

Spotted-tailed quoll.



Cassowary - there are only around 1000 of these majestic birds left in the wild.



Buy Back

One of Steve Irwin's passions was to buy back land destined and give it to native wildlife. Michael Snedic finds Rainforest Rescue does the same in the Daintree.

Many people think that the Daintree is protected forever due to its World Heritage listing. Sadly, this isn't entirely true. While the Queensland Government's recent decision to inject \$10 million towards protecting parts of the Daintree is welcome, there are numerous blocks of land in the area being offered for sale for development. With the support of Queenslanders, Rainforest Rescue

has now contributed to the purchase of eight properties and is committed to buying many more.

There are countless species of native fauna that rely on the rainforest for survival. Rainforest Rescue's aim is to create a natural wildlife corridor for species such as the cassowary, spotted-tailed quoll, Bennett's tree kangaroo and other protected species. Sadly, the growth in population and

ever-increasing numbers of tourists is pushing the Cassowary to extinction. There are only around 1000 left in the wild.

Rainforest Rescue has been working with the rainforest-based Daintree Rainforest Foundation to buy land and place it in purposely created and gazetted nature refuges.

"Rainforest Rescue creates opportunities for individuals, families, organisations and businesses to become involved in projects that protect and restore our dwindling rainforests," Kelvin Davies, executive director of Rainforest Rescue says.

Michael Snedic is a Brisbane-based nature photographer and writer, www.michaelsnedic.com.

For as little as \$2 you can buy and protect forever 1m² of rainforest. Donations from the public are essential in helping to buy back more rainforest blocks and protecting them forever. To contribute to the 'Daintree Buy Back and Protect Forever Project' with a tax-deductible donation, phone Rainforest Rescue on 1300 763 611 or visit the website at www.rainforestrescue.org.au. Or, send a cheque or money order made out to Rainforest Rescue, PO Box 1511 Toowong, Queensland, 4066.