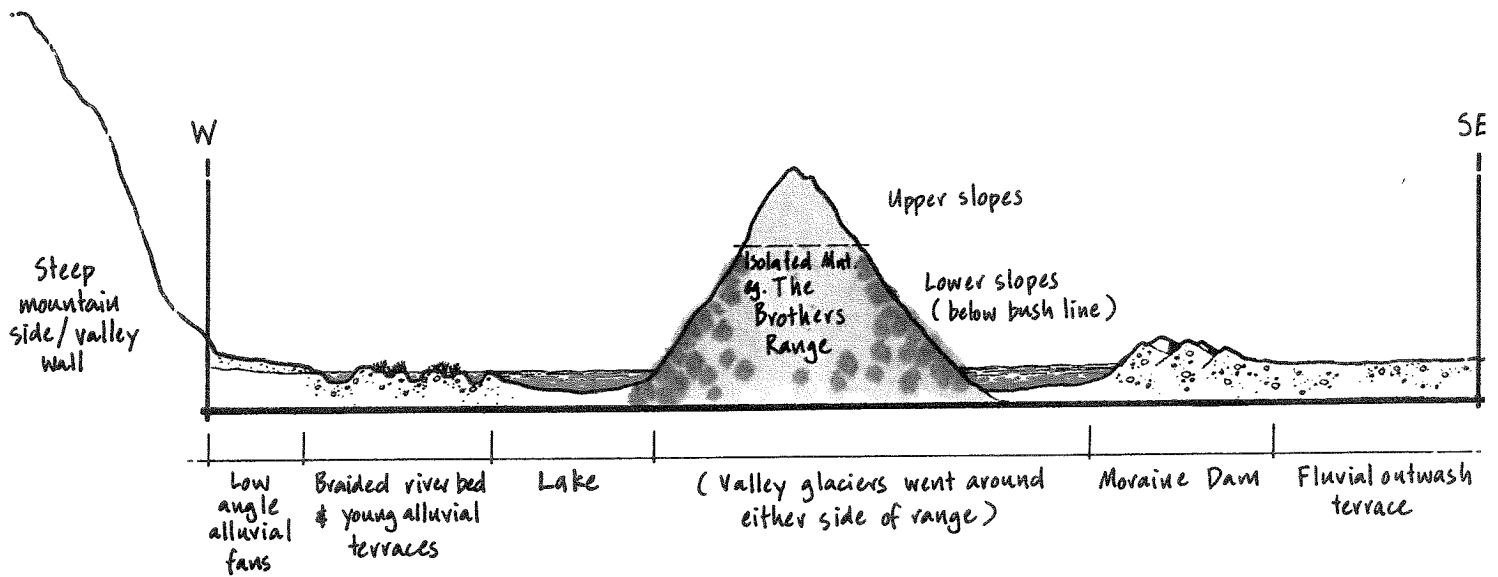
Intermontane basin with extensive gently sloping alluvial fans, terrace lands, floodplains and associated hills.



8. MAJOR RIVER VALLEYS

(land types H1, H2 & H7)

Low angle gentle valleys with wide, braided, active riverbeds, terraces, fans, lakes, moraine, and glacier-shaped, steep isolated mountains. e.g. upper Clarence, Waiiau, Boyle and Hurunui valley floors, enclosed by mountains.



*Power pylons.
Burning.*

Changes that should be **encouraged** included:

Conservation. Existing indigenous vegetation treasured.

Greater protection of landscape values.

Increased protection of important conservation and recreation assets.

Native scrub and trees in gullies.

Protection of high degree of naturalness and remote character. Remote, wilderness, open space values appreciated as of national and international significance.

Forestry. Protection of open space from forestry encroachment. Tree planting, especially deciduous. Rather than woody weeds, good wood species, native and introduced.

Liaison with authorities re. power supply lines, water, weed, pest control.

Environmental building.

Avoidance of any encroachment on skylines.

Mechanisms:

Rate relief if District Plan restricts land use.

8.7 HANMER PLAIN LANDSCAPES – A SUGGESTED MANAGEMENT INTERPRETATION

Recognising the great importance of the Hanmer Basin landscape to locals and visitors, and as a focus for tourism in the district, seek to manage the plain and the surrounding hills to maintain and enhance the landscape values.

1. Utilising existing data and studies (e.g. Glasson, 1992), to ensure an agreed direction for development and management of the village and environs, a community planning and design workshop (a charette) is suggested as appropriate.
2. As the village is the one town in the district that is perceived to be of major landscape importance, provide for securing the open space character within and around the village, including an encircling town belt.
3. Develop a design guide, performance standards and incentives for village development and management.

8.8 MAJOR RIVER VALLEYS – A SUGGESTED MANAGEMENT INTERPRETATION

Access, buildings, land development, power lines, etc. are traditionally concentrated on high country valley floors. As key people places, these floors are perceived as vulnerable areas within valued mountain environments if the naturalness and integrity of high country experience is to be retained.

1. Together with the community, develop landscape guidelines for landscape change in high country valleys.
2. Require built, earthworks and vegetation change – including burning – to be discretionary activities assessed according to landscape guidelines.
3. Identify any change that could be addressed as a controlled activity within particular performance standards.
4. Provide for conservation as a permitted activity.
5. Encourage conservation and restoration of indigenous biota, such as the "signature" red tussock ecosystems and beech forests.
6. Recognising the implications for the catchment below, in association with relevant authorities and land managers, develop woody weed prevention, containment and control approaches for the valleys.

8.9 MOUNTAIN RANGE LANDSCAPES

CHARACTER

From the workshop, identified character involved:

Rocky and contrasting with lower areas. many identifiable peaks. The source of lower country, and of larger rivers. water source.

Changing colours, light. Clarity of air.

The backdrop or backbone country.

The questionnaire respondents identified the characteristics as:

Wonderful ruggedness. Mountainous. Seasonal snow. Clear mountain views. Back country. Ever-changing skylines with weather etc. Space, openness, tussock country, naturalness. Wide vista. Lack of development.

Steepness. Canterbury scree. Cliffs, rocky outcrops. Skyline ridges. Outlines.

Tree line. Contrast with scree.

Wild indigenous flora and fauna. Tussock grasslands. beech forest, swamps. Alpine shrublands, herbfields, characteristic indigenous shrublands e.g. manuka/tall matagouri, beech forest. Wonderful mosaic of native vegetation.

Wildings, gorse, broom. Broom spread into healthy tussock country.

CHANGE

Change has included:

Burning and grazing in a severe climate.

Previous short land tenure.

Except for weed infiltration, little change at present.

Change **expected** includes:

Greater tourism and recreational use – skiing, tramping – and associated problems.

The threat of catchment instability.

ISSUES

Most people expect **little** landscape change over the next 20 years. A number of people expect some change.

Changes and effects **expected** include:

More recreation tourism. Development for recreation.

More tourist ventures. More infrastructure. Increased pressure for tourist development.

Slips. Natural erosion.

Pastoral farm encroachment. Farming practices.

Weeds. Broom, gorse, blackberry spread.

Even small change has major impact.

By attrition, loss of naturalness, spread of weeds.

Increased pressure for tree planting. Trees. More forestry. Forestry prevalence.

Burnoffs. Accidental fires.

More tracks. Roothing.

Skifield. More ski fields and service facilities. Skifields infrastructure.

Electrical reticulation, national grid, supply lines.

Communication towers.

Changes and effects that should be **controlled** included:

Recreation tourism, to ensure low impact.

Helicopter touring.

Burnoffs.

