

**Submission Form for Comments and Feedback**

***Environmental Quality Report: Biodiversity of the Howard Sand Plains SOC; and Recommendations***

*Submissions close: Monday 25 May 2015, 5pm*

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This submission date was extended by email till the 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2015.	The Howard Sand Plains covers an area of 264 km <sup>2</sup> within the Howard River region, approximately 30 km east of Darwin in the Northern Territory. These sand plains are a NT Site of Conservation Significance that contains Sandsheet Heath vegetation, an 'at-risk' ecosystem in the Darwin coastal bioregion and is one of the 12 national priority High Environmental Value Aquatic Ecosystem sites. A major concern for this area is the underlying water which supplies the rural area and a percentage of Darwin's water supply as well. This water sits under a large part of this area and must be protected as much as possible to ensure fresh and plentiful water supplies for generations to come. The continual erosion of the top layer by removing sand and rocks removes the protection and filtration system, thereby having a major effect on the vegetation and water. This area need immediate protection and demands classification of its importance to the greater Darwin area.

**Please complete the form and send it via one of the following by no later than *Monday 25 May 2015, 5pm*:**

**Email:** [NTEPA.Consult@nt.gov.au](mailto:NTEPA.Consult@nt.gov.au)

**Post:** NT EPA, GPO Box 3675, Darwin NT, 0801

**Privacy:** Your personal information will be used for the purpose of collecting and collating comments received on the NT EPA draft guidelines. The NT EPA is subject to the *Information Act* and its Regulations. Information will not be disclosed to a third party, unless required by law or otherwise stated.

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