

BIOBANKING AND OFFSETTING SERVICES

Eco Logical Australia has been actively involved in developing and implementing the NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change & Water's (DECCW) BioBanking methodology and associated processes for the past 5 years. This has included:

- Staff secondment to DECCW during the development of the methodology
- Several BioBanking trials to assist DECCW in testing the methodology and potential outcomes of the BioBanking scheme.
- Undertaking one of the first formal Biobanking Assessments of both development and BioBank sites
- Representing the NSW Urban Task Force on the Biobanking Ministerial Reference Group

Eco Logical Australia also has an exclusive licence from DECCW to develop and deliver the Biobanking Assessor Training and Accreditation course for environmental consultants throughout NSW. To date, some 150 DECCW staff and environmental consultants have attended 15 courses.

Eco Logical Australia has undertaken formal BioBanking assessments and feasibility studies for a range of private and government clients. These assessments have included conservation sites ranging from 20-1500 ha in size and development sites from 100 to 5000 ha in size.

We have successfully prepared and had approved the first assessments for a BioBanking Statement and Red Flag variation (Forresters Beach) and a BioBanking site (Brownlow Hill) with two more assessments nearing registration.

Combined with our Canberra office, Eco Logical Australia is also able to provide advice and information regarding Federal Government offset requirements. Our senior Canberra consultants have extensive experience in administering the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) and, while working for the Australian Government, were closely involved in the development of a draft offsets policy. Eco Logical Australia's knowledge and expertise of both federal and state government offset policies enables us to develop and implement strategies that address the requirements of both.

At a finer geographic level, Eco Logical Australia also has experience in developing offset strategies at site specific, local, regional and landscape scales. We have formulated offset strategies for numerous Local Government Areas as well as for larger regional areas such as western Sydney where we incorporated an offset strategy into the Growth Centres Commissions Conservation Plan.

Eco Logical Australia applies robust spatial data abilities and a sound ecological science base to plan and develop offset strategies that allow project flexibility whilst improving or maintaining environmental outcomes. Our multidisciplinary teams of GIS experts, ecologists and statutory planners, have unique experience in offsetting strategies and BioBanking.

SERVICES - BIOBANKING AND OFFSETS

- Application of on-site BioBanking methodology using accredited consultants
- Calculation of approximate credit potential of a site
- Calculation of exact credits required or generated at a site
- Identification of potential red-flags that may limit development options
- Assessment of offset potential both on and surrounding the site
- Investigation into the likely market for BioBanking credits
- Advice on BioBank site management and costs
- Advice on how to incorporate Federal and State Government offset requirements
- BioBanking strategies
- Regional offset strategies
- Information on how to incorporate BioBanking into due diligence assessment

KEY ELA STAFF FOR BIOBANKING AND OFFSETS

Robert Humphries (Manager, BioBanking and Offset Programs)

Member of BioBanking Ministerial Reference Group.

Strategic advice on offsets and BioBanking options.

Extensive experience and knowledge of BioBanking and offset programs and the development of corporate and land holder offset businesses.

Phone 02 8536 8620 **Email** roberth@ecoaus.com.au

Accredited Biobanking Assessors)

ELA currently has 7 Accredited BioBank Assessors with a detailed understanding of BioBanking methodology, credit calculator, mapping requirements, planning implications and preparation of BioBank site management plans.

Daren James, Sutherland **Phone** 02 8536 8618 **Email** darrenj@ecoaus.com.au

Steve Ward, Sydney, **Phone** 02 9993 0566 **Email** stevenw@ecoaus.com.au

Jenny Powell, Sydney **Phone** 02 9993 0566 **Email** jenniep@ecoaus.com.au

Martin Sullivan, Sydney **Phone** 02 9993 0566 **Email** martinsullivan@ecoaus.com.au

Tammy Haslehurst, Sydney **Phone** 02 8536 8663 **Email** tammyh@ecoaus.com.au

Antony Von Chrismar, Newcastle **Phone** 02 4910 0125 **Email** antonyv@ecoaus.com.au

Ryan Smithers, Narooma **Phone** 02 4476 1151 **Email** ryans@ecoaus.com.au

EPBC Act Offsets

Advice on Federal Government offset policy and requirements

Tom Kaveny, Canberra **Phone** 02 6103 2312 **Email** tomk@ecoaus.com.au

Heather Tolley, Canberra **Phone** 02 6103 2013 **Email** heathert@ecoaus.com.au

RELATED SKILLS ALSO AVAILABLE WITHIN ECO LOGICAL AUSTRALIA

- Environmental Survey
 - Environmental Impact Assessment
 - Bushfire Assessments
 - Biodiversity Planning
 - Bush Regeneration
 - GIS database development
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