8.9 MOUNTAIN RANGES – A SUGGESTED MANAGEMENT INTERPRETATION

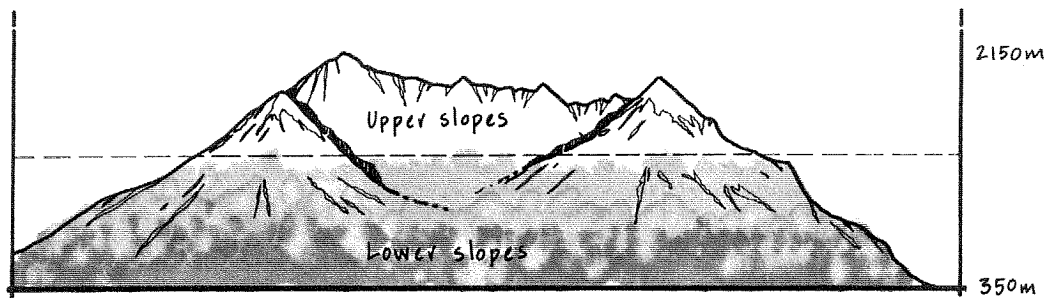
1. Together with the community, develop landscape guidelines for landscape change on the mountain ranges.
2. Require built, earthworks and vegetation change – including tracking, grooming and burning – to be discretionary activities assessed according to landscape and ecological guidelines.
3. Identify any change that could be addressed as a controlled activity within particular performance standards.
4. Provide for conservation as a permitted activity.
5. Provide for management of effects on landscape and amenity including effects on peacefulness, naturalness and remoteness – e.g. by air traffic and ground traffic.
6. Encourage conservation and restoration of indigenous biota, such as the "signature" snow tussock ecosystems.
7. Recognising the implications for vulnerable high country ecosystems and landscapes, in association with relevant authorities and land managers, develop woody weed prevention, containment and control approaches for the ranges.

9. MOUNTAIN RANGES

(land type H13)

Steep mountain ranges with narrow, rounded ridges, outcrops and scree. Snow tussock, plus beech below.

e.g. Puketeraki and Organ Ranges, St.James and Hanmer Ranges, Mt.Terako.



8.10 MAIN DIVIDE RANGE LANDSCAPES

CHARACTER

The questionnaire respondents noted the character as:

Southern Alps. Hard weathered rocky steep slopes. Great snowy tops much of the year, craggy rocky tops the rest. Wild, free, imposing. Lords in their own domain. Ours. Ours to roam in. Clean, open tops. Dramatic outlines. Beautiful beech forest to snowline. Remote. Unique. Steep. Winter snowline. Bushline 1000m.

Full of history. Clear mountain views. Scenic. Tramping and skiing areas.

Full of indigenous flora and fauna. Unique native forest and alpine plants. Not contaminated by people and exotics.

Alpine, scrub, bush, rocky outcrops, scree, waterfalls, snow, river valleys. Beech forest like treacle on plum duff. Tussock. Indigenous shrublands.

CHANGE

Few people thought there would be much change at all in the Main Divide landscapes. Most said little change.

ISSUES

Changes **expected** include:

More recreation and tourism.

Natural erosion. Slips

Weeds. woody weed threat.

Ungulates, hares. pigs. impact on vegetation.

Trees

Very little.

Upgrade walking tracks and facilities.

National grid, supply lines.

Changes and effects that should be **controlled** include:

Any change affecting remoteness, wildness.

All changes.

Any evidence of human impact.

Any structures at all, except small public huts, strictly controlled.

Maintenance of walking tracks and huts.

Helicopter touring.

Any weeds and pests. Weed eradication. Pest control.

Trees. Log removal. Planting.

Fire.

Tracking.

No routing of pylons through passes.

Changes that should be **encouraged** include:

Retention of remote, wilderness character and qualities. Natural qualities. Indigenous cover.

Recognition that this wilderness is last frontier to provide habitat for flora and fauna.

Very low impact tourism. No building

Conservation as "wildness country".

Public awareness.

More walking tracks for variety. Few tracks.

Control of any weeds and pests.

8.10 MAIN DIVIDE - A SUGGESTED MANAGEMENT INTERPRETATION

The sacredness of the Southern alps needs to be recognised. The importance of intact ecosystems and natural landscapes, and the vulnerability of these resources, requires specific recognition.

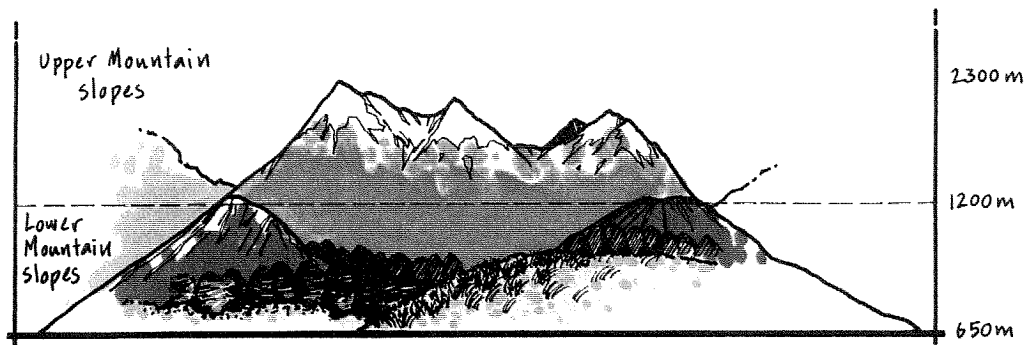
1. Provide for conservation as an activity.

10. MAIN DIVIDE

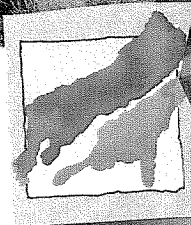
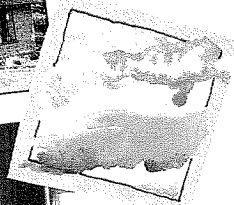
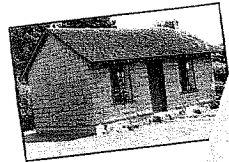
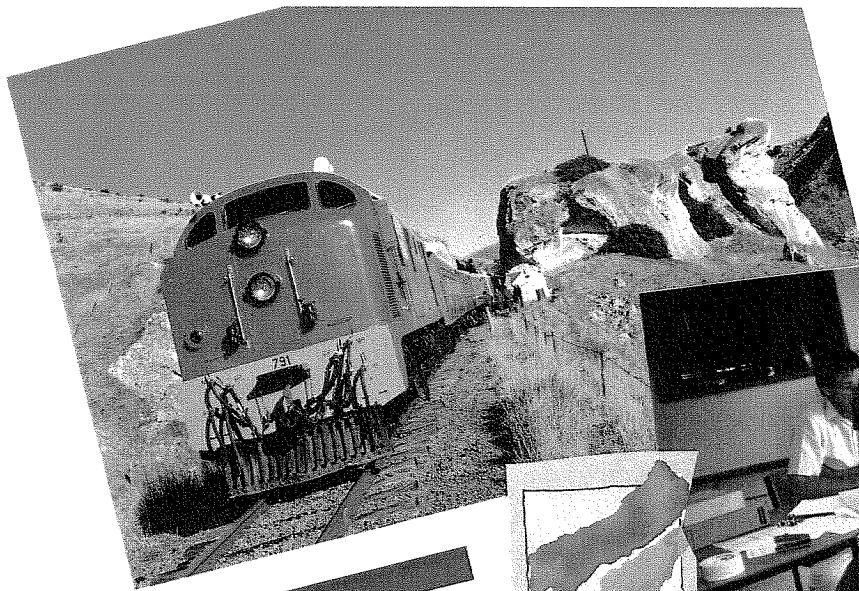
(landscape type J)

(land type H19)

