





## WORLD HERITAGE IS OUR PROMISE TO THE FUTURE

Table 1: Annual Implementation Plan for 2022 to June 2023

Action	Activities	Actions	Measuring success	2022-2023 Response			
S	Strategy 1: Undertake broadscale treatment to reduce yellow crazy ants to very low numbers						
1.1	Use broadscale aerial and on-ground treatment with AntOff as required on existing and new infestations	Delimit and treat any newly found infestations Continue to implement a strategic, effective and adaptive treatment regime, based on three Antoff treatments per year using aerial delivery and on-ground teams as required Adhere to the requirements of the Authority's APVMA-issued permits, including keeping detailed records of all treatment occurrences using AntOff or other baits and monitoring of nontarget impacts and ecosystem recovery	<ul> <li>Number of broadscale treatments and treatment areas and hectares treated</li> <li>Number of new infestations delimited and treated</li> <li>Evidence of effective treatments using maps, spatial analyses, graphs and figures based on comprehensive GIS data</li> <li>Records of all treatments based on comprehensive GIS data</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>3 broadscale treatments covering:         <ul> <li>439.1 ha, July 2022</li> <li>424.1 ha, November 2022</li> <li>358 ha, March 2023</li> <li>commenced round 29 in June covering 63.6ha, with the remainder falling into the next reporting period</li> </ul> </li> <li>3 additional YCA infestations identified:         <ul> <li>TA44 Blackwells 2 - 101ha</li> <li>TA45 Green Hill - 63.9ha</li> <li>TA46 Goldsborough - 116.9 (on 30 June 2023, with delimitation ongoing into next reporting period)</li> </ul> </li> <li>TA44 Blackwells 2 received the required 2 treatments in November 2022 and March 2023</li> <li>TA46 Goldsborough high risk sites (x3) received treatment on 23 June, 30 June and 20 July respectively.</li> <li>applied to the APVMA and secured APVMA PER 93602 for <i>Pyganic</i> - an organic product for treatment using Pyrethrum</li> </ul> <li>after receiving a short extension to the existing Antoff permit, the Authority applied for a longer duration permit on the 28 July 2022 with the APVMA. This permit is currently in use, and is valid until 30 November 2025</li>			
1.2	Measure the progress and effectiveness of the treatment regime to reduce yellow crazy ants to very low numbers	Survey all Treatment Areas at least once a year to monitor yellow crazy ant numbers and distribution, with priority given to surveying Treatment Areas in and adjacent to the World Heritage Area Transition Treatment Areas from broadscale treatment to surveys and spot treatment when monitoring shows that yellow crazy ants are present in very low numbers with a patchy distribution	Number of Treatment Areas and hectares transitioned to surveys and spot treatments or post-treatment validation     Evidence of eradication progress over time for individual Treatment Areas and the overall treatment area based on comprehensive GIS data	<ul> <li>7 treatment areas (107.3ha) transitioned to surveys and spot treatment:</li> <li>TA25 Fantins Cane (7.6ha)</li> <li>TA27 Mount Sheridan (19ha)</li> <li>TA35 Ghidella 2 (6.4ha)</li> <li>TA36 Wrights Creek 3 (9.5ha)</li> <li>TA38 Plantation Road (20.5ha)</li> <li>TA4/5 Mohammed Access (13.6ha)</li> <li>TA4/5 Vero's Cane (30.6)</li> </ul>			

Action	Activities	Actions	Measuring success	2022-2023 Response
S	trategy 2: Detect and eradicate ve	ry low numbers of yellow crazy ants		
2.1	Survey to determine absence and to detect and spot treat any remaining yellow crazy ants	Survey and spot treat all areas that have transitioned from broadscale treatment to progress them to post-treatment validation  Spot treat any areas of yellow crazy ants as soon as possible so that the entire Treatment Area can move to post-treatment validation at once  Conduct post-treatment validation surveys at least six months apart	Evidence of effective surveys and spot treatments using maps, spatial analyses, graphs and figures based on comprehensive GIS data.     