

2025/26 **SUPPORTER** **IMPACT** REPORT

Together, you helped keep rainforest thriving.

Your support helped protect precious places, restore damaged land and grow the next generation of rainforest in the Daintree and beyond.

Turn the page to see what you made possible.

Thank you for standing with the rainforest

Dear Rainforest Rescuer,

There is a simple truth at the heart of this report: none of this happens without you.

Every seed gathered, every seedling tended, every tree placed into the earth and every rainforest property brought closer to protection begins with someone deciding that these places matter. In 2025/26, you were one of those people.

Together, we turned care into action. We protected precious places, restored damaged land, grew native rainforest plants and strengthened the partnerships that make lasting conservation possible. We also began an ambitious new chapter at the Daintree Oxbow, work that asks us to think in decades, act with urgency and remain hopeful.

The scale of the challenge is real. Rainforest can be lost quickly and restored only through patience, skill and longterm commitment. Yet this year showed what becomes possible when a community refuses to let outmoded policy dictate the ability to progress.

Thank you for your generosity. Thank you for your trust. And thank you for standing with the people working on the land, in the nursery, with partners and throughout the wider community to protect rainforests forever.

We have made meaningful progress. We are not finished. I hope the pages ahead leave you proud of what you helped make possible and ready for what we can do together next.

For the rainforests,

Branden Barber
CEO, Rainforest Rescue

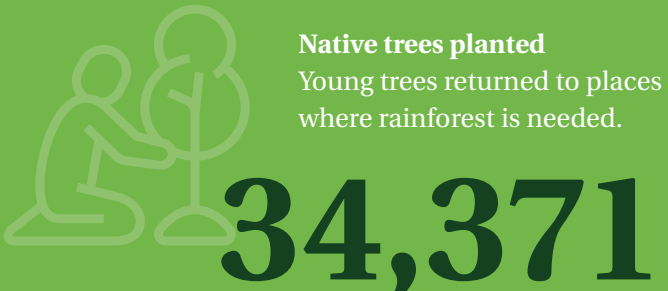


“The scale of the challenge is real.”



Your impact at a glance

In the 2025/26 financial year, you helped turn generosity into living, measurable change.



Degraded land restored
Land placed on a pathway back to healthy, living habitat.

14.9^{ha}



18^{ha}

Additional rainforest conserved
Even more precious places now protected under QLD VDec.



Supporters taking action
A growing community choosing to stand with the rainforest.

1,142

Partners engaged
Organisations helping turn shared commitment into practical impact.

135

Volunteer hours contributed
Time, energy and care given directly to rainforest action.

1,000+



Trees planted at the Oxbow in one morning
126 people helped plant 1.59 hectares at the first Oxbow community planting.

Every number has roots in a real place, and in your decision to help.

One place. One powerful change

A former cane field. A future rainforest.

Beginning a new chapter: 126 Rainforest Rescuers planted 5,000 native trees at 110 Cape Tribulation Road in May 2026.

“This is a really beautiful gift that we’re all bringing here today to put nature back.”

Branden Barber, CEO, Rainforest Rescue



At 110 Cape Tribulation Road, the Daintree Oxbow began its return.

Some changes begin with a dramatic moment. Rainforest restoration begins more quietly: a seed collected, a site prepared, a native tree carefully planted.

At 110 Cape Tribulation Road, the land carries the memory of what it once was. Part of the Daintree Oxbow, this low-lying property had been cleared and used for sugarcane farming. Water still gathers across the floodplain. Native regrowth pushes in where it can. The possibility of recovery is everywhere.

In 2025, With the help of supporters, Rainforest Rescue secured the property and began the long work of bringing native habitat back. The nursery team grew the trees. The land management team prepared the site. Then, on 16 May 2026, volunteers, local residents, partners, ecologists, families and friends came together to plant.

By the end of the morning, 126 people had planted 5,000 native trees across 1.59 hectares.

That single planting day was not the finish line. It was a first, visible step in a much larger vision: to help reconnect rainforest, wetland and river habitat across the Oxbow.

The trees are small now, but the change they represent is not. Land once treated only as a farm is being given another future. A community stood together, put roots into the ground and made a promise to keep going.

This is what your support does. It moves a place from risk to possibility, and possibility into action.

Stay with the Oxbow. Help the next stage take root.

What **your support** made possible

Your support did more than fund activities. It gave Rainforest Rescue the ability to act when opportunities arose, care for places over time and turn ambitious ideas into practical work on the ground.

Protect



You helped act before opportunity became loss.

When properties become available, timing matters.

