SWBP Natural Area Initial Desktop Assessment

Date of assessment		Native Veg Unique ID No.	
Name of area		Database Site No.	
Location (address/street name)			
Prepare the following maps and label with the name of the area.			
Map 1: Location of			
Photocopy of street directory showing location of site			
Map 2: Reference Sites/Plots and Linkage for			
A GIS print-out of general area showing vegetation complexes, potential reference sites and plots, mapped wetlands and their management category, areas of any previously recorded Declared Rare Flora, Specially Protected Fauna, Priority Flora or Fauna or Threatened Ecological Communities plus location of Draft Regional and, if available, Local Ecological Linkages. If no Local Ecological Linkages have been determined for the Local Government area, use this map to mark potential local ecological linkages to other natural areas.			
Map 3: Aerial photograph of			
Date of photography		Scale	
GIS print-out of aerial photography (with topography, if available) at a scale that ensures site covers most of an A4 page. Easy-to-use scales are 1:2000 (1 cm = 20 m), 1:3000 (1 cm = 30 m), 1:4000 (1 cm = 40 m) or 1:5000 (1 cm = 50 m). For large sites, spread over several A4 pages at one of these scales if necessary.			
Area (ha)		Perimeter (m)	
Perimeter (m) to area (m^2) ratio		Priority for Further Investigation	
Lot/Location/Reserve Number/s			
Ownership (Local Government Reserve / Other Govt (Agency?) / Private)			
Adjacent Land tenure:			
Land Manager			
Vesting Purpose			
Regional Scheme Reservation or Zoning (PRS or Draft GBRS)			
TPS Reservation or Zoning			
Protection Status (circle)	none / conservation covenant / conservation zone / conservation vesting purpose /Regional Open Space in the PRS of Draft GBRS / protected CALM land		
Current Status/Use of land			
Long term plans?			
Recognised International/ National/ State/ Regional Conservation Value	☐		
Specify			
Part of a Draft Regional Ecological Linkage	☐		
Specify (links which areas?):			
Mapped Vegetation Complex/es			
Mapped Soil Type/s (if mapping available)			

Mapped wetland/s:	☐	Environmental Protection Policy (EPP) Lake:	☐
Wetland Management Category:	CC/RE/MU		
Is it a mapped floodplain area?	☐		
Potential Reference Sites and Plots (e.g. Gibson et al Flora Survey Plots, CALM Reserves, see Map 2).			
Existing biological information for area or for potential Reference Sites (reports/ surveys/ species lists)			
Conservation Management Plan	☐	Current or Review needed?	☐
Title/Author/Year			
Part of a Local Ecological Linkage	☐		
(if these have not already been determined by Local Government mark potential linkages on Map 2)			
Time since isolation from other natural areas		<5 years/ 5 - 20 years/ >20 years	
(consult local community, historical aerial photography)			
Does it contain any mapped Threatened Ecological Communities (see Map 2)?			☐
Specify:			
Does it contain any mapped Declared Rare Flora (see Map 2) or is it a known location for any Specially Protected Fauna or significant habitat for these fauna?			☐
Specify:			
Does it contain any mapped Priority (see Map 2) or other significant **flora** (e.g. see Table 13, Bush Forever, Vol. 2, p. 51) or is it a known location for any Priority or other significant **fauna** (e.g. see Tables 14 and 15, Bush Forever, Vol. 2, pp. 59-63) or significant habitat for these fauna? yes/no			
Specify			
Riparian streamline vegetation expected			☐
Estuarine fringing vegetation expected			☐
Coastal vegetation expected (foredunes or secondary dunes)			☐
Fire History (consult with FESA/Volunteer Fire Brigades, local community, historical aerial photography)			
Specify			
Known to be of particular value to the local community for conservation			☐
Active Friends/Environmental Group			☐
Name of group and contact details			
Surrounding land uses with potential for community interest and possibly assistance with management :			
• educational facility			☐
• residential development			☐
• other (specify)			☐
Indigenous or European Cultural or Historical Heritage Value			☐
Notes			

