



WA environmental offsets timeline

Year	Milestone	Stakeholder engagement
2006	Environmental Protection Agency position statement on environmental offsets released.	
2009	Industry Working Group review of approval processes which made findings on environmental offsets (<i>Review of Approval Processes in Western Australia</i> , April 2009).	Group made recommendations for reform of the administration of environmental offsets, including the need for consistency and transparency.
2011	Auditor General report highlighted the need for transparent offsets policy for Western Australia (<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 the WA environmental offsets guidelines. The guidelines also committed to provide further information on the use of metrics in determining offsets.	Clarifies the determination and application of offsets for stakeholders.
2015	Former environmental agencies commenced 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 contributed 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 was 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 commenced scoping a review of the WA environmental offsets	



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	framework. Work on the metric was put on hold until this was 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.
2019	Review report and recommendations developed in consultation with stakeholders. Review report made 25 recommendations including updates to the WA environmental offsets policy and guidelines, finalisation of the WA metric and progressing strategic approaches.	Stakeholder groups contributed to development of review findings and recommendations.
	<i>Related initiative: Native Vegetation in Western Australia Issues Paper for Public Consultation, November 2019</i>	<i>Released for public consultation.</i>
2020	Consultation on implementation planning for review recommendations placed on hold because of COVID-19.	Stakeholder groups contributed 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 recommenced, including links to related initiatives.	The Environmental Protection Authority suggested 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"> Finalise WA metric, including 12-month monitoring and review. 	Feedback and enquiries: offsets.metric@dwer.wa.gov.au
2022	Implementation plan project 5 – Finalise the WA metric: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a procedure for metric inputs 	Workshops planned on metric inputs.

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2022	Implementation plan project 3 – Update the WA environmental offsets policy	Development of draft in consultation with stakeholder groups. Public consultation is planned.
	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 (end of 2022).	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.