

1.1 Fixed point photography

1.1.1 Background

The aim of this survey is to develop a visual record of the sand dune system using fixed point photographs. This will allow assessments to be made of how the morphology (form, shape and structure) and vegetation composition of sites are changing over time.

1.1.2 Method

When and where to survey

Fixed point photographs should be taken at least once a year, in April or May, at preselected locations.

Equipment

Make sure you take with you:

- Handheld GPS unit
- Mobile phone app – fixed point photography locations downloaded beforehand
- Compass
- Fixed point photography recording form
- Camera

Navigating to the photography points

- a) Using your handheld GPS (and mobile phone app), navigate to each photography point, which will be marked by a post. The grid reference can be found on the description form for photography points, or described on the app. Some photography points may be along transects, others may be in dune slacks or other points of interest on the site.
- b) For points that are along transects, from the starting point of the transect marked by a post, use the grid reference of the end of the transect and your compass (and your mobile phone app) to navigate along the transect.

What to record

- a) Take a photograph at each photography point. It is important to take your photograph so it matches the position of the original photo (see the list of locations, or the app) so that direct comparisons can be made. To help you do this:
 - Each photograph should be taken in the direction indicated (as aligned with the guide photo)
 - Take the photograph at eye level
 - Refer back to the photographs shown in the transect description form, or on the app. If there are any useful reference points (e.g. trees, buildings), make sure these are in the same place in your new photograph.
- b) For each photograph, record the time it was taken on the recording form so that it can be identified and stored correctly. This will be recorded automatically on the app.