

# Biodiversity Offsets Scheme Update No. 48

9 June 2026

**Welcome to issue No. 48** of the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme Update.

This monthly newsletter is one of the ways in which we communicate and help support the implementation of the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme. You can keep up to date [via our website](#) and view our [past newsletters here](#). You can find the Biodiversity Conservation Trust's (BCT) newsletter on their [website](#).

For other enquiries on the scheme, contact the BOS [Help Desk](#).

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## BOS Portal launched on 1 June

The new [BOS Portal](#) has now replaced BOAMS. The BOS Portal includes new self-serve features, and is more streamlined, secure and easier to use. Support, including videos, step-by-step user guides and help articles are available through the [BOS Help Desk](#). BAM-C is also back online after this transition. Over 300 people have logged into the

new system. We appreciate your support in making this important transition and are now working on the next stages of improving the scheme's systems.

## Public consultation on the draft regulation

Public consultation on amendments to the *Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017* (the draft regulation) to improve the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme in line with the NSW Plan for Nature is now underway. The draft regulation includes provisions to:

- strengthen avoidance and minimisation of impacts to biodiversity values
- reduce reliance on the Biodiversity Conservation Fund
- better balance the application of the scheme with the biodiversity risks for small, low impact projects
- improve oversight of conservation brokers
- make credit transaction fees fairer and more efficient.

You can access the consultation materials [here](#), and feedback can be provided via email to [bos.reforms@dcceew.nsw.gov.au](mailto:bos.reforms@dcceew.nsw.gov.au) by 17 July.

## Vegetation and habitat mapping in the southwest of NSW

Improved vegetation, plains-wanderer and mallee bird endangered ecological community habitat layers are now available on [SEED](#). The field-validated datasets cover the central part of the South West Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) and were co-funded by the NSW and Commonwealth governments to improve the accuracy and reliability of data for threatened entities that may be affected by development in the region.

## Remote assessment can now be used for strategic biodiversity certification

The [Remote assessment of biodiversity values - Biodiversity Assessment Method guide](#) can now be used for strategic biodiversity certification as well as critical state significant infrastructure proposals. The approach allows for the remote assessment of biodiversity values using a combination of existing data, tools, information and surrogate sites, where appropriate. Approval to use the guide must be obtained from the department via the [BOS Help Desk](#).

## New hollow-dependent birds BAM survey guideline

The hollow-dependent birds BAM survey guideline has now been published and applies to BAM assessments that commence after 4 June 2026. The guideline is available on the [Guides, tools and databases webpage](#). For any enquiries about implementing the guideline, please contact the [Help Desk](#). The Help Desk has also published a [knowledge article that includes an in-depth worked example](#) of the guideline's implementation at a large site.

## Changes to the SAll list

The list of threatened entities at risk of Serious and Irreversible Impacts (SAll) has been updated to include the addition of *Uromyrtus australis* (Peach Myrtle). This follows the NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee Final Determination that the species is considered critically endangered. The updated list of entities is available on the [Serious and irreversible impacts webpage](#).

The 2025 SAll nominations are currently under consideration, alongside a review of all species on the departments list, following the release of the updated [Guidance on serious and irreversible impacts](#). The outcome of these processes will be communicated in future BOS Updates.

## Strategic offset delivery agreements

The [third progress report](#) for the Central West Orana Transmission Project Strategic Offset Delivery Agreement (SODA) has been published. The quarterly reports cover progress on offset delivery and expenditure. Around 68% of the offset obligation has now been secured, and credits are being purchased from 20 sites across the Renewable Energy Zone, covering over 10,000 hectares being protected and restored.

A SODA [notice of intent](#) is also now published for the Hunter Transmission Project.

## Supply Fund reverse auction

The ninth statewide reverse auction was recently completed, with a 20 per cent increase in the number of bids received since the last auction and offering nearly 3 million credits. The evaluation is now complete and outcomes will be communicated to participants on 12 June. The auction will enable the Supply Fund to support development and infrastructure proponents and Government programs that need to source biodiversity credits and meet offset obligations over the next 6 months. This will continue to support market functioning, building on the previous statewide reverse auction, which resulted in purchases of credits worth \$47 million.

## Spot checks on offset delivery

As part of the recently commenced BOS assurance program, the program will begin spot checks on offset obligations, including that credits have been obtained and retired, or obligations met through the Biodiversity Conservation Fund. Meeting offset obligations is an essential part of the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme. Developers and others with offset obligations are encouraged to check they have met their requirements, including retiring credits. The Department will be undertaking spot checks on a range of projects, including those that were assessed under the former BioBanking Scheme in the coming months.

## Accredited assessors, training and feedback

We now have over 460 people who have been accredited to apply the biodiversity assessment method and work as an accredited assessor. This is a 25 per cent increase in the number of accredited assessors in the last two years.

Accredited assessor training courses are scheduled for July, September and November 2026 and March 2027. For more information about initial training, including training dates and registration, please visit the [training requirements webpage](#). If you are considering becoming an accredited assessor, please read the [accreditation criteria](#) and ensure you meet the technical requirements.

Renewal training courses have been scheduled for June, August, October, November and February 2027. More information can be found on the [renewing your assessor accreditation](#) webpage.

The department continues to receive feedback on accredited assessors. In this financial year, the department received 43 feedback reports on accredited assessors. Of these, 18 cases have been closed with action taken, 11 are under review, and the remainder closed with no further action. The most common issues where action is taken include:

1. the Accredited Assessor has not prepared reports, surveys or other relevant activities in accordance with the Biodiversity Assessment Method Manual; and
2. the Accredited Assessor has not ensured thorough quality control measures are in place, and therefore cannot confirm the correctness and validity of all work prepared by them or by staff or contractors under their direction (as per the Code of Conduct).

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