



Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

# **BAM Assessor Update – Number 22 – September 2019**

## **Update to BAM-C Biodiversity Data and BAM Support Webinar Series**

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### **1. Planned update of biodiversity data referenced by the BAM Calculator 27 September 2019**

This is just a reminder that DPIE is updating the biodiversity data referenced by the BAM Calculator (BAM-C) at COB on Friday 27 September 2019. This update will be the first comprehensive update to the biodiversity data referenced by the BAM-C since February 2018 and will import the relevant biodiversity data currently in BioNet into the BAM-C.

The majority of the updated data is a result of the comprehensive review of the information held in the [BioNet Threatened Biodiversity Data Collection](#) (TBDC) that has been underway since mid-2018 and conducted through a series of workshops with flora experts throughout NSW.

The majority of this update will apply to assessment data for threatened flora species. The 'general notes' field of the TBDC now also contains additional information on updated species including survey information and/or references/publications that may be of interest.

Please be aware that if your BAM-C case is finalised prior to the data import on the 27 September, you have 14 days from the finalisation date to submit your Biodiversity Assessment Report (BAR) to the consent authority (BCARS have 28 days to submit). After this period has elapsed, or if your BAM-C case was not finalised prior to the data import, you will be required to apply any data changes that result as a consequence of the data update on the 27 September.

Once the data import into the BAM-C has occurred, an alert will display each time you open an existing case in the BAM-C. This alert will display an overview of the data that is updated for each species, PCT or TECs in your assessment. This alert will appear even if your BAM-C case includes no updated data.

Please note that the alert will list ANY change to the data that was previously referenced by the BAM-C. This will include text corrections, the addition of a general note, changes to survey months, and changes to SAll principles (but not SAll status). While a number of species may be listed as having updated data in your BAM-C case, this is unlikely to affect the credit calculations in the majority of cases. We are preparing comprehensive release notes that will assist to guide you through updating your assessment cases in the BAM-C once the data import has been completed. We will provide these to you closer to the 27 September.

The type of data changes that are likely to result in modifications to credit calculations for 'in-progress' BAM-C cases include:

- The addition of recently listed entities that occur on the land assessed by the BAM.
- Modifications to PCT/species associations.
- The decommission of PCTs.
- Changes to the biodiversity risk weighting score for candidate species. Please note that changes to the biodiversity risk weighting for ecosystem (predicted) credit species are unlikely to affect the credit calculation unless the sensitivity to gain value of the pre-existing highest species increases or decreases with the data import, resulting in a different biodiversity risk weighting score for the ecosystem credits. Refer to Appendix 7, Table 18 of the BAM for more information.
- The addition to, or removal of an entity from the potential SAll lists. Note you may also need to update your BAR to address the assessment criteria in Section 10.2 of the BAM for any SAll entities that are now part of your case. Please refer to Item 2 and Tables 1, 2 and 3 below for a list of changes to the potential SAll list.
- Changes to the unit of measure for candidate species. Please refer to Table 4 below for a list of species with a change to their unit of measure.

Other potential impacts to 'in-progress' BAM-C cases that are not related to credit calculations but may require further assessment include:

- Updates to the survey months (if the species was not found during the initial survey, you will be required to re-survey during the updated months listed). Please note that if the survey was undertaken outside of the newly listed months BUT you can justify that the survey was undertaken in months likely to detect the species (see BAM Operational Manual – Stage 1) you will need to address this in your BAR.
- The addition or removal of habitat constraints or geographic limitations (you may be able to remove species from the habitat suitability lists based on modifications to these constraints, conversely, you may now need to survey if the constraint has been removed).

## **2. Revised list of species listed as potential serious and irreversible impacts (SAll) species**

As discussed above, the review of threatened flora information and the update of biodiversity data referenced by the BAM-C will align species listed as potential serious and irreversible impacts (SAll) species in the TBDC to those shown in the BAM-C as a potential SAll.

The updated list of species (and their habitat) and threatened ecological communities that are at risk of a serious and irreversible impact can be searched in the TBDC.

Updates to the SAll list includes:

- Modifications to principles of already listed SAI species (shown **Table 1**);
- Additions to the SAI species list (shown **Table 2**);
- Removal of some previous SAI listed species (shown **Table 3**).

To reflect these changes, DPIE is currently updating the Guidance to assist a decision maker to determine a SAI document in line with these changes. This will result in the list of entities at risk of a SAI being removed from the Appendix. The list will instead be published on the BOS website.