SWBP Natural Area Initial Field Assessment A

Date of assessment		Native Veg Unique ID No.	
Name of area		Database Site No.	
Location (address/street name)			
Assessor		*Skill Level	
Recorder		Skill Level	
Recorder		Skill Level	
Recorder		Skill Level	
**Important Note: Skill level 4 or above is required by the assessor to complete this template (see Appendix 1).*			

Photographs

Indicate photograph no., location and direction of each photo on Map 4 during the field assessment. e.g. Photo 4 looking North)

Photographer's Name	

Latitude And Longitude (for various locations noted during assessment, optional)

GPS used:	yes/no	GPS datum:	
Descriptor and Location No.		Reading/calculation (mark location No. on Map 4)	
(eg. BMX jump GPS 1)		Latitude (S) or Northing	Longitude (E) or Easting

Prepare the following map during the field assessment and label with the name of the area.

Map 4 (transparent overlay on aerial photograph, Map 3): Uplands/Wetlands, Structural Plant Communities, Vegetation Condition, Spot Weed Occurrences, Areas of Disturbance and Management Infrastructure of:

Uplands, Wetlands And Structural Plant Communities – Description And Mapping

On Map 4 divide the site into upland versus wetland areas and then into broad sections based on structural plant communities. Allocate a number to each community and describe each community using a representative sample point. Note the vegetation condition of each sample point as well as drawing a vegetation condition map for the whole site.

Describe each community using page 5 of these templates OR if preferred the templates of *Keighery(1994*) (see Appendix 3). If using the Keighery templates, describe each community on Recording Sheets 1 & 2 and list common native species present on Recording Sheet 3. Note that Appendix 3 contains minor modifications to the *Keighery (1994*) templates to include the additional information required on page 5.

Each structural plant community is described by noting the dominant species in each growth form layer of the community (see Appendix 2). Collect specimens for identification if necessary provided you have a licence from DEC and land owner permission. Carefully label all specimens. DO NOT collect species suspected of being Declared Rare Fauna. Instead take a good photo and accurately note location. Do not collect whole plants unless they are very small species and do not collect at all if only a few are present, take a good photo as an alternative.

Photocopy this page or Appendix 3 and complete for **each** structural plant community identified.

Structural Plant Community No. Indicate location of sample point described on Map 4.
GPS used: Lat: Long: Upland or Wetland?

Landform and Soils

SLOPE: (eg. flat/ gentle/steep) ASPECT: N/ NE/ E/ SE/ S/ SW/ W/ NW OR n/a
SURFACE SOIL: Colour: Texture: sand/ loamy sand/ sandy loam/ loam/ clay/ gravel
EXPOSED ROCK: Type: % of surface exposed
SUB-SURFACE SOIL: Colour: Texture: sand/ loamy sand/ sandy loam/ loam/ clay/ gravel
UNDERLYING ROCK:Type: Depth (if known)
DRAINAGE: well/ moderate/ poor WET: all year/ winter and spring only OR n/a
CURRENT WATER DEPTH: cm
LITTER (% cover & depth): BARE GROUND (% cover)

Topographic Position Circle position of point described on a transect diagram of site below.

Growth Form Layer	**Dominant species** for each growth form layer list all dominant species, in their order of dominance, up to a maximum of 3*. (* if more than 3 species are obviously dominant record as many as appropriate to describe the layer)	**Crown Cover (Keighery 1994)** 2-10% / 10-30% / 30-70% / over 70%	**Height & Crown Cover (NVIS)** Record max. height of layer & % crown cover to nearest 5%
Trees over 30 m			
Trees 10–30 m			
Trees under 10 m			
Mallees over 8 m			
Mallees under 8 m			
Shrubs over 2 m			
Shrubs 1-2 m			
Shrubs under 1 m			
Herbs			
Sedges/ Rushes			
Grasses			
Other (e.g. climbers)			

Common Native Species Note species observed.

Icon Flora Species (Note if present)

Vegetation Condition (Give reasoning and note scale used) (see Appendix 4)

Description Of Structural Plant Community No. (see Appendix 2)

Icon Community (tick if an icon community) ☐

Weed Species Note species observed, especially the occurrence of species in better condition areas, even if they only occur in small numbers or in small patches at present. Note the distribution of each species across the site, e.g. throughout the site, spot occurrences or disturbed areas only (edges/tracks/cleared areas). Mark spot occurrences and easily mapped distributions on Map 4. If a species is widespread, note whether it is restricted to specific plant communities or wetland areas.

