



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, INDUSTRY AND ENVIRONMENT

BAM Assessor Update – Number 26 – 6 November 2019

Biodiversity Offsets Payment Calculator and Spot Price Index and Biodiversity Assessment Method Support Webinar

Contents

1. Biodiversity Offsets Payment Calculator and launch of a Spot Price Index
2. BAM Support Webinar held Wednesday 6 November – Biodiversity Offsets Payment Calculator and Spot Price Index

1. New Biodiversity Offsets Payment Calculator and launch of a Spot Price Index

To continue the transition to the NSW Biodiversity Offsets Scheme, and to support the biodiversity offsets market, the following changes are being made:

- a new Biodiversity Offsets Payment Calculator has been made as part of the quarterly scheduled updates, effective 1 November 2019
- a Spot Price Index for BioBanking credit trades has been launched.

More information on the new BOPC and the Spot Price Index is available on the [Biodiversity Offsets Payment Calculator page](#).

The new Biodiversity Offsets Payment Calculator

The Biodiversity Offsets Payment Calculator (BOPC) helps proponents understand their costs should they choose to pay the Biodiversity Conservation Trust instead of using other options. This is a 'premium' offset option, reflecting its ease and convenience.

The upgraded calculator is a significant step in the transition to the new scheme. Compared to the old BOPC, the new BOPC more accurately estimates what it will cost the Biodiversity Conservation Trust to secure offsets.

To better align with the settings of the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme, four changes have been incorporated in the new BOPC:

1. The decrease in the discount rate used to calculate in-perpetuity management costs for biodiversity stewardship sites from 3.5% to 2.6% announced in November 2018.
2. Change of methodology from BioBanking / Framework for Biodiversity Assessment to Biodiversity Assessment Method.
3. The introduction of offset trading groups as part of the like for like offset rules. Ecosystem credits for Plant Community Types within the same offset trading group are considered interchangeable.
4. An increase in the administration fee for the Biodiversity Conservation Fund (from 0.26% or \$20 per credit minimum to 4% or \$80 per credit).

These changes are included together with the BOPC's scheduled quarterly data update.

Making it easier to access market data

A new Spot Price Index has also been launched. The Spot Price Index will be your new source of data on the biodiversity credit market. This index can be easily interrogated to provide a wide range of market information that will be valuable to market participants. A Biobanking credit version of the Spot Price Index has been launched. A Biodiversity Assessment Method version will follow as those credits start trading.

Questions or feedback?

We are keen to engage with you on the operation of the Scheme and your feedback is always welcome. If you would like to get help, give feedback or ask a question about the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme, please visit [Biodiversity Offsets Scheme support](#).

2. BAM Support Webinar: BOPC and Spot Price Index

This webinar provided an overview of the recent update to the Biodiversity Offsets Payment Calculator (BOPC) and the public release of the offsets market Spot Price Index. Go to [BAM Support: The Biodiversity Offsets Payment Calculator and the Spot Price Index](#) to view further details.