



KURANDA

conservation

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Rainforest Trust
7078 Airlie Rd. Warrenton, VA 20187
UNITED STATES

APPLICATION TO CREATE A NEW PROTECTED AREA THROUGH LAND PURCHASE OR DESIGNATION AS AN OFFICIALLY RECOGNISED PROTECTED AREA

As coordinator of the Wet Tropics community seeking to secure the best possible environmental outcome for the area described below as “the Barnwell land”, we attach hereto information and a number of letters from stakeholders endorsing our common aim.

For decades, the Barnwell land has been a degraded cattle station and has been reverting to its natural condition to the point that it was providing habitat consistent with surrounding areas adjacent to the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area (WTWHA). The region is home to the recently discovered unique Kuranda Tree Frog (*Litoria myola*) and to the endangered Southern Cassowary (*Casuarius casuarius johnsonii*) and to a rich and biodiverse wildlife population (EPBC 49 Threatened species, 23 Migratory species¹), all under threat from proposed high-density subdivision development. Furthermore, the area is located in the heavily fragmented Myola Valley corridor, the narrowest part of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.

The land was recently purchased by developer, Ken Lee, for a proposed large “eco-resort”, to be known as “KUR-world”, and extensive urban residential subdivision. Residential development of this large holding will impact greatly on the integrity of the WTWHA because of its proximity. Because this project conflicts with the FNQ Regional Plan 2009-2031, we are very hopeful political and legal pressure will cause the proposal to fail. If the KUR-World application does not proceed, our aim is to purchase the land and restore it to its natural state.

Hence, we make preliminary application to you to secure your interest in this project so that we are in a position to take advantage of any favourable situation.

We look forward to your expression of interest.

Jax Bergersen
Secretary/Co-ordinator

¹ EPBC Act, Matters of National Environment Significance, within 10km of SITE, -16.828320, 145.600551

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Innovators are leaders, not followers