**Nomination form for listing ecological communities as critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable under the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016***

Background

The purpose of this form is to provide a nomination to the NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee (NSW TSSC) to list an Ecological Community as critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable under Schedule 2 of the *NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act). Please refer to the NSW TSSC Nomination Background Information document and the NSW TSSC Guidelines for information on the BC Act and criteria in the *Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017* (BC Regulation).

How to complete the nomination form

This nomination form consists of a series of questions to help you provide the information necessary to address the criteria in the BC Act and BC Regulation. Note, terms used in the nomination form and marked with asterisk (\*) are defined in section 5 of the NSW TSSC Nomination Background Information document.

The NSW TSSC recognises that completing a nomination form is demanding due to the volume and detail of information that is required to undertake an assessment. Nominators are encouraged to seek expert advice where appropriate to assist in the completion of the nomination form. Complete as much of the nomination form as you can. While the NSW TSSC will seek advice from other sources, any information not provided in the nomination may delay the assessment process.

Include references to published journal articles or other material that support the information you have provided. Unsupported or anecdotal information may not provide sufficient evidence to demonstrate the ecological community meets the criteria for listing.

If there is insufficient information to enable details to be provided because of a lack of scientific data or analysis please include any information that is available or provide a statement next to the relevant question identifying that the data or analysis is not available.

Do not quote or provide information you have obtained from other people (usually referenced as personal communications) unless you have obtained the agreement of those people to use those statements in the nomination.

Indicate if you are providing information you have obtained on a confidential basis or data under a data licence that prohibits its release to other parties and if you have obtained permission to publicly release the confidential information or data.

Ensure you know and agree to how the NSW TSSC will use and share your nomination and the information contained in the nomination and any attachments including your personal details by signing the declaration section. If you request confidentiality please ensure you have not included your personal information, or any information that can be used to identify you, in the nomination or attachments.

**DO NOT DELETE ANY SECTION OF THE NOMINATION FORM INCLUDING SECTIONS LEFT BLANK**

Lodgement of nomination

The original, signed hard copy of the nomination can be posted or scanned and a pdf emailed to:

The Chairperson,

NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee

c/o Department of Planning and Environment

Locked Bag 5022

Parramatta NSW 2124

Scientific.committee@environment.nsw.gov.au

In addition to the signed copy, completed nominations can also include supporting documentation in WORD, Excel (may be used for data) or PDF formats.

**Nomination form for listing ecological communities under the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016***

**1. General information**

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| 1.1 Name of the ecological community (use the generally accepted name, if any). Provide any published references for this name |
|       |
| 1.2 Is the ecological community conventionally accepted? (i.e. is the ecological community recognised in any scientific literature or research?) |
|       |
| 1.3 Is the ecological community endemic to NSW (i.e. is the community only found in NSW)? |
| [ ]  Yes  | [ ]  No, provide other states or territories  |
| 1.4 Has the ecological community been recorded in the following areas? |
| Lord Howe Island:      | Australian Capital Territory:      |
| 1.5 Is the ecological community currently listed under the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act, 2016*? If so, in which threat category?  |
| [ ]  Critically Endangered  | [ ]  Endangered | [ ]  Vulnerable | [ ]  Not Listed |
| 1.6 What is the category for which the ecological community is nominated under the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act, 2016*? |
| [ ]  Critically Endangered | [ ]  Endangered | [ ]  Vulnerable  |
| 1.7 Is the ecological community currently listed under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* (EPBC)? If so, in which threat category? |
| [ ]  Critically Endangered [ ]  Endangered  | [ ]  Vulnerable[ ]  Conservation Dependent | [ ]  Extinct[ ]  Extinct in the wild | [ ]  Not Listed |
| 1.8 Is the ecological community listed as threatened under legislation in other State or Territories in Australia? If so, please list the jurisdiction and threat category? |
| Jurisdiction:       | Threat category:      |
| Jurisdiction:       | Threat category:      |
| Jurisdiction:       | Threat category:      |
| Jurisdiction:       | Threat category:      |
| Jurisdiction:       | Threat category:      |