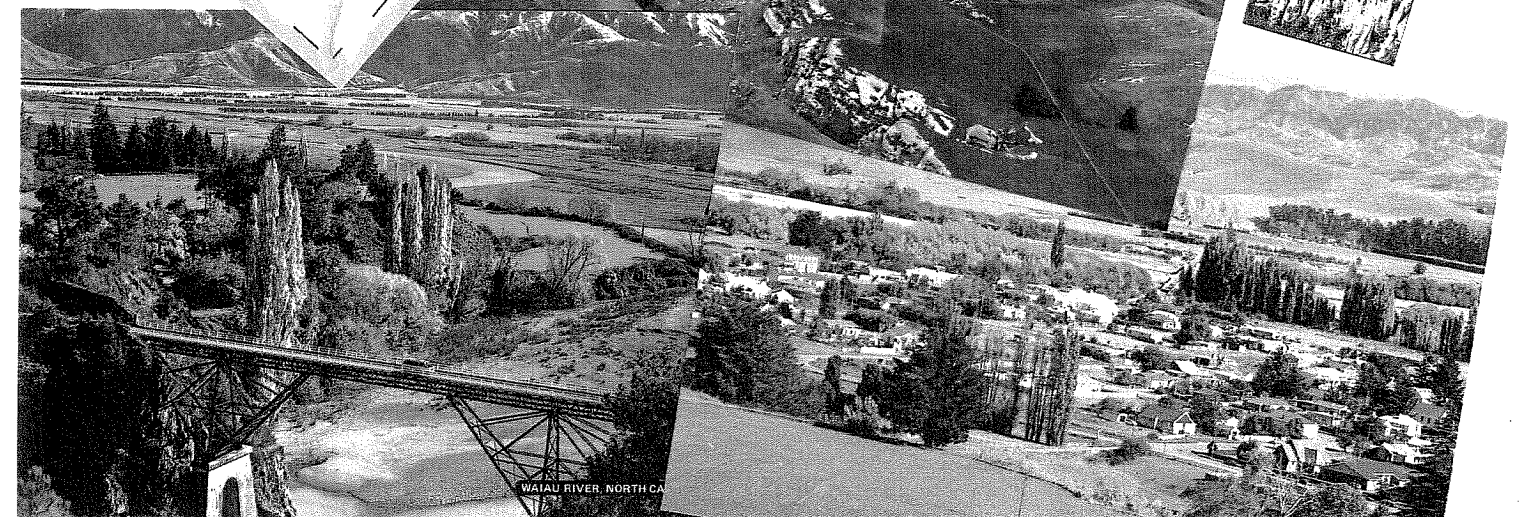
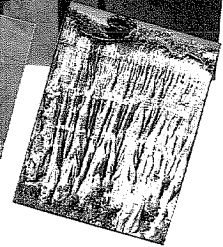
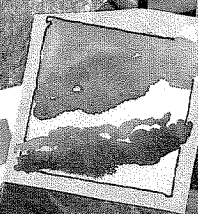
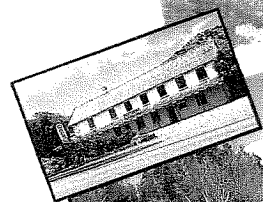
Glaciated mountains along the divide with high rainfall, extensive screes on upper slopes, bare rock, but little permanent ice and snow. Major beech forest element survived glaciations to dominate slopes to treeline. e.g. Southern Alps, Poplars Range, Spenser Mountains.



2. Require any built, earthworks or vegetation change activity to be notified and discretionary.
3. As well as activities which impact on the land surface, provide for management of effects on landscape and amenity, include peace, wilderness and solitude values.



HURUNUI *Triangle* HERITAGE TRAIL



9. PARTICIPANTS' IMPORTANT LANDSCAPES

Both the community workshop and the questionnaire identified landscapes – areas, places, features or characteristics – important to participants. Relative importance was noted, the change occurring, their effects, as well as comment on the necessity to direct change (refer questionnaires, Appendix 2).

The responses are summarised below within the revised landscape type framework. Because workshop (W) responses are from groups, agreed responses from groups of participants, whereas questionnaires (Q) are from individuals, where appropriate the responses have been differentiated. The comments are thus community comments, not those of an "expert".

LOWLAND LANDSCAPE TYPES:

9.1 PLAINS LANDSCAPES

Places:

No areas considered of particular landscape importance were identified by the community. However, a few noted the Amberley and Waipara Plains as landscapes of significance.

Characteristics:

As well as intensive cultivation, viticulture patterning and trees, the main attribute of significance was as a platform for views of surrounding downs and hills, such as Mt Grey.

Management sought:

Workshop participants considered landowners were increasingly aware of landscape values and blanket controls were therefore unnecessary. Instead of any landscape controls, consultation and negotiation were sought.

9.2 COASTAL PLAINS LANDSCAPES

Of the coastal plains, Motunau was considered of particular landscape importance by the community. The settlement area of Gore Bay is also of particular importance, and is surrounded by coastal hills (landscape type 6). A considerable number considered the entire shoreline and all beaches to be of high importance. A few respondents considered the Amberley Beach and Conway Mouth to be of landscape significance.

Motonau

Through questionnaires, participants identified the Motonau raised plains and beach landscape as important.

Characteristics:

High cliffs, river mouth. Interesting beach. Little Blue penguin. Cliffs eroding naturally. View of sea after rolling hills. Flotsam and jetsom, big seaweeds.

Affected by:

Sea eroding cliffs.

Fishing village rubbish.

Management:

Control undermining of cliffs.

Encourage and control fishing activity.

Don't touch the beach.

Generic Importance:

All plains beaches.

Characteristics:

Accessibility. Extensive open space. Simplicity. Naturalness. Land-sea-air interface. Relative lack

of settlement. Ruggedness. Largely unspoiled. High visual values – restorative. Indigenous vegetation remnants, e.g. flax, wetlands. Formerly in coastal bush.

Issues/Affected by:

Recreation usage. Rubbish. Insensitive siting of amenities. Increased settlement. Subdivision. Beach/coast buildings. Housing over-development. Suburban style. Farm development. Erosion

Management sought:

Control/prevent sprawl.

Confine settlements to avoid adverse effects on the naturalness and openness of the coast.

Maintain access, wildness, simplicity of shores.

Clean up rubbish.

Encourage carefully sited and designed structures only.

Concentrate settlement at existing sites.

9.3 INLAND PLAINS LANDSCAPES

Places:

None of the inland basin areas was identified through questionnaires as of major landscape importance. However, workshop participants focussing on the basins found that Emu Plains, Amuri Basin/Pahau Plain and the Conway basin were of importance. Some questionnaire respondents considered major braided river landscapes as of high importance. As well, a few questionnaire respondents specifically identified the Hawarden and Waikari Basins as significant.

Emu/Amuri/Pahau plains

Characteristics:

The major visual landscape value of the plains was their expansive character, braided river systems, contrast with containing hills, and mountain views. Previously clad with kanuka woodland and silver tussock.

Affected by:

Irrigation, dairy farm development, forest and shelter planting altered the character of the basin.

Because of the visual importance of containing hills, tracking, weeds, trees, structures, etc. on their slopes affects the landscape experience of the basin, as does screening of hill views.

Management sought:

Control the landscape and visual effects of tracking, weeds, trees, structures and development on the slopes containing a basin landscape. "Prevent blotches of forestry on tussock hills or mountains."

Control loss of long views and proliferation of structures/buildings by careful siting.

Control height and design of buildings.

Important features:

Contrast of Isolated Hill with the flat floor of the Amuri basin.

Red Post area – the historic connotations of the site are symbolised in the Red Post at the road fork, allowing a significant landscape experience.

Waiau & Hurunui Braided River Systems

Characteristics:

Braided, pebble, greystone rivers. Open space. Vitality. variety in moving water. Clear water. Water views. Wading bird habitat. Dynamic landscape with shifting channels, changing flows.

Issues/Affected by:

Woody weed spread – broom, gorse, willows.

Reduced flows.

Management sought:

Control/eliminate weedspread. Protect from new weeds.

Protect open space.

Protect natural flows, natural cycles of changing levels and flows. Prohibit dams.

