

2008 - University Student Grants Scheme - winners

The Wildlife Preservation Society of Australia is delighted to announce the winners of the ten annual grants of \$1,000 each to honours or postgraduate students conducting research that will contribute to the conservation of Australian wildlife. The winners for 2008 are:

Alex Wyatt – School of Environmental Systems Engineering, University of Western Australia. Project – The influence of biological oceanography on coral reef biodiversity.

Romina Rader – School of Marine and Tropical Biology, James Cook University, Cairns. Project – The impact of human modification on insect pollinator assemblages.

Anja Skroblin – School of Botany and Zoology, The Australian National University. Project – Phylogeography and conservation biology of the Purple-Crowned Fairy-Wren (*Malurus Coronatus*).

Andrew Cole – ARC Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies, James Cook University, Cairns. Project – The control of coral disease by coral feeding fish.

Danielle Shanahan – Spatial Ecology Lab and CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems, University of Queensland. Project – Mitigating the effects of habitat fragmentation: Understanding dispersal patterns for improved conservation of forest birds.

Helen Waudby – School of Natural and Built Environments, University of South Australia. Project – The role of cracking clay soils in maintaining fauna and flora biodiversity in the rangelands.

Katherine Forsythe – Centre for Research on Ecological Impacts of Coastal Cities, University of Sydney. Project – Feeding behaviour of *Himantopus himantopus* in coastal soft-sediment lagoons.

Rebecca Lawton – ARC Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies, James Cook University. Project – Ecological specialisation versus susceptibility to disturbance among coral-dependent butterfly fishes.

Christa Beckman – School of Biological Sciences, University of Sydney. Project – Conservation of native bird populations in a changing environment: does the continuing invasion of the cane toad pose a risk to avian biodiversity in Australia?

Arian Wallach – Faculty of Sciences, School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Adelaide. Project – Persistence of endangered mammals: Is the dingo the key?