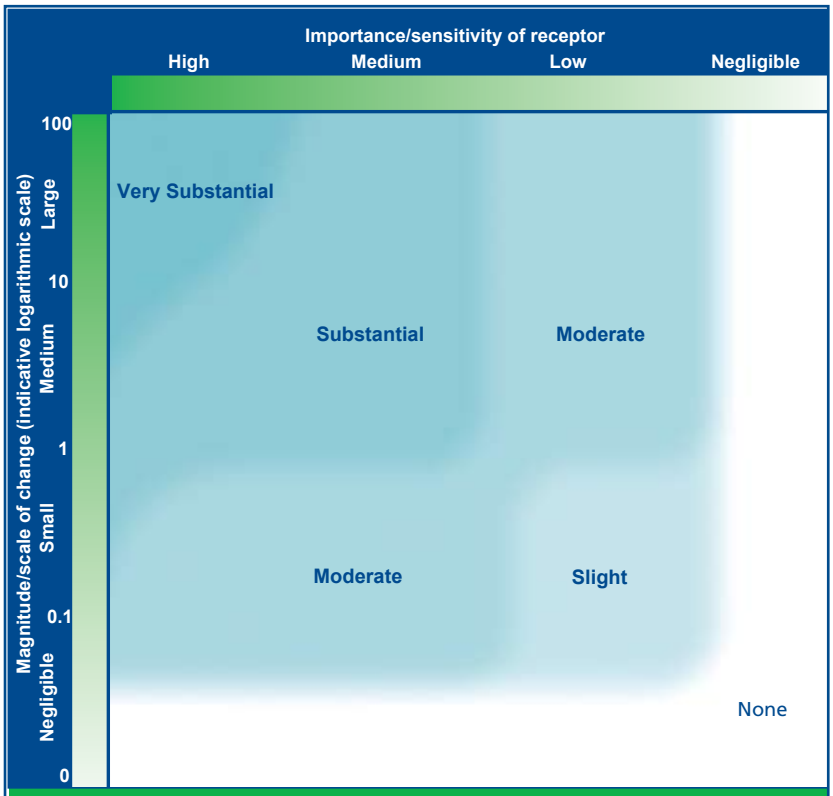

Very substantial:
A major change in the numbers of one or more very important species or the composition or extent of very important communities, or those which support beneficial or very important species. This might be a reduction or complete eradication of a species, which for some organisms could lead to a negative effect on the functioning of the particular ecosystem and/or other connected ecosystems.

Substantial:
A marked change in the numbers of one or more important or very important species or the composition or extent of important or very important communities, or those which support beneficial or important species.

Moderate:
A marked change in population densities or community composition or extent, but not a change which results in total eradication of a species or community or which has any marked effect on important or beneficial species, or important communities.

Slight:
Some change in the population densities or community composition or extent, but without total eradication of any species or community, and with no effects on important species or communities, or ecosystem function.

None:
No marked changes in any of the populations in the environment or in any ecosystem functions.

Figure 4.3 Significance of effect - natural heritage