



# Biodiversity Offset Scheme Local Government Update No. 7

13 October 2020

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## 1. Swift parrot important area map

The swift parrot important area map is now available for assessors via their Biodiversity Accredited Assessor System (BAAS) login. We are continuing work to make the Important Map Area for the swift parrot, regent honeyeater and threatened shorebirds available to consent authority users through the online management system. In the meantime, please continue to email your queries to [bam.support@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:bam.support@environment.nsw.gov.au).

## 2. New BioNet Power Queries – ID species within a sub region and PCT

The BioNet team have recently released two new power queries (PQs) that enable listing and filtering of species or populations (each a separate PQ) within an Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) sub region and Plant Community Type (PCT). These new PQ's can help you filter and download information from BioNet. This includes identifying species (or populations) at risk of a serious and irreversible impact (SAIL) within a sub region.

Go to the [BioNet quick guides, manuals, and datasheets webpage](#). The PQs are available in the BioNet Vegetation Classification section along with other useful PQs.

### **3. BioNet video tutorials**

Along with the new PQ's, the BioNet team have also recently published a range of video tutorials to help stakeholders supply and extract data within the BioNet Atlas application. See link: [contributing species sightings and flora survey data](#).

### **4. Complaints and Feedback Management Policy**

The [Accredited Assessors Complaints and feedback Management Policy](#) (2020) has now been published on the Department's accredited assessor webpage. It provides the approach taken by the Department to consider and respond to any complaints received about accredited assessors. Please use the [Assessor Complaints and feedback form \(PDF 39KB\)](#) to provide the information required by the Department in considering any complaint.

### **5. Have your say – Accredited Assessor Draft CPD guideline**

The [draft continuing professional development guideline](#) is on exhibition (until 19 October 2020). Accredited assessors have been emailed a survey to complete. Other interested parties can email comments to [BAM\\_accreditation@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:BAM_accreditation@environment.nsw.gov.au).

### **6. BOS Educational video series**

The Department is developing a series of videos to support local government staff working with the Biodiversity Offset Scheme (BOS). Two new videos in the series have now been released – [Using the BMAT tool and Part 5 Activities](#). The Biodiversity Values Map and Threshold (BMAT) Tool Demonstration video guides users through the application of the tool to help them determine if development or vegetation clearing on their land exceeds the BOS threshold. The information generated by the tool will help to inform the Development Application process. The Part 5 Activities video provides an overview of when the BOS applies to Part 5 Activities, explaining the requirements for assessing biodiversity impact through a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) or Species Impact Statement (SIS). The video will be useful for self-assessing authorities, such as local councils and other government departments and agencies, that build, maintain and operate infrastructure and other assets in New South Wales.

### **7. BOS support webinars**

The [Q&A document](#) for BOS Support Webinar No 15 – NSW Biodiversity Offsets Scheme and Land Management Framework Flowcharts is now available on our website, below the webinar recording.

## 8. BAM assessor training and accreditation renewal update

The Department has been working with Greencap, our training provider, to update the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) assessor training for new assessors. The revised training will be delivered in two parts. The first part will consist of 10+ new online eLearning modules. The revised face-to-face training will focus on using the BAM, including a field day. Greencap will communicate directly with those interested in attending the training, which we anticipate recommencing before the end of 2020.

During 2021, some assessors will be seeking to renew their accreditation. Information about refresher training for renewal of accreditation will be sent out before the end of 2020. A new [accreditation renewal](#) webpage has been created to provide assessors with information about renewing their accreditation.

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