Limit upper catchment afforestation to protect flows.

9.4 SOFT ROCK DOWNLAND LANDSCAPES

Important place:

The WEKA PASS area was identified by the community as the most important landscape in the District. Easily accessible and fascinating, the community showed both natural and historic dimensions of this limestone landscape are highly valued.

The assessment supported identification of the area as regionally outstanding. Aesthetic, legibility, scientific, tangata whenua, and shared values have been shown all to be outstanding by the district's community. Although focussed on the road corridor, the area includes Pyramid Valley and the Waipara rivers, gorges and associated limestone landscapes. Whilst extremely modified with farm development, accessways and communications links, the responses showed the landscapes are highly valued for their evident natural elements, patterns and processes.

Characteristics:

Exposed limestone of northwestern faces. Appearance and shape of limestone outcrops. Unique. Interesting. Well-known outcrops, e.g. Frog Rock, and "others you see yourself". Rolling hills and outcrops, in contrast to the Waipara flats. Natural habitat. Tussock, kowhai, rocky bluff shrub vegetation. Formerly matai-totara forest lands.

Lack of settlement. Undeveloped. Skyline from plains and in Pass. Gateway to the inland plains.

Photo opportunities. Strong visual/aesthetic appeal. Good scenic drive, walk, trip.

History of area (rock paintings, limestone outcrops, Waitaha). Historic farm, route.

Issues/Affected by:

Any loss of limestone or rocks; people walking over rocks.

Disruption of skyline.

Loss of open nature. Destruction of plants. Loss of tussock/grassland. Woody weeds – gorse, broom. Inappropriate trees.

Farming practices, land tenure. Farm clearance. Soil erosion. Tree planting. Farm development.

Increased settlement.

Overuse, overdevelopment for tourism. Too many "tacky" train-stops.

Management sought:

Protect naturalness.

Control and encourage wild nature. Control clearing, burning.

Control, protect and restore uninterrupted hill silhouette.

Control spoil. Prohibit rock removal.

Control willow, ash, conifer spread. Control tree plantings. Ensure tree plantings out of sight of road and rail.

Control settlement.

Control farm development.

Mt Grey Area

Mt Grey involves soft rock country to the east and hard to the west (landscape type 5) and was identified as an important landscape. The workshop and questionnaire data substantiated the regional assessment of its significance.

Characteristics:

Prominence. Backdrop to coastal Canterbury. Prominent landscape feature. Protrudes onto plain.

Gentleness of actual mountain. Outline. Important viewed from coast and plains.

Near to Christchurch, accessible beech-podocarp forest. Recreation.

Issues/Affected by:

Modification for forestry, farming.

Increased recreation use.

Woody weeds e.g. broom and gorse.

Management sought:

Encourage conservation use for wilder areas, and low/medium impact recreation. Control noise. Control tree planting, forestry management. Control weeds. Leave as is.

INLAND ROAD area

The corridor north from Waiau generated some response suggesting it is a landscape of significance in the district.

Characteristics:

Naturalness, rocky/clay cliffs, limestone outcrops. Annandale bluffs and sinkholes. Cookson syncline. Mountains. Scenic drive.

Podocarp-beech forest remnants. Terako Downs podocarp, Mt Terako hills vegetation.

Affected by:

Weeds, wilding spread. Forest milling/cutting.

Ski field expansion. Development.

Management sought:

Prohibit further roading and structures. Control development.

Restrict forestry as landscape vulnerable to wildings and fire. Control woody weeds.

Endorse landowners' recognition of importance of Annandale bluffs and sinkholes – "no control needed".

SIGNIFICANT PLACES:

Other Soft Rock Downland landscapes noted by a few in the community as of significance included the Leader valley to Parnassus and the Omihi Saddle area.

GENERIC IMPORTANCE:

There was some recognition by participants that *limestone country in general is of landscape importance. Aesthetic value is high. The fascinating rock forms, the shapes, colours, contours and anthropomorphic dimensions were valued.*

Issues/Affected by:

Issues identified were *quarrying, forestry and woody weed infestation that disrupts naturalness, legibility and aesthetic values.*

Management sought:

Controls to prevent obscuring of visual form of scarps, outcrops, etc.

Recompense for affected landowners was sought.

Encourage development that enhances and restores valued characteristics.

9.5 HARD ROCK HILL LANDSCAPES

IMPORTANT PLACES:

Participants agreed that Mt Grey, the Amuri Range particularly the Leslie Hills enframing the Hanmer Basin, and the St. Leonards hills were of importance. The Waiau Gorge was also identified.

Mt. Grey

Characteristics:

Beautiful skyline, especially when snow-capped. Prominent feature. End of range. Northern enclosure to main Canterbury plains. Background to plains. Accessible. Recreation. Native forest. (see also landscape type 4). Recognised of regional significance.

Affected by:

Forestry.

Communications towers, masts.

Bee and wasp infestations discouraging visitors.

Management:

Encourage conservation use for wilder areas, and low/medium impact recreation. Control noise.

Remove/modify obtrusive communication installations.

Eradicate wasps, relocate bees.

Significant Places:

Amuri Range, Waiau Gorge and Leslie Hills around Hanmer; St. Leonards hills.

Characteristics:

Silhouettes. Wonderful shapes, open ridgelines, naturalness, tussock gold colour. Gorges.

Issues/Affected by:

Plantings, wilding exotic trees, roads.

Management sought:

Control plantings, wildings, roading.

If planting, locate carefully.

GENERIC IMPORTANCE:

Rather than attachment to individual knobs, peaks, saddles, etc. responses suggested hard rock hills are of general importance to people as background and skyline. They "draw the eye", with their rugged outlines, shadows, changing colours and seasons, diverse vegetation, and spectacular and rugged aspect in general. They form the transition to high country but are dwarfed by high country in grandeur, distinctiveness and association.

River gorges, wild water.

Affected by:

Power lines. Farm buildings. Farm road cuts. Fire. Forestry.

Management sought:

Protect hill views from plains roads.

Protect hills from surface disruption, e.g. from tracking.

Protect hill silhouettes from disruption e.g. from installations.

Require plantation shapes to fit landforms e.g. curved.

Ensure tree planting avoids visual impacts e.g. contour planting.

Ensure careful track positioning. Curtail/discretionary farm roads on high hills.

Control burnoffs.

[There was participant comment on attachment to hard rock hills in general. Like Mt Grey adjoining plains, the hard rock hills adjoining Hanmer Basin also feature as the context for the basin floor (landscape type 7). If importance is a product of handy location with no competing adjoining higher mountains, Lowry Peaks would also be expected to be identified as of significance. This did not occur. However participants did identify interest in careful management of the hard hills landscapes in general.]

9.6 COASTAL HILL LANDSCAPES

Napenape

Identified as the most important coastal landscape – one of the few not associated with a major road or settlement. Its natural values were highly valued and their protection sought.

Characteristics:

Naturalness, access, simplicity. Bush–sea interface.

Sea, limestone. White sparkly low cliffs – amphitheatre effect to coastal fringe and sea.

Nice reserve to wander around rocks and trees. Remote.

Issues/Affected by:

Beach/coast dwellings.subdivision.

Forestry.

Browsing animals.

Management sought:

Maintain distinctive bush–shore interface.

Control/prevent sprawl. Carefully control subdivision.

Encourage carefully sited, designed structures.

Maintain access, wildness, simplicity of shore.

Prohibit forestry near coastal zone.

Gore Bay, also Port Robinson.

Gore Bay was identified by participants as of considerable importance for quite different reasons than Napenape. Gore Bay appears valued as a quality landscape for living/staying in. Port Robinson was particularly valued for its peacefulness.

Characteristics:

Mudstone features. Accessible.

Safe and Beautiful. Beach scenery. Gardeners paradise.

A pleasant seaside place to visit, general peacefulness.

