ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018



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Keeping nature safe from dangerous new invaders

ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18

PREVENTION AND EARLY ACTION – 75% OF OUR EFFORT

A biosecurity system is in place by 2022 that reduces the risk to Australia's natural environment.

Provide compelling information

• Published a major review of key threatening processes – Australia's Failure to Abate Threats to Biodiversity.

• Produced 15 case studies detailing harmful invasive species recently arrived in Australia or at risk of arriving.

• Established a register of recent invasive species incursions.

• Our success at increasing the awareness of the red fire ant threat has boosted action on environmental biosecurity.

Promote an effective biosecurity system

• Secured major reform in environmental biosecurity through implementation of the Craik national biosecurity review including:

- New biosecurity levy on imported shipping containers.
- Formation of a permanent Office of Environmental Biosecurity.
- Improved consultation.
- New funding for biosecurity research.

• Launched Protect Australia campaign to seek improved national biosecurity.



CEO Andrew Cox with project officer Carol Booth and scientific advisory committee member and ISC co-founder Tim Low.

• Published report: Norfolk Island – Protecting an Ocean Jewel.

• Provided major input to the NSW State of Biosecurity Report, the first report of its kind in Australia.

Work with processes and organisations

• Submissions – five substantive submissions to state and federal government processes.

- Participated in working group to develop a national biosecurity statement.
- Participated in Queensland ministerial advisory committee to develop Queensland biosecurity strategy.

• Participated in development of a national acacia biosecurity plan, and two national environmental biosecurity forums.

OUR TEAM

- Andrew Cox, CEO
- Carol Booth, policy officer
- John Sampson, communications officer
- Yvette Williams, community coordinator
- Karen Price, bookkeeper

Support practical action

• Halfway through a three-year joint Monash University project to identify and prioritise insect pests that could harm Australia's environment and identify entry pathways and impacts. The project is supported by the Ian Potter Foundation.

• Commenced project to create a comprehensive vegetation map of Norfolk Island to assist future action on invasive species, with support from the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation.

Yearly income and expenditure



INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL: Annual Report 2017-18



FROM THE PRESIDENT

We share recognition of our successes with all of our donors and supporters, as our work would not be possible without your support. I wish to thank our CEO, Andrew Cox, the ISC's dedicated staff and my fellow board members who should all feel very proud of what we've achieved.

Stuart Reeh, president

ERADICATION, **CONTAINMENT AND** CONTROL – 25% OF **OUR EFFORT**

Eradicate invasive species from selected islands and sites, contain emerging species and direct control efforts to threatened sites.

Facilitate eradication

• Our success at securing \$411 million for red fire ant eradication from Queensland has led to more independent oversight and greater community involvement in this program

• Led Townsville Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce, working with Townsville City Council, supported by the Queensland Government Community Sustainability Action grant.

• Supported community and government efforts to eradicate vellow crazy ants from Far North Queensland.

• Published the Ecology Australia report: Surveys for Smooth Newt in Southeast Melbourne and presented it to the Victorian Government. We now are seeking funding for full delimitation.

Advocate for containment

• Played leading role in opposing NSW legislation protecting feral horses in

Kosciuszko National Park Prevented commercialisation of bumble bees in Tasmania • Our calls for action on feral deer played a role in deer being classified as a priority pest in NSW and widespread recognition of their impacts in eastern Australia

Support targeted control

• Participated in committee advising the NSW Primary Industries Minister about NSW Biosecurity Act implementation.

• Supported community-led rodent control and Argentine ant eradication from Norfolk Island with support from the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation.

• Participated in the national feral cat task force.

Visit our website for our full strategic plan.

SUPPORT

Thank you to all our generous donors and supporters of our work. In particular, we thank the Limb Family Foundation, Curlew Fund, Garry White Foundation, Ian Potter Foundation, Eldon and Anne Foote Trust of the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation, Mullum Trust, Tracker Fund, Paddy Pallin Foundation, Queensland Government Department of Environment and Science and Federal Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources.



FROM THE CEO

Last financial year's incredible fire ant funding success has been matched this year with the environment now explicitly recognised in the national biosecurity system.

We can rightly claim credit for this major change that sees new funding and the creation of an Office of **Environmental Biosecurity** in the department of agriculture. While we will need to maintain our pressure, we expect major long-term benefits to follow.

Andrew Cox, CEO

Outreach and communication



Froggatt Award winners • IGAB review panel: Dr

Wendy Craik (chair), David Palmer and Dr Richard Sheldrake Nic Gill



ebulletins

- Seven issues
- 36 stories
- 2300+ subscribers

Facebook 6680 page likes

- 24% increase
- Average 12 month reach: 3080

Twitter

• 1400 followers • 27% increase Monthly impressions: 5000

Above, scientists .attending an impacts assessment workshop as part of our joint Monash University/ISC insect pests prioritisation project. Left, Wendy Craik, chair of the independent review of national biosecurity and recipient of a 2018 Froggatt Award. Below, Yvette Williams, our new Townsville yellow crazy ant taskforce community coordinator.





CONTACT US

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ISC played a leading role in securing a new biosecurity levy on imported shipping containers. Photo: Dirk

POLICY & LAW

Our CEO Andrew Cox with Minister for Agriculture, David Littleproud.

The highly invasive and 'illegal' pampas grass in Sydney.

The first Townsville Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce baiting event at Billabong Sanctuary at Nome.

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