

ASSESSMENT OF HABITAT QUALITY Self-assessment method

Site Score Sheet 11. Montane SHRUBLAND, GRASSLAND or WOODLAND

Component & Benchmark	Observations	Quality Range	Score												
LARGE TREES Defined as trunk diameter or circumference at breast height. ONLY APPLY the benchmark for Montane WOODLANDS as: Diameter (Circumference) 60cm (190cm)	Number of LARGE TREES /ha (100m x 100m)	<i>no large trees</i>	0												
		<i>up to</i> 7 LARGE TREES /ha in WOODLAND	1												
		<i>more than</i> 7 LARGE TREES /ha in WOODLAND	2												
CANOPY COVER Defined as the tallest stratum of native trees greater than 5m. DO NOT APPLY to Montane GRASSLAND. Separate CANOPY COVER benchmarks have been established for: Montane SHRUBLAND 50% cover Montane WOODLAND 20% cover	% CANOPY COVER	<i>less than</i> 12.5% CANOPY COVER in SHRUBLAND 5% CANOPY COVER in WOODLAND	0												
		<i>between</i> 12.5% - 25% CANOPY in SHRUBLAND 5% - 10% COVER in WOODLAND	0.5												
		<i>more than</i> 25% CANOPY COVER in SHRUBLAND 10% CANOPY COVER in WOODLAND	1												
UNDERSTOREY (A) % cover (of native species) (B) Tick appropriate boxes for PRESENCE of native vegetation UNDERSTOREY (i.e. different life forms)	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Tree larger than 5m</td> <td>Large herb more than 0.5m</td> <td>Small grass or grasslike less than 1m</td> <td>other</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shrub 1-5m</td> <td>Small herb less than 0.5m</td> <td>Moss /lichen</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Small shrub less than 1m</td> <td>Grass or grasslike more than 1m</td> <td>Scrambler or climber</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Tree larger than 5m	Large herb more than 0.5m	Small grass or grasslike less than 1m	other	Shrub 1-5m	Small herb less than 0.5m	Moss /lichen		Small shrub less than 1m	Grass or grasslike more than 1m	Scrambler or climber		<i>minimal</i> (A) % COVER <i>less than</i> 10%	0
		Tree larger than 5m	Large herb more than 0.5m	Small grass or grasslike less than 1m	other										
		Shrub 1-5m	Small herb less than 0.5m	Moss /lichen											
Small shrub less than 1m	Grass or grasslike more than 1m	Scrambler or climber													
<i>low</i> (A) % COVER <i>between</i> 10% - 25%	2														
<i>reduced</i> (A) % COVER between 25% - 75% AND (B) <i>less than</i> 4 boxes ticked or 4 or more boxes ticked	3 4														
<i>adequate</i> (A) % COVER more than 75% AND (B) <i>less than</i> 4 boxes ticked or 4 or more boxes ticked	4 5														
WEEDINESS % WEED COVER	50% or more WEED COVER	0													
	<i>between</i> 25% - 50% WEED COVER	1													
	<i>between</i> 5% - 25% WEED COVER	2													
<i>less than</i> 5% WEED COVER	3														
RECRUITMENT A woody species is considered to be recruiting when the number of immature plants (i.e. not flowering or fruiting) of an individual woody species is at least 10% of the total population of that species (A) Number of woody species present (B) Number of woody species recruiting % RECRUITMENT = (B/A X 100)	<i>less than</i> 30% of woody species RECRUITING	0													
	<i>between</i> 30% - 70% woody species RECRUITING	1													
	70% or more woody species RECRUITING	2													
ORGANIC LITTER Defined as small branches (less than 10 cm diameter), twigs, leaves and other fallen or dead organic matter % cover of ORGANIC LITTER	<i>less than</i> 5% ORGANIC LITTER in SHRUBLAND or GRASSLAND 10% ORGANIC LITTER in WOODLAND	0													
	<i>more than</i> 5% ORGANIC LITTER in SHRUBLAND or GRASSLAND 10% ORGANIC LITTER in WOODLAND	1													
	<i>more than</i> 10% ORGANIC LITTER in WOODLAND	1													
LOGS Defined by the length of stumps, fallen trees or branches at least 10cm diameter (30cm circumference) ONLY APPLY to Montane WOODLAND Length of LOGS in 1 ha	<i>no logs</i>	0													
	<i>less than</i> 25m LOGS /ha in WOODLAND	0.5													
	<i>more than</i> 25m LOGS /ha in WOODLAND	1													
SIZE Defined by the size of the area being assessed AND any adjoining native vegetation	<i>less than</i> 2 ha	0													
	<i>between</i> 2 - 10 ha	1													
	<i>more than</i> 10 ha	2													
NEIGHBOURHOOD Defined by the % area covered by native vegetation within 1 km of the centre point of the site being assessed (include wetlands, lakes, estuaries and rivers in the 'percentage of native vegetation')	<i>less than</i> 10% of the area covered	0													
	<i>between</i> 10% - 50% of the area covered	1													
	<i>more than</i> 50% of the area covered	2													
CORE AREA Defined by the distance of the site being assessed from a block of native vegetation greater than 50 ha (If the site is part of a remnant patch greater than 50 ha, the distance to core area is scored as 1)	1 km or more from a 50 ha block of native vegetation	0													
	<i>less than</i> 1 km from a 50 ha block of native vegetation	1													