Issues/Affected by:

Further development. Buildings, people, activities. Over–development for housing. Urbanisation.

Management sought:

Control development, strictly. Control numbers.

Control erosion, pollution.

GENERIC IMPORTANCE:

Pegasus Bay coastline

Questionnaire responses indicated significance of all coastal country.

Characteristics:

Mainly shingly beaches, some cliff faces, few bathing beaches, some fishing and boat jetties, wharves, etc.

Rich farm land on coastal fringe. Back drop of sea and native bush around the coast.

Affected by:

Residential subdivisions at each beach front.

Weeds e.g. broom.

Management:

Weed control.

HIGH COUNTRY:

9.7 HANMER BASIN LANDSCAPE

Important places:

The Hanmer Basin, including Hanmer Springs, was identified by the community as an important landscape in total. Much of this is dependent on the containing hills – to the south and east being hard rock hills (landscape type 5) with mountain ranges to the north and west (landscape type 8). The Hanmer Basin had not been identified as of regional significance.

Characteristics:

Smaller basin enclosed by tussock, exotic and indigenous forests, Important ridgelines, natural skylines. Open vistas. Views, river and mountains. Alpine village. "Nestled in" feeling. Encircling hills, ridgelines. Rugged hill outline. Exotic plantings. Relationship with Hanmer Forest Park, Mt. Isabel, Jacks Pass. Relationship with hinterland.

Issues/Affected by:

Tracking, weeds, tree planting. Tourist development. increased residential buildings, subdivision of farm land. Farm development.

Management sought:

*Control tracking, weeds, trees.
Control loss of natural values and scenic vistas.
Control buildings/style.*

Hanmer Springs/village

Characteristics:

Township snuggled against base of hillside. Attractive central township – hedges, proportion of green space to buildings. Lots open space. Beautiful scenery. Alpine aspect.

Issues/Affected by:

Infill of open space. Loss of hedges. Expansion away from toe of hill. Over-development for housing. Commercial.

Management sought:

Protect open space, tree variety. Increase native plantings. Strict control needed.

9.8 MAJOR RIVER VALLEY LANDSCAPES

The Hurunui Lakes, in particular Lake Sumner, was identified by the community as a most important landscape. This area had also been identified as regionally outstanding. Incorporated in recognition of the Lewis Pass area as a Main Divide landscape (type 10) of major district importance, are the river valleys of the Pass route, the Waiau, Boyle and Lewis Rivers. The Ferry Bridge area was also suggested to be of some significance.

Other lakes as well as the Clarence Valley were identified by just a few participants as of importance in the District. These valley landscapes are all contained and enframed by mountain range and main divide landscapes (types 9 and 10).

Important places:

Lake Sumner area, including the Hurunui Branches, Loch Katrine, Lake Taylor, etc.

Characteristics:

Remoteness, semi-wilderness, open space values. Lakes, rivers, mountains around. Wild, rugged, few people. Lack of development. Natural and largely unused. Mountains, extensive beech forest, kowhai, tussock grasslands. Biodiversity, red tussock swamps. Clear water. Some valley grazing.

Issues/Affected by:

Roads, vehicles, baches. Tourism development.

Any forestry, planting exotics, felling beech.

Plant and animal pests.

Land tenure.

More visitors.

Management sought:

Pest control.

Control loss of biodiversity, ecosystems, naturalness.

Road, track and hut development and maintenance.

Strict control of noise, clutter, and intrusion of people in a wild area. Encourage a litter-free environment.

Encourage greater foot access only. Keep road "rugged and wild".

Lewis, Hope, Boyle, Waiau Rivers Corridor.

Characteristics:

The naturalness of the Lewis Pass corridor is predominantly in native vegetation with few intrusions other than the highway. Naturalness, open space, matagouri and flats, and beech forest – beautiful trees. Views from river through to mountains and passes. From the Lewis Pass highway, the dry valleys and terraces of Glynn Wye are of particular importance. History and beauty. Combination of vast riverbeds and tussock grasslands, relatively unmodified. Sulphur springs.

Issues/Affected by:

Any change.

Trees, woody weed establishment.

Development, subdivision. Modification of indigenous.

Management sought:

Prohibit subdivisions, hydro dams. Carefully site and design any structures.

Protect indigenous vegetation, including matagouri on flats.

Prohibit any native forest clearing, further land modification, exotic plantings, new roads. Control spoil.

Strictly control woody weeds e.g. broom, blackberry,

Controls to avoid any adverse effects on naturalness, open space, remoteness.

Plan and manage a corridor from Lewis Pass to Glynn Wye homestead primarily, and then on to Ferry Bridge.

Clarence valley and Lake Tennyson.

Characteristics:

Open space, lake and surrounds interactions. Indigenous tussocklands. Beech remnants. Remoteness. Upper, no broom spread. Naturalness. Serenity. Beauty. Little visible human influence. Natural sounds. Historic associations. Recreation.

Issues/Affected by:

Forestry, loss of indigenous, pasture modification, woody weeds, transmission lines, roading, tracking, water extraction. Subdivision, building, noisy boats. Loafer pollution. Animal degradation.

Management sought:

Protect indigenous, tussock, and open space of upper (above St. James homestead). No modification of outstandingly natural tussock landscape surrounding lake, etc. Avoid forestry and weeds.

Maintain flows.

Prohibit development. Protect as quiet areas e.g. no jet skis.

Exclude cattle.

Management sought:

Long term planning to protect and enhance landscapes and avoid potential adverse effects of facilities (e.g. hotels) for increased visitor numbers.

Upper Waiau & Lake Guyon

Characteristics:

Unmodified native vegetation. Intactness.

Valued naturalness, remoteness, aesthetics, recreation.

Management sought:

Protection from modification.

9.9 MOUNTAIN RANGES

As well as generic "high country", particular ranges identified as of most importance were the Organ Range, particularly the Mandamus catchment and gorge, adjoining Glynn Wye Range including the Jolliebrook catchment; the St. James Range, the Hanmer Range including Mt. Isabel, Jacks Pass and Hanmer Forest Park; Mt. Terako and Mt. Tinline on the Amuri Range,

Generic importance:

Characteristics:

Tussock grasslands, river flats, beech forests, lakes and streams.

Sweeping, rugged, wild, open, natural, unique "our distinctiveness".

Historic pastoralism culture.

Monochrome colours dun, ochre, khaki, rust, olive grey.

Affected by:

Weed and wilding spread. Forestry. Native forest loss. Overgrazing. Burning. Hieracium. Animal pests.

Development, tourism. Increased roading.

Management sought:

Control soil and biodiversity loss, ecosystem breakdown.

Control/prohibit weed and wilding spread.

Control burning, clearance, ploughing of tussockland, forestry planting.

Strong advocacy role in weed management through Regional Council, Department of Conservation, and Landowners/occupiers.

Consider planning to limit visitor numbers in fragile landscapes, e.g. on tracks. Control skyline development.

Encourage conservation. very low impact recreation/tourism.

Preserve the important areas as they are.

Organ Range, Mandamus Catchment.

Characteristics:

*Greystone mountain river, wonderful swimming holes, always changing.
Interesting volcanic crater. Tussock hills. Jagged Organ Range. Mountain views. Views of Mt Tekoa.*

Issues/Affected by:

Woody weed spread in riverbed and slopes above, loss of indigenous.

Management sought:

*Control weeds and wilding pines, loss of indigenous flora and fauna.
Encourage restoration of natural character.*

Hanmer Range (Mt. Isabel, Jacks Pass, Hanmer Forest Park)

Characteristics:

Ridgelines, magnificent backdrop to Hanmer Springs.

Mt. Terako, Mt Tinline (Amuri Range)

Characteristics:

Mountain peaks.

Issues/Affected by:

Tracking, weeds, trees.

Management sought:

Control tracking, weeds and trees.