Weed Species	**Distribution** e.g. throughout the site, spot occurrences or disturbed areas only (edges/tracks/cleared areas)

Feral Fauna Note species observed or evidence for presence of species (scats, tracks or traces).

	√	**Comments**
Evidence of Foxes (burrows, wildlife kills)	☐	
Evidence of Rabbits (burrows, dung piles, grazing)	☐	
Evidence of Dogs (droppings, scratchings)	☐	
Evidence of Cats (wildlife kills)	☐	
European Honey Bees (hives in tree hollows)	☐	
Evidence of Horses/ Cattle/ Sheep (foot prints, droppings)	☐	
Evidence of Pigs (soil disturbance)	☐	
Rainbow Lorikeets	☐	
Other	☐	

Native Fauna and Fungi. Note species observed or evidence of presence for fauna species. Indicate icon species.

Species	**Comments:** Observed directly, evidence of presence (scats, tracks and traces) or likely habitat?

Native Fauna and Fungi Habitat

Habitat	√	Comments
Areas of trees (with or without understorey)	☐	
Areas of dense understorey vegetation	☐	
Tree hollows in old mature trees	☐	
Dead branches as perches for hunting/ look outs	☐	
Dead vegetation for fungi/invertebrate habitat (leaf litter, branches/logs)	☐	
Large fallen logs on the ground	☐	
Granite or other natural rocky outcrops	☐	
Moss beds for fungi habitat	☐	
Wetlands or waterways	☐	

Vegetation Health

Note dead or dying trees, shrubs, herbs and so on. Note the species concerned and the pattern of deaths/changes in the vegetation. *Phytophthora* Root Rot moves in fronts and along drainage lines therefore noting patterns helps to determine whether *Phytophthora* spp. are present. Appendix 5 defines and provides the website address for a list of common indicator species that are affected by *Phytophthora* spp.

Vegetation Health	√	Comments
Numerous tree stumps (not from logging)	☐	
Dead or dying species	☐	
Obvious reduction of tree canopies (e.g. staghorns)	☐	
Heavy leaf/stem damage by insects (e.g. lerps, stem borers)	☐	
Diseases/pests suspected	☐	
Drought/lowering of groundwater table suspected	☐	
Flooding/rise in groundwater table suspected	☐	

Miscellaneous Disturbance Factors and Threatening Processes

Determine the range and extent of disturbance factors and threatening processes occurring at the site. If appropriate, mark on Map 4 and photograph as required. If site is large it may be beneficial to divide into sections and evaluate each separately.

Factor/Process	√	**Comments**
Evidence of salinisation (e.g. scalding, seeps)	☐	
Erosion (e.g. gullies, bank collapse)	☐	
Wetland eutrophication (e.g. algal blooms)	☐	
Stormwater drains/sumps	☐	
Service corridors (e.g. gas, phone, electricity, water)	☐	
Mining/extraction	☐	
Evidence of past logging (e.g. selective removal of large trees)	☐	
Previous clearing (partially cleared or evidence of previous clearing and regrowth over much of site)	☐	
Overgrazing (e.g. rabbits, stock, goats; over-population by kangaroos)	☐	
Firewood collection (e.g. recent chainsaw/axe cuts, sawdust piles)	☐	
Dope plants/ production equipment	☐	
Soil movement (dumping or removal)	☐	
Rubbish dumping (note type, e.g. construction, garden waste, weed source?)	☐	
Proliferation of tracks (fire breaks, walk trails)	☐	
Off road vehicle use (4WD / trail bikes/ BMX/ mountain bikes)	☐	
Vandalism (damage to plants)	☐	
"Enrichment Planting" (revegetation with species not found in that local plant community)	☐	
Impacts of High Fire Frequency and/or Intensity		
• Reduced range of tree ages	☐	
• Fire scars high up (due to a hot burn)	☐	
• Major trunk damage	☐	
• Trees suckering from trunk and branches	☐	
• Amount of leaf litter reduced	☐	
• Large fallen logs nearly burnt away	☐	
• Evidence of arson (burnt grass tree skirts, matches, cigarette lighters, exploded spray cans)	☐	
Time since last fire (estimate)	☐	
Other disturbance factors or threatening processes	☐	

