Concept Plan CF 2021-045

BIO data collation program

BCS Biodiversity Information Office

Project Core Team

X X **Supervising Scientist** Helen Ensikat
Data Custodian Helen Ensikat

Project status as of July 4, 2023, 1:20 p.m.

X X Update requested

Document endorsements and approvals as of July 4, 2023, 1:20 p.m.

X X
Project Team granted
Program Leader granted
Directorate granted

BIO data collation program

Program

BCS Biodiversity Information Office

Departmental Service

Service 6: Conserving Habitats, Species and Communities

Background

BIO's biodiversity data platform will bring together data from a range of data sources and providers, across industry, the public and research sectors, and community organisations. BIO will initially focus on high volume, high quality datasets – particularly those that are not easily accessible at present, driving a step-change in the availability of biodiversity data in Western Australia. The data will be ingested into the platform after passing automated quality assurance checks, where it will be mapped to a range of common data standards and undergo a human-mediated quality control process before being released to users.

The initial seed data for launch of the BIO platform will be sourced directly from industry, from DBCA repositories, and from regulators such as the Department of Water and the Environment. However, new data will continually be ingested, both through automated delivery from regulators, and through a rolling program to identify and source other valuable datasets. This data collation program will involve outreach to data custodians across all sectors, exploration of technologies to unlock data in pre-digital documents, and ongoing monitoring of existing data to identify temporal and spatial gaps.

Aims

- Provide users with access to a rich collection of high-quality datasets.
- Ingest new and up-to-date data over time.
- Enable access to previously undiscoverable and inaccessible datasets held by both government and by other sectors.

Expected outcome

- Access to a greater range of high-quality biodiversity data, including datasets that have not been available in the past, will support better-informed research and decision-making.
- Availability of up-to-date environmental assessment data, mapped to common standards and validated via the curation process, will ensure that environmental decisions are based on current and accurate information.

Strategic context

This project relates to a number of the strategic goals detailed in DBCA's Science Strategic Plan 2018-21 – most directly, that data is to be effectively captured, curated and made accessible to support conservation, management and decision-making. Enhanced capture, curation, and accessibility of biodiversity data will support the effective acquisition of and sharing of biodiversity knowledge, and establishment of evidence-based management practices referred to elsewhere in the plan.

Expected collaborations

- Industry proponents and peak bodies
- State Government agencies, with DWER being a key partner
- Representatives from the research, local government, and community sectors
- Relevant business units within DBCA

Proposed period of the project

Oct. 1, 2020 – June 30, 2024

Staff time allocation

to | X | X | X |

Role	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Scientist			

Technical

Volunteer

Collaborator

Indicative operating budget

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Consolidated Funds (DBCA)			
External Funding			