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# Inclusive Coastal Landscapes

## Session 6

Friday, 4th of May 2018





# Introduction: Landscape Assessment and Evaluation

A structured method of landscape assessment can be description, classification, analysis, and evaluation. These provides framework for decision making on land use decision and management.

**1980s**



**2017**



Source:  
<http://www.plymothiantransit.com/2006/03/teats-hill.html>

Source: Google maps, 2017





# Introduction: Landscape Assessment and Evaluation

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1980s



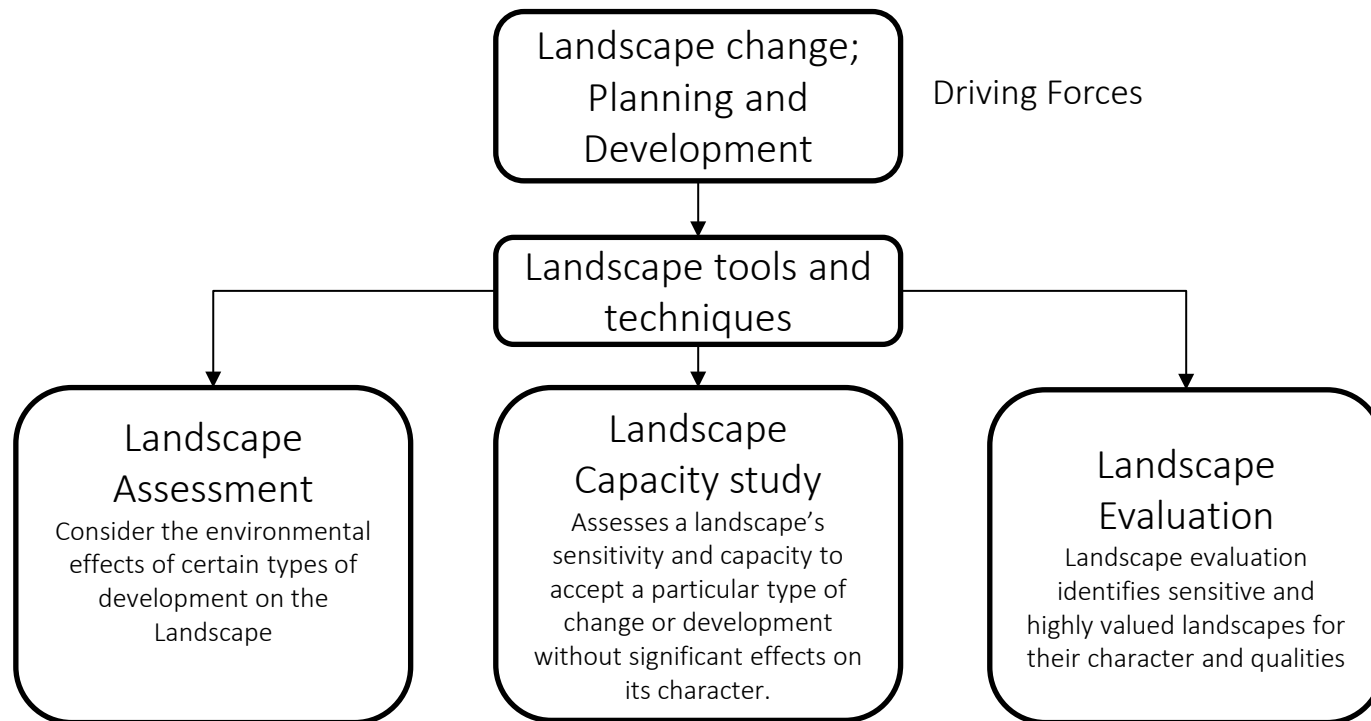
Source:  
<http://www.plymothiantransit.com/2006/03/teats-hill.html>

2017



Source: Google maps, 2017

Coastal landscape Teats Hill, Plymouth, UK



- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) (for projects and development proposals)
- Strategic Environmental assessment (SEA) (for plans, programme and strategies)
- Habitat Appraisals (HA) (for plans or projects affecting Natura sites)
- Landscape Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) (Assessment of landscape and visual Resources)

- Landscape Character Assessment (LCA)

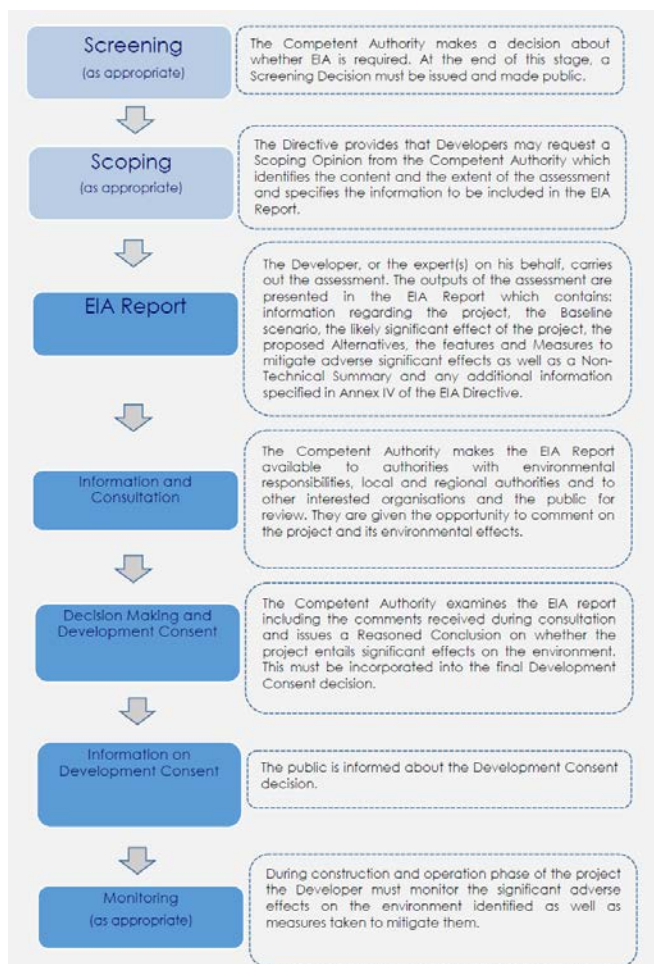
- Landscape Character Assessment (LCA)







# Landscape Assessment : Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)



The International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) defines an environmental impact assessment (EIA) as "the process of identifying, predicting, evaluating and mitigating the biophysical, social, and other relevant effects of development proposals prior to major decisions being taken and commitments made"

