**Application form**

***Environmental Offsets Act 2014***

**Application for the pre-approval of a Direct Benefit Management Plan Form**

This form is necessary for Direct Benefit Management Plan pre-approval applications only.

For all Direct Benefit Management Plan pre-approval applications, you are required to:

Complete this form;

Attach the Direct Benefit Management Plan, and

Provide any other mandatory supporting information relevant to your application as directed.

1. **Applicant details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name (individual or principal contact if applicant is an organisation)** | **Position (if applicant is an organisation)** |
| **Organisation name (if applicant is an organisation)** | **ACN/ABN (if an organisation)** |
| **Postal address** | |
| **Phone** | **Mobile phone** |
| **Email address** | |
| **Location** | **Project name** |
| **Proposed Direct Benefit Management Plan actions *tick all that apply***  Direct – Onsite Management Actions  Indirect – Education  Indirect – Research  Other – *Provide details:* | |

1. **Prescribed Environmental Matters**

In the table below, summarise the prescribed environmental matter/s (PEMs) to be offset in the Direct Benefit Management Plan. If the number of PEMs exceeds the rows in the table, please attach a separate sheet to the application.

Note: In accordance with the Queensland Environmental Offset Policy, a DBMP cannot be used for Koala Habitat in South-east Queensland.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Prescribed environmental matter group** | **Prescribed environmental matter details (e.g. regional ecosystem, species)** |
| Choose an item. |  |
| Choose an item. |  |
| Choose an item. |  |
| Choose an item. |  |
| Choose an item. |  |

1. **Mandatory Direct Benefit Management Plan requirements**

Direct Benefit Management Plan applications are required to address a range of mandatory information requirements which are outlined in Appendix 6 of the [Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy](https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/management/environmental/offsets/legislation). The below is a summary of the information that must be provided in a Direct Benefit Management Plan application.

**A Direct Benefit Management Plan (DBMP) is required to address the following** (*tick all that have been addressed by the DBMP*):

Identify the prescribed environmental matter(s) (PEMs) being registered in the DBMP;

Use scientific evidence to identify key threats contributing to the decline of the PEM(s) and priority management actions to overcome these;

Demonstrate the status of the identified PEM(s) and their presence in the proposed area;

Demonstrate that the management actions are consistent with the legislation under which the PEM(s) is administered;

Describe the methodology for how the DBMP will be undertaken and how a conservation outcome will be achieved for the identified PEM(s), including:

* + proposed timeframes for each management action;
  + an analysis of the risks of the offset failing to achieve the conservation outcome and how these will be managed;
  + how the DBMP provides benefits in relation to the PEM(s) in addition to any other benefit provided under a requirement of an Act, or agreed to under other schemes or programs; and
  + transparent governance arrangements, such as performance criteria that will be used to monitor success of the management actions, as well as auditing and enforcement measures.

Describe any possible impacts of the management actions, positive or negative, on any other PEM(s);

Provide indicative costings of the management actions, evidence or support for the costings and demonstration that these are cost effective;

State –

* + whether the DBMP will be delivered wholly or partly on the land on which the offset will be undertaken:
  + include particulars of the land and/or sea on which the environmental offset will be undertaken;
  + identify, and contain details of, any person with a legal interest in the land and/or sea on which the environmental offset will be undertaken, including details and agreement from all landholders and/or interested parties for the delivery of the offset; and
  + describe the existing use of the land and/or sea on which the environmental offset will be undertaken and any impact that use may have on the delivery of the DBMP.

State –

* + the measures the authority holder will take to secure the land on which the environmental offset will be undertaken as a legally secured offset area;
  + why the stated measures are reasonable and practicable;
  + the period during which the authority holder will take the measures; and
  + why the stated period is reasonable for the purpose of securing the land.

State whether indirect actions make up greater than 10% of the DBMP.

* For the proposed DBMP area as a whole and for each matter area (i.e. area that contains a single prescribed environmental matter), provide the following mandatory spatial information as below:

Digital data in a format such as ESRI File Geodatabase (.gdb) (preferred), GeoPackage (.gpkp), or ShapeFile package (note, all digital data must be submitted in GDA 2020), **and**

a map showing all of the following:

1. scale and north arrow;
2. boundary of the management area on an image[[1]](#footnote-1) base;
3. location of the management area in relation to the property boundary, other secured offset areas, and areas of Category A Vegetation as per the Property Map of Assessable Vegetation;
4. Where scale allows, include all vertices of the area to be registered are identified and labelled;
5. if multiple polygons are to be registered, then in the legend the areas are detailed accordingly;
6. an estimate of the area(s) in hectares; and
7. be presented in GDA 2020, **and**

a table in csv or excel table (xlsx) format that stores:

1. details the co-ordinates (latitude and longitude) of each vertex to 5 decimal points;
2. for each point information on the matters and vertex identifiers related to those coordinates;
3. be presented in GDA 2020.

**Additional requirements for research programs**

The following additional requirements apply for research programs:

* be conducted by a group or individual with postgraduate or higher qualifications, however there will be scope to engage other educational levels in educational programs;
* generate findings that can be peer-reviewed;
* be published in an internationally recognised peer-reviewed scientific journal or be of a standard that would be acceptable for publication in such a journal. Publications should be submitted to free, open access journals. Data and information collected should have creative commons licensing and be free and accessible; and
* research outputs should be able to inform future management decisions on the PEM(s) and, where possible, be readily applicable to other similar matters (e.g. species groupings).

**Additional requirements for educational programs**

The following additional requirements apply for educational programs should:

* vary in scope, mode of delivery and duration according to the target audience and the PEM(s) (for instance, school or community programs, signage or printed materials);
* be targeted toward behavioural change and subsequent improvement in the viability of the PEM(s); and
* seek to attain measurable outcomes. Whilst it may be difficult to ascertain the scope of influence of educational programs in facilitating behavioural change and subsequent improvement in the viability of the PEM(s), the program must demonstrate to a reasonable extent how it will assist to counterbalance a significant residual impact of the prescribed activity on the PEM(s).

**Additional Information Requirements:**

Please note that some activities may require additional permits or approvals from Local, State, and Commonwealth agencies. It is the applicant’s responsibility to identify and outline what additional approvals and requirements that may be necessary within the attached DBMP. In particular, any potential limitations that may affect the successful delivery of the DBMP.

To expedite the process of DBMP approval and registration, the department that administers the legislation (administering agency) that triggered the offset requirements for the PEM(s) should be consulted prior to requesting that DES approve the DBMP.

1. **Supporting documentation**

I have attached the following required supporting information for this Direct Benefit Management Plan application:

Direct Benefit Management Plan.

1. **Applicant declaration**

By signing this applicant declaration: *(tick all boxes)*

I do solemnly and sincerely declare that the information I have provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

I have read and understood the [Direct Benefit Management Plan Privacy Statement](https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/management/environmental/offsets/tools/tools-dbmp) found on the department’s website.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Applicant’s full name** | **Position (if applicant is an organisation)** |
| **Applicant’s signature *(print and sign or insert as image)***  Shape  Description automatically generated with low confidence | **Date** |

**Further information**

For further information about environmental offsets, please email [offsets@des.qld.gov.au](mailto:offsets@des.qld.gov.au).

1. Image base means an image or mosaic of images including, for example, an aerial photograph or a satellite image. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)