



25/9/2025

Chief Executive Officer
Douglas Shire Council
PO Box 723
Mossman QLD 4873

Re: Letter of Support – Rainforest Rescue Development Application for Permanent Plantation

Dear Sir/Madam,

As Manager of the Daintree Rainforest Observatory (DRO), operated by James Cook University, I am pleased to provide our support for Rainforest Rescue's Development Application seeking approval for a Permanent Plantation at 110 Cape Tribulation Road, Lower Daintree (Council Ref: MCUI 2025_5809/1.)

The DRO is a research station that facilitates national and international scientific research in one of the world's most unique tropical rainforest ecosystems. Our mission is to advance understanding of rainforest ecology and climate resilience, and we host scientists, students, and community groups engaged in field-based learning and research.

Rainforest Rescue's proposed project aligns strongly with these objectives. The planned restoration of nationally significant wetlands and endangered ecosystems, including the McDowell Swamp Oxbow, will:

- Improve long-term biodiversity and ecosystem resilience in a globally significant rainforest landscape.
- Provide opportunities for collaborative research and monitoring of restoration outcomes, enhancing our understanding of ecological recovery.
- Contribute to the protection of habitat for threatened species, aligning with JCU's research focus on conservation biology and climate adaptation.
- Support the local community by creating sustainable land-use alternatives and opportunities for education and engagement.

Rainforest Rescue has a strong record of protecting and restoring rainforest habitat in the Daintree. Their work has contributed meaningfully to the conservation of this globally important ecosystem, and this project represents a continuation and scaling-up of those efforts.

For these reasons, the DRO strongly supports this Development Application and encourage Council to approve it.

Yours faithfully,

