Author name: Name suppressed

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Your submission for this review:

Biodiversity offsets to ensure no net loss of biodiversity need to be allocated to a nearby Biodiversity stewardship site or the biodiversity conservation fund needs to establish sites within close proximity in which biodiversity credits can be spent. Nearby sites would ideally be those located within the same catchment area or region to offset the impacts on local biodiversity. This may mean that Biodiversity Conservation Trust might need to identify gaps within existing the biodiversity stewardship sites both by vegetation type and by location and seek to establish more sites in areas where gaps exist. There should also be a mechanism in the process to identify and/or declare a potential conflict of interest so that the process is open and transparent. This may be in the case when a developer can spend credits on a biodiversity stewardship site that they own.