

Analysis of the performance and future directions of the biodiversity offsets market in NSW

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Biodiversity Offsets Scheme (BOS)



The BOS is a market-based instrument which relies on market forces, rather than direct management or regulation, to achieve conservation outcomes.



The BOS generates market signals that are intended to positively influence market participants' behaviour to improve biodiversity outcomes.



The BOS legislatively mandates that firms or individuals financially compensate for any significant adverse impact of development on biodiversity. Financial compensation can be provided through:

- ✓ the purchase of biodiversity credits (created by landholders willing to grow additional biodiversity on their properties),
- ✓ by developers growing their own additional biodiversity, or
- ✓ by a developer making a payment into the Biodiversity Conservation Fund (BCF) operated by the Biodiversity Conservation Trust (BCT).



Biodiversity offsets market: simple scheme

Demand side:

Developers and landholders who undertake development or clearing.

Supply side:

Landholders
who establish a
biodiversity
stewardship
site on their
land,
generating
credits to sell.

Biodiversity offsets market: an acceptable definition

The biodiversity offsets market refers to the institutional framework under which developers, landholders, governments agencies, such as the BCT, and other participants carry out either market actions (basically for the purchase/sale of biodiversity credits in the market and that include remuneration or profit) or non-market actions (for self-offsetting and/or philanthropic purposes, where these activities do not necessarily generate any profit.)



What is the economic basis of the biodiversity offsets market?



A biodiversity credit is a common measure for assessing ecological gains (at biodiversity stewardship sites) and losses (impacts of development or clearing.)



A biodiversity credit is used to satisfy trading purposes in the offsets market.



Once created, biodiversity credits can be traded many times before they are retired (to meet an offset obligation).



We can identify a <u>price equilibrium</u> as an outcome of a market economy in which each agent in the economy (i.e., each developer and credit holder) is doing as well as he can given the actions of all other agents.



The former BioBanking program



The NSW BOS commenced on 25 August 2017 and is an extension of the previous NSW Biodiversity Banking and Offsets Scheme ('the BioBanking program'), which was implemented in 2008. There have been a number changes including:

- a) Replacement of the BioBanking Assessment Methodology (BBAM) with the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology (BAM).
- b) Replacement of BioBanking Agreements with Biodiversity Stewardship Agreements.
- c) Establishment of the Biodiversity Conservation Trust.



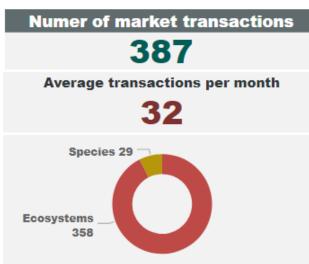
The following data refers exclusively to the biodiversity credits transferred under the BioBanking program.

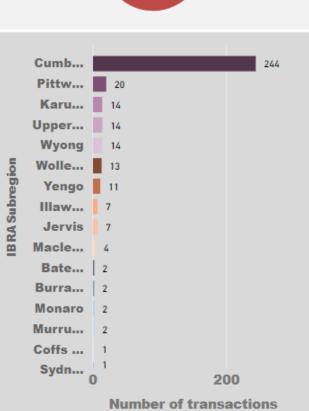


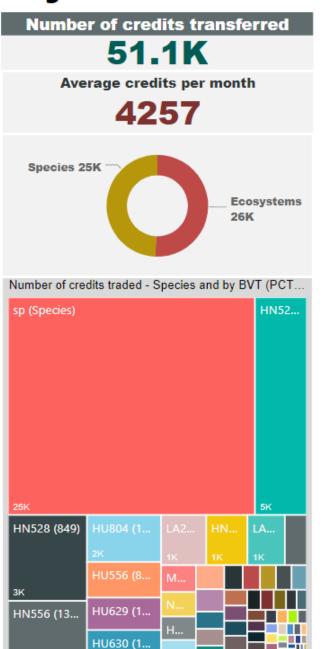
Biodiversity Offsets Market Monitoring: Spot Price Index

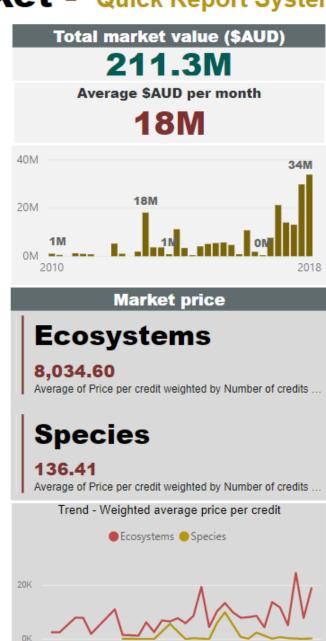




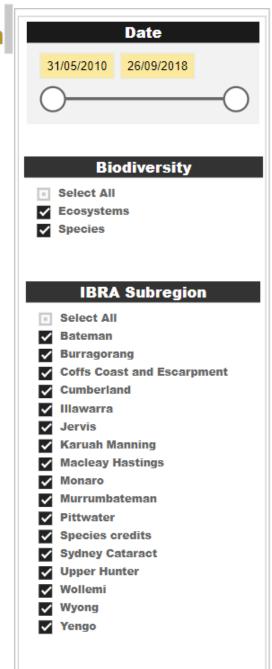








Years(quarter)