Vegetation Condition Map

For initial assessment, the overall vegetation condition of the site can be determined after familiarising yourself with the site. On Map 4, divide the site into broad sections based on condition, draw the boundaries of each section and record their condition. Using the map, estimate the % area each section occupies of the total site and note in the relevant boxes below using either the *Keighery (1994)* or *Kaesenhagen (1994)* condition scale(see Appendix 4). For example, 'Very Good: Section 1, 75% of site.' 'Degraded: Section 2, 25% of site.' For most sites there will be very degraded areas along tracks, for example, where rubbish has been dumped. If not extensive, these can be referred to by adding a statement such as 'areas of severe localised disturbance' in the comments.

Vegetation Condition Scales Indicate % area each section occupies of the total site (ensure adds up to 100%).						
Keighery (1994)	Pristine	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Degraded	Completely Degraded
% area						

Kaesehagen (1994)	Very Good to Excellent	Fair to Good	Poor	Very Poor
% area				

Comments

Existing Management Infrastructure

Describe type in box below and mark location on Map 4, photograph if required.

	√	**Comments**
Fencing	☐	
Fence condition	☐	
Gates	☐	
Paths	☐	Soil; concrete; limestone; mulch
Path condition	☐	
Path fencing	☐	
Path fence condition	☐	
Fire access tracks	☐	Slashed; sprayed; ploughed
Signs	☐	Name of area; other (purpose?)
Previous works	☐	

Social Significance Values

	√	**Comments**
Evidence of Community/ Passive recreation/ Education interest	☐	
Landscape amenity (e.g. area screens/ buffers conflicting land uses)	☐	
Scenic features (e.g. high point in landscape)	☐	
Indigenous/ European Heritage (Cultural or Historical)	☐	
Other	☐	

Surrounding Land Uses (mark on Map 4)

Surrounding Land Uses	√	Comments
Surrounding Land Uses (note type/s and indicate likely impacts/benefits e.g. source of rubbish; weed seeds blowing into site; potential for community interest and perhaps volunteers to assist management)	☐	

Recommendations for Management List potential management actions (for example, assessment for the presence of *Phytophthora* species by an accredited assessor; fencing; signage to identify as a conservation area; rubbish removal; detailed weed survey and mapping; fire response and management planning; detailed flora/fauna/fungi surveys).

Confirmation of GIS Mapped Boundaries

Prepare the following map if recommending changes to native vegetation (A) or wetland (B) mapping and label with the name of the area.

Map 5: (overlay on aerial photo): Recommended GIS Boundary Changes for

When recommending changes, forward a completed copy of all 4 Initial Natural Area Assessment templates to the South West Biodiversity Project, PO Box 21, Bunbury WA 6231 for distribution to relevant custodian of database.

	GIS dataset	**Changes recommended (yes/no)** Outline the rationale for each change against the relevant category (A, B or C). Prepare Map 5 if recommending changes to A or B only. Draw boundaries that correspond to your field assessment and assign accordingly to 'A' and/or 'B'.
A	**Mapped Native Vegetation** (DPI/Dept of Agriculture 2001)	Yes / No?:
	Rationale:	
B	**Mapped Wetland/s and Management Category** CC, RE or MU (DoE current update)	Yes / No / NA ?: For changes to the mapping of wetlands on the Swan Coastal Plain complete and attach the current Department of the Environment guidelines for evaluating wetlands in this bioregion.
	Rationale:	
C	**Mapped Vegetation Complex/es** (Heddle, Loneragan and Havel 1980 or Mattiske & Havel 1998)	Yes / No?: More likely to be
	Rationale: (do not map):	

SWBP Natural Area Initial Field Assessment B –

Significant Species and Communities

Date of assessment			
Name of area		Database Site No.	
Location (address/street name)			
Assessor			
Recorder		Skill Level	
Recorder		Skill Level	
Recorder		Skill Level	
**Important Note: Skill level 5 or above is required by the assessor to survey natural areas for significant species. Skill Level 6 is required to survey for threatened ecological communities (see Appendix 1).*			

