

Part B:

Landscape context

Landscape context (Part B) considers the significance of the reserve in relation to the surrounding landscape attributes which include:

- Proportion of Mitchell landscape remaining
- The vegetation patch such as the size and shape of a patch
- Connectivity to other patches
- The proportion of native vegetation in the neighbouring area.

The score from Part B provides the information to complete the second column of the conservation value assessment matrix Table 5.

Note: Sites that consist of only non-native vegetation score = 0

Mitchell landscape

Mitchell landscapes are used in NSW as a method of determining current extent of native vegetation and are based on areas of land with similar geomorphology, soil and broad vegetation type.

The Mitchell Landscapes were mapped in 2002 and are used for a variety of purposes including the determination of over-cleared landscapes (OCL).

For more information visit: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/conservation/EcosystemsMethodology.pdf

Status	Score
> 70 % cleared	10
30-70 % cleared	5
< 30 % cleared	0

Use spatial information in the app or desktop mapping to determine the percentage of native vegetation cleared in the mapped Mitchell landscape.

Reserve/assessment zone vegetation width (width within assessment zone)

Vegetation width	Score
> 100 m	10
21-100 m	6
5-20 m	2
< 5 m	0

Determine the average width of native vegetation in the reserve/assessment zone only, from imagery in the app or via desktop mapping. See Figure 1.

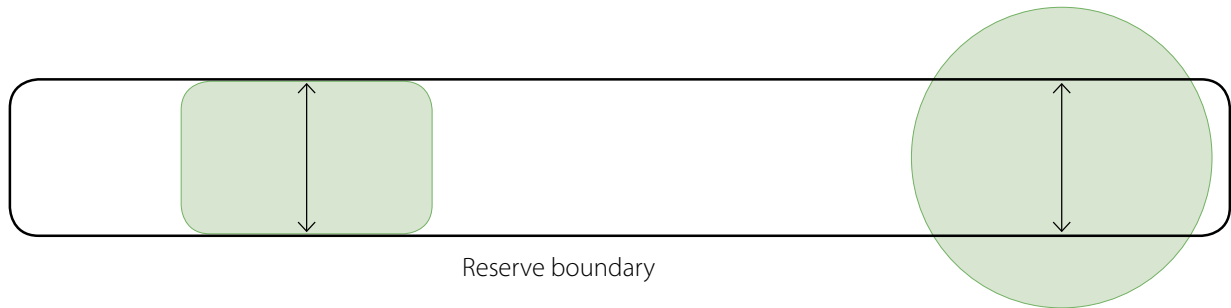
Reserve/assessment zone total native vegetation width (within and adjoining the reserve/assessment zone)

Native vegetation width	Score
> 100 m	10
20-100 m	6
< 20 m	0

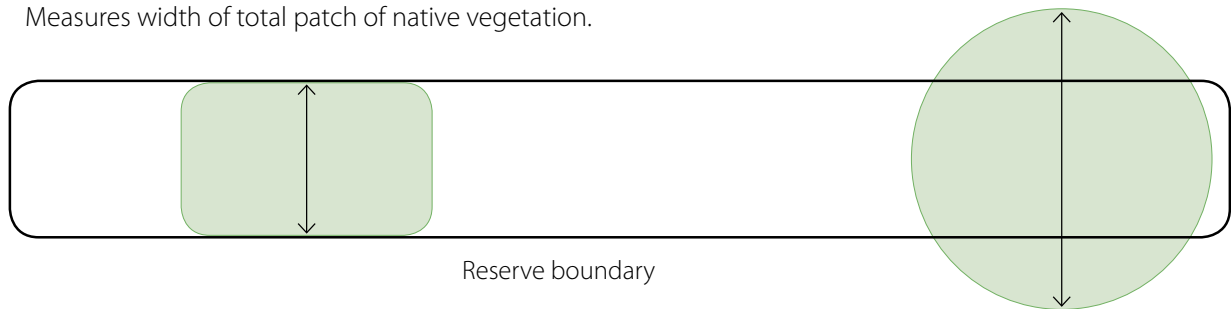
Determine the average width of the total native vegetation patch (reserve/assessment zone plus native vegetation connected to zone) from imagery in the app or via desktop mapping. See Figure 1.

Figure 1: Assessment of landscape context attributes – width measures

- a. Assessment zone native vegetation width:
Measures width of native vegetation in reserve only.



- b. Total native vegetation width:
Measures width of total patch of native vegetation.



