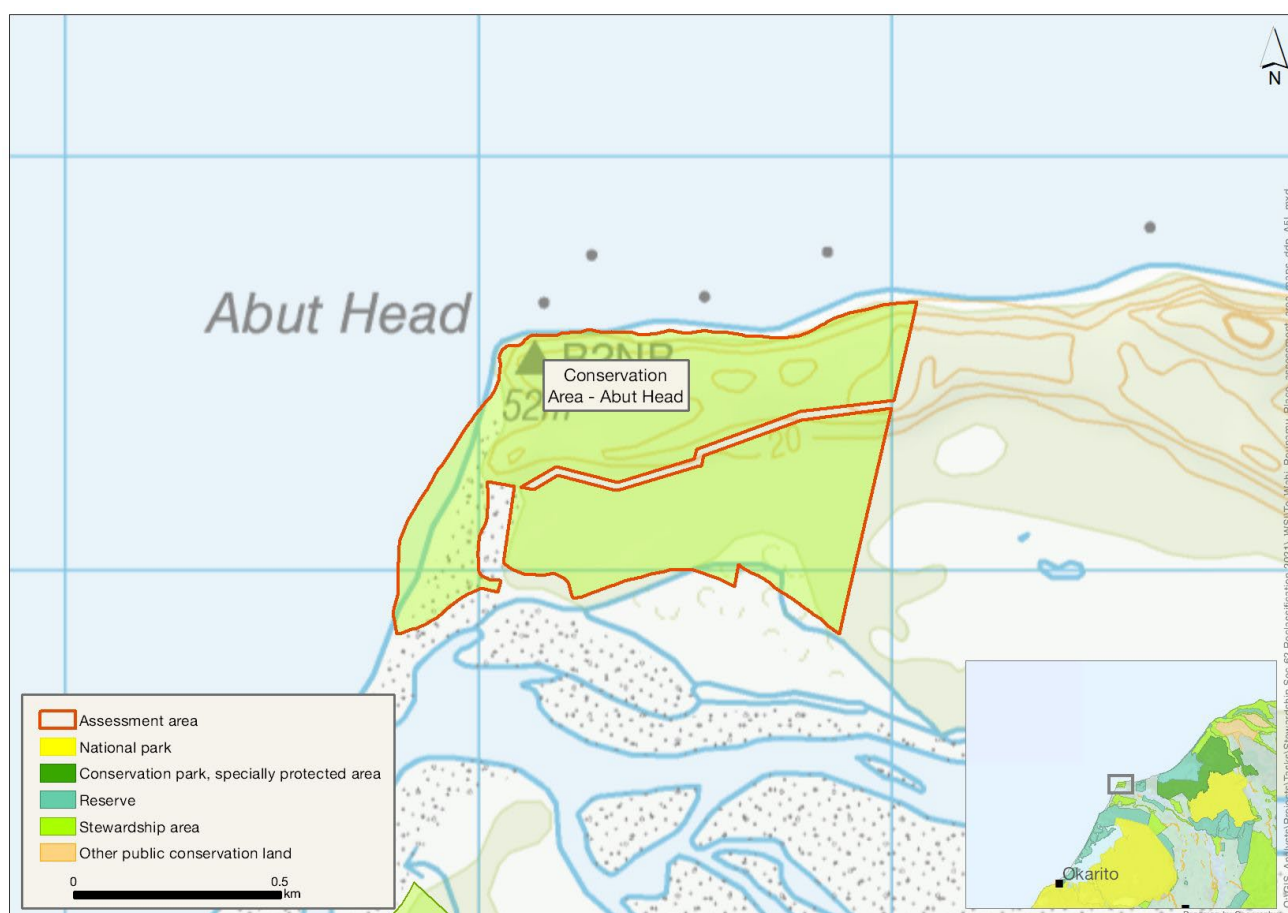


# Stewardship Land Review: Recommendation

## TWP\_14 – Abut Head

Departmental Region	Management Place	Technical report	Assessment #	Held Under
Western South Island	Te Wāhi Pounamu	<a href="#">DOC-6913470</a>	TWP_14	s62

### Abut Head



Protected Areas	Area (ha)	NaPALIS #	# of Primary Parcels
Conservation Area – Abut Head	62.8357	2805255	3

## **Recommendation on Reclassification**

### ***Western South Island National Panel Recommendation***

The Western South Island National Panel recommends:

- The Conservation Area 'Abut Head' (NaPALIS #2805255) is declared to be held for conservation purposes, pursuant to section 7(1) of the Conservation Act 1987, and is classified pursuant to section 16 of the Reserves Act 1977 as a section 19(1)(a) Scenic Reserve.
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### ***Mana Whenua Panel Recommendation***

The Mana Whenua Panel does not seek to make its own recommendation for Conservation Area 'Abut Head' (NaPALIS #2805255) and does not either support or oppose the Western South Island National Panel's recommendation.