### 3. **Application of the Biodiversity Assessment Method for developments on Category 1 land**

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has received enquiries relating to the application of the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) on Category 1 land. The BAM applies to clearing and development proposals on Category 1 - exempt land (as per *Part 5A Local Land Services Act 2013*) in some circumstances.

Clearing of native vegetation on Category 1 – exempt land does not require assessment or offsetting under the BAM (in accordance with section 6.8 of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*). In practice, this means that native vegetation on Category 1 – exempt land is not included in any area clearing calculations when determining whether the Biodiversity Offset Scheme (BOS) applies to a proposal.

Assessment of prescribed biodiversity impacts on Category 1 – exempt land is required for a clearing proposal or development where the BOS applies. This includes:

- Biodiversity Certification proposals
- State Significant Development and State Significant Infrastructure
- local development assessed under Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*
- activities assessed and determined under Part 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*
- clearing of native vegetation that requires approval by the Native Vegetation Panel under the *Local Land Services Act 2013*.

Urban land and land zoned for environmental conservation to which the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Vegetation in Non-Rural Areas) 2017* (Vegetation SEPP) applies are excluded from the operation of Part 5A of the LLS Act, and therefore cannot be considered Category 1 – exempt land. Consequently, any clearing proposal or development located wholly on land to which the Vegetation SEPP applies cannot consider prescribed biodiversity impacts on Category 1 – exempt land.

Prescribed impacts are listed in Clause 6.1 of the *Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017* and requirements for the assessment of these impacts are set out in the BAM.

This information will be added as a FAQ to the [Biodiversity offsets scheme: assessor questions answered page](#).

## 4. Replacement of the LMBC Service Centre

Please be aware that from 27 August 2019 enquiries regarding the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme (BOS) can be submitted online. With the help of an online form, enquiries are directed to the appropriate team. This contact method replaces the central contact service centre – LMBC.

You can use the online form to request support or further information about BOS, as well as to provide feedback. The online form allows you to select the topic your request relates to, so that it can be forwarded directly to the responsible team for a response.

Visit [Biodiversity Offsets Scheme support](#).

## 5. Introducing the BAM support webinar series

BAM Support is a series of webinars hosted by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment designed to support the role of accredited assessors in the NSW Biodiversity Offset Scheme (BOS). The series will focus on the operational use of the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) and supporting documents, data, systems and tools used to prepare different biodiversity assessment reports. It will provide accredited assessors and other interested participants with a regular forum to learn more about the BAM, directly ask questions and stay up to date on new matters relating to the BOS.

Each webinar will include content presented by the Department subject matter experts and an opportunity for Q&A. If you can't make it to a webinar, it will be recorded and made available via the [Assessor Resource webpage](#).

Participants will have an opportunity to complete a short feedback survey at the end of each webinar, including telling us which topics you would like to have covered in a future webinar and suggestions for future improvements in how we deliver the webinars.

### Introductory Webinar Schedule\* – Further sessions are being planned

Webinar	Topic	Presenter	When?	Registration
1	Introduction to the accredited BAM assessor webinar series	John Seidel	Thursday 19 September 2019 11:00am to 12:00pm	Registration now open in Adobe Connect. <a href="#">Click here</a> to register.
2	Update to biodiversity data referenced by the BAM Calculator and SAI Guidance	John Seidel Jean Henderson	Thursday 26 September 2019 11:00am to 12:00pm	Registration opening soon.

Webinar	Topic	Presenter	When?	Registration
3	Using the BAM Calculator and BOAMS system support	Phil Wood	Thursday 3 October 2019 11:00am to 12:00pm	Registration opening soon.

\*The webinar schedule may be subject to change due to ongoing prioritisation of relevant BOS content and presenter availability. The schedule will continue to be updated as more webinars are arranged.

## How do I participate?

The webinar series will be run using Adobe Connect. Click on the [link](#) above to view the webinar details and register. You will also receive an Adobe Connect email invitation for upcoming webinars. All you will need to participate is an internet connect and a computer, phone or tablet. You can view the webinar in a web browser or download the following application:

- [Adobe Connect set up for Windows.](#)
- [Adobe Connect set up for Mac.](#)
- Download the Adobe Connect app to your device from Google Play or the Apple store.

Upon registration you will receive a link to the location of the Adobe Connect virtual room. If you have trouble registering or accessing the webinar, please contact [BAM.support@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:BAM.support@environment.nsw.gov.au).