Number of survey days, extent of area surveyed, and number of survey points collected     Record of progress to eradication for each Treatment Area and hectares progressed or regressed     Trends over time of points surveyed and presence and absence of yellow crazy ants	<ul> <li>2 Treatment Areas (48ha) eradicated:</li> <li>Veronese's 42ha</li> <li>Harris Road 6ha</li> <li>no treatment areas moved to post treatment validation</li> <li>53.1ha under post treatment validation</li> <li>233 days of surveys in FY23</li> <li>3,385.2 ha surveyed in FY23</li> <li>1.04 million survey points taken in FY23</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Deploy odour detection dog teams into the field to seek yellow crazy ants (including to sites previously declared eradicated)</li> <li>Maintain captive colonies to provide yellow crazy ant scent for dog training and maintenance</li> </ul>	Number of captive colonies maintained, and odour materials produced	<ul> <li>4<sup>th</sup> dog arrived and was validated</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> dog handler left; replacement commenced</li> <li>1<sup>st</sup> dog returned after re-training</li> <li>163 residential properties surveyed by odour detection dog teams in FY23</li> <li>113 ha surveyed by the odour detection dog teams in FY23</li> <li>additional surveys by odour detection dog teams included high-risk material and roadworks</li> <li>odour detection dog teams featured in many community engagement events and presentations (see 4.2 below)</li> <li>odour production facility</li> <li>27 captive YCA colonies maintained</li> <li>411 fabric, 902 botanical (627 paperbark and 275 sticks), and 2451 makeup pad (1271 small and 1180 large) training aids produced</li> <li>trial of new product (sticks) successful; sticks have been adopted as the botanical product of choice</li> </ul>
2.2	Investigate persistent infestations and areas that are difficult to access	<ul> <li>Identify areas where yellow crazy ant infestations persist</li> <li>Undertake intensive surveys and treatment of persistent infestations</li> <li>Monitor the edges of infestation areas that are difficult to access for surveys</li> <li>Develop techniques to survey or deliver bait to difficult-to-access areas and persistent infestations</li> <li>Research potential reasons why infestations may persist</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Number of persistent infestations treated</li> <li>Survey data and treatment data for spot treatments of persistent areas</li> <li>Evidence of use of other bait delivery mechanisms, if required</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>28 sites considered to be persistent</li> <li>YCA detected at 2 of these sites in FY22-23</li> <li>rulesets developed to progress persistent sites to no longer persistent according to risk</li> <li>Level 1, 5 sites</li> <li>Level 2, 6 sites*</li> <li>Level 3, 6 sites</li> <li>new potentially persistent spots detected at:         <ul> <li>TA8 PNQ – large area that previously had several small patches of potential persistence</li> <li>TA19 DiBella - a small patch of ants detected close to the previous detection</li> </ul> </li> <li>new persistent sites detected at:         <ul> <li>TA6 Russett Park – site of the original introduction of YCA. The site has challenges with providing habitat and obstacles to treatment and surveillance. Working with property owners to improve access</li> <li>TA8 PNQ - one small patch (PNQ 5) previously identified as potentially persistent, declared persistent</li> </ul> </li> <li>* Yellow crazy ant eDNA was detected in water samples from Bana Gindarja Creek (formerly Blackfellows creek) in September 2022. Surveys did not detect yellow crazy ants. Canine surveys provided some low-level indications that could not be confirmed. The area will remain under surveillance.</li> </ul>
2.3	Maintain and improve techniques and practices for survey and treatment, and data collection, processing and analysis	<ul> <li>Continue to develop the Konect system (or alternative system) and train staff in its use and maintenance</li> <li>Ensure survey data is collected under appropriate conditions for yellow crazy ant foraging</li> <li>Continue to develop data processing and spatial analyses to provide confidence in absence</li> <li>As required, test the use of alternative baits and alternative treatment methods</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Evidence of effective data collection by well-trained staff</li> <li>Analysis of survey data and confidence in absence of yellow crazy ants</li> <li>Evidence of the successful use of spatial analysis</li> <li>Results of trials of alternative baits and alternative treatment methods</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Technical</li> <li>major advances in automation of GPS processing</li> <li>developed an ArcGIS Reporting Dashboard</li> <li>progress toward replacement of Konect with Konect to be decommissioned in October 2023 and replaced with ESRI Field Maps</li> <li>continued collaboration with JCU to further develop probability of true absence analysis</li> <li>Alternative baits and alternative treatment methods</li> <li>continued to monitor market for alternative baits, no products found superior to AntOff</li> <li>investigated the use of Spinosad (not available in Australia as a commercial product).