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## **Western South Island National Panel Justification for Recommendation – Executive Summary**

These conservation areas are of high landscape and ecological value, containing sandy, rocky coastal environments and swamp typical of the Harihari Ecological District. A high level of naturalness is observed, with the area noted to support a suite of native avifauna and invertebrate fauna. This area contains intertidal and shallow rocky reef, is a fur seal haul out and is listed as a Marine Mammal and Bird site under the Regional Coastal Plan. Recreation values are present associated with people using the beach and hunting, while the adjoining river is used for jet boating and whitebaiting. The area is part of the Te Wāhipounamu – South West New Zealand World Heritage Area.

Classifying this conservation area as a scenic reserve is considered to preserve the identified ecological and landscape values, and protect any identified historic or archaeological features, while providing for the recreation use of the area.

## **Mana Whenua Panel Justification for Recommendation**

The Mana Whenua Panel has been provided with the opportunity to review the Western South Island National Panel's reclassification recommendation for Conservation Area 'Abut Head' (NaPALIS #2805255) and does not either support or oppose the Western South Island National Panel's recommendation.

Notwithstanding this, the Mana Whenua Panel expressly reserves the right of Ngāi Tahu to seek to have the classification of this area reviewed in the future. There is a deep connection between Ngāi Tahu and all of the whenua in the Ngāi Tahu takiwā. The interests of Ngāi Tahu in this area may change over time which may require the classification to be revisited. In addition, more appropriate forms of protected area classifications from a Ngāi Tahu perspective may be developed through conservation law reform.

# **Western South Island National Panel Justification for Recommendation**

## **1. *Treaty of Waitangi/Te Tiriti o Waitangi Obligations***

The Western South Island National Panel is required to give effect to the principles of The Treaty of Waitangi/Te Tiriti o Waitangi, in accordance with section (4) of the Conservation Act 1987.

The panel acknowledges that the assessment area is within the Ngāi Tahu takiwā and the rohe of Poutini Ngāi Tahu, and as such appreciates the connection between Ngāi Tahu and the whenua. In making the above recommendation the panel has considered the values and interests of Ngāi Tahu as presented to them. This information has been considered in conjunction with the content provided in the corresponding technical report.

The panel considers that the above recommendation is consistent with the identified Ngāi Tahu values and interests.

## **2. *Treaty Settlement Obligations***

No Treaty/Tiriti settlement obligations are identified in the West Coast Te Tai o Poutini Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) that specifically relate to this assessment area.

## **3. *Consideration of Adjoining Land Classification***

The panels are required to consider the classification(s) of adjacent and nearby public conservation land, enabling a 'landscape' approach to the reclassification work to be implemented.

No adjoining or proximal land classifications are identified. The area is part of the Te Wāhipounamu – South West New Zealand World Heritage Area.

## **4. *Conservation Justifications***

The panel recommendation is required to include clear conservation justifications. These conservation justifications are addressed in sections 4 (a), (b), (c) and (d), based on information identified in the corresponding technical reports.

### **a. *Identified Landscape Values***

This coastal landform contains intact wetland communities and wind-shorn coastal forest and has high natural character. It is part of two Outstanding Natural Landscapes (ONL17 & ONL18).

### **b. *Identified Ecological Values***

This conservation area contains sandy, rocky coastal environments and swamp typical of the Harihari Ecological District. A high level of naturalness is observed, with this area noted to support a suite of native avifauna and invertebrate fauna. This area contains intertidal and

shallow rocky reef, is a fur seal haul out and is listed as a Marine Mammal and Bird site under the Regional Coastal Plan. It is considered that the classification as scenic reserve is appropriate to preserve the identified indigenous flora, fauna, biological associations and natural environment.

### ***c. Identified Recreation Values***

This conservation area has recreation values associated with people using the beach and hunting, while the adjoining river is used by people jet boating and whitebaiting. The recommendation as scenic reserve is considered to provide for these recreation values, being managed for the benefit, enjoyment, and use of the public as a primary objective.

### ***d. Identified Heritage Values***

No known heritage values are identified.

## **5. Current Land Use**

No existing land use is identified.

## **6. Consideration of the Climate Change Commission Report**

The panel gave consideration to the objectives of the [Climate Change Commission report](#) and the recommended policy direction. The key focus of the advice is ensuring a shift to a low carbon and resilient Aotearoa. The panel does not consider the recommended land classification to limit future decision making over the land to mitigate emissions, adapt to climate change and sequester carbon.

## **7. Strategic Policy Direction**

The assessment area is governed by the West Coast Te Tai o Poutini CMS. The CMS has been reviewed to identify all relevant provisions and conservation area-specific treaty settlement obligations when formulating the above recommendation, and the recommended land classification is considered to be consistent with the aims of the strategy.

The above recommendation has also been considered in conjunction with the Conservation General Policy and conforms with policy 6(b) regarding reclassification and 6(c) & (d) regarding disposal.