

PALUMA ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE

Transect Worksheet

Procedure:

- Work in groups.
- Run a 10m transect (using a tape measure or a string line) across the area to be sampled.
- Work along the line, recording the name/ description and position of each plant that the line passes over, under or through.
- Put each plant into a category that describes its life form.

Trees: Woody plants over 5m tall, usually with a single stem.

Shrubs: Woody plants less than 5m tall, frequently with many stems arising at or near the base.

Herbs: Any non-woody plant. Further subdivided into – **Ferns**, **Grasses**, and **Broad-leaved** plants.

Climbers:

- Record the information in the table provided.
- After completion of the line transect, give each species a ranking number in order of abundance. (1 = most abundant)

Recording Table:

<i>SPECIES</i>	<i>DESCRIPTION</i>	<i>NO. COUNTED</i>	<i>RANKING</i>

SPECIES	DESCRIPTION	NO. COUNTED	RANKING

Questions:

1. What was the most abundant species in the area?

2. What factors influence the distribution and abundance of species in a natural ecosystem?
