

Crinia sloanei contingency plan

While displacement of other taxa or otherwise influencing the structure and composition of the community through competition may occur it is likely the risks are low. However, it is acknowledged that *Crinia sloanei* may be present on site at Winton Wetlands. However, it has not been identified in any of our surveying or call monitoring. That said, even though the likelihood is low, this species has significantly declined across its range, therefore monitoring should include this species. Dr Matt West is planning several surveys for *Crinia sloanei* at Winton Wetlands and elsewhere in northern Victoria this winter. WWCoM will use Audiomoths recorders as another method to survey this species alongside the onground surveys by Dr West and WWCoM staff, to ascertain presence or absence on site and if present we can use these (along with other methods) to monitor changes on populations after release.

Monitoring for *Crinia sloanei* will continue in 2023 and 2024 even if the species is not detected to ensure contingency plans can be implemented in case the species is detected.

If *Crinia sloanei* is detected, the following contingency plans will be implemented:

- A detailed monitoring program will be implemented to assess the size and extent of the population by onground and aural surveys designed by Dr Matt West, Dr Geoff Heard, Dr Karen Rowe and WWCoM staff for WWCoM staff and students to carry out.
- This will include baseline data in 2022, during GGF releases and regularly as GGF breeding is likely and the species expands.
- Monitoring will include the size and extent of any GGF populations as they establish.
- Environmental and habitat parameters will be monitored along size the frog data.
- Identify and implement habitat enhancements to support any *Crinia sloanei* will be made to ensure the species continues to thrive.

If the monitoring detects any impacts from the presence of GGF on *Crinia sloanei*, the following contingency plans will be implemented:

- Data will be examined to ascertain if the driver of that change is GGF, habitat or environmental change.
- If GGF presence and predation is shown to be the driver for changes to potential *Crinia sloanei* populations, then the GGF releases will be paused.

Monitoring will continue to observe trajectory of *Crinia sloanei* population. If the *Crinia sloanei* decline still with low GGF levels, or the species increase with increasing populations of GGF, then the GGF release program will recommence. If *Crinia sloanei* decline still with high GGF populations the GGF release program will remain paused.