We undertake careful due diligence and investigate opportunities to either protect existing high value rainforest habitat, or acquire land that will become high value habitat again once we restore it.

- In 2025/26, with your help, we purchased a further 11.14 hectares of intact Daintree habitat

What this means

Your support helped give rainforest places the certainty and time they need to remain wild.

Help protect the next priority properties in the Oxbow.



Restore



You helped damaged land begin again.

Restoration is practical, patient work. It means preparing the land, planting the right mix of native species, controlling weeds and returning season after season to give young rainforest the best chance to thrive.

- 34,371 native trees planted in 2025/26
- 14.9 hectares of cleared land restored

What this means

Your support helped turn depleted ground into future habitat, one carefully planted tree at a time.

Fund the next stage of restoration.

Conserve



You helped protection last.

Rainforest protection does not end when land is purchased or trees are planted. Long-term conservation means returning to each place, monitoring its condition, managing weeds, caring for young plantings and responding as the landscape changes.

- Additional 18 hectares designated as High Nature Conservation Value under QLD VDec

What this means

Your support ensures that today's conservation work can deliver benefits well into the future.

Keep long term conservation moving.

Images: © Martin Springer

Grow



You helped grow tomorrow's canopy.

Before a tree reaches the ground, it may spend months in careful hands. Your support helped collect local seed, propagate diverse rainforest species and raise strong seedlings ready for the conditions they will face after planting.

- 51,036 grown and distributed including our planted plants in 2025/26

What this means

Every future forest begins with a seed, and with people willing to believe in what it can become.

Help grow the next generation of rainforest.

Advocate



You helped make rainforest impossible to ignore.

Lasting conservation grows through strong relationships. Your support helped bring community members, Traditional Custodians, researchers, volunteers, businesses and decision-makers together around a shared future for rainforest.

It also helped more people understand what is at stake, what recovery can look like and how each of us can take part.

- 135 partners engaged
- 1,142 supporters engaged

What this means

Your support strengthened a wider movement for rainforest protection and restoration.

Share the story. Speak up. Stay connected.

The work ahead

Progress deserves to be celebrated. It also gives us a responsibility to keep going.

Rainforest restoration is measured in seasons and decades, not days. 2025/2026 gave us momentum: projects advanced, trees entered the ground and more people joined the work. It's time to turn that momentum into lasting change.

Progress made

- The Oxbow moved from vision to action.
- The first property entered active restoration, and a new chapter of community planting began.
- A deposit was placed on 90 ha of Oxbow property.
- More future rainforest grown.
- Native seeds and seedlings carefully raised for planting in the Daintree and beyond.
- Damaged land began to recover.
- Restoration teams planted, maintained and cared for sites through the changing seasons.
- A wider community stood behind the work.
- Supporters, volunteers and partners gave time, funding, expertise and their voices.

Still needed

- Continue fighting for the right to restore rainforest habitat.
- Secure strategic properties while the opportunity remains.
- The chance to protect important land can appear and disappear quickly.
- More planting, site preparation, weed control and follow-up care are required.
- Grow diverse native plants at greater scale.
- Healthy, resilient future forests depend on the right species being available at the right time.
- Care for every protected and restored site.
- Long-term monitoring and land management are essential to lasting success.
- Stable funding, science, strong governance and trusted partnerships will help the work endure.

Continue the journey with us.

Rainforest work asks us to hold two truths at once: progress is possible, and time matters. With you beside us, we can act on both.

Your ongoing support can help protect the next property, grow the next seedling and give the next damaged landscape its chance to recover.



Thank you for protecting rainforests forever

Some of the trees you helped grow are still small enough to hold in two hands. Others are already settling their roots into the land and reaching for the light.

Some of the rainforest you helped protect may look exactly as it did a year ago, and that is a victory too.

Because you acted, land has a chance to heal. Seedlings have a chance to become canopy. Wildlife has more room. And the people caring for these places know they are not doing it alone.

Thank you for every gift, every hour, every conversation and every decision to stand with the rainforest.

Rainforest protection is never the work of one organisation. It is the work of a community that decides these places matter. Your place in that community matters.

The next chapter is already taking root. We would be honoured to have you beside us.

The rainforest is still thriving because people like you chose to stand with it. Thank you.

Keep standing with the rainforest



Share this report

Show someone else what collective action can make possible.



Become a Rainforest Guardian

Provide dependable monthly support for work that continues through every season.



Leave a gift in your Will

Create a lasting legacy for rainforest and future generations.



rainforestrescue.org.au

PO Box 1199, Mossman, Qld, 4873

email: info@rainforestrescue.org.au

ABN 61 086 885 154