## Steps in EIA

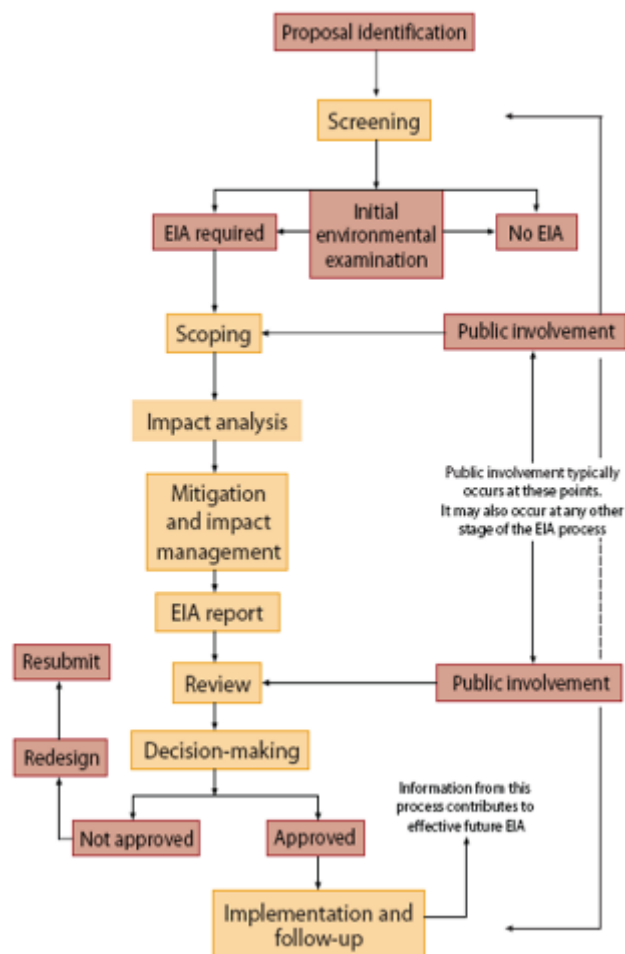
- Project Screening
- Scoping
- Consideration of alternatives
- Description of projects/development actions
- Description of environmental baseline
- Identification of key impacts
- The prediction of impacts
- Evaluation and assessment of significance
- Mitigation
- Public consultation and participation
- EIS presentation and review
- Decision-making
- Post-decision monitoring
- Auditing

Environmental Impact Assessment of Projects Guidance on the preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report(Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU)



# Landscape Assessment : Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

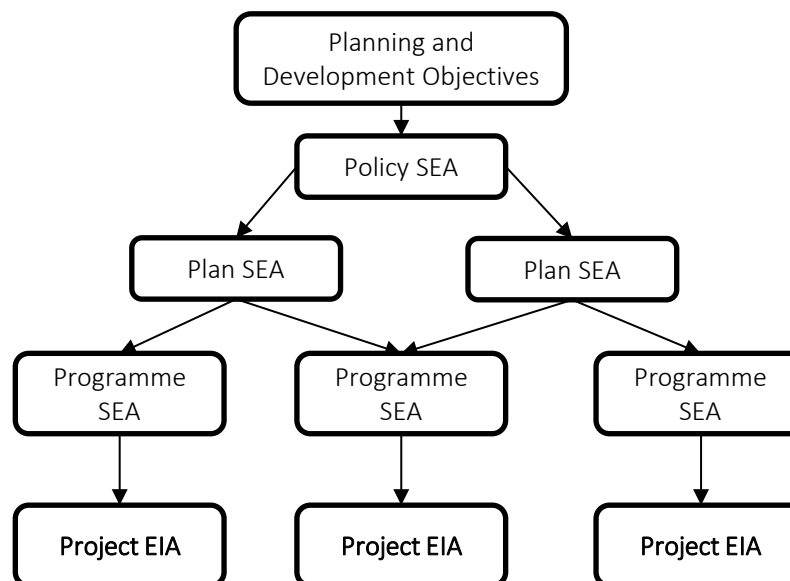
Figure 1: Steps in the EIA process



Source: UNEP 2002.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) may be required for:

- proposals requiring planning permission
- proposals requiring Electricity Act consent
- motorway and trunk road proposals
- forestry and agriculture related projects
- marine works
- oil and gas pipelines



Useful resource: <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eia/eia-support.htm>



# Landscape Assessment : landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA)

LVIA is used to help design the proposed change as well as assess its effects, so that negative landscape effects are avoided, reduced or offset. Where a development is likely to have negative impacts on landscape, LVIA usually forms part of the environmental assessment. It can also be used as part of the appraisal of development proposals and planning applications.

LVIA examines two independent but related aspects:

- landscape effects
- visual effects

<https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/landscape-change/landscape-tools-and-techniques/landscape-and-visual-impact-assessment>



<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2017/10/30/16000-additional-wind-turbines-required-to-power-british-electric-car-fleet/>

## SOURCES OF EFFECTS

- Changes in land use e.g. arising from mineral extraction, afforestation, recreation or land drainage.
- Development of buildings and structures such as power stations, industrial estates, roads and housing.
- Changes in land management such as intensification of agriculture.
- Changes in production processes and emissions such as those from chemical plants.





# Landscape Assessment : landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA)

The methodology to carry out LVIA:

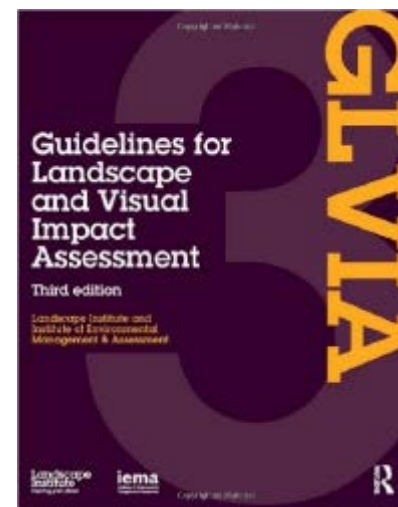
1. Establishment of the extent of the study area
2. Description of the setting and context of the development including land use and local development and landscape policies
3. Identification of the landscape resources likely to be affected occurring within the study area and their sensitivity
4. Identification of the visual resources likely to be affected occurring within the study area and their sensitivity

Baseline information

5. Assessment of the magnitude and significance of effect on the **landscape resources** during construction, during operation and during decommissioning of the development.
6. Assessment of the magnitude and significance of effect on the **visual resources** during construction, during operation and during decommissioning of the development.

Assessment

7. Identification of mitigation measures to reduce any assessed effects
8. Cumulative impact assessment with other similar or related developments in the study area or overlapping with it.



