



# Bunbury Outer Ring Road Environmental Offsets

## What is an environmental offset?

Environmental offsets are offsite measures to address the residual impacts of an action on the environment, after measures to avoid and mitigate impacts have been taken. Offsets usually compensate for these unavoidable impacts by securing vegetated land, or revegetating cleared land, and managing this land to replace any significant environmental values lost. Another type of offset is undertaking of a research project reasonably related to the impact of a proposal, however, this offset is not being used for the Bunbury Outer Ring Road (BORR) project.

Further information on environmental offsets in WA can be found on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's website at: <https://www.der.wa.gov.au/your-environment/offsets>

## Who determines these offsets and who endorses them?

In accordance with the State Environmental Offset Policy and Commonwealth *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* Environmental Offset Policy, Main Roads has developed two separate offset strategies as part of project development for BORR, one for the Northern and Central Sections and one for the Southern Section.

These strategies were assessed by State and Commonwealth environmental regulators as part of their wider assessment of the whole project. In November 2020, the Northern and Central Sections strategy was included as a condition of approval for the proposal, ensuring that Main Roads will carry out the actions proposed as part of constructing the project. The Southern Section strategy is currently under assessment, along with other referral documentation, by the environmental regulators.

## Northern and Central Sections

### How much land is being secured for permanent conservation?

The project offset for the Northern and Central Sections will secure 55 hectares of existing native vegetation, which will provide:

- Banksia Woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plains Threatened Ecological Community;
- Western Ringtail Possum habitat;
- South West Brush-tailed Phascogale habitat; and
- Black Cockatoo habitat

In addition 1.07 hectares of land will be purchased to support herb rich clay pans of the Swan Coastal Plain Threatened Ecological Community.

## How much revegetation and environmental rehabilitation will be undertaken?

45 hectares of state owned land will be revegetated to provide habitat for the Western Ringtail Possum, Brush-tailed Phascogale and Black Cockatoo. In addition, we will also revegetate 90 hectares of State Forest to provide habitat for these animals.

## Southern Section

### How much land is being secured for permanent conservation?

The preliminary offset strategy has identified that the offset for the Southern Section will secure 202 hectares of existing native vegetation, to provide:

- Banksia Woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plains Threatened Ecological Community;
- Western Ringtail Possum habitat;
- South West Brush-tailed Phascogale habitat; and
- Black Cockatoo habitat

The project will also see over 15 hectares of Tuart Woodlands secured for conservation.

### How much revegetation and environmental rehabilitation will be undertaken?

In addition to securing the above 15 hectares of Tuart Woodlands, the project will also manage this land to ensure the Threatened Ecological Communities present continue to exhibit the significant environmental values present.

Further, the project will see revegetation of 80 hectares of State Forest to provide habitat for the Western Ringtail Possum, Black Cockatoo and Brush-tailed Phascogale.