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09 September 2025

Re: Properly Made Submission – Letter of Support for Rainforest Rescue's Development Application – Permanent Plantation Project

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of BioPak, I am writing to express our wholehearted support for Rainforest Rescue's Development Application for the Permanent Plantation project in the Lower Daintree (Council Ref: MCUI 2025_5809/1). Please consider this letter a properly made submission in support of the proposal.

As a certified B Corporation and leader in sustainable foodservice packaging, BioPak has proudly supported Rainforest Rescue for over a decade through our Rainforest Alliance partnership. Together, we've worked to protect and restore critical rainforest ecosystems in the Daintree, advancing our shared mission to repair and regenerate the natural environment.

We view this project as a natural and necessary evolution of that work.

Alignment with Council and Regional Priorities

The proposed Permanent Plantation project directly supports Douglas Shire Council's strategic goals by:

- Restoring more than 400 hectares of degraded cane farmland to biodiverse native forest, enhancing resilience to floods, fires, and climate change;
- Reconnecting fragmented habitats, strengthening biodiversity corridors, and protecting wetlands and riparian zones critical to the health of the Daintree River and Great Barrier Reef;
- Creating local green jobs across seed collection, native nursery operations, land regeneration, and eco-tourism—helping to diversify the region's economy while protecting its ecological assets;
- Supporting Council's climate goals through nature-based carbon sequestration, improved water quality, and increased landscape-scale resilience.

Legislative and Policy Support

The proposal aligns with the Planning Act 2016 by advancing ecological sustainability and delivering environmental, social, and economic co-benefits. It embodies the intent of Queensland's regional planning frameworks to promote climate-responsive land use, community wellbeing, and environmental stewardship.

Why This Matters

The Daintree is one of the world's most precious natural assets. Projects like this offer a rare opportunity to reverse historical land degradation, restore ecological integrity, and showcase the Douglas Shire as a global leader in climate resilience and sustainable land management.

We urge Douglas Shire Council to approve this Development Application and support Rainforest Rescue in delivering this visionary project for the benefit of the local community, regional economy, and future generations.

Yours sincerely,



Founder

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