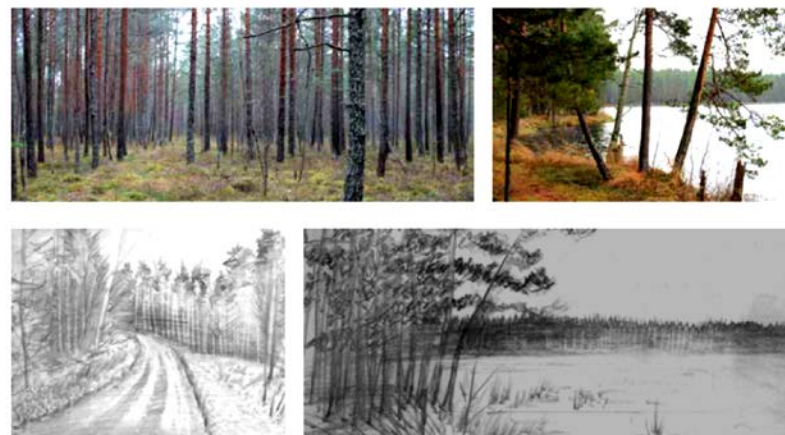
Reference: Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, Landscape Institute



# Landscape Capacity Study : Landscape Character Assessment (LCA)

Understanding the landscape, the processes that formed it and the pressures for change

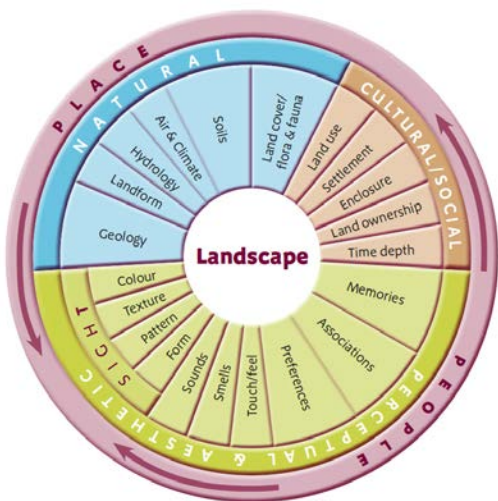
Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) is the process of identifying and describing variation in the character of the landscape. It seeks to identify and explain the unique combination of elements and features (characteristics) that make landscapes distinctive. This process results in the production of a Landscape Character Assessment.



Source: Author, Landscape characterisation

The Landscape Character Assessment process is used increasingly to inform urban, or townscape, assessments, and Seascape Character Assessments<sup>6</sup>. The scope of the ELC applies to natural, rural, urban and peri-urban areas and includes land, inland water and marine areas.

An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment, October 2014  
Christine Tudor, Natural England, [www.gov.uk/natural-England](http://www.gov.uk/natural-England)



Defining landscape



# Landscape Capacity Study : Landscape Character Assessment (LCA)

## Main steps in Landscape Character Assessment

### STAGE 1: CHARACTERISATION

- Step 1: Defining the scope.
- Step 2: Desk study.
- Step 3: Field survey.
- Step 4: Classification and description.

**Characterisation**, which is relatively value-free and is concerned with identifying, classifying and describing areas of distinctive character;



### STAGE 2: MAKING JUDGEMENTS

Step 5: Deciding the approach to judgements.

- Step 6: Making judgements  
i.e. landscape strategies; landscape guidelines;  
attaching status to landscapes; landscape capacity.

**Making judgements** to inform particular decisions, which may use one or a combination of approaches depending on the purpose of the exercise.



Source: Author

### Stage 1: Step 1: Defining the scope of LCA.

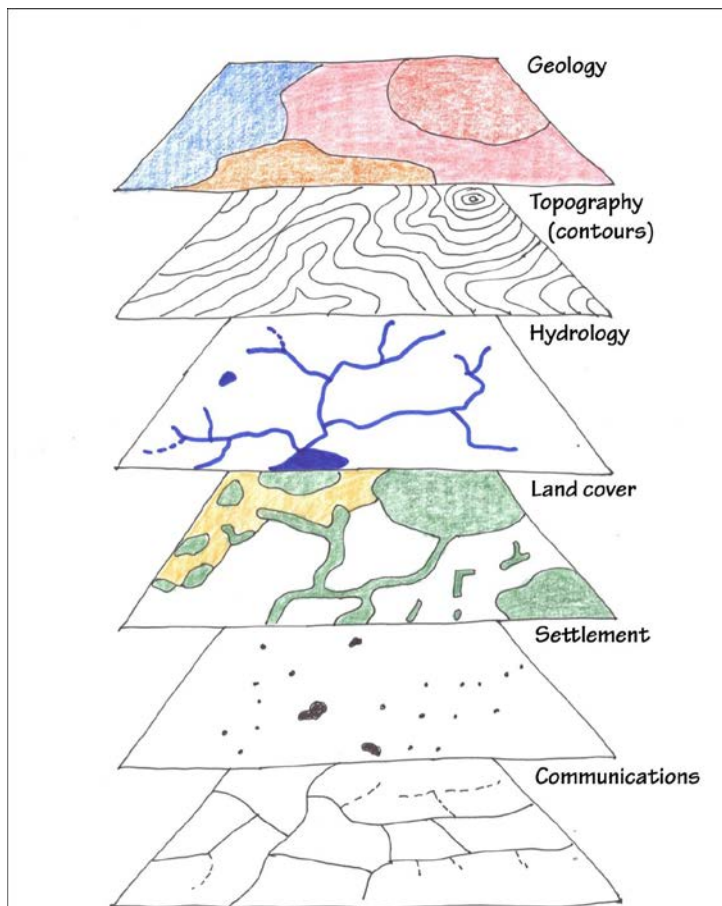
All Landscape Character Assessments need a clearly defined purpose. This will critically influence the scale and level of detail of the assessment, the resources required, those who should be involved in its preparation, and the types of judgement that are needed to inform decisions.





