

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Makiekie Creek</b>	
<b>Location:</b>	NZ Topo BL35	
<b>Description:</b>	Incised stream valley downstream of Makiekie Reserve.	
<b>ONL/ONF/SAF:</b>	Significant Amenity Feature	
<b>Natural Science:</b>	Geological/ Geomorphological:	Incised stream valley with steep sided faces. Representative of the erosion processes of the water catchment area which has cut through soft marine sedimentary layers.
	Biological/Ecological:	Mix of exotic and indigenous vegetation. Ecological value is reduced by the presence of pasture in the valley. Indigenous forest remnants in Makiekie Reserve and on the valley sides, which enhances ecological value, increasing ecosystem health and mauri, while also creating a habitat for indigenous and exotic birdlife. The forest includes an interesting mix of conifer and broad-leaf species, as well as beech forest. In the Makiekie Scenic Reserve large rimu and tōtara are plentiful. There are also mature red beech trees up to 35m tall in some places, as well as younger, regenerated stands that have come up following wind damage. Due to large scale deforestation in the District areas of remnant native bush, such as in this SAF, are rare for the area and are representative of what land cover used to look like.  Horizons Regional Council recommends Makiekie Creek for trout fishery value in the Manawatū-Wanganui Region. Makiekie Creek was also included in a published research article by Michael K. Joy and Russell G. Death who undertook a biological assessment of rivers in the Manawatū-Wanganui region investing macroinvertebrates.
	Hydrological:	Riparian vegetation improves water quality from agricultural land runoff, contributing to ecosystem health and mauri of this area and the wider catchment downstream.
<b>Perceptual:</b>	Memorability:	Contrasts with the modified pastoral landscape and is more dramatic than surrounding folded/terraced landforms.
	Legibility/Expressiveness:	Complex landform feature which is expressive of the erosion processes of the river.
	Transient:	Possible fauna values and likely microclimatic conditions in gullies.
	Aesthetic:	Significant aesthetic appeal as a result of the native vegetation, which provides a general pattern of land cover coherence, combined with the striking scale of the incised river valley with its old river bends and vivid white cliff escarpments.
	Naturalness:	Whilst the area is surrounded by a largely modified pastoral landscape, a moderate degree of perceived naturalness exists within the gullies due to the presence of the combination of indigenous vegetation and the meandering river course, and mudstone cliffs. This character is however degraded by the extent of pastoral farming on both the valley slopes and valley floor.
<b>Associational:</b>	Historical:	Unknown.
	Tangata Whenua:	Under the Settlement Act Makiekie Creek is an area of interest for Rangitāne o Manawatū and Ngāti Hauiti. Makiekie Creek is a tributary to Pohangina River, which was known by Māori as a place of darkness and with a degree of fear attached to the area because of previous bloodshed. Another level of meaning was the very ulcerated or dissected nature of the landscape itself, lots of little streams with valleys cutting down in to the area. Makiekie Creek was also a source of vivianite, a mineral that was used as a blue pigment for the face painting of warriors for battle. This was the only source for Rangitāne o Manawatū and so was of military significance. In a general sense, Tikanga Māori Principles such as Kaitiakitanga (Guardianship), Wairua (Well-being) and Mauri (Life force) are assumed to be important.
	Shared/Recognised:	Adjacent to the Makiekie Scenic Reserve, recognised for its ecological and scenic values. Additionally, the area is along the Manawatū Scenic Route, which is an alternative to SH1 and allows travellers to discover stunning scenery.
	Recreation:	Upstream, east of the SAF boundary, Makiekie Creek forms part of a DOC tramping route, Deerford Track to Makiekie Creek which is used for both walking and hunting. There are no DOC tracks within the SAF itself, limiting public access.
<b>Summary of Key Characteristics:</b>	Moderate degree of perceived naturalness derived from the presence of indigenous vegetation combined with the expressiveness of the formative erosion processes which contrasts with the surrounding agricultural land use and terraced form.	
<b>Potential Issues:</b>	The incised river channel, with large areas of native vegetation, defines the feature and contributes to the perceived naturalness, aesthetic values and associational factors. It would assist preservation of the key characteristics if the following were to occur: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• restrict adverse effects on cultural values; limit the loss of native vegetation; limit the establishment of exotic vegetation; limit earthworks; and limit built development.</li> </ul>	



# SAF3 - Significant Amenity Feature - Makiekie Creek