**Table 1 Modifications to principles of already listed SAIL species; yellow ticks mean the principle has been added, red crosses mean the principle was removed.**

Species (scientific name)	Species (common name)	Principle			
		1	2	3	4
Acacia constablei	Narrabarba wattle	√		√	
Asterolasia beckersii	Dungowan starbush		√	√	
Baeckea kandos			√	√	
Casuarina obesa	Swamp she-oak		√	√	√
Choricarpia subargentea	Giant ironwood	√	√	√	
Drynaria rigidula	Basket fern		√	√	
Elaeocarpus williamsianus	Hairy quandong	√	√		√
Eucalyptus imlayensis			√	√	√

Species	Species	Principle			
Eucalyptus scoparia	Wallangarra white gum		X	√	
Gentiana bredboensis	Bredbo gentian	√	√	√	√
Grevillea iaspicula	Wee jasper grevillea		X	√	
Indigofera efoliata	Leafless indigo		√	√	
Lindernia alsinoides	Noah's false chickweed		√	X	
Lysimachia vulgaris var. davurica	Yellow loosestrife			√	√
Myrsine richmondensis	Ripple-leaf muttonwood		√	√	
Pomaderris adnata	Sublime point pomaderris		X	√	
Pomaderris gilmourii var. cana	Grey deua Pomaderris		√	√	
Prasophyllum bagoense			X	√	
Prasophyllum sp. Majors Creek	Majors Creek leek orchid	√	√	√	√
Psilotum complanatum	Flat fork fern		√	√	
Pterostylis ventricosa		√		X	
Pultenaea parrisiae	Parris' bush-pea		√	√	

**Table 2** Entities now considered to be at risk of a SAI; yellow ticks mean the principle(s) has been added.

Species		Principle			
(scientific name)	(common name)	1	2	3	4
<i>Amytornis modestus inexpectatus</i>	Thick-billed Grasswren (central NSW subspecies)		√		
<i>Amytornis modestus obscurior</i>	Thick-billed Grasswren (north-west NSW subspecies)		√		
<i>Cucumis althaeoides</i>			√	√	
<i>Grevillea rivularis</i>	Carrington Falls Grevillea			√	
<i>Homoranthus bebo</i>				√	
<i>Lenwebbia</i> sp. Main Range		√	√		
<i>Nitella parooensis</i>				√	
<i>Pimelea cremnophila</i>			√	√	
<i>Prostanthera gilesii</i>			√	√	
<i>Rhodamnia rubescens</i>	Scrub Turpentine	√			
<i>Rhodomyrtus psidioides</i>	Native Guava	√			
<i>Zieria odorifera</i> subsp. <i>copelandii</i>			√		
<i>Zieria odorifera</i> subsp. <i>warrabahensis</i>			√	√	
<i>Acacia bakeri</i>	Marblewood		√		
<i>Acacia carneorum</i>	Purple-wood Wattle				√
<i>Acronychia littoralis</i>	Scented Acronychia		√		
<i>Aldrovanda vesiculosa</i>	Waterwheel Plant			√	
<i>Cassia marksiana</i>		√	√		
<i>Commersonia rosea</i>			√		

Species	Species	Principle	
<i>Convolvulus tedmoorei</i>	Bindweed	√	
<i>Corokia whiteana</i>	Corokia	√	
<i>Cryptocarya foetida</i>	Stinking Cryptocarya	√	
<i>Daphnandra johnsonii</i>	Illawarra Socketwood		√
<i>Darwinia peduncularis</i>		√	
<i>Diospyros mabacea</i>	Red-fruited Ebony	√	
<i>Diploglottis campbellii</i>	Small-leaved Tamarind	√	
<i>Endiandra muelleri</i> subsp. <i>bracteata</i>	Green-leaved Rose Walnut	√	
<i>Eucalyptus canobolensis</i>	Silver-Leaf Candlebark		√
<i>Eucalyptus corticosa</i>	Creswick Apple Box		√
<i>Euphrasia bowdeniae</i>		√	
<i>Floydia praealta</i>	Ball Nut	√	√
<i>Galium australe</i>	Tangled Bedstraw		√
<i>Grevillea masonii</i>	Mason's Grevillea		√
<i>Grevillea renwickiana</i>	Nerriga Grevillea		√
<i>Melicope vitiflora</i>	Coast Euodia	√	√
<i>Microtis angusii</i>	Angus's Onion Orchid		√
<i>Nematolepis rhytidophylla</i>	Nalbaugh Nematolepis	√	√
<i>Olearia flocktoniae</i>	Dorrigo Daisy Bush	√	
<i>Pelargonium sp.</i> <i>Striatellum</i>	Omeo Storksbill		√
<i>Peristeranthus hillii</i>	Brown Fairy-chain Orchid	√	
<i>Persoonia hirsuta</i>	Hairy Geebung	√	
<i>Phebalium bifidum</i>		√	