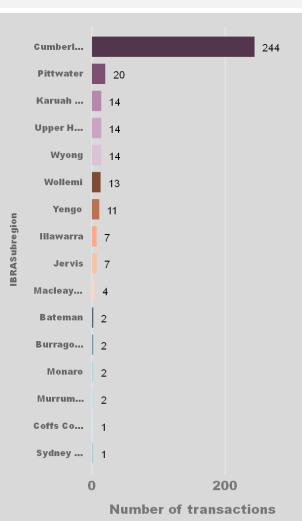






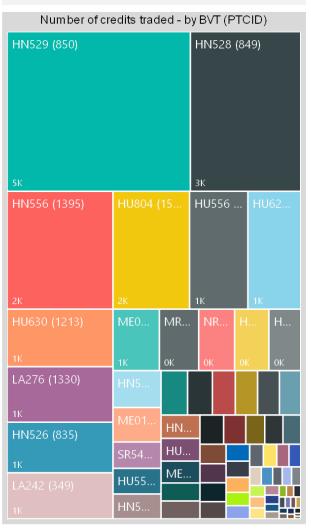
Ecosystems

Numer of market transactions **358** Average transactions per month 30



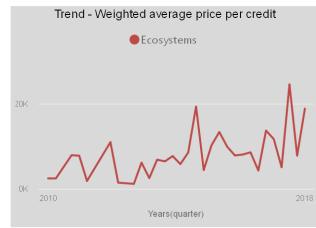
Number of credits transferred 25.9K Average credits per month

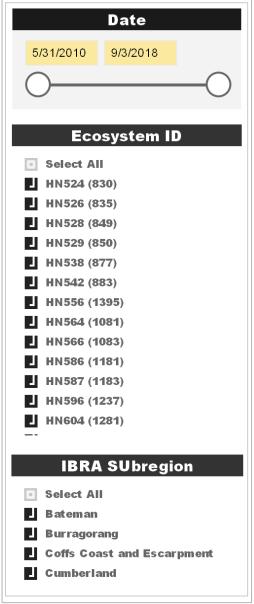
2156



Total market value (\$AUD) **207.8M** Average \$AUD per month 17.3M

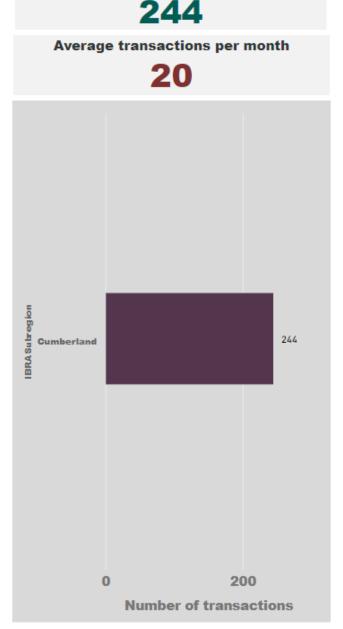
Market price **Ecosystems** 8.034.60 Average of Price per credit w eighted by N... 35,000.00 Max of Price per credit 795.65 Min of Price per credit 6,462.57 Standard deviation of Price per credit



