



## WA environmental offsets timeline

Year	Milestone	Stakeholder engagement
2006	Environmental Protection Authority releases position statement on environmental offsets.	
2009	Industry Working Group's review of approval processes makes findings on environmental offsets ( <i>Review of Approval Processes in Western Australia</i> , April 2009).	Group recommends reform of administration of environmental offsets, including the need for consistency and transparency.
2011	Auditor General report highlights the need for transparent offsets policy for WA ( <i>Ensuring Compliance with Conditions on Mining</i> , September 2011).	
	Release of WA environmental offsets policy.	Provides overarching principles for the use of environmental offsets in WA.
2013	Release of WA Offsets Register to provide a central public record of all offset agreements in WA.	Provides public access to offset decisions, contributing to the broader objectives of transparency and accountability.
2014	Release of WA environmental offsets guidelines. These also commit to providing further information on the use of metrics in determining offsets.	Clarifies the determination and application of offsets for stakeholders.
2015	Former environmental agencies commence development of an offsets metric (calculator and guideline) for WA. Two offsets metrics working groups formed (Intensive Landuse Zone and Extensive Landuse Zone).	Working groups contribute to the development of the metric (such as inclusion of rehabilitation credit and addition of time until offset site secured).
2016	Metric testing by staff and offsets metrics working groups, including a six-week feedback period. Additional consultation undertaken with other key stakeholders.	Refinements to the operation of the calculator and wording of guideline to respond to stakeholder feedback.
2017	At the request of the Minister for Environment, DWER commences scoping a review of the WA environmental offsets framework. Work on the metric put on hold until this is completed.	
2018	Scope of the WA environmental offsets framework review finalised and formation of two groups (Intra-Government Steering Group and Stakeholder Working Group) to provide input to the review.	Methodology and sample approvals developed in consultation with groups.



Year	Milestone	Stakeholder engagement
2019	Review report and recommendations developed in consultation with stakeholders. Review report makes 25 recommendations including updates to the WA environmental offsets policy and guidelines, finalisation of the WA metric and progressing strategic approaches.	Stakeholder groups contribute to development of review findings and recommendations.
	<i>Related initiative: Native Vegetation in Western Australia Issues Paper for public consultation, November 2019.</i>	<i>Release for public consultation.</i>
2020	Consultation on implementation planning for review recommendations placed on hold because of Covid-19.	Stakeholder groups contribute to projects, timelines and priorities identified in a draft implementation plan.
	<i>Related initiative: Development of the Green Jobs Plan.</i>	<i>Part of the WA Recovery Plan released in July 2020</i>
	Consultation on draft implementation plan recommences, including links to related initiatives.	The Environmental Protection Authority suggests a broader review of offsets policy.
2021	<i>Related initiative: Consultation draft Native Vegetation policy for Western Australia, August 2021.</i>	<i>Released for public consultation.</i>
	Release of the review report and implementation plan for the recommendations.	Via stakeholder groups in 2019 and 2020.
	Implementation plan project 5 – finalise the WA metric: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>finalise WA metric, including 12-month monitoring and review</li> <li>develop operational manual on metric inputs to help alignment in understanding between Commonwealth and state assessments.</li> </ul>	Feedback and enquiries: <a href="mailto:offsets.metric@dwer.wa.gov.au">offsets.metric@dwer.wa.gov.au</a>  Workshops planned on metric inputs.
	Implementation plan project 3 – update the WA environmental offsets policy.	Development of draft in consultation with stakeholder groups. Public consultation is planned.
2022	Other ongoing and short-term implementation plan projects.	More detailed planning to be undertaken for other implementation plan projects, in consultation with stakeholder groups.
	WA metric testing report due.	Feedback received through first year of use of the WA metric.
2023 onward	Medium-term implementation plan projects.	More detailed planning to be undertaken for other implementation plan projects, in consultation with stakeholder groups.

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