</li> <li>investigated organic treatment options for paddock situation, these included: <ul> <li>surface burn</li> <li>treatment with organic Pyrethrums (Pyganic), and secured APVMA PER 93602</li> <li>mechanical disturbance of the soil with graders, rotary hoe, plough and discing</li> </ul> </li> <li>second trial of UAV to disperse granular AntOff</li> <li>successful trial; UAV recommended for immediate operational deployment</li> <li>current technopolitical situation precludes purchase</li> </ul>

Action	Activities	Actions	Measuring success	2022-2023 Response		
	Strategy 3: Seek any additional yellow crazy ant infestations					
3.1	Strategically trace potential sources of spread from known yellow crazy ant infestations	<ul> <li>Work with industry to track potential vectors for movement</li> <li>Trace potential sources and predict locations of translocated ants</li> <li>Strategically survey areas of potential spread through targeted surveys</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Comprehensive GIS data on areas and vectors searched for yellow crazy ants, including mapping</li> <li>Number and area of any new infestations detected</li> <li>Evidence of surveys conducted in areas where future infestations are predicted to be likely due to human-assisted movement of yellow crazy ants</li> </ul>	Tracing for the Green Hill infestation included the following:  all incoming and outgoing vectors investigated by talking to residents in and around Green Hill area  vectors included contractors from communication towers, harvesters, plant material, soil, vehicles and people creeks  Tracing for the Goldsborough infestation included speaking to and obtaining information from all agricultural owner operations in the area (particularly harvesters and slashing operations) all contractors in the area (slashing contractors, builders and developers) small business owners (digging/mowing operators) pig hunters  Other tracing included:  DNA sampling (for analysis post 31 June 2023) targeted survey near Pine Creek as a tracing activity due to farmer owning a farm in Goldsborough and Pine Creek targeted survey upstream of Mulgrave River on cane farm due to owner owning another farm in Goldsborough which is heavily infested identified other cane farms for targeted surveillance in Orchid Valley, that have a link through harvesters or ownership targeted surveys in all development areas in Goldsborough due to slasher movements targeted surveys along river and creeks from the know infestation areas 850 ha of high-risk priority cane surveys		

Action	Activities	Actions	Measuring success	2022-2023 Response		
S	Strategy 4: Prevent further spread of yellow crazy ants					
4.1	Work with industry to prevent yellow crazy ant movement	Work with the sugar industry to implement machinery movement and harvesting protocols     Promote collaboration with industries such as housing developers, quarries, agriculture, and turf farms to prevent yellow crazy ant spread from infested sites	Documentation of cane machinery movement protocols and evidence that protocols have been adhered to (harvester movement records and mapping)     Evidence of partnerships and collaboration and evidence of training activities	<ul> <li>established new industry connections throughout the region (refer detailed report)</li> <li>cleaned up potentially persistent habitat in suburb of Edmonton to prevent spread through landscapers</li> <li>assisted revegetation company with dipping of plant stock from the nursery in an infestation area to prevent ants being translocated through nursery material</li> <li>sent detection dogs to headquarters of revegetation company in Townsville to ensure no translocation of ants had occurred</li> <li>surveyed all areas where plants had been translocated from the revegetation company into E2G, prior to program awareness of YCA at that location.</li> <li>engaged numerous slasher operators in known infestation areas and educated them about washdown processes and field biosecurity in general</li> <li>provided advice to several local businesses on appropriate soil and material disposal from within known infestation areas</li> <li>provided ongoing advice to civil construction companies on YCA infestation locations and associated management of soil and material</li> <li>engaged Goldsborough community with public display on location, provided information on identification and preventing spread</li> </ul>		