NO significant species or communities recorded through Field Assessment B If searches for significant flora, significant fauna and Threatened Ecological Communities by an appropriately skilled assessor have **NOT** recorded any significant species or communities on this site during this assessment, tick the box and continue no further.	☐

Partial Assessment ONLY In situations where significant species or communities have been recorded during Field Assessment A but a comprehensive Field Assessment B has **NOT** yet taken place, transfer the relevant information to these forms for databasing purposes and tick this box.	☐

Photographs

Indicate photograph no., location and direction of each photo on Map 4 during the field assessment. e.g. Photo 4 looking North

Photographer's Name

Latitude And Longitude (for various locations noted during assessment, compulsory)

GPS used:	yes/no	GPS datum:
Descriptor and Location No.	Reading/calculation (mark location number on Map 6)	
(eg. Species A GPS 1)	Latitude (S) or Northing	Longitude (E) or Easting

Prepare the following map during the field assessment and label with the name of the area. Consult Map 4 prepared for Natural Area Initial Field Assessment A for the structural plant communities and vegetation condition mapping, update on Map 6 if necessary.

Map 6 (overlay on aerial photograph): Location of Threatened Ecological Communities, significant native flora or fauna or suitable habitat for these fauna of

Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) (see Appendix 6)

List the Threatened Ecological Communities present or believed to be present on the site and the reasons why. For those TECs based on floristic community types, map the boundary of each TEC by cross referencing with the structural plant communities mapped during the Natural Area Initial Field Assessment A (Map 4). **During spring**, describe a standard 10 x 10 m quadrat and compile a species list for each structural plant community representing a TEC (see **page 15**, Threatened Ecological Communities – Description and Mapping).

Significant Native Flora (see Appendix 6)

Note presence of Declared Rare, Priority or other significant flora. Note location of species on Map 6. Indicate which structural plant communities they occur in (refer to Map 4 of the Natural Area Initial Field Assessment A).

Species and Significance	Comments eg. Structural Plant Community, Population Size

Significant Native Fauna (see Appendix 6)

Note presence or evidence for presence of Specially Protected, Priority or other significant fauna. Note location of species/evidence on Map 6. Indicate which structural plant communities they occur in or utilise.

Species and Significance	Comments: Observed Directly, Evidence of Presence or Likely Habitat?

Photocopy this page and complete for **each** Structural Plant Community identified as a TEC OR if preferred use Recording Sheets 1 & 2 of Keighery (1994) (see Appendix 3) to describe each community. Note that Appendix 3 contains minor modifications to the Keighery (1994) templates to include the additional information required below.

Threatened Ecological Communities – Description and Mapping

For TECs based on floristic community types, description and mapping needs to be undertaken during spring to provide the definitive floristic information needed to confirm the presence of a TEC. On Map 6, draw the boundary of each Threatened Ecological Community present and label with the TEC to which it belongs. These boundaries should be based on the structural plant communities identified on Map 4 of the Natural Area Initial Field Assessment A template. Allocate a number to each structural plant community representing a TEC and describe each below using a permanently located and representative 10 x 10 m quadrat. Note the vegetation condition of each quadrat. Compile a list of the plant species present within each quadrat.

Structural Plant Community No. Indicate location of sample point described on Map 4.

GPS used: Lat: Long: Upland or Wetland?

Landform and Soils

SLOPE: (eg. flat/ gentle/steep) ASPECT: N/ NE/ E/ SE/ S/ SW/ W/ NW

SURFACE SOIL: Colour: Texture:(sand/ loamy sand/sandy loam/clay/gravel)

EXPOSED ROCK: Type: % of surface exposed

SUB-SURFACE SOIL: Colour: Texture:(sand/ loamy sand/sandy loam/clay/gravel)

UNDERLYING ROCK:Type: Depth (if known)

DRAINAGE: well/ moderate/ poor Period of wetness:

CURRENT WATER DEPTH: cm

LITTER (% cover & depth): BARE GROUND (% cover)

Topographic Position Circle position of point described on a transect diagram of site below.

