

Glossary

TERM	EXPLANATION
Adaptive Management	The principle of periodically reviewing the effectiveness and appropriateness of activities, processes, policies and strategies in the light of new knowledge and the findings of monitoring and evaluation, and adjusting them as required.
'Agreed' or 'approved' plans or strategies	Those plans or strategies which have the formal agreement of at least one local council and key stakeholder groups.
Alluvial	From a river.
Aquifer	A layer of rock sediment able to hold or transmit water.
Aspirational targets	Aspirational statements about the desired condition of natural resources in the long term. They are more specific than a vision, and relate to particular identified priorities, but will take a long time, maybe 50 years, to reach.
Baseline data	Measurement of the resource condition, attitudes and behaviours at the beginning. Setting targets requires the identification of a baseline - the level against which progress will be measured.
Benchmark	The desired minimum or maximum value or level of a resource condition or threatening process.
Bioregion	An area of land which shares similar environmental, physical and climatic conditions and which contains characteristic ecosystems of plants and animals. Tasmania is divided into nine land bioregions and nine coastal and marine bioregions.
Capacity building	An activity or activities designed to enhance natural resource management planning and management. This includes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. providing stakeholders with access to data and information 2. enhanced knowledge, skills and abilities 3. research and development, and 4. market-based approaches.
Catchment	The land area which drains into a particular watercourse (river, stream or creek) and is a natural topographic division of the landscape. It includes 'end of catchment', ie where catchments join other rivers or estuaries.
Coast	Any part of the Region within sight of or directly impacted by the sea, or potentially affected by coastal flooding or sea-level rise. The 'coastal zone' will therefore vary, depending on local topography.
CAR (Comprehensive, adequate and representative) reserve system	<p>A reserve system displaying the features of comprehensiveness, adequacy and representativeness.</p> <p>Comprehensiveness - the degree to which the full range of ecological communities and their biological diversity are incorporated in the reserve system.</p> <p>Adequacy - the reserve system's ability to maintain the ecological viability and integrity of populations, species and communities.</p> <p>Representativeness - the extent to which areas selected for inclusion in the reserve system are capable of reflecting the known biological diversity and ecological patterns and processes of the ecological community or ecosystem concerned.</p>
Community	In this Strategy, 'community' is generally used as an inclusive shorthand term to include everyone in the Southern Region, in both their public and their private capacities. 'Community' in many instances will therefore include State and Local governments, industries and public land managers, as well as individuals and groups sharing common interests.

Condition of native vegetation	Condition assessment is made on the basis of factors such as the presence of multiple layers in the vegetation composition (mosses, lichens and liverworts; the organic litter layer; ground layer understorey; and tree canopy), the presence of active regeneration, lack of weeds, absence of bare soil, presence of habitat for a range of fauna, and a canopy with healthy trees with less than 10% of dead branches. However, older forests often have more than 10% dead branches and this does not indicate poor condition unless there is lack of natural regeneration.
Ecological community	An assemblage of native species that inhabits a particular area in nature.
Ecological processes	The biological, chemical and physical processes that take place within an ecosystem (eg carbon cycling, nutrient assimilation).
Ecosystem	A dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit (<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>)
Endangered	Distribution has contracted to less than 10% of the original 1750 area, or there is less than 10% of original 1750 area remaining, or 90% of its area is in small patches and is subject to threatening processes.
Endemic	Confined to a particular area, for example, a Tasmanian endemic species is only found in Tasmania.
Environmental flows	Environmental flows are the water flows needed to sustain rivers and other aquatic ecosystems.
Environmental Management System (EMS)	An EMS is an integrated approach to managing the impacts of an enterprise or business on the environment. An EMS is a tool for improving the environmental performance of a business through a well defined process of planning, implementation and review, based on continual improvement and adaptive management through the cycle of <i>plan – do – check – act</i> .
Environmental offset	A mechanism allowing resource managers to implement an action with a negative environmental impact (such as water extraction from streams for irrigation) if they have implemented a property-based project with a positive environmental impact, such as revegetation of north-facing slopes or streambanks, fencing off remnant vegetation, creation of a wildlife corridor or large-scale weed removal.
Estuarine	'...a semi-enclosed or periodically closed coastal body of water in which the aquatic environment is affected by the physical and chemical characteristics of both fluvial (freshwater) and marine systems' (Edgar et al. 1999).
Evaluation	The systematic review of a program, project, strategy or other activity to determine whether it is working as intended, what impacts it is producing, whether it is being cost-effectively implemented, and the reasons why it is producing the identified impacts. Evaluation involves collecting and analysing information to make judgements and recommendations for future action.
Faecal coliforms	Faecal coliform bacteria are a sub-group of the total coliform population that is easy to measure and is present in virtually all warm blooded animals. Members of this group may not be exclusively of faecal origin, but their presence in samples implies increased risk of disease.
Formal reserves	Dedicated statutory reserves (see Appendix 12.2 for definitions).
Foreshore	Coastal zone immediately above high-water mark, including beaches and dune systems
Fluvial	Of or relating to or happening in a river.
Geodiversity	The range or diversity of geological (bedrock), geomorphological (landform) and soil features, assemblages, systems and processes.
Geoconservation	Conservation of geodiversity.
Iconic fauna	Well-recognised animals, fish or birds, not necessarily 'threatened', such as sea dragons, Tasmanian devils (<i>Sarcophilus harrisii</i>), bandicoots (<i>Perameles gunni</i>), wedge-tailed eagles (<i>Aquila audax</i>), white-breasted sea eagles (<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>), fairy penguins (<i>Eudyptula minor</i>) and yellow-tailed black cockatoos (<i>Calyptorhynchus funereus</i>).

