

Dear DERM

This submission from Terrain Natural Resource Management recommends that Industry Waste Levy funds be considered for habitat buyback for the endangered Southern Cassowary.

The proposed Queensland Waste Strategy 2010-2020 includes an Industry Waste Levy, with significant levy funds to be distributed to a Sustainable Future Fund and State Environmental Initiatives identified in Toward Q2: Tomorrow's Queensland.

The Toward Q2 Target of protecting 50 per cent more land for nature conservation and public recreation by 2020 identifies the urgent need to protect native habitat and increase land for National Parks and other conservation reserves. In the Wet Tropics region, the protection of habitat for the Southern Cassowary is identified as a critical action for this species' survival and the recently released Mission Beach Habitat Network Action Plan identifies cassowary habitat buyback by DERM and partners as a priority action.

It is understood that Queensland Government environmental priorities for Industry Waste Levy expenditure in South East Queensland could include Koala habitat buyback. With the urgent need to protect remaining Cassowary and other threatened species habitat in Far North Queensland, and broad community support for incentives for habitat protection, we urge you to please consider Cassowary habitat buyback as an environmental priority for Industry Waste Levy expenditure.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Queensland Waste Strategy. Please do not hesitate to contact Terrain for further information.

Sincerely

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