Growth Form Layer for each growth form layer list all dominant species, in their order of dominance, up to a maximum of 3*.	**Dominant species** (* if more than 3 species are obviously dominant record as many as appropriate to describe the layer)	**Crown Cover (Keighery 1994)** 2-10% / 10-30% / 30-70% / over 70%	**Height & Crown Cover (NVIS)** Record max. height of layer & % crown cover to nearest 5%
Trees over 30 m			
Trees 10–30 m			
Trees under 10 m			
Mallees over 8 m			
Mallees under 8 m			
Shrubs over 2 m			
Shrubs 1-2 m			
Shrubs under 1 m			
Herbs			
Sedges/ Rushes			
Grasses			
Other (e.g. climbers)			

Photocopy this page and complete for each Structural Plant Community identified as a TEC OR if preferred use Recording Sheet 3 of *Keighery (1994*) (see Appendix 3) to list species for each community. Note that Appendix 3 contains minor modifications to the *Keighery (1994)* templates to include the additional information required below.

Plant Species Note native and weed species observed within a standard 10 x 10 m quadrat.		
Trees / **Mallees**	**Herbs**	
Shrubs		
		Sedges / **Rushes**
		Grasses
Vegetation Condition (Give reasoning and note scale used) (see Appendix 4)		
Description Of Structural Plant Community No. (see Appendix 2)		

SWBP Natural Area Initial Assessment Summary

Database Site Number _____ Name of area _____

ECOLOGICAL CRITERIA	
1. Representation	
1a. Regional Representation	
i) The area is of recognised International, National, State or Regional value but not already protected and/or managed for conservation. Specify:	yes/no
ii) The area is of an ecological community with only 1500 ha or 30% or less (whichever is greater) of its pre-European extent remaining in the South West NRM Region portion of the Swan Coastal Plain IBRA Bioregion or in the Southwest Forest Region portion of the Jarrah Forest and Warren IBRA Bioregions. ***Refer to Appendix 7 (Table 1 and 2).*** Specify:	yes/no
iii) The area is a large (greater than 20 ha), viable natural areas in good or better condition of an ecological community with over 30% remaining in the South West NRM Region portion of the Swan Coastal Plain IBRA Bioregion or in the Southwest Forest Region portion of the Jarrah Forest and Warren IBRA Bioregions. ***Refer to Appendix 7 (Table 1 and 2)*** *(all vegetation complexes not meeting Criteria 1aii).* Specify:	yes/no
iv) The area is of an ecological community with only 1500 ha or 15% or less (whichever is greater) protected in formal reserves in the Southwest Forest Region portion of the Jarrah Forest and Warren IBRA Bioregions. ***Refer to Appendix 7 (Table 1 and 2).*** Specify:	yes/no
v) The area is of an ecological community with only 1500 ha or 15% or less (whichever is greater) protected in formal plus informal reserves in the Southwest Forest Region portion of the Jarrah Forest and Warren IBRA Bioregions. ***Refer to Appendix 7 (Table 1 and 2).*** Specify:	yes/no
1b. Local Representation	
i) The area is of an ecological community with 10% or less remaining of its pre-European extent within the Local Government Area. ***Refer to Appendix 7 (Table 3 to 15).***Specify:	yes/no
ii) The area is of an ecological community with 30% or less remaining of its pre-European extent within the Local Government Area. ***Refer to Appendix 7 (Table 3 to 15).*** Specify:	yes/no
iii) The area is a large (greater than 10 ha), viable natural areas in good or better condition of an ecological community with more than 30% remaining within the Local Government Area. ***Refer to Appendix 7 (Table 3 to 15).*** Specify:	yes/no
2. Diversity	
i) The area is of an natural area generally in good or better condition that contains both upland and wetland plant communities. Specify:	yes/no
3. Rarity	
i) The area is of an ecological community with only 1500 ha or 10% or less (whichever is greater) of its pre-European extent remaining in the South West NRM Region portion of the Swan Coastal Plain IBRA Bioregion or in the Southwest Forest Region portion of the Jarrah Forest and Warren IBRA Bioregions. ***Refer to Appendix 7 (Table 1 and 2).*** Specify:	yes/no
iii) The area contains a Threatened Ecological Community (TEC). Specify:	yes/no
iv) The area contains Declared Rare Flora (DRF), Specially Protected Fauna (SPF) or significant habitat for Specially Protected Fauna. Specify:	yes/no

