

Remnant Vegetation Assessment Form



This assessment sheet can be used for remnant bushland, scattered trees in paddocks and for grasslands. Not all characteristics in the form will be applicable to scattered trees and grasslands, and these are marked * for grasslands and # for scattered trees in paddocks. Simply leave these characteristics unmarked in your assessment form. It will not affect the assessment calculation.

Property Name _____ Date of Assessment _____

Name of Remnant _____ Location of Remnant _____

Remnant type Bushland (forest or woodland) Native grassland Scattered trees

Vegetation type (e.g. red gum woodland) _____

ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

Remnant characteristics	Response	
Remnant is greater than 5 ha in size	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Remnant area is at least half as wide as it is long	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Remnant area is fenced to control stock access	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Remnant resilience		
*Good general plant health (dieback or insect attack less than 30%)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
*#Good variety of native understorey plants (shrubs and grasses)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
*A range of different aged plants present with indications of continuing regeneration (saplings of trees and shrubs present)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
A higher proportion of native plants than weeds (for grasslands or scattered trees, native plants might include native grasses, native daisies and lilies, orchids etc)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Habitat potential		
*Fallen timber and rocks on the ground	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
*Fissures in ironbarks and hollows or holes in other trees	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Most of the remnant has good ground cover or leaf litter (not a lot of exposed or eroded land). For grasslands: the remnant has no bare ground	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Distance to similar vegetation or scattered trees less than 100 m	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Disturbance/management impacts		
Fires occur in the remnants at intervals greater than five years	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Neither the remnant nor the adjacent land is affected by salinity	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
The remnant is not grazed frequently (more than twice a year)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
The remnant is not subjected to pesticide/herbicide spray or wind drift	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Native animals are more abundant than feral animals (foxes, rabbits, cats etc.) in the remnant. For grasslands and scattered trees: the observation/sighting of feral animals is infrequent	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

* Not applicable to grassland remnants # Not applicable to scattered tree remnants

ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Total number of 'yes' answers			Remnant health rating	Level of management required
Bushland	Grassland	Scattered trees		
10+	8+	9+	Good health	Maintain and monitor
7-9	4-7	5-8	Fair health	May need to encourage natural regeneration through minimisation of disturbance/management impacts
0-6	0-3	0-4	Poor health	May need to significantly reduce disturbance/management impacts, monitor and replant if necessary