4.2	Raise community awareness of yellow crazy ants to assist in finding new infestations and to support community to prevent further spread	<ul> <li>Raise community awareness of how to identify, report, and prevent spread of yellow crazy ants through events, brochures, media, presentations, and other activities</li> <li>Work with partners to promote behaviour change regarding illegal dumping and movement of high-risk material (soil, vegetation, pot plants, green waste, etc.)</li> <li>Support community groups and other volunteers to work with local landholders to raise awareness and promote property management plans</li> <li>Ask landholders, particularly in more recent infestation areas, to request inspections before moving materials such as garden waste, soil, or pot plants</li> <li>Raise community awareness of World Heritage values and the impacts of yellow crazy ants to promote behaviour change and prevent the risk of further infestation movement into the World Heritage Area</li> <li>Train and liaise with partner agencies to identify any additional infestations and undertake surveys</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Number of community awareness raising events, volunteers and people participating</li> <li>Evidence of awareness raising materials</li> <li>Number of social media posts and people reached</li> <li>Number of community reports and requests for yellow crazy ant ID and inspection</li> </ul>	NAIDOC (160 engagements) Carinval on Collins (160 engagements) Carinval on Collins (160 engagements) Cairns Botanic Gardens Christmas plant sale (140 engagements) Cairns Botanic Gardens Easter plant sale (27 engagements) Rotary FNO, Field Days - Marceba (300 engagements) Rotary FNO, Field Days - Marceba (300 engagements) RSPCA Million Paws Walk (30 engagements) Festival of the Knob - Yorkeys Knob (185 engagements) Festival of the Knob - Yorkeys Knob (185 engagements) Festival of the Knob - Yorkeys Knob (185 engagements) Cairns Canline Carnival (50 engagements) Cairns Ednista (700 engagements) Cairns Canline Carnival (50 engagements) Cairns Canline Carnival (50 engagements) Toradside stall at Goldsborough (52 engagements) Jindustry toolibox talks Interest of the Stall of Stall (185 engagements) Jindustry toolibox talks Interest of the Stall (185 engagements) Jindustry toolibox talks Interest of the Stall (185 engagements) Jindustry toolibox talks Interest of the Stall (185 engagements) Jindustry toolibox talks Interest of the Stall (185 engagements) Jindustry toolibox talks Interest of the Stall (185 engagements) Jindustry toolibox talks Interest of the Stall (185 engagements) Jindustry toolibox talks Interest of the Stall (185 engagements) Jindustry toolibox talks Interest of the Stall (185 engagements) Jindustry toolibox talks Interest of the Stall (185 engagements) Jindustry toolibox talks Interest of the Stall (185 engagements) Jindustry toolibox talks Interest of the Stall (185 engagements) Jindustry toolibox talks Interest of the Stall (185 engagements) Jindustry toolibox talks Interest of the Stall (185 engagements) Jindustry toolibox talks Jindustry toolibox t		

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** Vision 1. State of Configure (1997) A Configuration (1997) A Conf		ristinato	7,656		<ul> <li>106 photographs of suspected YCA submitted</li> <li>2 reports forwarded to Townsville City Council</li> <li>5 reports forwarded to Biosecurity Queensland</li> <li>114 reports of suspicious ants responded to with a property inspection</li> <li>modifications were introduced when recording public reports to provide more extensive data about the reports</li> </ul>
processor and posters 2 of temperatures (100 pages 740 pages 100 pages					<ul> <li>Whitfield SOTO (500 engagements)</li> <li>Edge Hill State School, Science Week presentation (170 engagements)</li> <li>Kuranda District State College (73 engagements)</li> <li>Hambeldon State School (66 engagements)</li> </ul> Products
doubtook and deliberated is previously influented by the process of the degeneral rengal grant developed by the process of the process o					<ul> <li>prepared and posted 2 e-Newsletters (September 2022 with 748 views and May 2023 with 228 views)</li> </ul>
