Figure 9.4 Omarino-Parekura Bay case study
Natural character scores 2009

The natural character score range is 0–100
where 0 means no natural character is present
and 100 means that a unit is completely natural.

Scores for each polygon have been calculated using
QINCCE methodology (Quantitative Index for measuring
Natural Character of the Coastal Environment)
which combines three indices—Ecological Naturalness Index,
Hydrological and Geomorphological Naturalness Index,
Freedom from Building and Structures Index—
into an overall Natural Character Index.

Each Natural Character Index is multiplied by 100
to give the Natural Character Score for that polygon.

The underlying medium-resolution imagery used for this case study
was taken in about 2003 (exact date unknown).

The area covered by a pale wash is still within the coastal environment
but was not included as part of the relatively detailed assessment scale
used for this case study.

There were some major land use changes that had occurred between
the date of assessment and the date of the aerial imagery.
E.g. clearance of a number of areas that had a mature plantation forest
cover; high quality low-density rural subdivision with large scale native
vegetation planting, road construction and initial building construction
in the Omarino area (western part of the aerial image).
As the natural character scores represent the state of natural character
in 2009, the land use changes mean that some natural character scores
are for a situation that differs from what is shown on the aerial image.

0   500   1000   2000m

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