9.10 MAIN DIVIDE LANDSCAPES

As well as strong support for identifying the major importance of the Main Divide in total, participants sought recognition for the Lewis Pass area as a very important landscape, the upper Hurunui catchment, and the Spenser Mountains.

Generic Importance:

The Main Divide – in total.

Characteristics:

The "backbone". Rugged beauty and basically untouched Southern Alps. Alpine areas in general of importance.

Management sought:

Control development to avoid any impacts on character.

Consult with runholders to negotiate agreed approach for any controls.

Avoid any rules not supported by runholders.

Encourage conservation.

Lewis Pass area

Characteristics:

Wildness, remoteness, in spite of road. Predominantly indigenous vegetation. Lack of modification, lack of development, empty of intrusion. Naturalness.

Full of history and beauty. Ecosystem. Skylines. to mountains and passes. High country landscapes. Beautiful native trees. Beech forest. Lake at top, river bank. Sulphur springs.

Snow on high tops much of year.

Affected by:

Any change. Trees, weeds, broom.

Development. Subdivision. Modification of indigenous components.

Management:

Prohibit development.

Prohibit any clearing of native forest, land modification, exotic plantings, new roads. Control spoil.

Strictly control woody weeds, e.g. broom.

Control to avoid any adverse effects on naturalness, open space, remoteness.

Hurunui Catchment, Lake Sumner Conservation Park

Characteristics:

Vastness of range. Beech to snowline. Wilderness landscape and open space values.

Affected by:

Threat of broom and gorse

Management:

Weed control.

Spenser Mountains

Characteristics:

Rocky, steep mountains. Valleys. Lower slopes bush-clad. Snow-covered in winter. Scenic value. Particularly from Lake Tennyson.

Tramping and hunting area.

Affected by:

Practically none. Land tenure. Animal and plant pests. Transmission lines and road access.

Provision for tourism.

Management:

Control pests.

10. IMPORTANT LANDSCAPES – DOCUMENTED RECOGNITION

Previous sections dealt with landscape character, change and issues for the whole of Hurunui District. The following sections focus on special landscapes, landscapes identified as of particular importance in the community.

10.1 TANGATA WHENUA

Data has been assembled from information published by or in consultation with the tangata whenua. However, the compilation and suggested recommendation that result need to be discussed further with tangata whenua.

The district includes the role of a number of different iwi groups, including the runanga of Kaikoura, Tuahuriri and Poutini. The traditional role of Ngai Tuahuriri, the Ngai Tahu hapu based at Kaiapoi–Tuahiwi, extends from the Hakatere (Ashburton) and Waikirikiri (Selwyn) Rivers up to Motonau and the Hurunui. Their mountain is Maungatere (Mount Grey) (Adams & Evison, 1993).

Maps in "Te Whakatau Kaupapa" of registered archaeological sites suggest a greater concentration of significance on the coast to the north and south beyond the District, that is, north of the Conway and south of the Ashley. However, archaeological sites may differ considerably from landscape significance maps. That is, for example, for a mountain peak that is most revered may well be no registered sites on the mountain itself.

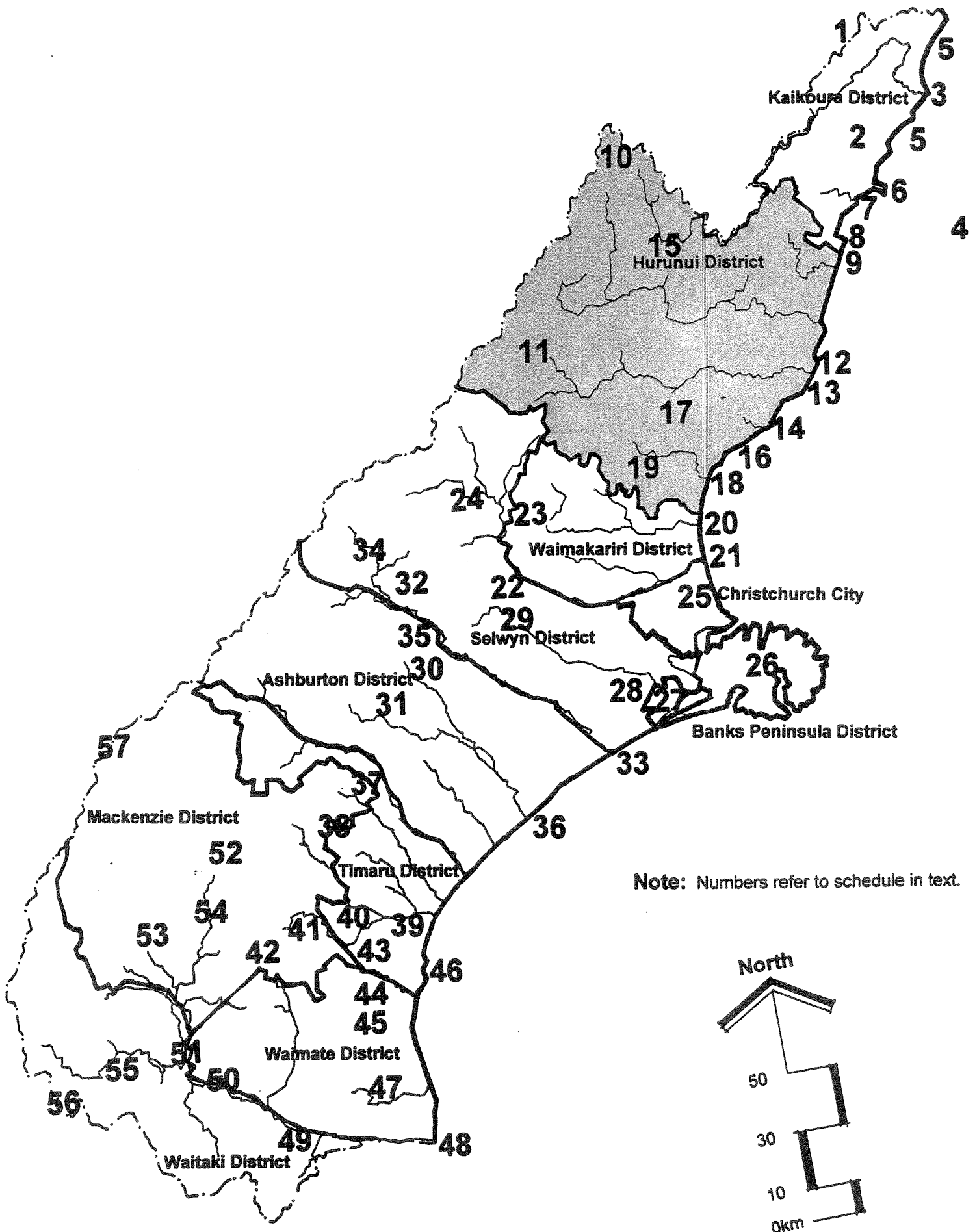
NATURAL FEATURES & LANDSCAPES OF REGIONAL IMPORTANCE

From the Regional Landscape Study brief consultation and research resulted in a schedule of natural features and landscapes being identified as indicative of importance to tangata whenua. However, there has been recognition of the difficulty of ranking one place, e.g. one river, as of greater significance than another. There has also been recognition that a schedule is merely indicative, really just a starting point, and also, that one name may represent an intense concentration of significant places.

It should be noted that a feature may be located beyond the District whilst still being experienced as important to a landscape of the District, e.g. Haumuri Bluffs are located just north of the District boundary, but are an important component of the Conway River mouth landscape. Not just the feature itself, but connections with and views to important features need to be recognised as a cross-boundary issue. For example, the experience of the presence of Tapuwae O Uenuku – on the Inland Kaikoura Range – far and wide in Canterbury.

