

Landholders & Offsets

Earthtrade is the leading environmental offsets solution specialist providing services to landholders and developers.

Earthtrade, as the broker, works as the agent between the developer and the landholder. We can assist in finding a developer interested in a landholder's vegetation asset.

Earthtrade, as the environmental broker of choice, has the experience and credibility to broker and deliver offsets to industry standards.

What is a vegetation offset?

An offset is required where an area of vegetation is cleared for a development; it may then need to be offset by preserving and securing an equivalent or better area of vegetation away from the actual site of the development.

A developer may be required to provide an offset if they clear vegetation captured by the *Vegetation Management Act 1999 (VMA)*. As per the VMA, a vegetation management offset is a legal arrangement that, over time, guarantees to maintain the area of:

- Essential habitat; and
- Vegetation associated with:
 - Watercourses;
 - Natural wetlands; and
 - Regional ecosystems

Who can become involved?

Landholder with a vegetation asset or supply

You may have regrowth/ native vegetation that you wish to protect or allow to return a to "remnant" state for a number of reasons including:

- Returning to timber production
- Contributing to property plan
- Enhancing the quality of your patch of bush
- Preservation of threatened species or essential habitat; and
- Erosion control.

Vegetation that you are considering offering for an offset must be in the non-remnant "white areas" on the Vegetation Management Maps. The area must also be at least 2 hectares in size and not be protected by some other means such as a covenant or nature refuge agreement etc.

Earthtrade may 'broker' or source a developer who requires the vegetation you have as an offset. This has the potential to provide you with a diversified source of income to contribute to achieving your property plan and to protect and manage your vegetation asset into the future.



Why explore Offsets?

There are a number of reasons landholders would be interested in working with Earthtrade to consider vegetation offsets. These reasons may include:

- Personalised service understanding rural values;
- Improve environmental values on your property; and
- Another option for managing regrowth.

Vegetation Offsets - Examples

Case Study 1

Bill from Burgowan owns a patch of 'suckers' that has got away in the drought. He has a choice of spending money re-clearing, raking, ploughing and seeding to return to grazing or to consider 'selling' the suckers to a developer as an offset.

If Earthtrade can match Bill with a developer, he has the potential to receive monies to manage the suckers back to mature vegetation.

Case Study 2

John from Cooloola owns a property and wants to extend his patch of bush for future generations and for privacy. John has a number of ways to achieve this including:

- Working with his nature refuge / conservation officer;
- Going it alone; or
- Register his interest with Earthtrade as a potential offset

If Earthtrade can match John with a developer, he has the potential to receive monies to manage his patch of bush back to mature vegetation.

Payment could take the form of upfront monies in recognition of prior management. The balance is likely to be held in trust to reimburse the landholder for agreed management actions until the agreement is fulfilled. This would be tailored to the individual situation.

How do I become involved?

You can register your interest in vegetation offsets in the following ways:

- Enter your details including Lot on Plan (from rates notice) onto the Earthtrade website www.earthtrade.com.au - contact us page; or
- Email us on info@earthtrade.com.au with your details including Lot on Plan (from rates notice).

About us

Earthtrade, as an established broker within the environment/ natural resource management sector, has strong associations and proven abilities such as:

- Brokerage capability;
- Legislative and policy interpretation;
- Government and Landholder liaison;
- Access, coordination and management of technical skills to deliver quality vegetation offset; and
- Project management.

Further Information

For further information please contact Earthtrade on (07) 4194 5009 or email info@earthtrade.com.au to discuss Earthtrade's other environmental products and services or any of the company's programs and activities.