

Assessing a biodiversity offset against the BBOP standard

The BBOP Standard on biodiversity offsets is intended to help determine whether an offset has been designed and subsequently implemented in accordance with the BBOP Principles. It contains ‘Criteria’, which are the conditions to be reasonably met in order to comply with a Principle, and ‘Indicators’, which are the measurable states that allow the assessment of whether or not a particular Criterion has been met.

Each Criterion and Indicator is an essential part of the whole, and all need to be reasonably met for a biodiversity offset to meet the BBOP standard. The current view of BBOP members is that, to meet the Standard, a biodiversity offset needs to conform to the Indicators. However, while an offset assessor should not insist on perfection in satisfying the Principles, Criteria and Indicators, major failures in any individual Principle or Criterion would disqualify a biodiversity offset from meeting the Standard and, consequently, it would not be consistent with the Guidance on Good Practice Biodiversity Offsetting in New Zealand.

Who might find this useful?

The principal users of this part of the Guidance will be individuals wishing to assess a particular biodiversity offset against the BBOP Standard and against New Zealand good practice. However, it will also prove useful for a developer wishing to design a good practice biodiversity offset.

Use the BBOP Standard:

http://www.forest-trends.org/documents/files/doc_3078.pdf