**2. Ecological Community Information**

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| 2.1 Describe the key biological components (main biological features) of the ecological community. Detail the assemblage of species that characterise the ecological community. What species (or taxonomic groups) of plants and animals are dominant, characteristic or diagnostic? Are there any threatened species known from the ecological community?  |
|       |
| 2.2 Explain how the ecological community is distinguished from any other ecological community.  |
|       |
| 2.3 Provide details on the structure of the ecological community. For example, tree, shrub and ground layers in plant communities. |
|       |
| 2.4 Describe any supplementary information that may assist interpretation of the community in the field. For example, relationships of the community to abiotic factors (e.g. the climate, landforms, altitude, hydrological features and substrates). |
|       |
| 2.5 What other ecological communities intergrade with (occur near, and/or may be similar to) the nominated ecological community? |
|       |
| 2.6 Provide details on the key interactions and functional processes that sustain the ecological community (where known). |
|       |
| 2.7 How is the ecological community impacted by and respond to disturbance such as fire, floods, drought, storms? |
|       |
| 2.8 Is there any other information regarding the ecology or biology of the ecological community or its components relevant to a conservation status assessment? |
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**3. Geographic Distribution**

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| 3.1 If possible, please provide a description of the distribution of the nominated ecological community. Include the particular area in which the ecological community occurs. Indicate the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) Bioregion(s) in which the ecological community occurs if known (please refer to the NSW TSSC Nomination Background Information document for definitions). |
|       |
| 3.2 Provide a map indicating the current distribution of the nominated ecological community in NSW (information on distribution elsewhere should be provided if available). Provide a map of prior occurrences, if known, and provide references if available. |
|       |
| 3.3 In the table below please document information about the sites where the nominated ecological community occurs.  |
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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Site | Land tenure | Date of most recent survey or record and its source | Description of habitat | Estimate of area of current extent |
|       |       |       |       |       |
|       |       |       |       |       |
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Provide any other relevant information for these sites. |
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| 3.4 What is the total estimated extent of occurrence (in km2) of the ecological community? (see Definition section in the NSW TSSC Nomination Background Information document). |
|       |
| 3.5 What is the total estimated area of occupancy (in km2) of the ecological community (see Definition section in the NSW TSSC Nomination Background Information document). |
|       |
| 3.6 How many locations\* do you consider the ecological community occurs in and why? Note: The term ‘location’ defines “A geographically or ecologically distinct area in which a single threatening event can rapidly affect all occurrences of an ecosystem type.” (Bland et al. 2017).  |
|       |
| 3.7 Has the ecological community been adequately surveyed? A description and justification of methods of survey, analysis and inference upon which information supporting the nomination is based (appropriate references are sufficient if available).  |
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| 3.8 Provide a list of records of the ecological community in National Parks and other conservation reserves. |
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**4. Threats**

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| 4.1 Identify past, current and future threats indicating whether they are actual or potential. For each threat describe:a. how and where the threat impacts on this ecological community.1. b. the effect of each threat so far (indicate whether it is known or suspected; does it only affect certain sites). Is the threat associated with continuing declines in:

i. the geographic distribution of the community in NSW,ii. the environmental quality of the community in NSW,iii. the biotic interactions of the community in NSW.c. the expected effect of each threat in the future (is the threat only suspected; does it only affect certain sites).d. if the threats interact?  |
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| 4.2 Where possible, provide information on threats for each occurrence/site. (use the larger box below if more space is required to describe the threat(s) and its affects.) |

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| Threats | Impact on the ecological community  | Sites affected | Is it a past, current or future threat | Current management activities |
|       |       |       |       |       |
|       |       |       |       |       |
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| 4.3 Identify key management documentation for the ecological community e.g. recovery plans, conservation plans, threat abatement plans etc. |
|       |
| 4.4 Are there any Key Threatening Processes (KTPs) affecting the community? (KTPs are listed in Schedule 4 of the BC Act). |
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**5. Reduction in the geographic distribution of the Ecological Community**

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| 5.1 Document any evidence and estimates of the magnitude of past or projected reductions in the ecological community: 1. Since 1750;
2. In the past 50 years;
3. In the future 50 years;
4. Over a 50 year period encompassing the past, present and the future.
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| 5.2 Is there evidence of fragmentation of the ecological community or habitat? If so, specify the nature and degree of the isolation between habitat patches or remnants of the ecological community. |
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| 5.3 Are there any processes or barriers (e.g. biological, abiotic, geographic, human induced) operating to reduce the size or increase isolation of habitat patches or reduce species movement between remnants of the ecological community? |
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All estimates of reductions need to specify the time period over which they were observed, estimated, inferred or suspected to have occurred, or are projected to occur in future.

