

What is the Biodiversity Values Map?

The Biodiversity Values Map

The Biodiversity Values (BV) Map identifies land with high biodiversity value particularly sensitive to impacts from development and clearing.

The map forms part of the [Biodiversity Offsets Scheme Threshold](#) which is one of the triggers for determining if the Biodiversity Offset Scheme (BOS) applies to a clearing or development proposal.

The Department is required by the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act) to prepare and maintain the BV Map.

If you plan to undertake clearing of native vegetation associated with development, you are required to consult the BV Map. If the proposed clearing area intersects with mapping on the BV Map you are required to complete a Biodiversity Assessment Report (BDAR). A BDAR assesses the extent of impact on native vegetation from proposed clearing and how to offset that impact if required. This report must be submitted to council with a development application and considered as part of the development assessment process.



The BV Map contains a Threshold Tool allowing you to generate a *Biodiversity Values Map and Threshold Report* for the area of your development. The Report helps determine if a BDAR is required for your development application.

How is the Biodiversity Values Map made?

The BV Map includes areas such as threatened ecological communities, threatened species habitat, coastal wetlands, old-growth forest, rainforest, littoral rainforest and other types of land gazetted under other legislation. A number of different data sets that meet the criteria for types of land described in the Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017 are used to build the BV Map. For detailed information about what data is included in each of the land types download our [Types of land on the Biodiversity Values Map](#) publication.

Viewing the Biodiversity Values Map?

You can view the Biodiversity Values Map using the [Biodiversity Values Map and Threshold \(BMAT\) tool](#).

The tool allows you to search for your landholding using an address or lot/dp numbers. It will display the type of biodiversity values occurring on your landholding. When you have found your landholding you can use navigation tools to explore the map or use the identify function to find information that describes the Biodiversity Value criteria displayed on the map.

For detailed information about how to use the map viewer tool see our [Biodiversity Values Map and Threshold tool user guide](#).

What are the colours displayed on the Biodiversity Values Map?

The BV Map displays two colours. Light purple depicts biodiversity values mapped for greater than 90 days. When new mapping is added it is initially shown in dark purple for the first 90 days before updating

to light purple. A proposed development does not exceed the BOS threshold if the land is subject to an application for planning approval at the time the land was included on the BV Map and for 90 days after.

How and when is the Biodiversity Values Map updated?

The BV Map is updated regularly when new or improved data and information is available. The following processes may result in changes to the BV Map for your property:

- a landholder initiated Map Review, or
- updates following application of new or improved data

When new data is added to the BV Map, it is shown in dark purple for the first 90 days.

Updates to the BV Map will be regular and ongoing. Landholders should always check if the map has changed before undertaking vegetation clearing activities. We recommend printing a date stamped copy of the map for your records.

Biodiversity Values Explanation Report

If you would like detailed information and mapping for each of the land types including in the BV mapping for your landholding, you can request a Biodiversity Values Explanation Report (BVER).

A BVER can be provided to a person who owns, lawfully occupies, leases or manages the property, or their nominated agent. Local Councils may also apply for a BV Report on a property subject to a development or clearing application.

Before requesting a BVER you should view your landholding in the [Biodiversity Values Map and Threshold \(BMAT\) tool](#) to see what, if any, BV mapping applies to you. If you are planning any development or clearing on areas of BV mapping you can query the BV map to see the broad type of land that is mapped on your property. A BVER will provide a detailed report.

There is no fee for an BVER and applications are usually completed within 5-10 working days.

To receive a BVER, complete and submit the application form provided.

Biodiversity Values Map Review

If you disagree with the mapping on some or all of your land, you can apply for a Biodiversity Values Map Review. You will need to provide information to the reviewers to support a change.

Before applying for a Map Review, we recommended you request a BVER. For more information about seeking a Map Review please contact the Map Review Team.

Contact us

If you need more information or need help accessing the Biodiversity Values Map please contact the Map Review Team via email at map.review@environment.nsw.gov.au or phone us on 02 8000 0258.

More information

Further information about the BV Map and how it was made is available at: <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/biodiversity-offsets-scheme/about-the-biodiversity-offsets-scheme/when-does-bos-apply/biodiversity-values-map>