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Intelligence and violation of the Control Control of Violation for the Control Control of Violation of the Control Control of the Control					Odour detection dog teams featured in many community engagement events and presentations including:
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VIGAD (100 magnatements)     Vision of Storing in (170 magnature)     Vision of Storing in (170 magnature)     Vision of Storing in (170 magnature)     Vision of Vision of Magnature)     Vision of Vision of Magnature     Visi					
Nuranda Somg Fair (70 engagements)  Tropical Three Bay (72 engagements)  Ant ID Workshop (22 engagements)  Nuranda (64 display) 446 engagement)  Rotary PkIA (Ficti Day)  Ecopical  Rotary PkIA (Ficti Day)  Prog habitat surveys (33 volunteers, 17 new, 5 Biosecurity Quientiand staff, 3 Authority staff)  1 Toroibox That Speeanol Toroital					VEXPO (100 engagements)
Rotany FNQ Field Days Contrival on Collins Activities  Activities  Prog habital, surveys (31 voluntees, 17 new, 5 Biosecurity Queensland staff, 3 Authority staff) Touthout Talk Speewah Gardens  Engagement (infestation areas)  Islanded with residents in Green Forest, Russett Park and Mycola infestation areas (31) Islanded with residents outside infestation area (32) Islanded with residents outsidents outsidents outsidents					<ul> <li>Kuranda Spring Fair (70 engagements)</li> <li>Tropical Tree Day (22 engagements)</li> <li>Ant ID Workshop (21 engagements)</li> </ul>
9 Frog habitat surveys (31 volunteers, 17 new, 5 Biosecurity Queensland staff, 3 Authority staff) 1 Toolbox Talk Speewah Gardens Engagement (infestation areas)  • Ilaised with residents in Green Forest, Russett Park and Myola infestation areas (73) • Ilaised with residents outside infestation area (31) • Ilaised with residents in 5 differing infestation areas.  Media  • monthly e-bulletins sent to (287 subscribers) and published on the Taskferce website and Facebook page • monthly newspaper column published in the Kuranda Paper (4,600 readers) • media release (1) • contributed story to WIMAN YCAEP e-Newsletters (4) • bronchures displayed at CAFNEC office and Kuranda Information Centre  Social Media • progrand and posted 158 social media posts to Facebook • social media posts were viewed by 24, 615 • 634 Followers • Facebook page follower count 654 followers  Advertising					<ul><li>Rotary FNQ Field Days</li><li>EcoFiesta</li></ul>
Engagement (infestation areas)  Ilaised with residents in Green Forest, Russett Park and Myola infestation areas (73)  Ilaised with residents outside infestation area (31)  Ilaised with residents in 5 differing infestation areas.  Media  monthly e-bulletins sent to (287 subscribers) and published on the Taskforce website and Facebook page monthly newspaper column published in the Kuranda Paper (4,600 readers) media release (1)  contributed story to WTMA YCAFP e-Newsletters (4)  brochures displayed at CAF NEC office and Kuranda Information Centre  Social Media  prepared and posted 158 social media posts to Facebook social media posts were viewed by 24, 615  654 Followers Facebook page follower count 654 followers  Advertising					
Iliaised with residents in Green Forest, Russett Park and Myola infestation areas (73) Iliaised with residents outside infestation area (31) I eletterbox drops created and printed for 200+ residents in 5 differing infestation areas.  Media  monthly e-bulletins sent to (287 subscribers) and published on the Taskforce website and Facebook page monthly newspaper column published in the Kuranda Paper (4,600 readers) media release (1) contributed story to WTMA YCAEP e-Newsletters (4) contributed story to WTMA YCAEP e-Newsletters (4) brochures displayed at CAFNEC office and Kuranda Information Centre  Social Media  prepared and posted 158 social media posts to Facebook social media posts were viewed by 24, 615 GS4 Followers Facebook page follower count 654 followers  Advertising					
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Facebook page  monthly newspaper column published in the Kuranda Paper (4,600 readers)  monthly newspaper column published in the Kuranda Paper (4,600 readers)  monthly newspaper column published in the Kuranda Paper (4,600 readers)  contributed story to WTMA YCAEP e-Newsletters (4)  brochures displayed at CAFNEC office and Kuranda Information Centre  Social Media  prepared and posted 158 social media posts to Facebook  social media posts were viewed by 24, 615  654 Followers  Facebook page follower count 654 followers  Advertising					Media