# Landscape Capacity Study : Landscape Character Assessment (LCA)

## Step 2: Desk study- Overlay of maps



Source: Bell, S (2014)

## Step 3: Field Study

### Field Survey Sheet: Vortsjarv Lowland

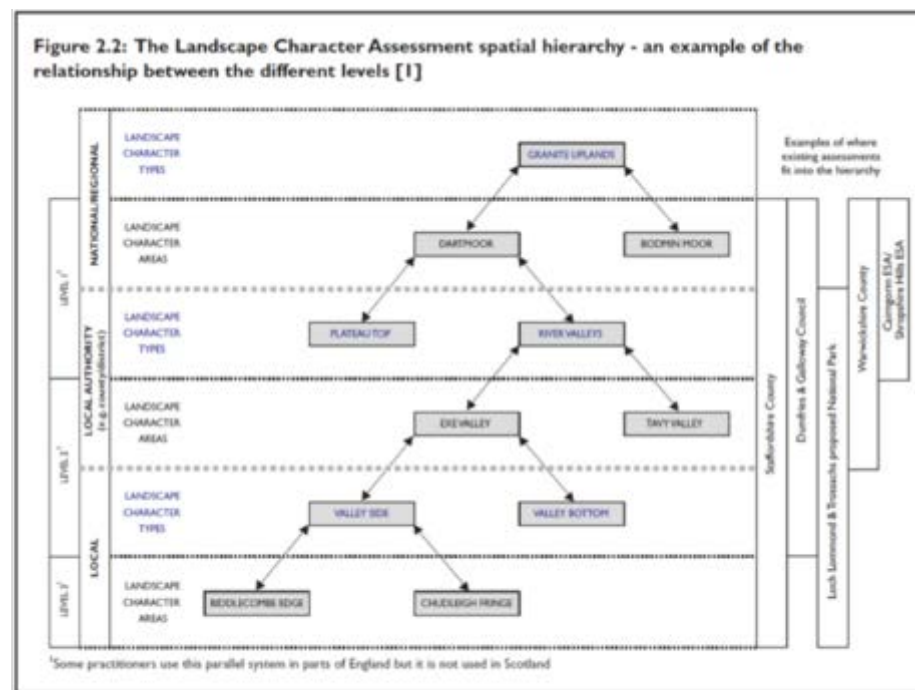
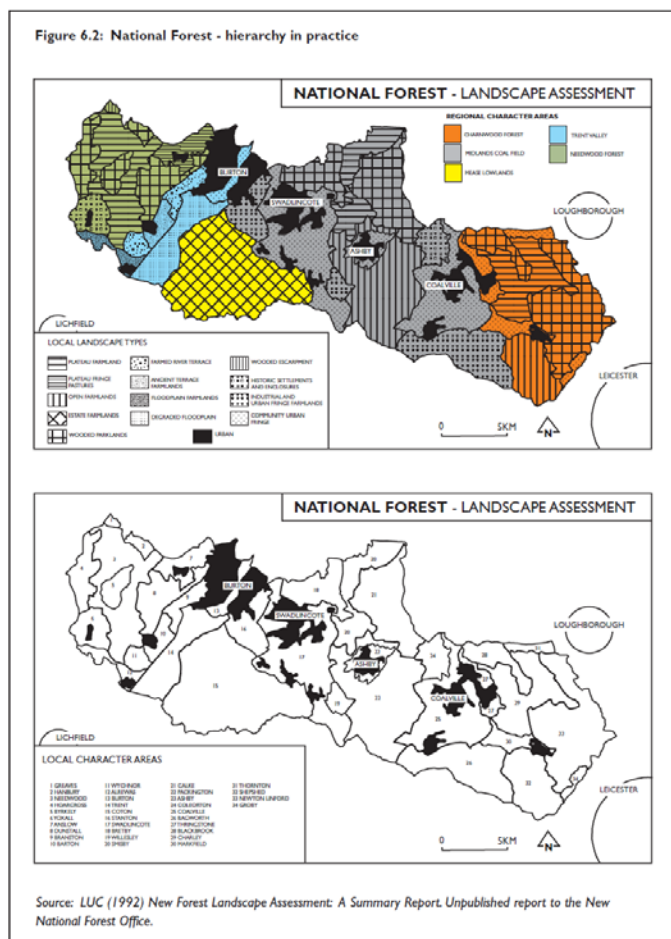
1 View point No.	Location	Date				
2 Camera Pic. No.						
3 Landscape character type						
4 Landscape character area						
5 Geology						
6 Topography						
flat	plain	dry valley				
undulating	rolling/lowland	deep valley				
rolling	plateau	broad valley				
steep	scarp/diffs	narrow valley				
verticals	Hills					
7 Dominant landcover and landscape element						
<b>Building</b>	<b>Heritage</b>	<b>Farming</b>	<b>landcover</b>	<b>woodland/trees</b>	<b>Hydrology</b>	<b>Communication</b>
Farm	vernacular	wall	parkland	deciduous	river	road
mas/poles	county house	fences	scrub	coniferous	stream	track
pylons	field system	hedges	marsh	mixed	reservoir	footpath
industry	prehistoric ritual	fields	peat bog	shelterbelt	dry valley	lane
settlements	hill top enclosure	arable	moor/heath	hedge trees	winter bourne	railway
urban	ecclesiastic	improved pasture	rough grassland	orchard	pond	military
folies	monument of war	rough grazing	water meadows	clumps	lake	pylons
military	coppice	hedge banks	grassland	isolated trees	drainage ditch	communication mast
		orchard	species rich grassland			
8 Brief description (including main elements, features, attractors, detractors)						
9 Key characteristics/ distinctive features and why they are important?						
10 Rarity						
11 Conditions						
12 Visual Assessment Criteria						
pattern	dominant	strong	broken	weak		
Scale	intimate	small	medium	large		
Texture	smooth	textured	rough	very rough		
colour	monochrome	muted	colourful	garish		
complexity	uniform	simple	diverse	complex		
remoteness	wild	remote	vacant	active		
unity	unified	interrupted	fragmented	chaotic		
form	straight	angular	curved	sinuous		
enclosure	expansive	open	enclosed	constrained		
visual dynamics	sweeping	spreading	dispersed	channelled		
13 Perception						
Security	intimate	comfortable	safe	unsettling	treating	
Stimulus	monotonous	bland	interesting	challenging	inspiring	
Tranquillity	inaccessible	remote	vacant	peaceful	busy	
Pleasure	unpleasant	pleasant	attractive	beautiful		
14 Architecture (condition and quality)						
Local material	stone type, colour, texture, brick, colour, size, render					
Combination	stone and brick pattern					
Vernacular Style	window style, roof pitch					
Settlement Form	village green, cluster, military, scattered					
15 Additional Comments	pollution, erosion bare or disturbed ground, condition of historical feature, new planting, restoration work.					

