

Department of Environment and Conservation

Our environment, our future

SUMMARY ANNUAL REPORT

THREATENED SPECIES OR COMMUNITY RECOVERY TEAM

PROGRAM INFORMATION Recovery Team name Geocrinia Recovery Team **Reporting Period** Calendar year 2008 (Financial/Calendar Year) **Current membership** Member Representing 1. Chair Kim Williams **DEC SW Region** 2. EXEC OFFICER Nil 3. Caitlin Prowse **DEC Blackwood District** 4. Peter Mawson **DEC Species and Communities Branch** 5. UWA **Dale Roberts** 6. Ernie Steed-Richardson Shire of Augusta Margaret River Dates meetings were held No meetings were held during the 2008 year, team members communicated by phone or email as required. The annual monitoring program was completed and field assistance was One to two paragraph provided to the Perth Zoo's captive frog breeding program re: collection summary of of source animals and egg masses. Eight males introduced to site achievements suitable for GA50b in 2007 to augment the two existing calling males were WATSNU inspected on three occasions under optimum conditions during the 2008 season. In each instance only one male was calling from the site. The calling position was approximately 6m from the 2007 release site. There was no recognisable physical disturbance at the release site which could explain the fate of the translocated males. Conditions in the creek (water levels) were comparable with previous years. Searching 100m upstream and down stream failed to locate any calling frogs. Of interest are the results for Site GA50a, a site approximately 500m downstream from GA50b. GA50a recorded a single calling male in 2008, the first record since 1998. Whether this animal was one of the

	augmentation release animals from GA50b is not known, if so it marks a dispersal distance never before recorded for the species.
List of actions undertaken by Recovery Team (from actions in Recovery Plan)	A completely revised and update Recovery Plan is in the final edit stage prior to endorsement by DEC and submission to DEWHA.
Action 1 – Population monitoring	Population monitoring was undertaken Sept to Nov 2008, covering 67 sites and 300 hrs work with mixed results. Generally larger sites recorded a small increase in calling males, small sites were steady or slightly down on last year. Monitoring at the 2005 G.vitellina egg mass translocation site was completed. Three calling males were recorded down from four the previous year.
Action 2 – Captive Breeding	Collaborative work with the Perth Zoo continued with further G.vitellina specimens being collected and G. alba egg masses flagged for use in their captive breeding program. Site selection for potential G.alba translocation site was undertaken with temperature loggers in place at two sites since Nov 2008.
Action 3 - Protect Habitat	Investigations ongoing into a deliberate clearing of fenced and occupied G.alba habitat by a newly developed viticultural business. Investigations into Illegal firewood cutting and rubbish dumping at one site within Forest Grove National Park. Illegal access blocked at two sites adjoining G.vitellina sites within the Blackwood National Park
Action 4 – Feral Control	Summer feral pig monitoring and control program maintained along Blackwood River sites and two other National Park site. The program is effective as no monitoring sites have been degraded by pig activity for the last 5 years.
Action 5 – Acquire resources	NRM funds acquired for the Jan – June 2009 period to install tipping bucket style rain gauges at 6 sites and undertake minor fence repairs/maintenance on private property sites.