

Community Cassowary Identification and Tracking Project

CRT presentation September 2011

Presentation prepared by Liz Gallie



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Aim

Make a record of individual cassowaries

Follow their movement in the landscape

Record interactions between birds and any other incidences

Follow mating patterns

Follow chicks dispersal

Bingil Bay/Garners Beach Cassowaries



Sample area

Personal observations and records of birds since 2006

Cassowaries can live up to 50 years

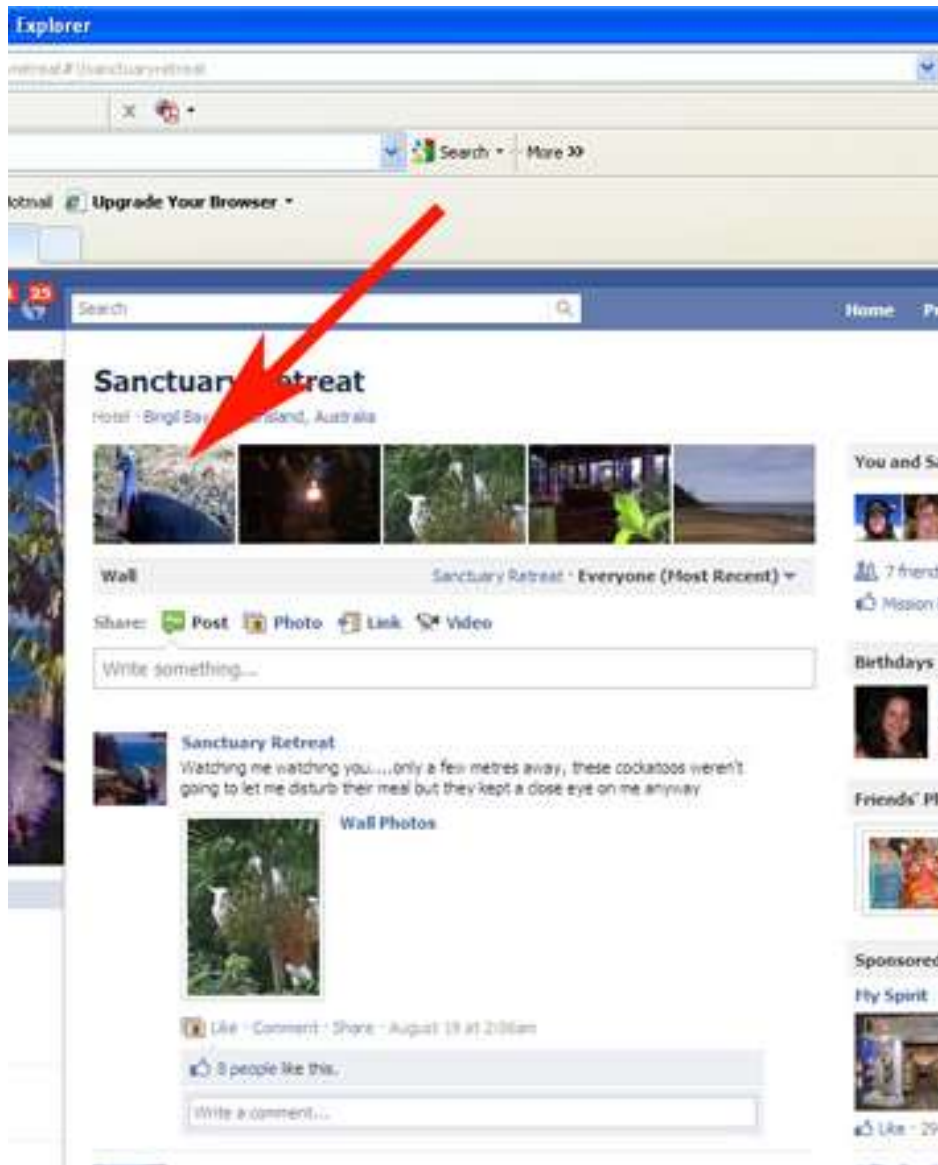
They become part of peoples lives

People give the birds names

All Information shared by the community through;

- word of mouth
- emails
- facebook.

Bingil Bay/Garners Beach Cassowaries



Facebook photo provides information.....

