

CRITERIA FOR **IDENTIFICATION** OF POTENTIAL SITES  
FOR PROTECTED AREAS ASSESSMENT

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*[Adapted from Kelleher and Kenchington (1992) and Thackway (1996)]*

CRITERIA \ SITES							
<b>Representativeness (10 points)</b>							
* the degree to which the area represents a key ecosystem within the country (1-5)							
* the degree to which the area adds to the representativeness of the key ecosystem (1-5)							
<b>Naturalness (10 points)</b>							
* the extent to which an area has been protected from, or has not been subjected to, human induced change (1-10)							
<b>Biogeographic importance and comprehensiveness (10 points)</b>							
* either contains rare biogeographic qualities or is representative of an ecosystem (1-5)							
* adds to coverage of the full range of ecosystems recognised at an appropriate scale within and across each bioregion (1-5)							
<b>Ecological importance (30 points)</b>							
* contributes to the maintenance of essential ecological processes or life-support systems (1-10)							
* contains habitat for rare or endangered species (1-10)							
* preserves genetic diversity ie is diverse or abundant in species (1-5)							

* contains areas on which species or other systems are dependent eg contains nursery or juvenile areas or feeding, breeding or resting areas for migratory species (1-5)							
* contains one or more areas which are a biologically functional self-sustaining ecological unit (1-5)							
<b>International or national importance (10 points)</b>							
* is, or has the potential to be listed on, the World or a national Heritage List or declared as a Biosphere Reserve or is subject to an international or national conservation agreement (1-10)							
<b>Uniqueness (10 points)</b>							
* contains unique species, populations, communities or ecosystems (1-5)							
* contains unique or unusual geographic features (1-5)							
<b>Productivity (10 points)</b>							
* the species, populations, or communities have a high natural biological productivity (1-10)							
<b>Vulnerability assessment (10 points)</b>							
* relates to vulnerability to natural processes (1-10)							
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>							
<b>100</b>							