From a regional perspective, the natural features and landscapes important in the Hurunui District (refer map) were suggested to include those associated with:

- 3 Waiiau-toa (Clarence River, mouth to tupuna mountains)
- 8 Haumuri
- 9 Tutae puta puta (Conway River) mouth
- 10 Rangitahi (Lake Tennyson)
- 11 Hokakura (Lake Sumner)
- 12 Huru-nui River (mouth to Harper Pass)
- 13 Napenape
- 14 Motonau
- 15 Mauwhapapiko (Hanmer Springs)
- 16 Waipara River and hapua (coastal lagoon)
Weka Pass
- 17 Waikari
Waikaari
- 18 Kowhai (Kowai) River
- 19 Maunga tere waka, Maungatere (Mount Grey)
- 20 Rakahuri (Ashley River)



District Boundaries and Particular Features/ Landscapes Significant to Tangata Whenua

Because these are only broad and indicative locations, further important locations from reference documents provided by tangata whenua include:-
In the vicinity of Tutae Puta Puta (Conway River) also note the Kaiwhare River, Te Awa Huri River, Kaitangata mountain, and Pauapirau promontory.

Gore Bay, Motonau Island, and Leithfield Beach.

Pari-nui-o-whiti the boundary post or point from which the important boundary line is visible.

The various Weka Pass area villages. Waikaari – Meihana Te Kakanui – the garden areas.

In addition, the regional study identified relevant generic landscape features regionally important including:-

Canterbury Plains, including rivers

Southern Alps

Water burial sites

Waiora

Waitohi

Rock drawing sites

Fowling trees

Tauranga waka (canoe landing sites)

Buried Whakairo (important art and pounamu)

Fishing easements – near rivers, lagoons and estuaries, especially river mouths and lower tributaries

Inland waters – support fish populations

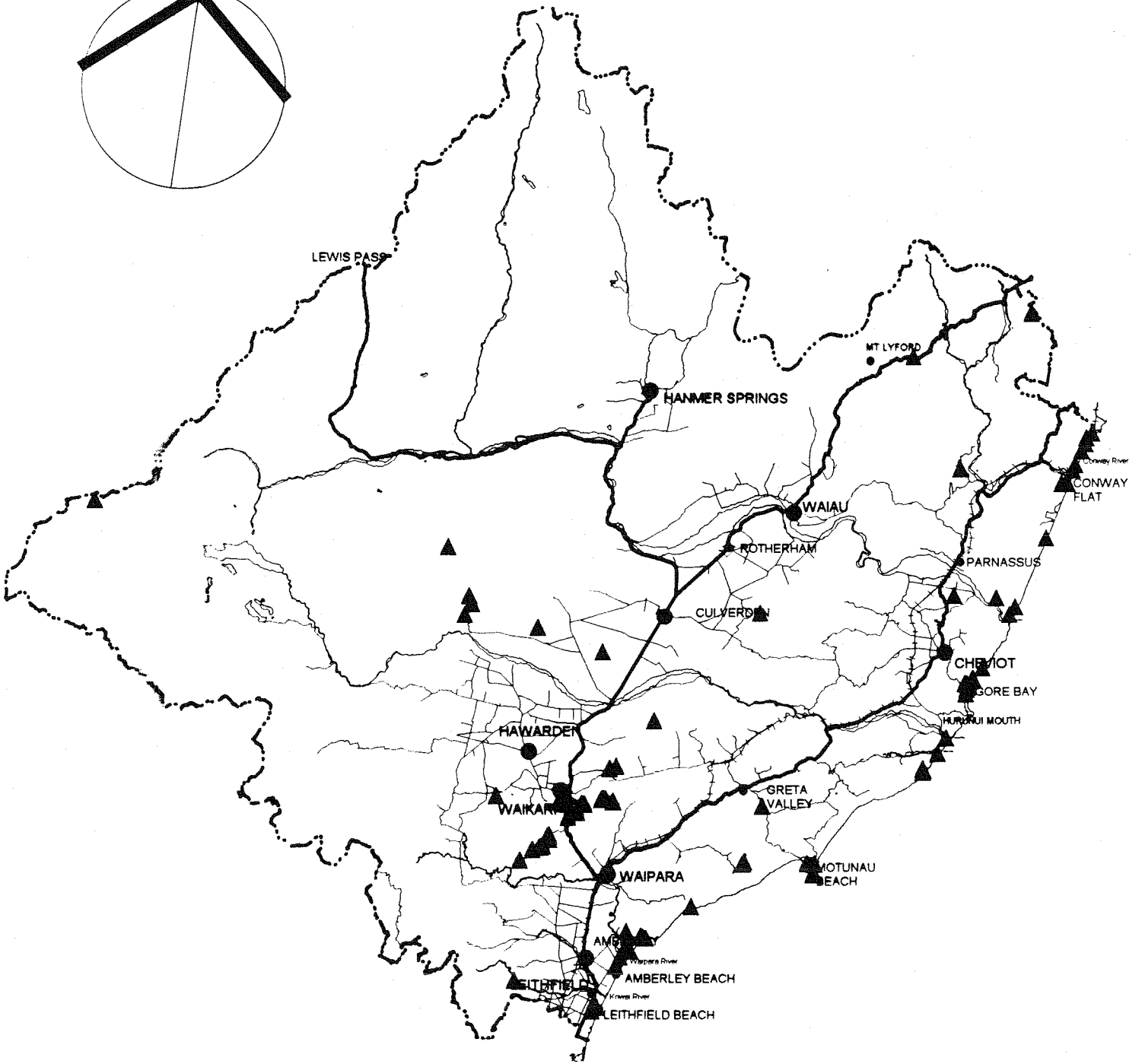
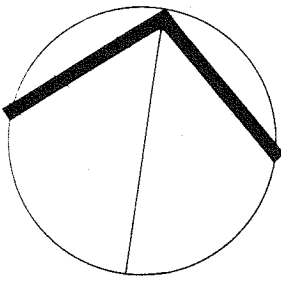
Waimataitai – estuaries

Wetlands/swamps – value as mahinga kai

Documenting some Waitaha histories from Iraraira Te Meihana and others (1994), the great ancestor Ra Kai Hautu is described coming from Rotoiti, up the Wairau and on to Pohueiti (Lake Tennyson),

Waikirikarito (Hanmer Springs) the Waiarau river, to Te Hurunui and the land of many lakes, particularly Te Tai O (Lake Sumner), named for the food basket. The histories also record activities down the Hurunui to the open country, the villages and sheltered gardens of the limestone lands, particularly Waikari. Their histories and trails were recorded in rock drawings.

These snippets are merely to indicate a long association for tangata whenua with the lands of the Hurunui District, so that different perspectives on landscape importance can be discussed, considered and perhaps recognised in future management.



HURUNUI DISTRICT

LEGEND

▲ Archaeological Sites

10.2 VISITORS

HURUNUI TRIANGLE HERITAGE TRAIL

Locations on the Trail that specifically relate to landscape experience, rather than a single building or activity, are:

- Greta Valley walkway
- Motonau Beach
- Nape Nape
- Port Robinson Walkway
- Gore Bay
- Cheviot Hills Domain
- St,Anne's Lagoon
- Mt.Lyford Village
- Lottery Bush
- Waiau village and Forbes Bush
- Hanmer Springs
- Clarence Valley
- Lake Taylor Scenic Drive
- Waikari Walkway
- Weka Pass Historic Reserve

Their inclusion suggests these locations and their associated landscapes are of importance.

REGIONAL SURVEY

The visitor industry survey for the regional landscape study identified a number of places in the Hurunui District that are regionally important:

- Hanmer
- Jacks Pass
- Mount Grey
- Motonau Beach and Island
- St James Walkway
- Waiau River
- Waipara (gorges, upper river)

From river assessments, "impressive scenic values" were identified in:

- Hurunui River
- Lake Guyon
- Lewis Pass, Waiau River
- Port Robinson

Identified heritage sites were the coast from Motonau to Waipara.