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<ul> <li>prepared and posted 158 social media posts to Facebook</li> <li>social media posts were viewed by 24, 615</li> <li>654 Followers</li> <li>Facebook page follower count 654 followers</li> <li>Advertising</li> </ul>					<ul> <li>contributed story to WTMA YCAEP e-Newsletters (4)</li> <li>brochures displayed at CAFNEC office and Kuranda Information Centre</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>social media posts were viewed by 24, 615</li> <li>654 Followers</li> <li>Facebook page follower count 654 followers</li> </ul> Advertising					
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Action	Activities	Actions	Measuring success	2022-2023 Response
				YCA advertisement in the Kuranda Paper
				Community reporting
				<ul> <li>responded to 3 call outs</li> <li>received 8 enquiries</li> </ul>
				Schools
				<ul> <li>presentation delivered to Kuranda District State College students</li> <li>involvement with invasive ant survey event for Kuranda District State College students at Speewah</li> </ul>
				Products
				<ul> <li>2 teardrop flag banners produced</li> <li>1000 Stickers produced</li> <li>letterbox drops created and printed for 200+ residents in 5 infestation areas</li> <li>53 t-shirts reprinted</li> <li>1000 brochures updated and reprinted</li> </ul>
				<ul> <li>survey and school presentations facilitated by Djabugay Bulmba Rangers</li> <li>creek Naming Project with Djabugay Bulmba Rangers</li> <li>Djabugay Bulmba Rangers joined at 1 event &amp; 1 survey</li> </ul>
				Partnerships
				Biosecurity Queensland joined the Taskforce for 3 events, 4 surveys and 3 activities including at VEXPO, Kuranda Spring Fair and Toolbox talks with live Electric Ants on display
				Volunteers
				<ul> <li>14 new subscribers to Community Taskforce Website (278 total)</li> <li>in-kind volunteer hours (220 hrs total)</li> </ul>

Action	Activities	Actions	Measuring success	2022-2023 Response
St	rategy 5: Enhance program capability	and expertise		
5.1	Research, innovate and monitor to promote adaptive management and measure progress	<ul> <li>Calculate the probability of detection for survey techniques using analysis of existing and ongoing Eradication Program survey data</li> <li>Undertake biodiversity assessments of terrestrial invertebrates in treatment areas following yellow crazy ant infestation and subsequent treatment</li> <li>Investigate variation in ecological processes in historical treatment areas following yellow crazy ant infestation and subsequent treatment</li> <li>Calculate the probability of yellow crazy ant detection associated with detector dog searches</li> <li>Determine the feasibility and reliability of using eDNA for yellow crazy ant detection in cane</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Monitoring and research report on analysis of survey technique effectiveness</li> <li>Research report of results of ecological recovery monitoring</li> <li>Design experiments to measure variation in ecological processes Results of tests and monitoring of odour detection dog's effectiveness and efficiency</li> <li>Research report on results of eDNA experiments on sugar cane juice samples</li> <li>Research publications</li> </ul>	JCU delivered summary research report in July 2023:         terrestrial invertebrate survey results suggest that species richness of ants at Antoff-treated treatment areas has recovered to the level of control sites, although community composition still differs.         commenced ecological processes experiments         continued canine Probability of Detection work as more data is still required         maintained 23 captive YCA colonies         updated trial Probability of Absence maps for TA11         revised protocol for eDNA sampling in sugar cane         published first ever scientific paper documenting detection of invertebrate (YCA) eDNA in waterways <a href="https://neobiota.pensoft.net/article/98898/">https://neobiota.pensoft.net/article/98898/</a> Expansion of DNA collection for analysis         Iarge historic DNA library not currently utilised         scoping options such as WGS for improved analysis