Indicator	A measurement that can be repeated over time to track changes in the condition of a resource or environmental asset, a management practice, a social or economic process, etc.
Informal reserves	Informal reserves are mostly in State Forest with some on private land. They are identified in the Regional Forest Agreement (RFA) and can't be changed by the land manager to affect CAR values. 'Informal reserves' also include reserves on other Crown Land, such as the land near Buckland managed by the military.
Intrinsic value	Value in and of itself. Natural resources such as native flora and fauna or natural water bodies have intrinsic value because of their very existence and their 'right' to exist, regardless of human uses for them or valuing of them.
Karst	Landforms that have characteristic forms always resulting from the dissolution of rock by water. Karst is a dominant process in carbonate rocks.
Land tenure	Land tenure can be defined as the multi-layered system of responsibilities, rights, administration, and institutions that shape access to land and the use of the land.
Land use	Land use describes the activities that occur on land, such as agriculture, energy production, human settlements, transport, forestry, mining and conservation.
Macroinvertebrate	Invertebrate (without a backbone) animals which can be seen with the naked eye. In rivers, common macroinvertebrates are insects, crustaceans, worms and snails.
Management Action Targets	Short-term targets that are likely to be achievable within 1-5 years and contribute to progress towards one or more Resource Condition Targets. They relate mainly to Management Actions and capacity building.
Management Actions	All actions which are applied under a regional NRM strategy to contribute towards the achievement of a Resource Condition Target.
Management Issues	Management issues are 'people' issues which indirectly lead to threatening processes - for example, lack of time or resources to undertake weed eradication programs.
Marine	Areas where the environment is more strongly influenced by the oceans than by the main landmass of Tasmania and its rivers. Mostly refers to the seabed, open waters and more remote offshore islands.
Matters for target	The National Framework for Natural Resource Management Standards and Targets identifies a nationally agreed set of matters for which regions must set targets. This minimum set includes ten matters for Resource Condition Targets and three matters for Management Action targets.
Metamorphic	Geology having undergone changes in mineralogy and texture imposed on it by pressure and temperature in the earth's interior.
Monitoring	The regular gathering of information in a consistent manner. It may be to keep track of, and observe, the progress of a project or program. Environmental monitoring is a valuable tool to determine whether the condition of a resource is stable, improving or declining.
National outcomes	Eight national outcomes that investment in NRM should strive to achieve.
Natural flow regime	The water flows that would exist if no diversions, extraction or storage of water occurred, ie no changes in flow associated with human activities.
Natural Resource Management	The management of any activity that uses, develops or conserves our 'natural resources'.
Natural resources	The air, water, land (including soils), plants, animals and micro-organisms, and the systems they form.
Non-renewable energy	Characterised by the drawing down of a finite stock.

