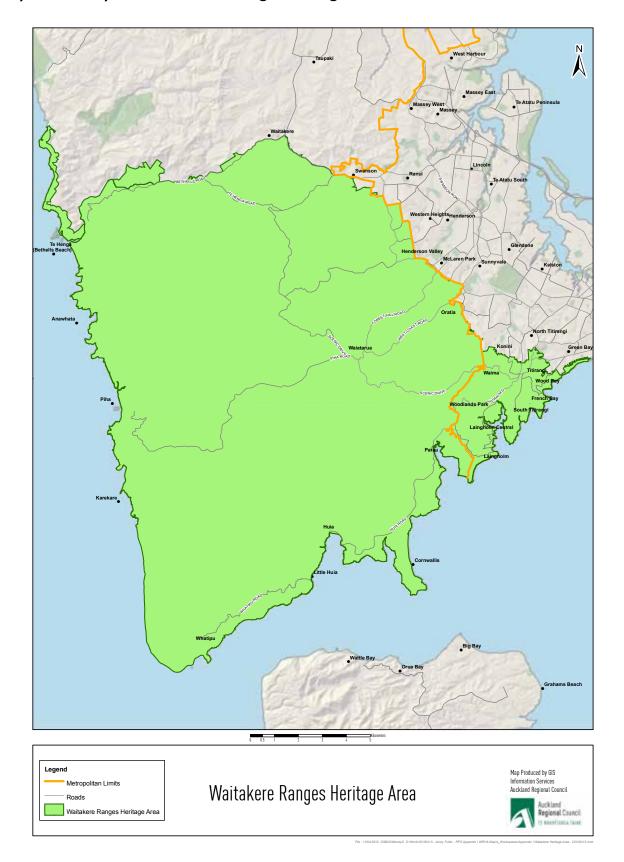
Appendix I

Map and Description of Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area



2 Appendix I

The Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area comprises an area of approximately 27, 720 ha, generally located between urban Auckland and the west coast. The area is of local, regional and national significance and has little capacity to absorb further subdivision without giving rise to adverse effects, including cumulative effects, on the area's heritage features, which individually and collectively contribute to this significance. These heritage features include the:

- O terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems with a prominent indigenous character and which are outstanding in northern New Zealand;
- public water catchment and supply system;
- O natural landforms and landscapes of the area, including those that form a dramatic visual backdrop to metropolitan Auckland in the west;
- O dynamic and contrasting coastal areas with high natural character;
- quiet and darkness of the forested and coastal areas;
- eastern foothills which act as a buffer to and transition from metropolitan Auckland and the forested ranges and coast, and the streams of which are important for downstream urban character and stormwater management;
- O Waitakere Regional park;
- O opportunities for wilderness experiences, recreation and relaxation in close proximity to metropolitan Auckland;
- O subservience of the built environment to the area's natural and rural character and which is reflected in the individual identity and character of the coastal settlements, the low density residential and urban areas located in an increasingly dominant forest setting, and the rural character of the foothills to the east and north with their pattern of cultivated and uncultivated land, indigenous vegetation and the absence of urban scale development;
- O historical, traditional and cultural relationship of people, communities and tangata whenua with the area and their exercise of kaitiakitanga and stewardship;
- O historic heritage reflecting past human activities in the area; and
- O distinct local communities.