v) The area contains Priority or other significant flora or fauna or significant habitat for these fauna Specify:	yes/no
4. Maintaining Ecological Processes or Natural Systems - Connectivity	
i) The natural area acts as an ecological stepping stone within an existing "regional ecological linkage" which has been identified in a published report relevant to the study area (or part of the study area) (Note: published "regional ecological linkage" information will not be available for some areas). Specify:	yes/no
ii) The natural area acts as an ecological stepping stone within a "local ecological linkage" that has been identified by a Local Government. Specify:	yes/no
5. Protection of Wetland, Streamline and Estuarine Fringing Vegetation and Coastal Vegetation	
i) The natural area is a Conservation or Resource Enhancement category wetland and/or its buffer zone	yes/no
ii) The natural area is an EPP Wetland and/or its buffer zone	yes/no
iii) The natural area is a channel wetland (e.g. river, stream, creek) and/or its associated riparian vegetation and/or its buffer zone	yes/no
iv) The natual area is within a floodplain area and/or its buffer zone	yes/no
v) The natural area is part of an estuarine ecosystem and/or its fringing vegetation and/or its buffer zone	yes/no
vi) The natural area contains coastal vegetation on the foredunes and/or secondary dunes	yes/no

VIABILITY ESTIMATE		
Viability Factor	**Category**	**Score**
Size	Greater than 20 ha	5
	Greater than 10 ha less than 20 ha	4
	Greater than 4 ha less than 10 ha	3
	Greater than 1 ha less than 4 ha	2
	Less than 1 ha	1
Shape	Circle, square or squat rectangle	3.5
	Oval, rectangle or symmetrical triangle	3
	Irregular shape with few indentations	2.5
	Irregular shape with many indentations	2
	Long thin shape with large proportion of area greater than 50 m wide	1.5
	Long thin shape with large proportion of area less than 50 m wide	1
Perimeter to area ratio	Less than 0.01	4
	Greater than 0.01 less than 0.02	3
	Greater than 0.02 less than 0.04	2
	Greater than 0.04	1
Vegetation condition ***(Based on Keighery (1994) condition scale)***	Pristine 10 x % =	
	Excellent 8 x % =	
	Very Good 6 x % =	
	Good 4 x % =	
	Degraded 2 x % =	
	Completely Degraded 0 x % =	
	Total calculated score =	
Connectivity	**A.** Forms part of a Regional Ecological Linkage and is contiguous with a protected natural area greater than 4ha	5
	B. Not part of a Regional Ecological Linkage but contiguous with a protected natural area greater than 4ha	4.5
	C. Forms part of a Regional Ecological Linkage and is within 500 m of more than 4 protected natural areas having an area greater than 4 ha	4
	D. Not part of a Regional Ecological Linkage but within 500 m of more than 4 protected natural areas having an area greater than 4 ha	3.5
	E. Forms part of a Regional Ecological Linkage and is within 500 m of 3 or 4 protected natural areas having an area greater than 4 ha	3
	F. Not part of a Regional Ecological Linkage but within 500 m of 3 or 4 protected natural areas having an area greater than 4 ha	2.5
	G. Forms part of a Regional Ecological Linkage and is within 500 m of 2 protected natural areas having an area greater than 4 ha	2
	H. Not part of a Regional Ecological Linkage but within 500 m of 2 protected natural areas having an area greater than 4 ha	1.5
	I. Forms part of a Regional Ecological Linkage and is within 500 m of 1 protected natural area having an area greater than 4 ha	1
	J. Not part of a Regional Ecological Linkage but within 500 m of 1 protected natural area having an area greater than 4 ha	0.5
	K. Forms part of a Regional Ecological Linkage but is not within 500 m of any protected natural areas having an area greater than 4 ha	0.25
TOTAL SCORE (Viability Estimate)		