Source: Landscape Character Assessment Guidance for England and Scotland, 2002



# Landscape Capacity Study : Landscape Character Assessment (LCA)

## Step 4: Landscape Characterisation –



Application of LCA at different scale :  
1: 50,000; 1: 25,000; 1: 10,000

Source: Landscape Character Assessment Guidance for England and Scotland, 2002



# Landscape Capacity Study : Landscape Character Assessment (LCA)

## Sensitivity analysis–

Landscape Character Area	Landscape Sensitivity																	Visual Sensitivity										OVER ALL SENSITIVITY	OVER ALL SENSITIVITY	OVER ALL SENSITIVITY	
	Soil			Hydrology			Heritage			Land Cover			Forest Type				OVER ALL SENSITIVITY	Skyline	Landform	Inter-visibility	External View, Vistas, Landmarks	Receptors	Pleasure	Sense of Remoteness	Scale	OVER ALL SENSITIVITY	OVER ALL SENSITIVITY				
	Till	Clay Silty/ Mud	Peat	Lake	River	Canal	Migratory bird	Natural Heritage	Cultural Heritage	Landscape Protection	Amphibian	Pattern	complexity	Consistency	Dry forest	Wet forest															Bog
1	L	O	O	O	M	L	O	M	L	L	M	M	M	L	O	O	M	M	LM	M	L	M	M	L	M	M	L	LM	LM		
2	L	O	O	L	M	L	H	M	M	M	LM	M	M	H	L	O	O	L	L	LM	M	L	M	M	M	M	L	M	M		
3	I	O	O	O	O	I	O	I	I	I	M	M	M	I	O	O	M	M	LM	M	M	H	M	H	M	M	M	M	MH	M	
4	I	O	O	O	O	I	O	I	H	I	IM	I	I	I	I	O	O	I	I	LM	I	L	I	M	H	I	I	M	LM	IM	
5	L	O	O	O	M		H	L	M	M	L	M	M	M	L	O	O	M	M	M	M	L	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	
6	L	O	O	O	O	L	O	O	O	L	O	M	M	M	L	O	O	M	M	LM	L	L	M	L	H	L	L	M	LM	LM	
7	O	H	O	O	M	O	O	H	O	H	LM	M	M	M	O	H	O	H	H	H	H	H	L	L	M	L	H	H	H	H	
8	L	O	H	O	O	L	O	O	L	M	M	M	M	M	M	O	O	L	L	ML	M	M	M	M	H	M	L	M	M	M	
9	O	M	H	L	M	O	O	O	M	H	LM	M	M	M	M	O	O	M	M	MH	L	L	M	M	H	H	L	M	M	MH	
10	L	O	O	O	O	L	O	O	L	M	LM	L	L	L	L	O	O	L	L	LM	L	L	M	M	H	H	L	M	M	LM	
11	L	M	O	M	O	L	O		L	MH	LM	M	L	L	L	M	O	M	M	M	L	L	H	H	L	H	H	L	MH	MH	
12	L	M	H	H	M	O	H	M	L	L	LM	M	M	M	L	H	O	M	H	MH	L	L	L	M	L	M	H	L	LM	M	
13	I	O	H	I	O	O	H	O	M	M	L	L	L	L	I	O	O	M	M	MH	M	L	H	M	L	H	H	L	MH	MH	
14	I	O	O	O	O	I	O	O	I	H	IM	I	I	I	I	O	O	M	M	MH	I	M	I	I	I	M	H	I	M	MH	
15	L	O	O	O	M	O	O	M	L	L	L	M	M	M	L	O	O	M	M	LM	M	L	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	
16	L	O	O	O	L	O	O	O	M	L	L	M	M	M	L	O	O	M	M	LM	M	L	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	
17	O	M	H	O	O	L	O	O	M	M	L	M	M	L	O	H	O	H	H	MH	L	L	L	L	L	M	H	L	LM	MH	
18	L	M	H	H	O	O	H	O	L	MH	L	L	L	L	O	M	H	M	H	H	H	L	L	H	L	H	H	M	MH	H	
19	L	O	H	O	O	L	O	O	M	L	L	M	M	M	L	H	O	M	M	MH	L	L	M	M	L	M	M	M	LM	M	
20	O	O	H	O	O	H	O	H	O	H	L	L	L	L	O	O	H	H	H	H	L	L	M	M	L	L	H	M	M	MH	
21	O	M	O	O	O	O	O	M	I	O	M	M	M	M	I	O	O	H	L	M	I	M	M	I	L	M	H	M	M	M	
22	O	H	O	H	M	O	O	O	L	H	M	M	M	M	O	O	H	H	H	MH	M	M	M	M	L	H	H	M	MH	MH	
23				H			H			H										H						L	H	H	M	H	H

Note  
 Topography : Simple, featureless, absence of strong topographical variety : Sensitivity (L)  
 Source: Author, 2014

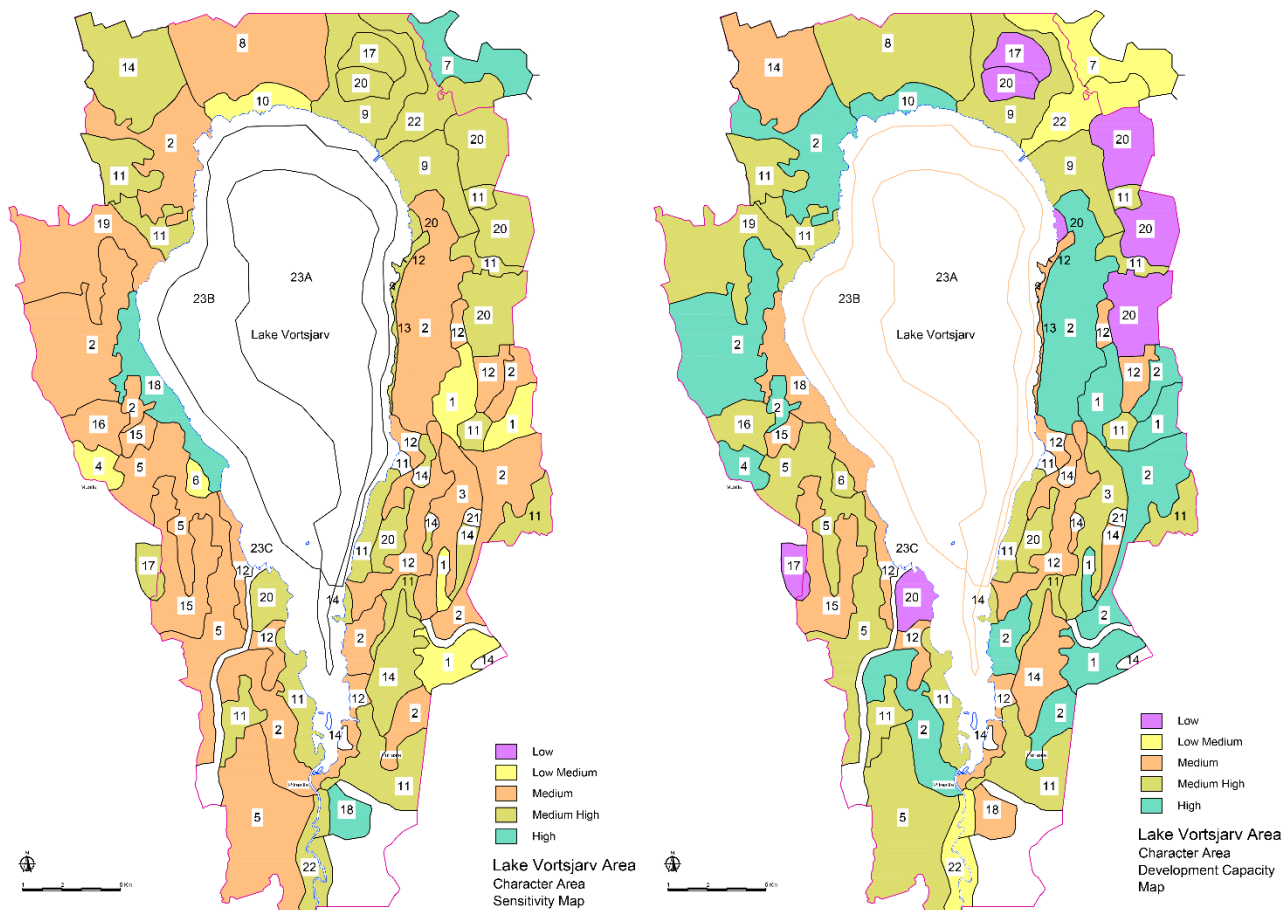
L- Low Sensitivity  
 M-Medium Sensitivity  
 H- High Sensitivity





