

## **2003 BANKSIA ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP IN PROTECTING BUSH, LAND AND WATERWAYS AWARD**

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Control of the Yellow Crazy Ant on Christmas Island - Parks Australia and Monash University, VIC

Biological invasions are one of the greatest environmental issues of our time. Christmas Island's greatest environmental threat is invasion by the yellow crazy ant (*Anoplolepis gracilipes*). Parks Australia and Monash University designed, developed, and delivered a program to research and control this ant and mitigate its impacts-in close cooperation with industry, Commonwealth and state government departments, academics and the local Christmas Island community. In 2002, these efforts culminated in a aerial control campaign that devastated crazy ant supercolonies on Christmas Island. This ground-breaking program stands as a model for effective partnerships in invasive species management in Australia and elsewhere.

Finalists:

- **Biodiversity - Our Living Future - Coffs Harbour City Council, NSW**
- **Clarksdale Bird Sanctuary, VIC**
- **Fencing Incentive Scheme - Tasmania - Greening Australia Tasmania, TAS**
- **The Arid Recovery Project**
- **River Resurrection - Pasmenco & the West Coast Council, TAS**