

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, INDUSTRY & ENVIRONMENT

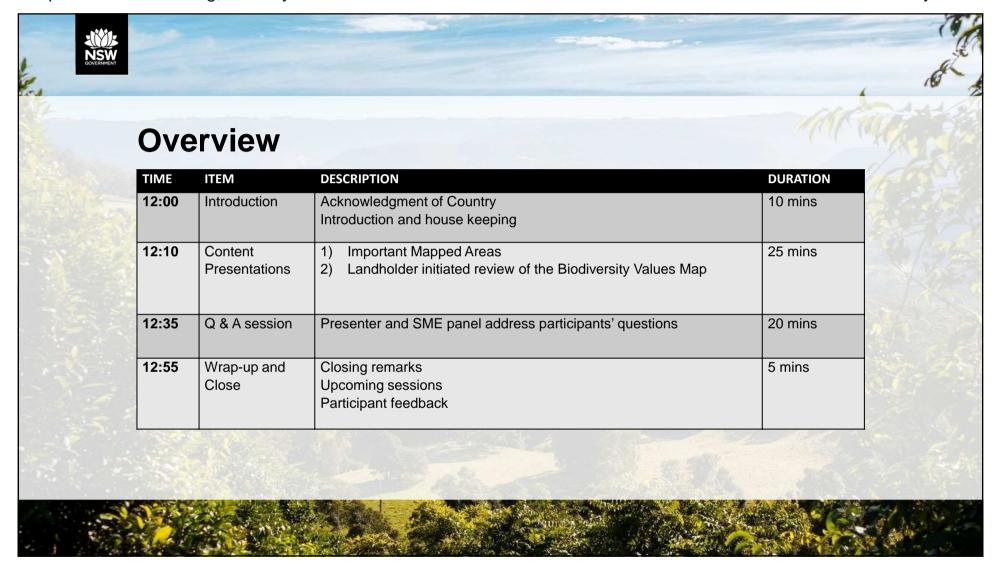
BAM Support for Accredited Assessors

A series of webinars to support the role of accredited BAM assessors in the Biodiversity Offset scheme (BOS)



For more information, go to the <u>BAM Support Webinar webpage</u> or contact us via the <u>BOS Online Enquiry Form</u>







Ecosystem credit species

 habitat can be predicted by vegetation surrogates and landscape features



 habitat cannot be confidently predicted and can be reliably detected by survey



- assessed for ecosystem credits and species credits
- highly mobile species
- reliant on particular habitat components for breeding or particular areas identified as being important for the species' persistence







What are important areas?

- approach required for mobile, difficult to survey species suited to a rapid assessment method
- locations that support critical life stages of a species, e.g. breeding areas or locations important for foraging/over-wintering for migratory species



- generally restricted to species that are:
 - ° highly mobile, and
 - with long-term data sets that indicate the importance of particular areas in the landscape.



How are important areas used in the BAM?

- survey is **not** required for species with important areas
- species is considered present in mapped areas
- mapped area within subject land forms the species polygon
- applies to development and biodiversity stewardship sites
- impact within important areas require assessment for a potential serious and irreversible impact (SAII)
- species credits can only be created on BSA within an important area







How are important areas mapped?

- DPIE method for mapping threatened species in a regulatory framework
- species experts develop species specific, evidence-based criteria
- approach may include:
 - buffering point records, e.g. breeding or roosting
 - mapping particular habitat features or land forms
 - using existing mapping generated by other organisations or programs
- map reviewed by independent species expert
- map updated when necessary with new species information
- completed for regent honeyeater and 11 migratory shorebird species
- draft mapping available for swift parrot and plains wanderer.





What if the species is at risk of a serious and irreversible impact?

- section 10.2.3 of the BAM still applies
- criteria can be addressed using best available knowledge/data/information
- maps align with those on the Biodiversity Values Map







How can accredited assessors access important areas?









