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Paddock tree module in BAM Calculator

As part of the ongoing development and improvement of the BAM credit calculator (BAM-C), OEH has completed work on the module in BAM-C for assessing clearing or developments that impact on paddock trees. Assessors can now use the Paddock Tree module to assess clearing or development proposals or parts of clearing/development proposals that meet the definition of paddock trees set out in Appendix 1 of the BAM.

Please note that the paddock tree module should not be used to assess impacts on threatened species that require species credits. Impacts on threatened species that require species credits must be assessed via either of the BAM-C development, clearing or biodiversity certification modules.

Upcoming assessor forums in Sydney and Newcastle

OEH and the Biodiversity Conservation Trust (BCT) are planning to jointly hold three assessor forums. The forums will provide an opportunity to discuss issues arising in implementation of the scheme and hear the latest updates from OEH and the BCT including operation of the BCT's offset program. To help ensure that the program is tailored towards the needs of assessors, you will be invited to complete a short survey where you can indicate which topics you would most like to hear about and discuss on the day.

Dates and venues

Sydney forums (4th and 13th Sept): Masonic Centre Sydney, 66 Goulburn St, Sydney NSW 2000

Newcastle forum (5th Sept): Fort Scratchley Function Room, 5 Fort Dr, Newcastle East NSW 2300

If you would like to attend one of the forums, please register at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/accredited-assessor-forums-tickets-47905645074>.

Update to Biodiversity Offset Payment Calculator

Please be advised that the Biodiversity Offsets Payment Calculator (BOPC) has been updated on Tue, 31st July 2018, as part of the "BOPC Proposed 2018-2020 update schedule" (see enclosed document for further reference). Please note that:

- The BOPC version 1.3.3.0 includes the biodiversity credits trades up to 30th June 2018.
- The updated biodiversity credit prices are valid as per 1st August to 31st October 2018.
- The next update of the BOPC is scheduled to COB Wed 31st October 2018.

Special note: The BOPC price should only be used to determine how much the BCT charges a developer for taking on its offset liability.

Updated high threat weed list

OEH's Science Division have recently updated the list the of High Threat Weeds referred to in the BAM. The list of High Threat Weeds (v2) will now replace the one currently available from the BAM C opening page

Assessing development impacts on Category 1 land and the Biodiversity Offset Scheme

The attached FAQ sets out further guidance for assessors on the relationship between category 1 land and the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme. The FAQ explains when a BDAR is required for development on Category 1 land(as per Part 5A LLS Act), how to determine if you are on category 1 land, and how to assess development on category 1 land using either the BAM or the test of significance. This information will also be published on the website for the [Biodiversity Offset Scheme](#)

Threatened Species Test of Significance Guidelines

An updated version of the Threatened Species Test of Significance Guidelines was gazetted today https://gazette.legislation.nsw.gov.au/so/download.w3p?id=Gazette_2018_2018-76.pdf. The guidelines relate to the test of significance outlined in section 7.3 of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016. They will shortly be available on the OEH website for download <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened-species-test-of-significance.htm> and in the meantime are attached.

Submitting Biodiversity Development Assessment Reports

It has come to our attention that some draft biodiversity development assessment reports are being submitted with development applications. A biodiversity development assessment report must be final when submitted. If a decision is made to assume presence for a species, the credit obligation in the conditions of consent will reflect this assumption. Any subsequent assessment will be handled as a modification to the consent.