				<ul> <li>scoping options stort as wost of improved alraysis         <ul> <li>proposal for analysis at JCU – faster turnaround enables use for tracing/management</li> </ul> </li> <li>WTMA YCAEP Monitoring team continued work         <ul> <li>maintained 27 captive YCA colonies (refer 2.3)</li> <li>site assessments at new infestations</li> <li>drone trials (refer 2.4)</li> <li>staff training and inductions</li> <li>responding to community calls (refer 4.2)</li> <li>processed 929 samples from surveys and calls (782 samples collected from field teams and callouts, plus 147 photo enquiries)</li> </ul> </li> <li>WTMA YCAEP Monitoring team continued to assist JCU with data collection and data entry for research projects         <ul> <li>DNA and eDNA sampling</li> <li>expansion of collaborative eDNA project included sampling to detect YCA in specific catchments</li> </ul> </li> <li>3 terrestrial invertebrate sampling rounds</li> <li>laboratory and field work to support ecological processes experiments:         <ul> <li>leaf litter decomposition</li> <li>timber decomposition</li> <li>scavenging</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
5.2	Build partnerships and share knowledge and information	<ul> <li>Promote participation and contributions from the six-monthly Reference Group meetings (as allowed under COVID-19 restrictions)</li> <li>Collaborate with partners to improve community engagement and participation</li> <li>Share knowledge and information with Traditional Owner groups</li> <li>Enhance partnerships with decision-makers, stakeholders, media, and the broader community</li> <li>Share research results with other ant eradication and control programs through formal meetings and informal communications</li> <li>Report annually to the Australian and State governments</li> <li>Keep stakeholders informed about the Program's progress and activities</li> <li>Provide support and advice to nearby yellow crazy ant control programs, such as those in Townsville and Shute Harbour, to minimise the risk of further spread from those areas</li> </ul>	Evidence of Reference Group meetings or other communications with the Reference Group     Evidence of information sharing and collaboration, including:	<ul> <li>implemented the Communications and Engagement Plan and trained staff in key messaging ahead of events</li> <li>conducted YCAEP Reference Group Meeting on 24/02/2023 with 21 attendees</li> <li>submitted Annual milestone Report to the Commonwealth August 2022</li> <li>prepared and distributed the Annual Report Card December 2022</li> <li>launched a pilot program to train Indigenous ranger groups to survey for invasive ants, with 9 workshops completed</li> <li>assisted the EA program with setting up safety processes for their field teams</li> <li>collaborated with EA program on Indigenous ranger group training for identification and surveys of high-risk areas on country</li> <li>organised training in Cane Rail Safety in collaboration with the Mulgrave Mill and invited EA staff as part of their safety program</li> <li>EA program scientific staff trained YCA scientific staff on how to conduct canine validation</li> <li>attended Threatened Species Symposium March 2023</li> <li>attended Queensland Biosecurity Partners Forum March 2023</li> <li>presented at Cairns Regional Council's Biosecurity Working Group April 2023</li> <li>presented to DDO speaker series (DES Delivery Office) June 2023</li> <li>provide expert advice and advice to nearby yellow crazy ant infestations at Townsville, Shute Harbour, Brisbane and the Gold Coast, to help them develop management strategies for yellow crazy ant infestations and minimise the risk of further spread</li> </ul>
5.3	Promote staff learning and development and workplace health, safety and well- being	<ul> <li>Provide professional development and skills training for staff</li> <li>Ensure high standards of workplace health and safety and wellbeing are met</li> <li>Conduct cultural training for staff with Traditional Owners</li> </ul>	Number and type of professional development and skills opportunities provided to staff     Annual WHS audit detailing incidents and responses, WHS processes, documents, communications and WHS culture     Number and type of cultural training opportunities provided to staff	Orientation and recruitment  implemented new initiatives to recruit suitably skilled seasonal staff  40 potential applicants attended field inductions  27 seasonal casual staff were appointed by the end of March 2023  staff productivity and retention was markedly improved as a result  average daily attendance for casual staff was 92.6%

Action	Activities	Actions	Measuring success	2022-2023 Response
				Training
