

12. WHITESTONE RIVER



LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

Large semi-braided river. Tributary of the Mararoa. Within Te Anau Basin, it flows through both flat farmed paddocks and between steep river terrace scarps. While it flows through a modified rural landscape, including a gravel extraction site adjacent SH 94, the natural patterns and processes of the river are generally dominant, particularly closer to the foothills.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- Large semi-braided river
- Well-defined, dramatic scarps above upper Whitestone

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY:

HIGH

Natural Factors: Natural river patterns and processes

Cultural Factors: Mostly modified riparian edges - boundaries with farmland and gravel extraction

Quality/Condition: Maintains overall high level of intactness

Aesthetic Factors: River as attractive natural feature

VISUAL SENSITIVITY:

MODERATELY LOW

Visibility: Main public viewpoints limited to bridges at Hillside-Manapouri Road and SH 94

Populations: Apart from adjacent property owners and those travelling across the bridges, viewing populations are likely to be largely anglers and hunters

LANDSCAPE VALUES

- Important natural feature and recreational resource