**6. Environmental degradation of the Ecological Community**

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| 6.1 Where possible, for each abiotic threat, provide estimates of the severity (the degree of past or future environmental degradation, expressed as a percentage relative to a change large enough to cause ecosystem collapse\*) and extent (how much of the distribution of the ecological community is affected): 1. Since 1750;
2. In the past 50 years;
3. In the future 50 years;
4. Over a 50 year period encompassing both the past and the future.
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**7. Disruption of Biological processes or interactions in the Ecological Community**

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| 7.1 Where possible, for each biotic threat, provide estimates of the severity (the degree of past or future disruption of biological processes or interactions, expressed as a percentage relative to a change large enough to cause ecosystem collapse) and extent (how much of the distribution of the ecological community is affected): 1. Since 1750;
2. In the past 50 years;
3. In the future 50 years;
4. Over a 50 year period encompassing both the past and the future.
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|       |

**8. Quantitative analysis of collapse\***

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| 8.1 Is there a quantitative analysis of the probability of collapse\* of the ecological community? If so, please provide details. |
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**9. Appendices and Information sources**

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| 9.1 If you have attached any information to his nomination please list or describe the information below.  |
| Appendix 1 |
| Appendix 2 |

|  |
| --- |
| 9.2 Has this document been refereed? If so, indicate by whom. |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Postal Address | Telephone | Email |
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| 9.3 Document all written sources, published and unpublished. |
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**10. Nominator information**

**Privacy information**

The information you provide in this nomination form will be used by the NSW TSSC in the assessment to determine the conservation status and listing or delisting of threatened or extinct species and threatened or collapsed ecological communities.

The NSW TSSC may forward your nomination to other people, researchers and organisations to seek advice on the information provided and/or to obtain more information relevant to the assessment and management of the species.

The NSW Government has agreed with the Commonwealth and other state and territory governments to collaborate on national threatened species assessments using a common assessment method. Your nomination, including your details as nominator, may be provided to state and territory government agencies and scientific committees as part of this collaboration unless you have requested that your personal information be treated as confidential and you have not included your personal information in the nomination or attachments.

Individuals can access their personal information or request a correction of personal information held by the NSW TSSC by contacting the NSW TSSC’s Secretariat.

The NSW TSSC has adopted the procedures set out in the DPE Cluster Privacy Management Plan (PMP). The PMP defines personal information and provides details about the privacy principles that the NSW TSSC follows when dealing with personal information.

**Declaration**

I declare that the information in this nomination and any attachments is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

I permit the NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee to provide a copy of the nomination and any attachments to other people or organisations for expert comment or advice.

I permit the NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee to provide location details or data included in the nomination and any attachments to the Office of Environment and Heritage for inclusion in GIS databases managed by OEH, including publicly accessible databases.

I permit the NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee to use, reproduce, publish, communicate and distribute information (see also 11.2) contained in the nomination and any attachments, in Committee publications including determinations, assessment reports, documents for public information and on the Committee’s website.

I permit the NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee to provide a copy of the nomination and any attachments to Commonwealth, State and Territory government agencies and associated committees or other bodies undertaking threatened species and ecological community assessments for those agencies.

Signed: Date:

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| 10.1 Nominator’s details |
| Name |  |
| Organisation |  |
| Postal address (required information) |  |
| Email |  |
| Phone |  |
| 10.2 Do you wish the information provided in the Nominator’s details section to be regarded as confidential?  |
| **Yes / No** **If you have requested confidentiality please ensure you have you have not included your personal information, or any information that can be used to identify you, in the nomination or attachments.** |

**Please note**: The NSW TSSC is subject to the provisions of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 and access to the nomination and any accompanying information may be sought in accordance with that Act.

**References**

Bland LM, Keith DA, Miller RM, Murray NJ, Rodríguez JP (Eds.) (2017) Guidelines for the application of IUCN Red List of Ecosystems Categories and Criteria, Version 1.1. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN.

NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016. <https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/~/view/act/2016/63>

NSW Biodiversity Regulation 2017. <https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/~/view/regulation/2017/432>

NSW TSSC (2018) Nomination Background Information document. <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/committee/HowToNominateASpeciesAsThreatened.htm>

NSW TSSC (2018) Guidelines. <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/committee/scientificcommitteepublications.htm>