# Landscape Capacity Study : Landscape Character Assessment (LCA)

Landscape Sensitivity and capacity analysis—

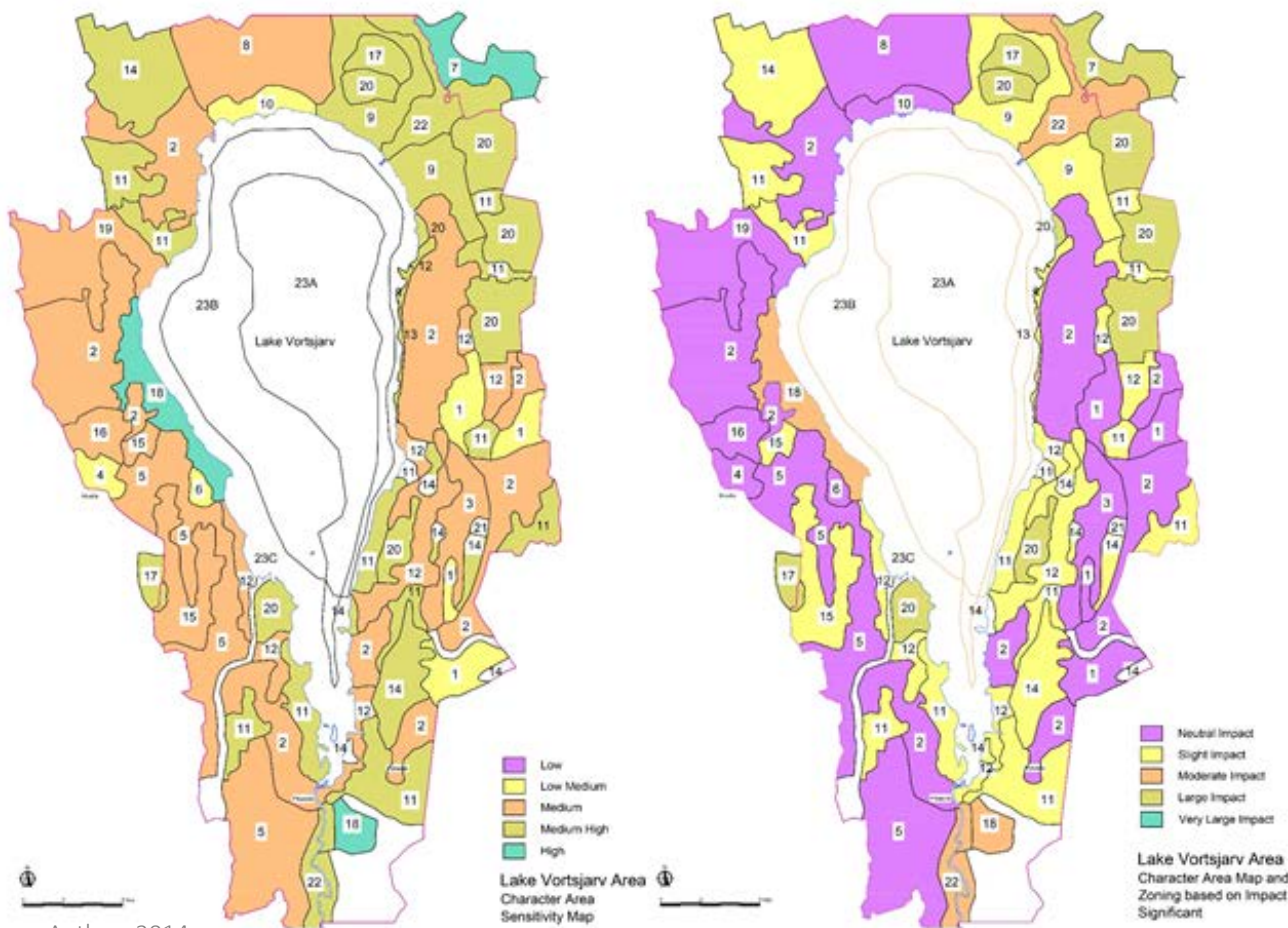


Source: Author, 2014



# Landscape Capacity Study : Landscape Character Assessment (LCA)

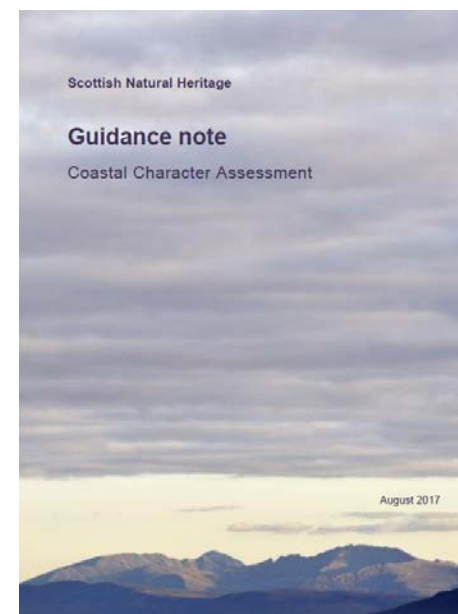
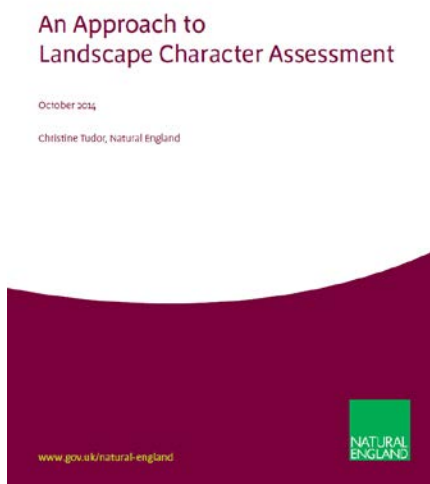
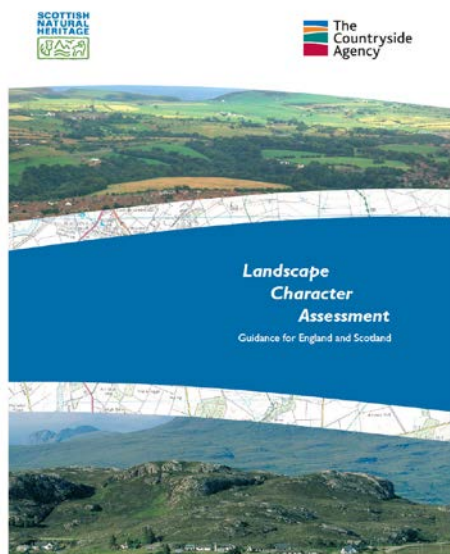
Landscape Sensitivity and Impact significance analysis—



