

APPENDIX B

**DEFINITIONS OF THREATENED
ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITY
CATEGORIES**

Definitions of Threatened Ecological Communities

Presumed Totally Destroyed (PD)

An ecological community will be listed as presumed totally destroyed if there are no recent records of the community being extant **and either** of the following applies (A or B);

- A) Records within the last 50 years have not been confirmed despite thorough searches or known or likely habitats **or**
- B) All occurrences recorded within the last 50 years have since been destroyed.

Critically Endangered (CR)

An ecological community will be listed as **Critically Endangered** when it has been adequately surveyed and is found to be facing an extremely high risk of total destruction in the immediate future. This will be determined on the basis of the best available information, by it meeting **any one or more** of the following criteria (A, B or C):

- A) The estimated geographic range, and/or total area occupied, and/or number of discrete occurrences since European settlement have been reduced by at least 90% and **either or both** of the following apply (i or ii)
 - i) geographic range, and/or total area occupied and/or number of discrete occurrences are continuing to decline such that total destruction of the community is imminent (within approximately 5 years)
 - ii) modification throughout its range is continuing such that in the immediate future (within approximately 5 years) the community is unlikely to be capable of being substantially rehabilitated.
- B) Current distribution is limited, and **one or more** of the following apply (i, ii or iii):
 - i) geographic range and/or number of discrete occurrences, and/or area occupied is highly restricted and the community is currently subject to known threatening processes which are likely to result in total destruction throughout its range in the immediate future (within approximately 5 years)
 - ii) there are very few occurrences, each of which is small and/or isolated and extremely vulnerable to known threatening processes
 - iii) there may be many occurrences but total area is very small and each occurrence is small and/or isolated and extremely vulnerable to known threatening processes
- C) The ecological community exists only as highly modified occurrences which may be capable of being rehabilitated if such work begins in the immediate future (within approximately 5 years)

Endangered (EN)

An ecological community will be listed as **Endangered** when it has been adequately surveyed and is not Critically Endangered but is facing a very high risk of total destruction in the near future. This will be determined on the basis of the best available information, by it meeting **any one or more** of the following criteria (A, B or C):

- A) The estimated geographic range, and/or total area occupied, and/or number of discrete occurrences since European settlement have been reduced by at least 70% and **either or both** of the following apply (i or ii)
 - i) geographic range, and/or total area occupied and/or number of discrete occurrences are continuing to decline such that total destruction of the community is likely in the short term (within approximately 10 years)
 - ii) modification throughout its range is continuing such that in the short term future (within approximately 10 years) the community is unlikely to be capable of being substantially restored or rehabilitated.
- B) Current distribution is limited, and **one or more** of the following apply (i, ii or iii):
 - i) geographic range and/or number of discrete occurrences, and/or area occupied is highly restricted and the community is currently subject to known threatening processes which are likely to result in total destruction throughout its range in the short term future (within approximately 10 years)
 - ii) there are very few occurrences, each of which is small and/or isolated and extremely vulnerable to known threatening processes
 - iii) there may be many occurrences but total area is very small and each occurrence is small and/or isolated and extremely vulnerable to known threatening processes
- C) The ecological community exists only as highly modified occurrences which may be capable of being rehabilitated if such work begins in the short term future (within approximately 10 years).

Vulnerable (VU)

An ecological community will be listed as **Vulnerable** when it has been adequately surveyed and is not Critically Endangered or Endangered but is facing a high risk of total destruction in the medium to long term future. This will be determined on the basis of the best available information, by it meeting **any one or more** of the following criteria (A, B or C):

- A) The ecological community exists largely as modified occurrences which are likely to be capable of being substantially restored or rehabilitated.
- B) The ecological community can be modified or destroyed and would be vulnerable to threatening processes, is restricted in area and/or range and/or is only found at a few locations.
- C) The ecological community may still be widespread but is believed likely to move into a category of higher threat in the medium to long term future because of existing or impending threatening processes.