Australian Aquatic Biological Pty Limited A.C.N. 127 431 118

Current Status
Commenced

Project: 100084

Suitable for publication in JOURNAL OF CRUSTACEAN BIOLOGY, Imperiled Crayfish Series

The current knowledge base suggests this species has a very limited distribution, much of the distribution area has been heavily altered by rural development, water extraction, weirs and dams, etc. The species is further threatened from the translocation of a competitive species Euastacus armatus into its distribution area. Add climate change and heavy recreational fishing pressure - our best guess at this stage would be that this species is critically endangered. This projects aim, is to define the species distribution and threats. Publish the results and use those results to apply for a conservation listing of this species.

CONSERVATION OF IMPERILED CRAYFISH—EUASTACUS VESPER (DECAPODA: PARASTACIDAE), FROM THE WESTERN DRAINAGE OF NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA

Robert B. McCormack¹ & Shane T. Ahyong²

¹Australian Crayfish Project c/- Australian Aquatic Biological P/L PO Box 3, Karuah NSW Australia 2324 and Research Associate, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Section of Invertebrate Zoology, 4400 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213-4080 USA. (rob@aabio.com.au)

²Australian Museum, 1 William Street Sydney, NSW, 2010, Australia, and School of Biological, Earth & Environmental Sciences, University of New South Wales, Kensington, NSW 2052, Australia. (shane.ahyong@austmus.gov.au)

INTRODUCTION

Common name.— McCormack & Ahyong (2017), suggested the common name: the Cudgegong Giant Spiny Crayfish.

Conservation status.—*Euastacus vesper* (McCormack & Ahyong 2017) is currently not listed under any State or Federal Government conservation legislation. Additionally, it currently remains unlisted on the IUCN red list.

Robert B McCormack rob@aabio.com.au