

# Stakeholder workshop: Biological traits and ecological aspects for plant population viability: what do we need to consider?

## Why is this workshop important?

Resource development projects often require translocation, offset or recovery efforts for rare and threatened plant species. The ultimate goal of these efforts is the (re)establishment of long-term viable populations. To ensure resource-efficient and successful recovery or offset, it is crucial to consider the biology, ecology and environment of the species in question. Viability could be achieved at different population sizes for different species. Crucially, beyond a certain point even large increases in population size produce no corresponding improvement in viability.

This workshop is part of a research project of the Gas Industry Social and Environmental Research Alliance (GISERA). It aims to provide science based management guidelines to minimise the creation of inviable populations through under-investment and the over-investment of resources that could instead be used for the creation of additional populations or directed at other species.

This workshop aims to bring together conservation managers, field ecologists, academics, environmental consultants and regulators working with rare and threatened plant species in order to:

- identify plant species from Queensland CSG areas that are under management for plant restoration and biodiversity offsetting,
- identify key life-history traits and ecological aspects for population viability of the identified species, and
- classify the species into several groups based on their life-history traits.

Guidelines for conservation management will ultimately be developed for the identified plant groups.

Combining this expert and stakeholder knowledge will be crucial for gathering critical biological and ecological information that will be used in modelling work. It will also maximise the utility of study outcomes for addressing the specific offset, conservation management and regulation challenges faced by all relevant stakeholders. The focus will be on Queensland CSG areas, but participants from other areas are welcome.

## Who is presenting?

The workshop will be led by CSIRO scientists Francisco Encinas-Viso and Alexander Schmidt-Lebuhn.



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## Date and location

Friday 24 February 2017  
70-72 Bowen St, Spring Hill  
QLD 4000

## Fees

Free of charge. This includes presentations, morning tea and lunch.  
Attendees are asked to arrange their own travel and accommodation.

## Program

10:00-10:30	Introductions and morning tea.
10:30-10:50	Alexander Schmidt-Lebuhn, General background and aims of the research project.
10:50-11:15	Francisco Encinas-Viso, Population Viability Analysis and the use of ecological data in the underlying models.
11:15-11:40	Expert presentation.
11:40-12:00	Work in groups, identify list of species and relevant biological and ecological information for each species.
12:00-1:00	Lunch break.
1:00-2:00	Work in groups. Create groups of species based on their life-history traits and ecology. Identify most important life-history traits and sources of environmental variation.
2:00-3:00	Group presentations, discussion and feedback.

## How to register

Please RSVP by 6 February 2017 to Nicola Proctor on [nicola.proctor@csiro.au](mailto:nicola.proctor@csiro.au) or (02) 4960 6230. Please also provide any dietary requirements.

Participants are encouraged to nominate plant species of interest ahead of the workshop date, as this will allow the facilitators to prepare information for the group work.