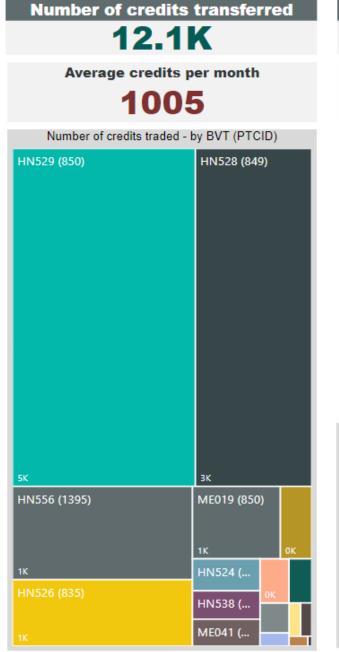


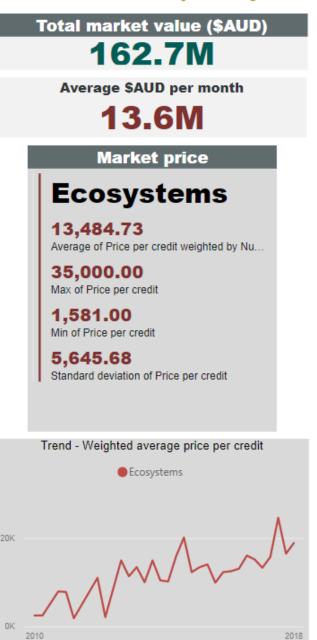


Ecosystems

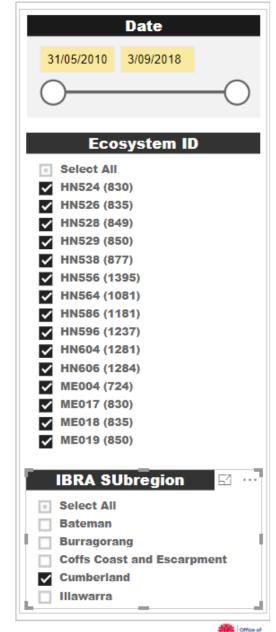


Numer of market transactions





Years(quarter)

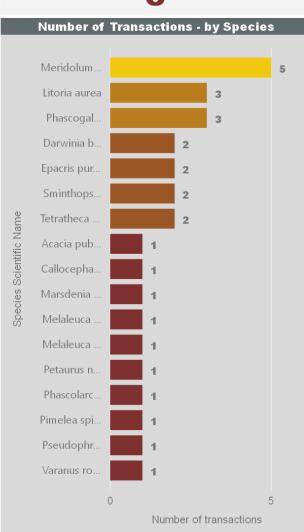


Date of data collection: 30/09/2018 14:03 hrs.

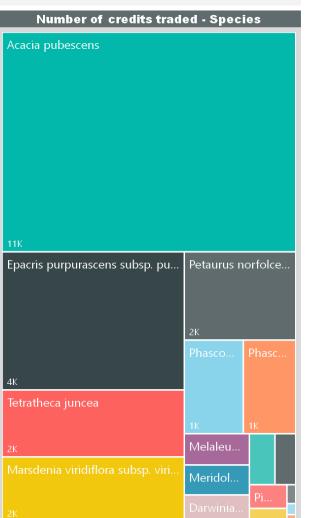


Species





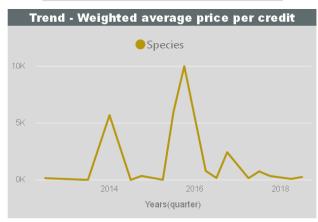
Number of credits transferred 25.2K Average credits per month 2522