STEWARDSHIP ASSESSMENT







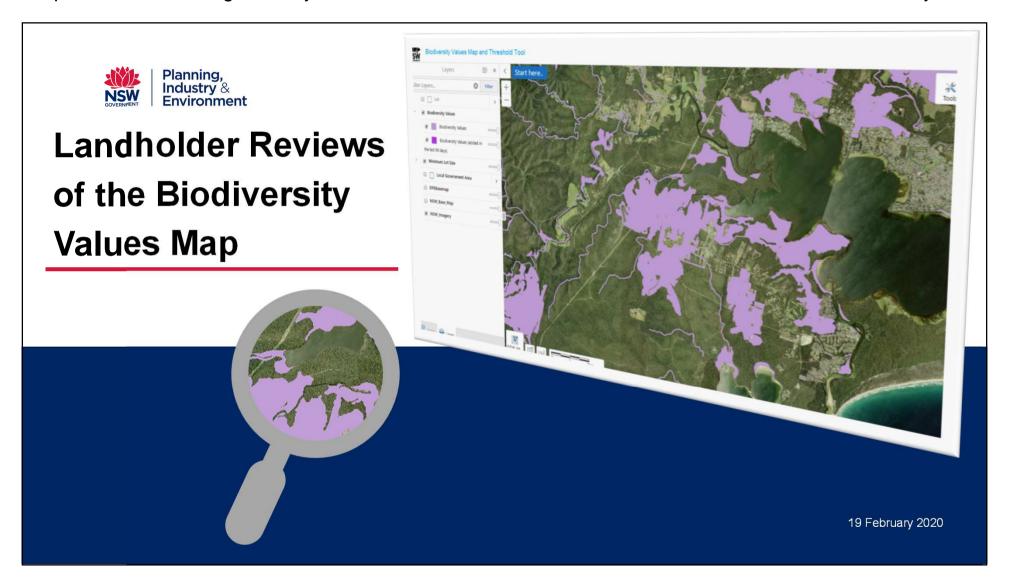
DEVELOPMENT/CLEARING ASSESSMENT

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

CREDIT WANTED

IMPORTANT AREA MAPS

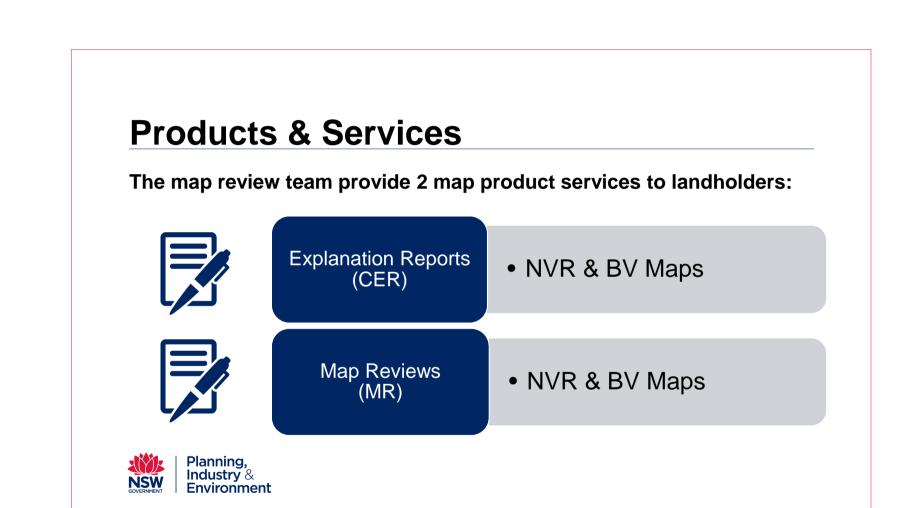
- contact BAM support mailbox for draft mapping for swift parrot and plains wanderer bam.support@environment.nsw.gov.au
- map viewer accessed via BOAMS for regent honeyeater and migratory shorebirds



What's in the BV Map?