Species	Species	Principle			
Pomaderris cocoparrana			√		
Pomaderris pallida	Pale Pomaderris				√
Prostanthera sejuncta		√	√		
Pterostylis pulchella	Waterfall Greenhood			√	
Solanum sulphureum	Manning Yellow Solanum		√		
Syzygium moorei	Durobby	√			
Xanthosia scopulicola			√		
Xylosma terrae-reginae	Queensland Xylosma		√		
Zieria baeuerlenii	Bomaderry Zieria				√
Zieria tuberculata	Warty Zieria			√	

**Table 3** Species removed from the SAll list; red crosses mean the principle(s) was removed.

Species (scientific name)	Species (common name)	Principle			
		1	2	3	4
Amytornis textilis modestus	Thick-billed grasswren (eastern subspecies)		X	X	
Gaultheria viridicarpa subsp. Merinoensis	Mt Merino waxberry		X	X	
Gaultheria viridicarpa subsp. Viridicarpa	Green waxberry			X	
Callitris oblonga	Pygmy Cypress Pine			X	
Calotis pubescens	Max Mueller's Burr-daisy			X	
Carex raleighii	Raleigh Sedge			X	
Lepidium hyssopifolium	Aromatic Peppergrass			X	
Prasophyllum retroflexum	Kiandra Leek Orchid			X	
Pultenaea humilis	Dwarf Bush-pea			X	

**Table 4 List of flora species with a change to their unit of measure**

Scientific name	Common name	New unit of measure
<i>Acacia georgensis</i>	Bega Wattle	Count
<i>Acacia notabilis</i>	Mallee Golden Wattle	Count
<i>Acacia phasmoides</i>	Phantom Wattle	Count
<i>Acacia rivalis</i>	Creek Wattle	Count
<i>Banksia Vincentia</i>	<i>Banksia vincentia</i>	Count
<i>Bossiaea bombayensis</i>	Bombay Bossiaea	Count
<i>Brachyscome ascendens</i>	Border Ranges Daisy	Area
<i>Bulbophyllum globuliforme</i>	Hoop Pine Orchid	Area
<i>Callitris endlicheri</i> - endangered population	Black Cypress Pine, Woronora Plateau population	Count
<i>Chorizema parviflorum</i> - endangered population	<i>Chorizema parviflorum</i> Benth. in the Wollongong and Shellharbour Local Government Areas	Count
<i>Daphnandra johnsonii</i>	Illawarra Socketwood	Area
<i>Eucalyptus imlayensis</i>	Imlay Mallee	Count
<i>Eucalyptus langleyi</i>	Albatross Mallee	Count
<i>Eucalyptus langleyi</i> - endangered population	<i>Eucalyptus langleyi</i> population north of the Shoalhaven River in the Shoalhaven local government area	Count
<i>Eucalyptus parramattensis</i> subsp. <i>parramattensis</i> - endangered population	<i>Eucalyptus parramattensis</i> C. Hall. subsp. <i>parramattensis</i> in Wyong and Lake Macquarie local government areas	Area
<i>Eucalyptus recurva</i>	Mongarlowe Mallee	Count
<i>Eucalyptus sturgissiana</i>	Ettrema Mallee	Count
<i>Grevillea acanthifolia</i> subsp. <i>paludosa</i>	Bog Grevillea	Count

Scientific name	Common name	New unit of measure
<i>Lespedeza juncea</i> subsp. <i>sericea</i> - endangered population	<i>Lespedeza juncea</i> subsp. <i>sericea</i> in the Wollongong Local Government Area	Count
<i>Ranunculus anemoneus</i>	Anemone Buttercup	Count
<i>Rutidosis leiolepis</i>	Monaro Golden Daisy	Count
<i>Rutidosis leptorrhynchoides</i>	Button Wrinklewort	Count
<i>Rytidosperma pumilum</i>	Feldmark Grass	Count
<i>Thelymitra adorata</i>	Wyong Sun Orchid	Area
<i>Westringia davidii</i>	David's Westringia	Count
<i>Zieria baeuerlenii</i>	Bomaderry Zieria	Count
<i>Zieria citriodora</i>	Lemon Zieria	Count
<i>Zieria granulata</i>	Illawarra Zieria	Count