Source: Author, 2014



# Landscape Capacity Study : Landscape Character Assessment (LCA)

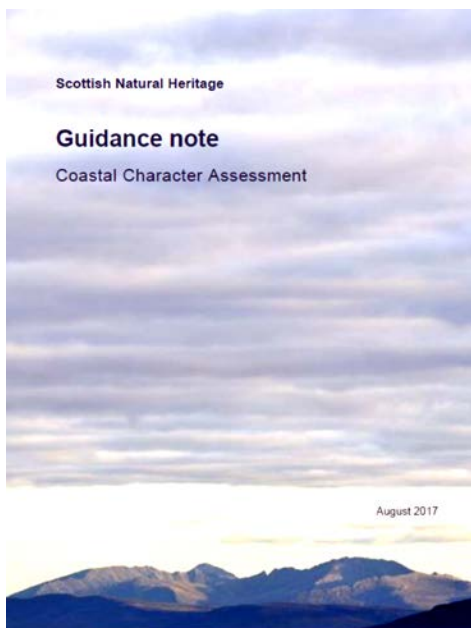


## Useful Sources

<https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/landscape-change/landscape-tools-and-techniques/landscape-evaluation>



# Landscape Capacity Study : Coastal Character Assessment (CCA)



- By complementing LCA, Coastal character assessment informs and guides coastal and marine planning, and individual development proposals, by informing landscape/seascape and visual impact assessments.
- It defines Coastal character as:
- Coastal character is made up of the often narrow margin of the coastal edge, its immediate hinterland and areas of sea. These three key components of coastal character include what is commonly known as 'seascape'.
- Coastal characterisation is directly related to landscape character assessment. It uses the same principles and methodology of desk and field analysis.
- Coastal characterisation can be applied at a number of different scales, from the broad strategic level to finer grained assessments at the local level.

## Key Principles of coastal character assessment

- Desk study and review,
- Field survey,
- Classification and description of coastal character.

Carol Anderson Landscape Associates for Scottish Natural Heritage  
August 2017



# Landscape Capacity Study : Coastal Character Assessment (CCA)

Table 2 : Checklist for establishing coastal character

Topic	Analysis of physical characteristics	Analysis of experiential characteristics	Relevant considerations	Recognised values
<b>Maritime influences</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• aspect and orientation</li> <li>• existing marine based activities</li> <li>• maritime processes (e.g. tides/tidal rapids; open/enclosed coast) scale, distance and expansiveness of open sea</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sense of space and light</li> <li>• sense of exposure</li> <li>• sense of containment/open-ness</li> <li>• sounds associated with the sea, smell of the sea</li> <li>• movement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• unit of landscape character</li> <li>• aesthetic qualities, including characteristics, experiences, and perceptions which create exceptional aesthetic quality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• landscapes and seascapes designated because of their scenic, landscape or recreational value</li> </ul>
<b>Character of the coastal edge</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• shape and scale of coastline; degree of indentation and enclosure</li> <li>• presence of offshore islands</li> <li>• fragmentation of edge deposition features, tidal variations</li> <li>• landmarks</li> <li>• shoreline development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sense of exposure</li> <li>• sense of containment or open-ness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• assessing importance of physical characteristics</li> <li>• assessing nature and intensity of experiential characteristics</li> <li>• identification of dominant physical or experiential characteristics determining the extent of the relevant setting for distinctive features and landmarks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• landmarks designated because of their cultural or historic significance</li> <li>• longer distance routes</li> </ul>
<b>Character of immediate hinterland</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• key elements of landscape character</li> <li>• topography and relief</li> <li>• vegetation pattern</li> <li>• existing settlement pattern and land use</li> <li>• landmarks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sense of containment or open-ness</li> <li>• presence of maritime influence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• identifying relevant cultural associations with place</li> <li>• degree of variability e.g. due to exposure, weather, tidal state.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ferry routes</li> <li>• roads designated as scenic or tourist routes</li> </ul>
<b>Human activity: presence or absence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• presence of natural processes</li> <li>• presence of development/ human activity</li> <li>• actual accessibility</li> <li>• ruggedness of terrain</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• extent of activity</li> <li>• sense of naturalness</li> <li>• perceived remoteness</li> <li>• sense of isolation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• degree of human activity, recreation and access</li> <li>• intensity of sense of wildness</li> <li>• degree of ruggedness and perceived accessibility</li> <li>• degree to which natural processes dominate the experience of place</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• path network/recognised routes and trails</li> <li>• Identified Wild Land Area</li> </ul>



Source: <http://www.forallworld.com/44893-coastline.html>



Source: Google images

Table 3: Checklist for establishing visual character in coastal areas

Topic	Analysis of physical elements	Analysis of type of views	Relevant considerations	Recognised values
<b>Views and visibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• presence of the coastal edge</li> <li>• presence of the open sea</li> <li>• focal points or features within the views</li> <li>• presence of existing marine and coastal developments</li> <li>• aspect and orientation of viewpoint, character of seascape</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• overlook from settled areas</li> <li>• views experienced as part of a sequence</li> <li>• elevated viewpoints panoramas</li> <li>• sudden revelations</li> <li>• glimpse views</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• significance of views and viewpoints</li> <li>• significance and dominance of compositional elements</li> <li>• quality of visual composition from viewpoints</li> <li>• significance of aspect and transient qualities such as quality of light and reflectivity</li> <li>• significance of presence of existing marine and coastal developments and influence on existing visual composition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• views which contribute to the experience of a landscape or seascape designated for its scenic quality</li> <li>• views to and from features designated because of their historic significance</li> <li>• views from longer distance routes</li> <li>• views from popular recreational areas or specific facilities</li> </ul>

Carol Anderson Landscape Associates for Scottish Natural Heritage  
August 2017



## Landscape Evaluation:

Landscape evaluation identifies landscapes that are by their nature sensitive and highly valued for their character and qualities. Such landscapes can be given special protection as protected areas.

