

## **Appendix 10 Site Characteristics and Issues Matrices**

The Terrestrial Experts Working Group developed a Site Characteristics and Issues Matrix as a consistent framework for summarizing the terrestrial biophysical attributes and diversity of each site, so that comparisons could be made.

In a region where specific survey information on flora, vegetation and faunal values is patchy, the matrices make use of consistent region-wide geological mapping as an initial discriminator of site substrate and landform characteristics. This information expands on location specific survey information and informs expert knowledge of the range of vegetation types and fauna habitats likely on sites, and facilitates comparison with surrounding areas and the regional context.

The areas surveyed in the flora, vegetation and fauna studies, coastal geomorphology and landform stability assessment and visual landscape assessment commissioned by the NDT (See other Appendices), or in existing studies undertaken by industry, are in most cases considerably larger than that required for a hub site. Therefore the matrices include reference to environments that would not be directly impacted by a hub development on the site, but provide contextual information on surrounding areas.

Sites were considered in terms of 10 environmental factors that are intended to help inform consideration of various components of the environmental site selection criteria.

Matrices for Anjo Peninsula and Cape Voltaire have not been included in this Appendix as these areas were added to the list of potential sites more recently. Studies of Anjo Peninsula have since been undertaken and reports are being compiled. A matrix will be added for this location when this information is available.