Nutrients	A broad term which encompasses elements and compounds that are required by plants and animals for growth and survival. In the area of water quality the term is generally used with only phosphorus and nitrogen in mind, though there are many other elements that living organisms require for survival.
Old-growth	Ecologically mature forest where the evidence of past disturbances is now negligible.
Participation	As a concept, participation refers to the number of people engaged in an activity: public meetings, local governance, Landcare groups, adult education, employment and so on.
Pathogens	Disease-producing organisms.
Periglacial	Processes that are driven by the freezing and thawing of ice, which can be a strong enough force to crack rock and move large boulders.
Phytophthora cinnamomi	A soil-based fungal disease that infects plant roots and kills some species of native plants.
Plantations	Intensively managed trees of either native forest or exotic species, created by the regular placements of seedlings or seed.
PM₁₀	Particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of less than 10µm
PM_{2.5}	Particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of less than 2.5µm
Process Targets	Process Targets are a subset of Management Action Targets that identify necessary steps or outputs that must be completed.
Property Management Plans	Plans for private land spelling out actions and trade-offs to contribute to achievement of Resource Condition Targets.
Quality of life	This phrase is relative because what is seen as quality of life in one place or time may not be the same for another place, or the same place at another time. It is also relative because different people will perceive quality of life differently depending on their position in society. These issues aside, quality of life may be taken to mean 'life satisfaction' or 'subjective well-being'. As such, quality of life has a number of dimensions, including (a) physical and material well-being; (b) relationships with other people; (c) engagement in social, community and civic activities; (d) personal development and fulfilment; and (e) recreation.
Rainforest	Forests dominated by tree species such as myrtle (<i>Nothofagus cunninghami</i>), sassafras (<i>Atherosperma moschatum</i>), leatherwood (<i>Eucryphia lucida</i>), and blackwood (<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>), in which eucalypts comprise less than 5% of the crown cover. It generally occurs in areas with high rainfall.
Ramsar	The convention on wetlands, signed in Ramsar, Iran, in 1971, is an intergovernmental treaty, which provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources (Ramsar 2002).
Rare	Total range generally less than 10 000 ha, or total area generally less than 1000 ha or patch sizes generally less than 100 ha.
Regeneration	Eucalypt forest that has been logged and regenerated, generally since 1960, using deliberate site preparation and seeding techniques.
Renewable energy	Any source of energy that can be used without depleting its reserves (the Australian Renewable Energy Website, 2001).
Resource Condition Targets	Targets relating to resource condition that are specific, time-bound, measurable and achievable with a likely timeframe of 10-20 years.
Riparian vegetation	Riparian vegetation is the plants which grow on the banks and floodplains of rivers and other waterbodies. A 'healthy' riparian zone is characterised by a homogenous mix of plant species (usually native to the area) of various ages. This zone is important in protecting water quality and sustaining the aquatic life of rivers.
Salinity	The accumulation of excessive salts in land and water at sufficient levels to have an impact on human and natural assets (plants, animals, aquatic ecosystems, water supplies, agriculture, or infrastructure).
Scree	Areas of coarse slope deposits, including the periglacially formed scree that are dominant on Tasmania's dolerite mountains.

Sector	Specific section of the community, such as State Government, Local Government, industry, public land managers, the 'care' community, the Aboriginal community.
Sedimentary	Geology formed by the accumulation and cementation of mineral grains transported by wind, water, or ice to the site of deposition, or chemically precipitated at the depositional site.
Significant species	'Significant species' or 'species of conservation significance' are species which may not qualify for listing on the <i>Threatened Species Protection Act 1995</i> or the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> , as they may not be threatened with imminent extinction. They are, however, significant to conservation as they have values or features which are unique, unusual and/or uncommon. For example, they may be naturally rare or uncommon and/or primitive (ie they have ancestry which can be traced back to prehistoric times, providing clues to evolutionary pathways for species and clues to past environmental changes), and/or have interesting biogeographic features such as a limited, outlying, and/or disjunct distribution, and/or are of scientific interest (eg form clines or hybrid swarms).
Sodicity	Soil sodicity refers to the amount of exchangeable sodium attached to clay particles in the soil. When there is a sufficient concentration of exchangeable sodium in the soil, soil structure is affected, as the sodium ions attached to the clay exchange surface, causing clay particles to disperse and clog pore spaces in the soil. The clay particles can also swell as a result of the sodium ions detaching, and this too will reduce pore space. Soil sodicity has the capacity to degrade productive farmland. The dispersion and swelling of soils leads to poor water infiltration and drainage in the soil, resulting in waterlogging, increased run-off and erosion.
Sustainable development	Managing the use, development and protection of natural and physical resources in a way, or at a rate, which enables people and communities to provide for their social, economic and cultural well-being and for their health and safety while- (a) sustaining the potential of natural and physical resources to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations; (b) safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil and ecosystems; and (c) avoiding, remedying or mitigating any adverse effects of activities on the environment.
Target	A desired achievement, with an attainment timeframe, for a matter being measured by an indicator (eg 30% of a given catchment revegetated by 2015), or for the completion of a particular event (eg management plan in place).
Threatened species	Flora or fauna that is listed in Schedule 3, 4 or 5 of the <i>Threatened Species Protection Act 1995</i> . That is, species or subspecies listed as extinct, endangered, vulnerable or rare.
Threatening process	Process which is directly impacting upon a resource, for example, the introduction or spread of an invasive weed species in native vegetation.
Toxoplasmosis	Disease affecting humans and other animals (wild and domestic) caused by a protozoan parasite which can spread through cat droppings.
Trigger levels	Trigger levels are concentrations of chemicals or nutrients that, if exceeded, have the potential to cause a problem and so trigger a management response.
Turbidity	Turbidity in water is caused by suspended material such as clay, silt, finely divided organic and inorganic matter, soluble coloured compounds, and plankton and microscopic organisms. Turbidity is an expression of the optical properties that cause light to be scattered and absorbed rather than transmitted in a straight line through the water.
Vulnerable	Approaching greater than 70% loss (depletion); includes forest communities where threatening processes have caused loss or significant decline in species that play a major role within the ecosystem; or significant alteration to ecosystem processes.