Landscape designations apply at local and national levels:

- local designations
- National Scenic Areas

Various models have been developed to illustrate different processes of landscape evaluation

- 1) Descriptive inventories models
- 2) Public preference models
- 3) Quantitative holistic technique

<http://www.macaulay.ac.uk/ccw/task-two/evaluate.html>

Three phases of landscape evaluation that is the driving force behind the planning and design of the landscape

- a) Landscape measurement;
- b) Landscape value;
- c) Landscape evaluation;

Unwin (1975)





# Landscape Evaluation:

**Descriptive Inventory Model:** ecological and formal-aesthetic models, methods which are mostly applied by experts in an objective manner.

**Public preference models:** such as psychological and phenomenological, are often undertaken using questionnaires, interviews

**Quantitative holistic technique:** uses a mixture of subjective and objective methods, and include psychological and surrogate component model.

It is important to examine their **reliability and validity** of landscape evaluation models.



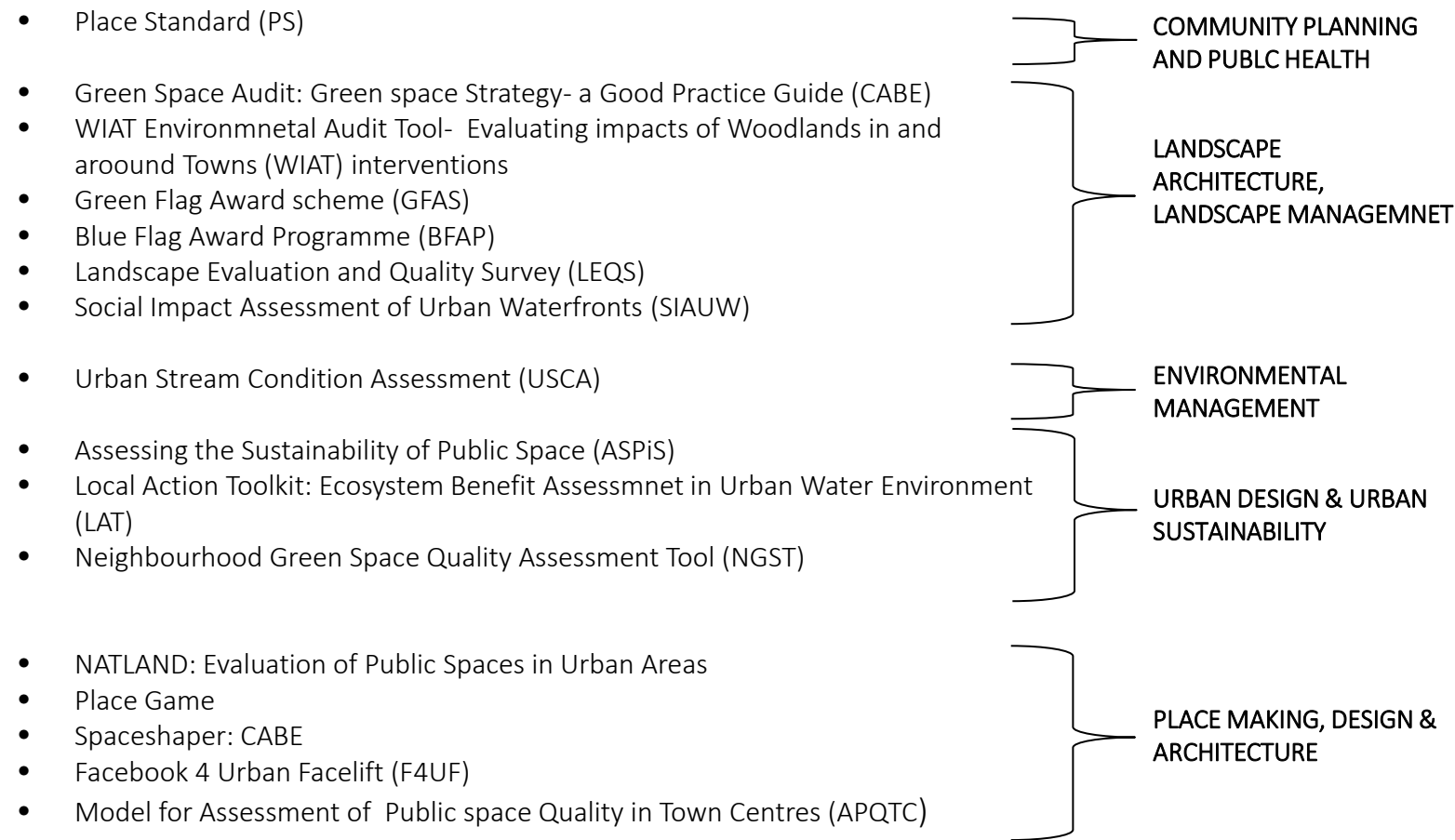
Source: <http://www.townshipdesign.com/blog/site-survey>



Source: Author



# Other Place and Space Evaluation Tools:





# Other Place and Space Evaluation Tools:

Audit Tool Checklist Version	Neighbourhood Environment (Road segments)
Audit Tool analytical Version	Neighbourhood Environment (Road segments)
Active Neighbourhood Checklist (ANC)	Neighbourhood Environment (Road segments)
BRAT-Do Instrument	Urban Park
Community Park Audit Tool (CPAT)	Urban Park, Community Park
Environmental Assessment of Public Recreation Spaces (EAPRS) Tool	Parks and Playground
Path Environment Audit Tool (PEAT)	Trails and Paths
Physical Activity Resource Assessment (PARA) Instrument	Parks, churches, schools, sports facilities, fitness centers, community centers, and trails)
SOPARC	School Play area setting
SOPARNA	Park and trails
SOPLAY	Park and Greenspace
Systematic Pedestrian and Cycling Environmental Scan	Pedestrian and cyclist environment
Walking and Bicycling Suitability Assessment (WABSA)	Walking and Bicycle routes
Walking Route Audit Tool for Seniors (WRATS)	Pathways and walking and cycle routes

Place evaluation tools contributing to public health and planning and design

These site level place evaluation tools forms the basis for the development **BEAT** with a focus to improve the blue place quality for improved health and well-being benefits





# Thank you for your attention

