



Northern Gulf Regional NRM Plan

Assessment Criteria

The role of these assessment criteria is to filter and prioritise NRM activities and projects which meet the wider strategic goal of the NRM Plan, via a clear line of sight to the higher level goal and strategies, and remove those that do not.

Step 1: Preliminary (*fulfils all*)

1. Does it meet the Goal of the NRM Plan? Yes/ No
2. Does it align with one or more of the Regional Strategies? Yes/ No
3. Does the activity ultimately deliver an NRM outcome? Yes/ No

If yes to all, continue assessment.

Step 2: Ranking criteria

Rank each criteria of relevant category from 1 to 5 and then aggregate to score out of 25.

2.1 Education and capacity building

1. Equitable access to NRM resources across the region, including very remote communities, and spread across the demographic profile of region;
2. Uses creative and multiple pathways to engage the community;
3. Builds institutional and individual capacity to undertake sustainable NRM;
4. Assists resource managers to make more informed management choices;
5. Builds community resilience to drought and natural disaster.

2.2 Research and knowledge

1. Critical information to direct NRM investment;
2. Addresses a critical environmental issue/risk;
3. Takes an integrated, multi-disciplinary approach, including the social sciences;
4. Acknowledges/respects and integrates Traditional knowledge and local knowledge;
5. Addresses a critical knowledge gap.

2.3 On ground works

1. Stabilises a critical risk;
2. Ultimately focused on long term, successful outcomes (as opposed to outputs, e.g. fencing);
3. Prioritises areas with threatened and vulnerable species;
4. Conserves and protects multiple species and ecosystems;
5. Considers interactions between threatening processes.

a. Strategies

1. Collaborative, deliberative process engaging all stakeholders;
2. Has a direct and practical application;
3. Builds consensus towards NRM objectives;
4. Delivers combined community/NRM outcomes;
5. Addresses a critical risk.

If rank is over 12.5, continue assessment

Step 4: Cross reference with climate change resilience assessments

Does the activity build landscape or community resilience to climate change & natural disaster?

1. How does it relate to the *mapping*? Is the area identified as a resilient area, or is it projected to be affected by climate induced decline and impacts?
2. Does the activity address a risk identified in the *Climate Change risk matrixes*?
3. Does the activity improve one or more of the *Social resilience benchmarks*?

Step 5: Evaluation questions for all NRM activities and projects:

Rank each from 1 to 5

1. Effectiveness- which pathway has greater influence/ success.
2. Efficiency- relative cost of different pathways to achieve the same outcome, incorporating costs/ benefit, delays and expected levels of on-going investment and support, and ongoing costs.
3. Impact- what other attributes of the system are changing (positive and negative) due to the chosen pathway?
4. Appropriateness- does the pathway have general community support and stakeholder buy-in? Does the activity duplicating the work & role of another agency? Is the works endorsed by the Traditional owners of the site?
5. Legacy- what happens if the resourcing stops? Is there a point where the NRM can exit and the activity/ intervention will sustain itself?

Source: Internal Working Group meeting, 10 March 2015, attended by Sarah Hoyal, Sarah Rizvi, Richard Musgrove, Natalie Waller, Jorge Alvaro-Romerez, Vanessa Adams