

**INQUIRY INTO INTEGRITY OF THE NSW
BIODIVERSITY OFFSETS SCHEME**

Name: Mr Peter Olive

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The offsets scheme was introduced as part of the NSW Governments push to weaken land-clearing and nature laws in 2017. With four different off-set types available the scheme is confusing and overlapping. The Fund investment strategy cannot be as effective a way of protecting land as strong land clearing laws would. The idea that government or private offset funds can curb inappropriate land clearing is unrealistic. Any funds garnered by an off-sets program would be better spent on NPWS reserve acquisitions.