Total market value (\$AUD) 3.4M Average \$AUD per month

344K



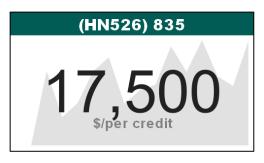


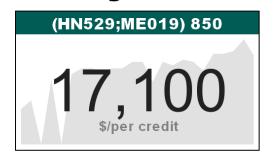


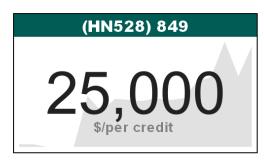


NSW Biodiversity Offsets Market - Spot Market Price

Ecosystems

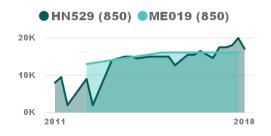




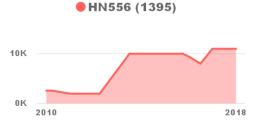


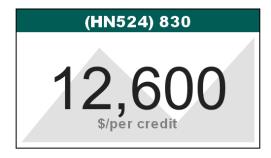


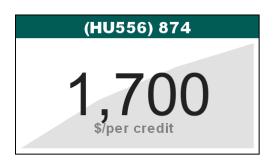




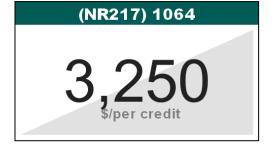


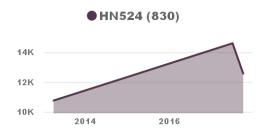


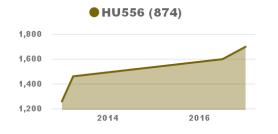




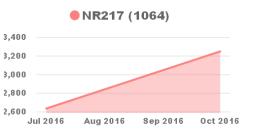




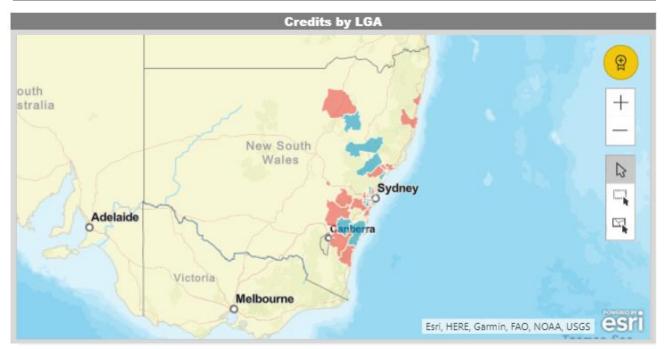








| NAME-PTCID | | Cancelled | Committed | Issued | Pending | Retired | Total | ^ |
|---|-----|-----------|-----------|--------|---------|---------|--------|---|
| | 246 | | | | | | 246 | |
| Bangalay - Old-man Banksia open forest on coastal sands, Sydney Basin Bioregion and South East Corner Bioregion | | | | 2523 | | 199 | 2722 | |
| Black Booyong - Giant Stinging Tree - Rosewood - Moreton Bay Fig lowland subtropical rainforest of the lower North Coast | | | | | 241 | | 241 | |
| Black Booyong - Rosewood - Yellow Carabeen subtropical rainforest of the NSW North Coast Bioregion | | | | 64 | | | 64 | |
| Blackbutt - Narrow-leaved White Mahogany shrubby tall open forest of coastal ranges, northern Sydney Basin Bioregion | | | | | | 354 | 354 | |
| Blackbutt - Needlebark Stringybark shrubby open forest on coastal sands of the NSW North Coast Bioregion | | | | | | 90 | 90 | |
| Blackbutt - Smooth-barked Apple shrubby | | | 78 | 594 | | | 672 | ~ |
| Total | 246 | 2301 | 10707 | 60665 | 3331 | 31895 | 109145 | |



Number of credits available (*issued)
61K

Number of credits generated

109K

Number of credits retired

32K

Number of credits committed

11K

Number of credits cancelled

2301

Number of credits pending

3331

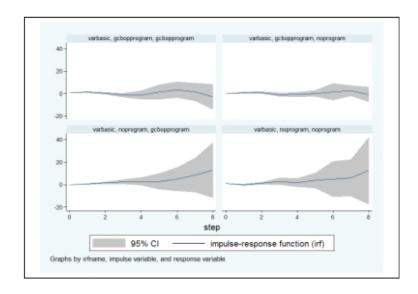
PCTID Select All (Blank) **E** CW177 CW180 **CW202 CW209** HN514 HN523 HN524 HN526 HN528 HN529 **HN531 HN537 HN538 Vegetation Formation** Select All (Blank) **DSG** DSS **FRW** FWW GLD GRW



Future directions

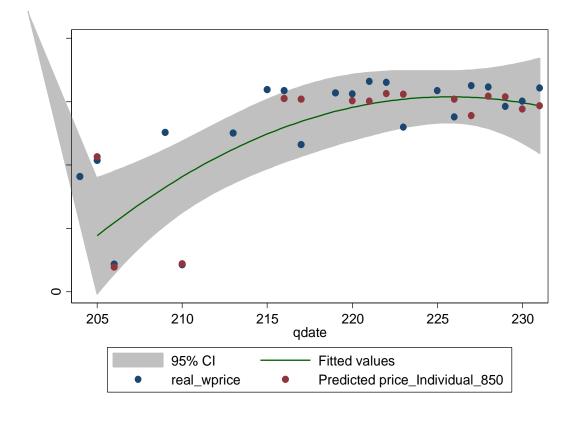


Continuing using advanced econometric techniques to uncover interaction between the biodiversity offset market and other key economic variables.



Granger causality Wald tests

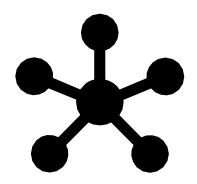
| Equation | Excluded | chi2 | df I | Prob > chi2 |
|--------------|--------------|--------|------|-------------|
| gcbopprogram | noprogram | 9.5278 | 3 | 0.023 |
| gcbopprogram | ALL | 9.5278 | | 0.023 |
| noprogram | gcbopprogram | 14.654 | 3 | 0.002 |
| noprogram | ALL | 14.654 | | 0.002 |



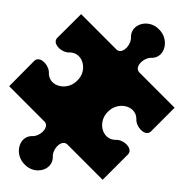




Identify and manage any 'distortion' in the biodiversity offsets market.











Integrate the biodiversity balance derived from the BOS into the NSW System of Environmental Economic Accounting (SEEA)









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Thank you

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