Recognition of Ancient, Veteran & Notable Trees –

R A V E N 2

Step One - Age Assessment

Tree should be old relative to others of the same species

Compute age using White Method (use proxy species if necessary): min. 25% of species age required

Step Two - Size Assessment

Tree has very large girth for species*

Refer to *Ancient and other veteran trees: further guidance on management* (Lonsdale, ATF 2013) at Fig. 1.3: *Chart of girth in relation to age and developmental classification of trees*

*****e.g. 4.7m for pedunculate oak (1500mm stem dia.)

Step Three - Condition Assessment: Primary Features

At least two of the following should be present (or refer to Step Four)

- ☐ Extensive decay (especially brown rot or exposed stem heartwood in relevant species), 400cm^2
- ☐ Extensive hollowing
- ☐ Senescence
- ☐ Retrenchment

Step Four - Condition Assessment: Secondary Features

If no primary features are present, tree requires <u>six</u> secondary features to qualify
If only one primary feature is present, tree requires <u>three</u> secondary features to qualify

- ☐ Large quantity of dead wood in crown, 150mm dia.+
- ☐ Major storm damage, e.g. breakout wounds, broken spars 30cm dia.+
- ☐ Habitat spaces: decay holes and/ or crevices/ branch splits sheltered from direct rainfall
- ☐ Aerial rooting
- ☐ Sap run/ slime flux
- ☐ Water pool
- ☐ Bark loss (exceeding 400cm^2) inc. due to lightning strike
- ☐ Fungi (especially notable or protected species)
- ☐ Other epiphytic plants, including ferns & significant presence of lichens or mosses

Step Five - Recognition Guide

☐ **ANCIENT**

Veteran tree with extremely large girth: age likely > 50% of estimated species maximum
E.g. pedunculate oak, 2m stem dia, average site: ca. 460 years old, ca. 50% of species max

☐ **VETERAN**

Relatively old & very large for species and qualifies under either Step Three or Step Four

☐ **NOTABLE**

Trees approaching veteran status under Steps One or Two

IF A TARGET IS PRESENT, ASSESS RISK USING *THREATS*