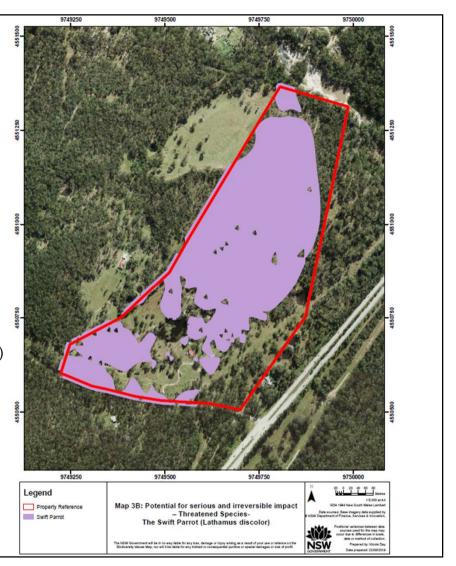
- 1. Coastal wetlands and littoral rainforest (Coastal Management SEPP)
- 2. Core koala habitat (SEPP 44 to be replaced by the new Koala Habitat Protection SEPP on 1 March 2020)
- 3. Ramsar wetlands (EPBC Act)
- 4. SAII Threatened Species or Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs)
- 5. Protected riparian land
- 6. High conservation value grasslands or other groundcover
- 7. Old growth forest
- 8. Rainforests
- 9. Areas of Outstanding Biodiversity Value (AOBVs)
- 10. Council nominated areas vegetation connectivity or threatened species habitat
- 11. Any other land in the opinion of the Environment Agency Head is of sufficient biodiversity value





Biodiversity Values Explanation Reports

- Provides detailed maps of all data layers
- · Provides the basis for categorisation
- Provides advice on what is required to undertake a review
- · Council's can apply
- Takes less than 5 days to complete a CER (depending on demand)
- It's a free service

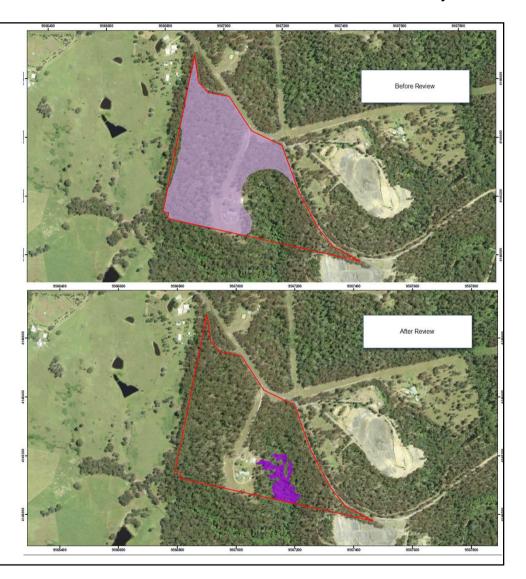




Landholder Map Reviews

- Landholders or their nominated agent can apply
- Landholders need to provide evidence to support their review
- Main types of reviews for the BV Map
 - Expert refinement of TS & TEC mapping
 - Spatial errors
- Decision is made by 'Data Custodian' or 'Accountable Officer' then packaged up for approval
- Applications can and have been refused
- Areas can be added to the maps
- BV Map reviews only take effect when the map is re-published
 currently 4 times a year





Fixing Spatial Errors on the BV Map

- Sports ground mapped
- Roads mapped
- Houses mapped
- Cleared electricity easement mapped
- Data slithers

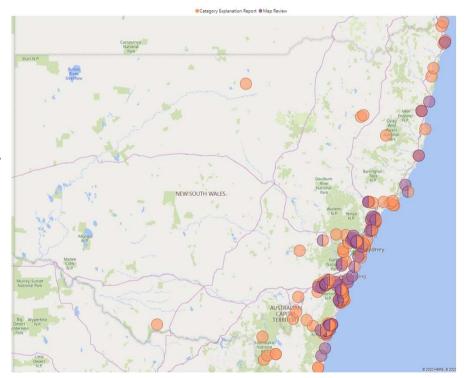




Map Review Stats

- 74 BV Map Reviews Determined
 - 67 Approved
 - 7 Refused
- 54 Cases involve TS or TEC mapping
- 261 hectares of land has been removed from the BV Map via review
- 123.5 hectares largest review
- 11.5 square metres smallest review
- 2.1 hectares Average review size
- 29 days Average time to determine
- V9 being released 26 Feb 2020
- V10 being released 27 May 2020







Map Review Team

Ph: 6360 9000

Map.review@environment.nsw.gov.au

BV Map website

https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/biodiversity/biodiversity-offsets-scheme/entry-requirements/biodiversity-values-map



