 Criteria C1: Uniqueness or rarity C2: Special importance for life-history stages of species C3: Importance for threatened, endangered or declining species and/or habitats C4: Vulnerability, fragility, sensitivity, or slow recovery C5: Biological productivity C6: Biological diversity
• C7: Naturalness

Table 1. Description of areas meeting criteria for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs) in the Western South Pacific region

(Details are described in the appendix to annex 5 of the report of the Western South Pacific Regional Workshop on EBSAs, in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/6)

Location and brief description of areas	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7
	For key to criteria, see page 8 above						
 1. Phoenix Islands Location: The Phoenix Islands include all of the Kiribati islands of the Phoenix archipelago and the surrounding sea mounts. The Phoenix Islands have a diverse bathymetry, a number of bioregions and several shallow seamounts. There are 6 seamounts within this area, strong eddy fields in the surface water and upwelling occurs which heightens the concentration of rich nutrients (minerals) for phytoplankton and zooplanktons. This nutrient rich area leads to high levels of biodiversity and species of economic importance including sharks, billfish, tuna and other by-catch species. There are 5 Important Bird Areas which makes the Phoenix Islands important for a specific life stages for endangered species. There are numerous kinds of sea crabs and turtles and other highly migratory species are common. There was a high catch of Sperm whales in the Phoenix during the early 1900s. There are several IUCN Red List Species documented and the Ocean Biogeographic Information System (OBIS) dataset shows a high number of species. 	М	Н	Н	Н	Н	Н	Н
 2. Ua Puakaoa Seamounts Location: Approximately 164°W and 21°S. A seamount system characterized by a seamount located within 300m of the sea surface, another approximately 1000m below the surface, with strong current eddies at the surface, most likely caused by significant upwellings. It is likely to have high benthic biodiversity, and possibly a high degree of endemism, which can be associated with isolated seamount systems. 	М	-	-	Н	L	М	Н