				<ul> <li>42 staff attended MSF sugar mill and rail safety inductions</li> <li>~46 staff attended face-to-face Code of Conduct training</li> <li>staff attended first aid courses as they were due</li> <li>odour detection dog handlers attended training and skill development with the expert dog trainer, and attended a canine training webinar in August 2022</li> <li>~30 staff attended ArcGIS Field Maps and basic ArcGIS training workshops</li> <li>30 staff and contract staff participated in diversity and inclusion training</li> <li>staff participated in the DES Diversity &amp; Inclusion Employee Resource Group (ERG) and contributed to DES Equity &amp; Diversity Plan and the DES Reasonable Adjustment Policy, and participated in establishing a department-wide LGBTQ+ employee resource network</li> <li>attended mandatory online training in Emergency Safety Training, Fraud &amp; Corruption Awareness, Code of Conduct, Information Security, and Information Privacy Awareness</li> </ul>
				<ul> <li>Workplace Health and Safety</li> <li>conducted an internal workplace health and safety audit</li> <li>reviewed and updated all Safe Working Practices (SWP) in October 2022 as part of the annual review and added         <ul> <li>several new SWP's have been added to reflect changes in the workplace (currently 17 SWP's in operation)</li> </ul> </li> <li>reviewed and updated all Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) as part of the annual review         <ul> <li>several new SOP's have been added to reflect new procedures in the workplace (currently a total of 20 SOP's are in operation)</li> </ul> </li> <li>all new SWP's and SOP's have been instructed to relevant staff (induction for SWP's and SOP's involves face to face instructions, manual run through SWP and then each staff member acknowledges the SWP/SOP by digitally signing it in the online register, as required every October after instructions and training)</li> <li>SOP's and SWP's are located on SharePoint for all staff to access, and for staff that do not have access, hard copies are made available</li> <li>tested and tagged all electrical equipment</li> <li>implemented and reviewed all Safety Data Sheets</li> <li>HR</li> <li>9 Authority staff acted in higher duties during FY23</li> <li>10 Authority staff converted from temporary to permanent employment</li> <li>3 Authority staff converted permanently to a higher classification level</li> <li>4 casual Field Officers promoted to Field Supervisors</li> <li>1 casual Field Supervisor promoted to Field Coordinator</li> </ul>
5.4	Engage appropriate governance arrangements to inform and seek advice from experts, and ensure oversight to the Program	<ul> <li>Regular meetings with WTMA Executive Director, YCA Leadership Team and Management Forum</li> <li>Regular briefings to the WTMA Board as required on Eradication Program</li> <li>Circulate Program Planning and Annual Reporting documents to DAF, and provide a brief as required.</li> </ul>	Number of Board meetings attended, and Board papers prepared     Records and outcomes from YCA Leadership Team and Management Forum meetings	<ul> <li>conducted six-weekly Work Programming meetings</li> <li>conducted an Internal Governance Group meeting in November 2022, attended by the Yellow Crazy Ant Eradication Program Leadership Team and the Authority's Executive Director</li> <li>attended fortnightly updates to the Authority's Management Forum</li> <li>the Authority's Executive Director and Yellow Crazy Ant Eradication Program's Project Manager participated in weekly meetings</li> <li>presented YCA updates quarterly to the Wet Tropics Management Authority Board (details below)</li> <li>shared Program planning and reporting documents to DAF for oversight</li> <li>responded to numerous ministerial correspondence surrounding the Federation Funding Agreement</li> <li>shared information and participated in the Queensland Audit Office</li> </ul>

## Abbreviations used in this report:

APVMA	Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority
Authority	Wet Tropics Management Authority
BQ	Biosecurity Queensland
D2E	Detection to Eradication (see Terms used in this report, below)
DAF	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
DES	Department of Environment and Science
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
EA	National Electric Ant Eradication Program
E2G	Bruce Highway, Cairns Southern Access Corridor, Edmonton to Gordonvale project
eDNA	Environmental deoxyribonucleic acid
FY	Financial Year
GIS	Geographic information system(s)
ha	Hectare(s)
JCU	James Cook University
PNQ	Pioneer North Queensland [Quarry]
Program	Yellow Crazy Ant Eradication Program
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SWP	Safe Work Practice
TA	Treatment Area
WTMA	Wet Tropics Management Authority
YCA	Yellow crazy ant
YCAEP	Yellow Crazy Ant Eradication Program