Cassowary vehicle strike solutions workshop

Tuesday, 22 September 2015
A case for
Vehicle Activated signs

and **consistent signage**

at

Cassowary crossing/death hotspots
Mission Beach is a growth area

• Current planning allows for almost treble the number of current population

• Substantial increase in traffic since Cyclone Yasi in 2011

• Work commuters create a constant stream of traffic

• Record number of visitors this year

• Official count of 15 road deaths so far this year

• Many more near misses
Impatient drivers
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Impatient drivers
Unpredictable cassowary behaviour
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Current signage

Alerts tourist to being in cassowary area
Current signage

Does not relate to known crossing areas
Trial “Cassowary Crossing Zone”

Extending 60kph speed limited at ‘Garrett Corridor’ has greatly reduced the speed of traffic along the whole of Tully Mission Beach Road between Wongaling and Mission Beach
If only cassowaries could fly
Existing large signage removed and replaced more strategically

WELCOME TO MISSION BEACH

YOU ARE ENTERING CASSOWARY COUNTRY

PLEASE OBSERVE SPEED LIMITS
New signage placed at either end of cassowary crossing zone
Road markings painted in a different colour
Consistent design except relate to specific potential hazard
Advantages of Vehicle Activated Signs

- Solar Powered
- Can be tailored to needs.
- Data collection
- Anti vandal features
- Main Roads compliant
- Proven record to reduce speed
- Uniform approach to road management at known cassowary crossing zones could be rolled out region wide
- Inexpensive
Vehicle Activated sign trial

5 cassowary deaths
3 cassowary deaths
2 cassowary deaths
2 cassowary deaths
2 cassowary deaths
3 cassowary deaths
2 cassowary deaths
11 cassowary deaths
VAS is a practical solution and has wide support

- Support from Cassowary Coast councillors
- Local police have indicated their support
- Support from tourism
Local community continually demonstrates their support to find solutions
See you at World Cassowary Day
SEPT 26 2015

CELEBRATING CASSOWARIES

AND THEIR FRIENDS