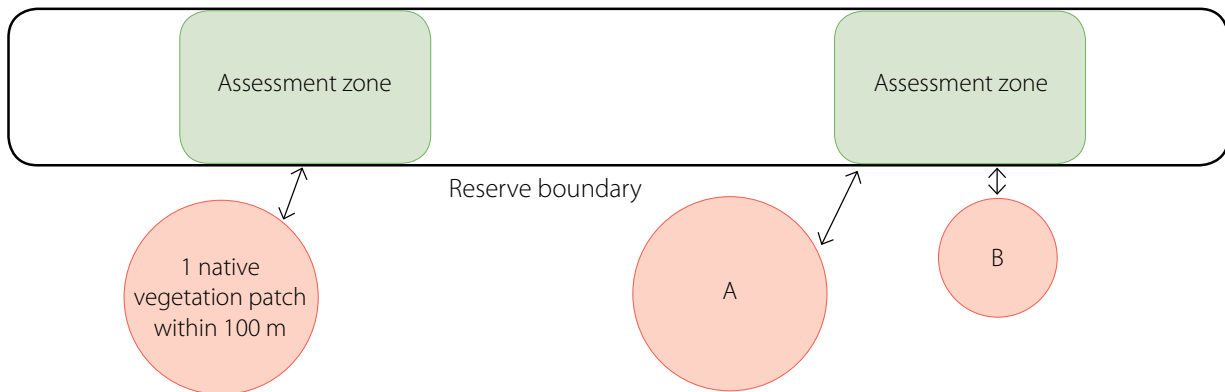
Reserve/assessment zone native vegetation within 100 m

Native vegetation within 100 m	Score
> 5 ha within 100m	10
1-5 ha	5
< 1 ha	0

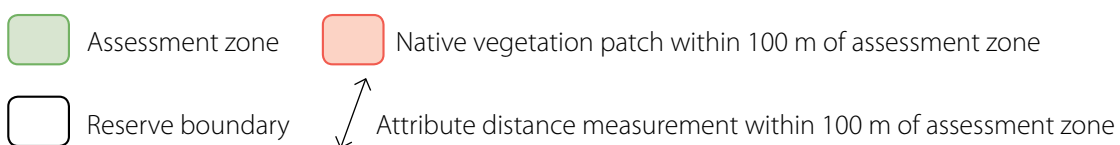
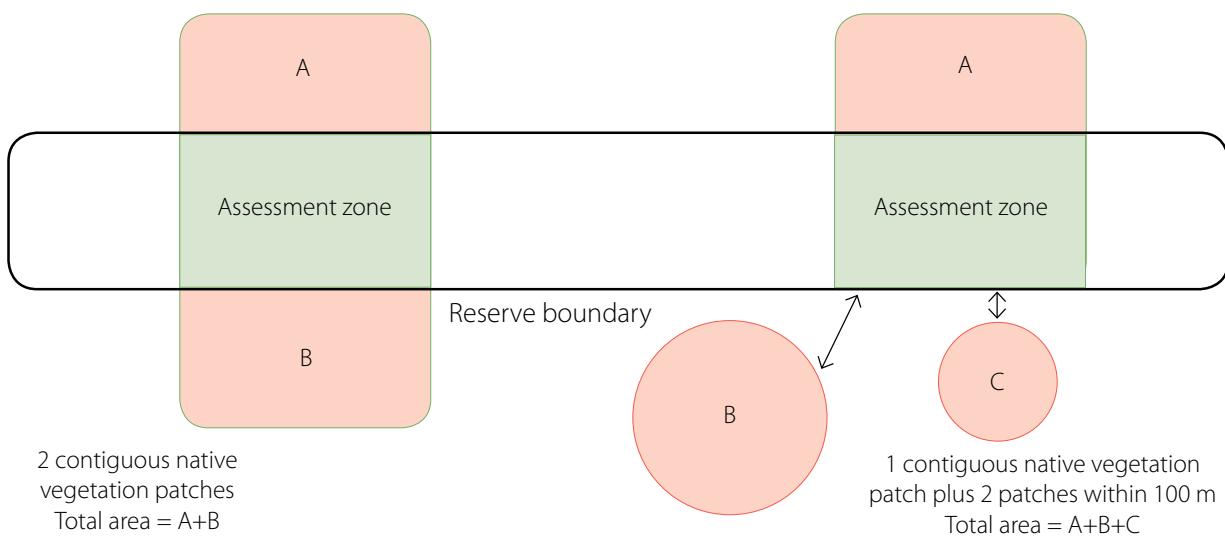
Determine the total area of native vegetation patches that are within 100 m of the reserve/assessment zone from imagery in the app or via desktop mapping. Include patches that are connected and those within 100 m of the reserve/assessment zone. Exclude patches that are smaller than 1 ha in size. See Figure 2.

Figure 2: Assessment of landscape context attributes – area of native vegetation patches within 100 m of assessment zone

- a. Examples where assessment zone is not connected to nearest native vegetation patch (i.e. not contiguous). Measure total area of all native vegetation patches that are within 100 m of assessment zone. Exclude patches < 1 ha.



- b. Examples where assessment zone is connected to nearest native vegetation patch (i.e. contiguous). Measure total area of contiguous native vegetation patches plus other patches that are within 100 m of the assessment zone. Exclude patches < 1 ha.



Figures 1 and 2 from Ecosure Report Version 5 February 2017

Landscape context score = Large and or connected = 22+, Moderate = 10-21, Small or disconnected = 0-9