

MEDIA RELEASE:

11 Sept 2023

UNCONTROLLED CLEARING for DEVELOPMENT HAS TO STOP

In recent months Whitsunday Conservation Council (WCC) has been contacted by distressed and concerned residents reporting clear felling of tall trees and other vegetation for development. Unfortunately, in most cases, the damage has already been done.

So far, WCC has been successful in keeping the stand of mature trees adjacent to the Main Roads works on Shute Harbour Road safe from chainsaws, but another planned clearing in a residential area has come to our attention.

This is a corridor of vegetation in Cannonvale along a creek bed planned for denuding to allow a "lined drain" to be established.

Just how important is this ONE corridor for our native fauna?

Sightings by nearby residents answer this question.

The list is impressive, alarming and includes 46 different species of birds, 4 of frogs, a goanna, microbats, and numerous butterflies including the beautiful and distinctive, Ulysses butterfly, a threatened species, one status below endangered.

How many 100/1000s of birds and other native fauna have been affected by the clear felling witnessed throughout our local areas? One clearing along Shute Harbour Road resulted in a tawny frogmouth owl taking refuge in a residents kitchen!

Uncontrolled clearing of mature trees and vegetation must stop.

When will State and Local Government Authorities, our council included, start to protect not only our native fauna, but also their communities wellbeing, by stopping the destruction of our urban green canopy. Mature trees and lush vegetation protect us from and help control rising temperatures. We need more, not less!

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Faye C Chapman
Secretary/Whitsunday Conservation Council
0407 207 441

NOT FOR PUBLICATION:

**REEF COURT, Cannonvale – SIGHTINGS of SPECIES utilising
an adjacent tributary of WAITE CREEK – submitted 5 September 2023
supplied to WCC by residents of Reef Court Cannonvale**

COPY:

Birds

1. Pale Headed Rosella
2. Superb Dove
3. Rose Crowned Fruit Dove
4. Brown Cuckoo Dove
5. Pied Imperial Pigeon
6. Emerald Dove
7. Grey Flycatcher
8. Leaden Flycatcher
9. Willy Wagtail
10. Varied Triller
11. Lewin's Honeyeaters
12. Brown Honeyeater
13. Yellow Honeyeater
14. Blue Faced Honeyeater
15. Sunbirds
16. Curlews
17. Pheasant Coucal
18. Friar Bird
19. Spangled Drongo
20. Metallic Starling
21. Sulphur Crested Cockatoo
22. Kookaburra
23. Forest Kingfisher
24. Rainbow Bee Eater
25. Diamond Dove
26. Great Bowerbird
27. Black Butcherbird
28. Plovers
29. Red Backed Finch
30. Mistletoe Bird
31. Orioles
32. Fig bird
33. Pale headed heron
34. Mud Larks
35. Magpies
36. Black Cockatoo
37. Black-Faced Cuckoo-Shrike
38. White Bellied Cuckoo-Shrike
39. Chestnut-Breasted Mannikin
40. Square Tailed Kite
41. Whistling Kite
42. Channel-Billed Cuckoo
43. Eastern Koel
44. Pacific Basa or Crested Hawk
45. Australian White Ibis

46. Painted Button Quail
47. Others that haven't been identified

Frogs

1. White lipped tree frog
2. Green tree frog
3. Eastern dwarf tree frog
4. Plus others that have not been identified as yet

Goanna and tree snakes
Plus micro bats

Many species of butterflies including the Ulysses
Butterfly 🦋

END COPY



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Council
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