

## APPENDIX 3: Effects ranking and descriptor

Determination of landscape quality		
Category	Criteria	Typical Example
<b>High - Exceptional</b>	Strong landscape structure, characteristics, patterns, balanced combination of landform and land cover	International or nationally recognised site – national park.
	Appropriate management for land use and land cover	
	Distinct features worthy of conservation	
	Sense of place	
	No detracting features	
<b>High</b>	Strong landscape structure, characteristics, patterns, balanced combination of landform and land cover	Nationally or regionally recognised site – national park
	Appropriate management for land use and land cover but potential scope for improvement.	
	Distinct features worthy of conservation	
	Sense of place	
	Occasional detracting features	
<b>Good</b>	Recognisable landscape structure, characteristics, patterns, balanced combination of landform and land cover still evident	Nationally, regionally recognised site all or great majority of area of local landscape importance
	Scope to improve management for land use and land cover	
	Some features worthy of conservation	
	Sense of place	
	Some detracting features	
<b>Ordinary</b>	Distinguishable landscape structure, characteristic patterns of landform and land cover often masked by landuse	
	Some features worthy of conservation	
	Some detracting features	
<b>Poor</b>	Weak landscape structure, characteristic patterns of landform and land cover often masked by landuse	
	Mixed land use evident	
	Lack of management and intervention has resulted in degradation	
	Frequent detracting features	
<b>Very poor</b>	Degraded landscape structure, characteristic patterns of landform and land cover are masked by landuse	
	Mixed land use dominates	
	Lack of management and intervention has resulted in degradation	
	Extensive detracting features	
<b>Damaged landscape</b>	Damaged landscape structure	
	Single land use	
	Disturbed or derelict land requires treatment	
	Detracting features dominate.	

**Table 1** has been adapted for NZ conditions from an example of threshold criteria used by practitioners in the United Kingdom. The original document was prepared by Jeff Stevenson Associates and published in *Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Assessment ("GLVIA") 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition*. Landscape Institute (UK) and IEMA 2013.