

RAPID ASSESSMENT FORM FOR ECOLOGICAL CONDITION AND TREND

SPECIFIC CONDITION AND TREND INDICATORS FOR SITE/AREA					
[Examples: highly palatable plants, good food plants for birds, rare species, seedlings, epicormic shoots, possum sign, tracking, bark stripping, sensitive fauna, rampant weeds, visitor numbers, water quality, erosion, vegetation structure, bird population.....]					
Indicator	Condition¹	Trend²	Monitoring technique	Comments	
Tree fuchsia	Good	Improving	Observation	Low possum numbers	
Wineberry	Good	Improving	Observation	Low possum numbers	
Pate	Good	Stable	Observation	Low possum numbers	
Mahoe	Good	Stable	Observation		
Kanono	Good	Stable	Observation		
Totara	Fair	Stable	Canopy browse/Trunk scratches	Possums targetting	
Supplejack shoots	Fair	Stable	Observation	Being chewed	
Hen-&-chickens fern	Good	Improving	Observation	Lots, few browsed	
Titoki seedlings	Good	Improving	Observation		
<i>Tupeia antarctica</i>	Poor	?	Tagged plants	Possums serious threat	
Tui, Bellbird, Kereru populations	Fair	Stable	Observation/Counts		
Old man's beard	Some	Increasing	Observation		
Cotoneaster	Some	Increasing	Observation		
Black beech canopy	Fair	Deteriorating	Observation	Windthrow	

MANAGEMENT HISTORY, CURRENT REGIME AND FUTURE NEEDS						
Control Programme	>10 yrs ago	3-10 yrs ago	Last 3 years	Current	Future Needs	
	Effectiveness	Effectiveness	Effectiveness	Effectiveness	Scale up	Status quo
	(o * ** ***)	(o * ** ***)	(o * ** ***)	(o * ** ***)		Scale down
Ungulate	*	***	***	***		✓
Pig						
Possum	*	**	**	***		✓
Mustelid/Cat	o	o	o	o	✓	
Rodent	o	o	o	o	✓	
Weed	*	**	**	**	✓	
Fencing	***	***	***	***		✓
Visitor impact	***	***	***	***		✓
Other (specify)						

Notes:

PRIORITY FOR MANAGEMENT							
Management Need	Priority			Urgency			When/Frequency³
	Low	Mod	High	Low	Mod	High	
Baseline survey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Next year
Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Seasonally, Annually
Animal pest control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ongoing
Weed control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bad weeds
Visitor management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As required
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

¹ Good (healthy, thriving); Fair (okay); Poor (depleted, struggling); Don't know (?)

² Improving; Stable; Declining/Deteriorating; Don't know (?)

³ Monthly, Seasonally, Annually, 2-yearly, 5-yearly, 10-yearly, Ongoing, etc.

RAPID ASSESSMENT FORM FOR ECOLOGICAL CONDITION AND TREND

Location (name, details): EASTERN RUAHINE FOREST PARK: SWAMP TRACK-SUNRISE TRACK	Grid reference: U22/835506-813527 Area (ha): c. 300 Ecological District: Ruahine																																																																																																																			
Protective status/designation: Forest Park	Managing agency: DOC																																																																																																																			
Observer(s): Geoff Walls Route taken: Track system, with upslope forays Photos taken: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Date: 20/12/98 Time spent: 5 hours																																																																																																																			
Significant fauna site: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Significant flora site: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Landform: Flattish surface at the toe of the range; eastern range flank of steep slopes, spurs and creeks Altitude, Aspect: 600-1300m asl; E aspect Soil/rock type: Greywacke Drainage: Swamp on the toeslope surface; small creeks on the range flank Erosion: Scree erosion in steepest places Other notes:																																																																																																																				
ECOSYSTEM/HABITAT																																																																																																																				
	<table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 60%;"></th> <th style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">Primary</th> <th style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">Secondary</th> <th style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">% area</th> <th style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">Notes</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Beech forest</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;">>99</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Broadleaved forest</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Podocarp forest</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><1</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mixed 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VEGETATION					
Canopy cover (%): <input type="checkbox"/> 0-5 <input type="checkbox"/> 5-25 <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 75-100					
Canopy composition (underline dominant species): Red beech, Mountain beech, Kahikatea, Matai, Miro, Hall's totara, Pahautea, Black beech					
Vegetation condition (health):	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Canopy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mostly good
Subcanopy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Understorey/Undergrowth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ground cover	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Notes:					
Vegetation trend:	<u>Improving</u>	<u>Stable</u>	<u>Deteriorating</u>	<u>Don't know</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Canopy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Subcanopy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Understorey/Undergrowth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ground cover	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Notes:					
Regeneration:	<u>None</u>	<u>A little</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Much</u>	<u>Main species/Comments</u>
Canopy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Subcanopy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Understorey/Undergrowth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ground cover	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Epicormic shoots	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Notes:					
Special plants (rare, threatened, local, distribution limits/anomalies, etc.):					
<u>Species</u>	<u>No. (estimate)</u>	<u>Condition (as above)</u>	<u>Trend (as above)</u>	<u>Main threats/Comments</u>	
<i>Peraxilla tetrapetala</i>	20	Fair	Improving-Deteriorating	Possums (controlled in places); lack of birds	
Notes:					
Threats, Impacts and Management urgency:					
	<u>Minor</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>Urgent</u>	<u>Not urgent</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Deer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Low numbers at present
Goat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Pig	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Controlled well only in places
Possum	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rabbit, Hare	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sheep	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Occasional cattle entering Bait stations would help
Cattle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Rat, Mouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Vine weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mistletoes, Vegetation condition
Shrub, Tree weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Herb/Grass weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Human visitor impacts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Survey/Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Notes:					

FAUNA					
Overall fauna:					
	<u>Rel. abundance</u> ¹	<u>Condition</u> ²	<u>Trend</u> ³	<u>Main threats/Comments</u>	
Native birds	Mod	Fair	Stable	Predators, possums	
Exotic birds	Mod	Fair	Stable		
Bats	?	?	?	Need survey, monitoring	
Native reptiles	?	?	?	Need survey, monitoring	
Native frogs					
Exotic frogs					
Native fish					
Exotic fish					
Native land inverts	?	?	?	Need survey, monitoring	
Exotic land inverts					
Native aquatic inverts					
Exotic aquatic inverts					
Other (specify)					
<u>Notes:</u>					
Special fauna (rare, threatened, local, distribution limits/anomalies, etc.):					
<u>Species</u>	<u>No. (estimate)</u>	<u>Condition (as above)</u>	<u>Trend (as above)</u>	<u>Main threats/Comments</u>	
Kereru	30	Fair	Stable		
Kakariki	20	Fair	Stable		
Long-tailed bat	?	?	?		
<u>Notes:</u>					
Management needs:					
	<u>Minor</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>Urgent</u>	<u>Not urgent</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Deer control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Goat control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Pig control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Possum control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Controlled well only in places
Rabbit, Hare control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Mustelid, Cat control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Needs addressing
Rat, Mouse control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bait stations suggested
Weed control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Fencing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Occasional cattle entering
Human visitor management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Survey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Birds, bats, reptiles, invertebrates
Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<u>Notes:</u>					

¹ None; Few; Moderate; Many

² Good (healthy, thriving); Fair (okay); Poor (depleted, struggling); Don't know

³ Improving; Stable; Declining; Don't know (?)