

# **WONGALING CORRIDORS FAUNA CROSSINGS: RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

Terrain NRM  
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The following recommendations relate to the main road between Wongaling Beach and Mission Beach and are designed to minimise cassowary roadkill. The recommendations are based on the Wongaling Corridors Fauna Crossings report and Mission Beach Habitat Network Action Committee advice. The recommendations are not necessarily endorsed by Committee organisations but are based on extensive consultation and expert advice. The recommendations are subject to approval and/or resourcing by the relevant authorities. The recommendations are made by Terrain to promote constructive discussion and appropriate action in this important cassowary crossing area.

## **Whole of Mission Beach strategy**

An integrated fauna crossing strategy for the whole Mission Beach area is recommended. Expertise in ecology, transport, engineering, land use planning, economics, community, etc should be integrated to agree on and prioritise actions that will achieve sustainable road and rail crossings for fauna. A Mission Beach Habitat Network Traffic Management Strategy project brief should be prepared and submitted to appropriate programs to request funds to prepare the strategy and implement priority actions. JCU's upcoming Mission Beach Cassowary Road Management Study will provide important information. In the meantime, action is required in the Wongaling to Mission Beach area.

## **Speed reduction**

Reducing the speed limit between Mission Beach and Wongaling Beach to 60kph is recommended. This would increase travel time by approx 35 seconds. Compliance could be encouraged by publicising information on the impacts of speed on cassowaries and the installation of a fixed speed camera in a strategic cassowary crossing area. Speed limit and speed camera requests would need to be lodged with Main Roads and Queensland Police respectively. If education and speed cameras proved ineffective, roundabouts could be installed.

## **Wongaling Creek bridge**

Recountouring and rehabilitation of the creek banks at Wongaling Creek bridge to improve cassowary movement is recommended.

## **Walking, cycling and public transport**

A good quality bikeway, walkway and bus service between Mission Beach and Wongaling Beach are supported.

## **Planning and development assessment**

Agencies and landholders are encouraged to consider the Wongaling Corridors Fauna Crossings report when planning development. Development should not increase cassowary roadkill. Development approval conditions should require best practice habitat conservation and facilities for walking, cycling and public transport. Land requirements for a potential elevated road should be preserved through planning and development approval conditions. Preparation of an infrastructure charges plan would

allow future development to contribute appropriately to the cost of necessary fauna crossing infrastructure.

**Information**

Provision of information to the community explaining the importance of cassowaries and the impact of motor traffic is recommended. Information could include the location of cassowary crossing points, factors associated with known cassowary roadkill, the economic value of cassowaries to Mission Beach, and recognition that making our travel safer for cassowaries will also make Mission Beach safer for children and tourists and retain the relaxed atmosphere. The community should be requested to help come up with the solutions. An informed and consulted community will be supportive of appropriate action.