10.3 SCIENCE

PNA, WERI, SSWI, geopreservation sites, etc. listed in natural significance schedules are accepted as contributing to identification as important natural features and landscapes.

For many of these sites, knowledge of their natural values can contribute to landscape importance. (refer map)

Geologically outstanding features identified in the regional study included:

- Amuri Bluff
- mid-Waipara Gorge concretions
- Hope Fault (Taramakau, Hurunui, Hope and Waiau River through to Kaikoura)
- Hope Kame terrace (upstream from Hope Bridge)

plus generic features:

- alluvial fans and cones
- scree
- lakes
- Hurunui glacier (Lake Sumner)

Cheviot lies in a trough between the Conway and Hurunui Rivers. Wilson (1993) describes the Cheviot valley as "*a miniature intermontane basin*". More than a thousand years ago it was almost completely forested – matai, totara, broadleaf, southern rata, and other forest trees. The pockets with grasses, herbs and shrubs then expanded to form the extensive tall grassland of colonist times, to be replaced by short tussock grassland, then pasture.

"The contrasts in the landscapes of Cheviot are based on a geological contrast between the two major rock groups, the hard rock ranges to the west and east of the Cheviot basin and the softer, later rocks and recent deposits of gravel and loess of the basin and lower valleys." The older "framework" rocks of the higher ranges enclose a trough-shaped depression occupied by rolling downs and rich "bottoms". (Hector in Wilson).

The soft rocks have eroded to expose hard rocks and rivers have entrenched in the soft rocks. The hard rocks, although broken by faults and fractures, generally resist erosion.

The cliffs behind Gore Bay are thick layers of conglomerate, mostly greywacke pebbles in a sand matrix. Two groves of karaka survive in this bay.

The ancient low coastal forest remnant at Napenape escaped the dramatic vegetation change of elsewhere where few forest trees remain. The karaka tree grove at Napenape was planted more than a century ago. The brilliant white limestone at Napenape, the Amuri limestone, is composed almost entirely of shells. McRae notes the "*spectacular limestone cliffs*", "*pristine native bush*", and "*quiet*" with "*no cottages*".

IMPORTANT LANDSCAPES - SCHEDULE

To identify those landscapes to be considered as "outstanding" in terms of S.6(b), the areas of importance and significance to the community have been assessed together with the other data for "naturalness" and considered under the six criteria. That is, for scientific importance, legibility, transience, aesthetic, shared and recognised, and that known to be of importance to tangata whenua. This assessment resulted in "outstanding" areas being identified in 8 of the landscape types. No outstanding landscapes were identified in either the lowland plains nor the high country plain.

In addition, areas considered of importance that did not quite meet the rigorous "outstanding" criteria have been identified as "significant".

LOWLAND LANDSCAPE TYPES:

1. PLAINS LANDSCAPES

Outstanding: -

Significant: Amberley Plain

2. COASTAL PLAINS LANDSCAPES

Outstanding: Gore Bay
Conway Flats
Motunau Is.

Significant: Motonau
Amberley Beach
Leithfield Beach
all coastal plains

3. INLAND PLAINS LANDSCAPES

Outstanding: Waiau River

Significant: -

4. SOFT ROCK DOWNS LANDSCAPES

Outstanding: Weka Pass area
Inland Road area

Significant: Mount Grey

5. HARD ROCK HILLS LANDSCAPES

Outstanding: Mount Grey
Te Kooti

Significant: Waiau Valley (Montrose, Leslie Hills)
Hurunui Gorge to Mt. Culverden/Mouse Pt.
Lowry Peaks, Hurunui hills & gorge
Waitohi Gorge

6. COASTAL HILLS LANDSCAPES

Outstanding: Nape Nape
Gore Bay, Port Robinson
Waiau Mouth

Hurunui Mouth

Significant: all coastal hills and downs.

HIGH COUNTRY:

7 HANMER PLAIN LANDSCAPES

Outstanding: -

Significant Hanmer Springs & environs

8. MAJOR RIVER VALLEY LANDSCAPES

Outstanding: Hurunui Lakes
Lewis-Hope-Boyle-Waiiau Rivers Corridor
Clarence Valley & Lake Tennyson
Upper Waiiau (incl. Ada & Henry), Lake Guyon
Hurunui rivers

Significant: -

9. MOUNTAIN RANGE LANDSCAPES

Outstanding: Organ Range
Hanmer Range
Amuri Range (Terako end)
Tekoa
Hurunui catchment

Significant: all mountain ranges

10. MAIN DIVIDE LANDSCAPES

Outstanding: Lewis Pass area
Hurunui catchment
St. James walkway corridor
Magdalen Valley
Spenser Mountains

Significant: all divide ranges

Important generic characteristics include:

- river and stream corridors
- lake, tarn & wetland areas
- springs
- skylines and ridgelines
- terrace scarps
- dunes & sandhills
- cliffs, scarps, outcrops, caves
- remnant indigenous vegetation
- tussock cover
- archaeological & historic site areas
- drawing site areas

rock

SCHEDULE (as mapped)

Note. Delineation of these areas is indicative only.

OUTSTANDING LANDSCAPES:

- A. Conway Flats
- B. Waiau mouth
- C. Gore Bay, Port Robinson
- D. Hurunui mouth
- E. Napenape
- F. Motunau Island
- G. Mount Grey
- H. Weka Pass area
- I. Waiau River
- J. Inland Road
- K. Hanmer Range
- L. Clarence valley
- M. Spenser Range
- N. Lewis Pass area
- O. Hurunui Lakes
- P. Te Kooti & Tekoa

SIGNIFICANT LANDSCAPES:

- a. coastal hills
- b. Hurunui River & Gorge
- c. Motunau
- d. Amberley Beach
- e. Leithfield Beach
- f. Amberley Plain
- g. Mount Grey downs
- h. Hurunui Hills
- i. Lowry Peaks Range
- j. Isolated Hill
- k. Waiau River
- l. Hanmer Springs area
- m. Amuri Range (Terako)
- n. Clarence valley
- o. Philosophers Knob
- p. Main Divide
- q. Hurunui catchment
- r. Waitohi Gorge

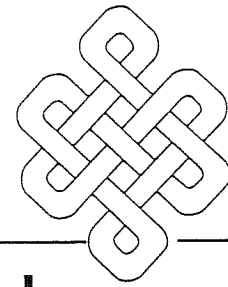
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WORKSHOP QUESTIONS

The task of the first session is to **describe** particular landscape types. In the later session we will address the **importance** of different areas.

Don't get bogged down! If in a group you don't all agree, just note the various opinions, and perhaps whether they were a minority (min) or majority (maj) viewpoint.



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Landscape planning, design,
resource management

First session

Considering a particular landscape type as mapped:

1. **Describe the character** of that type of country; its characteristics. What is its essence and what makes it distinctive?

Simply note key words or phrases that describe this country.
You may want to divide it up into lists for separate areas.

(Cues – Perhaps consider the overall character expressed by landforms, landcover and landuse. The shapes, slopes, patterns, colours, etc. The vegetation. How developed and how built up, intensive or extensive, tamed or wild? Consider variation with different seasons?)

How is this landscape type different from the next type or from elsewhere in Canterbury/New Zealand? Or, how does it contribute to the distinctive character of the District, of Canterbury or of New Zealand?

You may find it appropriate to consider the landscape type in association with neighbouring country. e.g. To describe the character of the plains landscape type might also involve the soft rock hills around the plains.

2. a. Quickly note types of **change** that have happened in this landscape type in the past. Has there been much change?

b. Is there much change happening now? – and what sorts of change?

c. Do you expect much landscape change over the next 20 years?
What sorts of change? What **effects** might these changes have on this type of landscape? Might they alter the character of that landscape?

You might just list changes and mark them as potentially having **good** (✓), **bad** (✗) and/or **indifferent** (↔) **effects** on the character of that landscape type.