

NSW Office of Environment and Heritage

BAM Assessor Update Number 10

Topics Covered:

1. Updates to the Biodiversity Values Map

Updates to the Biodiversity Values Map - December 2018

The Biodiversity Values (BV) Map identifies land with high biodiversity value that is particularly sensitive to impacts from development and clearing. The map forms part of the [Biodiversity Offsets Scheme Threshold](#) which is one of the triggers for determining whether the Biodiversity Offset Scheme applies to a clearing or development proposal.

The BV Map will be updated at least four times a year. The timing between updates and the scale of changes will vary. These changes can involve additions, removals and minor refinements to the areas on the BV Map. A minor update to the BV Map (Version 4) was published on the 14 December 2018 to include changes arising from land holder-initiated map reviews.

When an area is added to the BV Map landholders have 90 days to submit a development application without triggering the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme based on the BV map. In future an e-mail alert will be provided to Assessors each time the BV Map is updated.

Assessors are requested to regularly check the BV Map through the Biodiversity values Map and Threshold (BMAT) Tool <https://www.lmbc.nsw.gov.au/Maps/index.html?viewer=BOSETMap>. When proponents contact you regarding the preparation of a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) can you check the BV Map to confirm if the proposal triggers the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme based on the BV Map.

Assessors should also continue to advise clients with local development proposals of the need to determine if their proposal is likely to trigger the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme and require preparation of a BDAR based on either the clearing area threshold or the test of significance