

## Parameter Weighting

**Significance = Consequence X Probability**

**Consequence = Severity + Spatial Scale + Duration**

**Probability - with reference to history, industry knowledge and a good dose of common sense**

### PARAMETER VALUES

#### Severity

	<b>Severity - Environmental</b>	<b>Severity - Social/Cultural/Heritage</b>
5	Very significant impact/total destruction of a highly valued species, habitat or ecosystem	Irreparable damage to/destruction of highly valued items of great cultural significance or complete breakdown of social order
4	Serious impairment of ecosystem function	Serious social issues/Permanent damage to items of cultural significance
3	Moderate alteration of ecosystem functioning	Moderately important social issues and/or significant damage to items of cultural significance
2	Moderate effects not affecting ecosystem functioning	Impacts on the local population, repairable over time. Temporary impairment of the availability of items of cultural significance.
1	Minor/insignificant effects on the biophysical environment	Insignificant social issues / low-level repairable damage to commonplace structures.

#### Spatial Scale / Extent

5	National/International
4	Provincial/Regional
3	Regional (substantially beyond site boundary)
2	Local (beyond site boundary and affects neighbours)
1	Site (does not extend beyond site boundary)

**Duration**

5	Permanent/Irreversible
4	Long Term (10 to 25 years or beyond closure)
3	Medium Term (6-10 years)
2	Medium-Short Term (1-5 years)
1	Short term (Less than a year)

**PROBABILITY**

5	Certain/ Normally happens in cases of this nature (81-100% chance of happening)
4	Will more than likely happen (61-80% chance)
3	Could happen and has happened here or elsewhere (41-60% chance)
2	Has not happened yet, but could (21-40% chance)
1	Conceivable, but only in a set of very specific and extreme circumstances (0-20% chance)

Significance		
High	57 - 75	
Medium-High	38 - 56	
Medium-Low	19 - 37	
Low	0 - 18	