Bingil Bay/Garners Beach Cassowaries



On March 1st 2011

“A very hot Stu enjoying a bit of shade and a drink”

“he's back then YEAH! ”

Profile of 14 individual birds



Name	Age
• Bella	>40
• Barbara	>40
• Ms Cass	11
• Kit/Bandit	at least 30
• Stuart	at least 16
• Dad	died Dec 2010 at least 10
• Joov	6
• Lelol	?
• Bart	?
• Unknown	?
• Cyril	4
• Blackie	4
• Bernie	19 months
• Bella's chick	14 months

Profile of 14 individual birds



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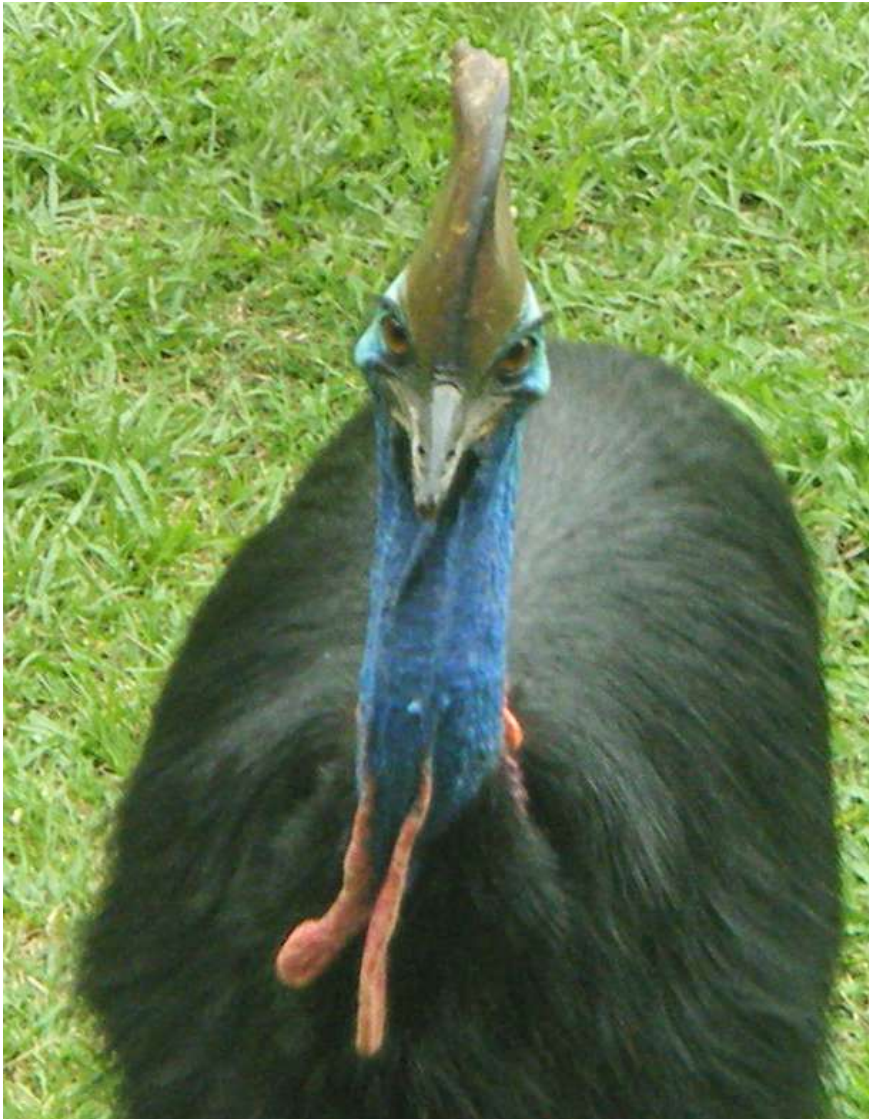
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Kit/Bandit at least 30yo male



Photo taken nesting 1989

Kit/Bandit approx 30yo male



1989 already mature adult

4 year maturity means this bird is at least 30 years old

Blind in right eye

With chick in 2005

Kit/Bandit approx 30yo male



Cassowary is identified by this photo with obvious blind eye and comparison of wattle



Profile of 14 individual birds



Name

Age



Kit/Bandit

at least 30 years



Joov 6yo male



Joov 6yo male



Stripey seen by residents at Bicton Hill with parent in July 2005

Survived cyclone Larry 2006

First seen northern Bingil Bay as two year old

Joov 6yo male



Mated with Ms Cass July 2009



Joov 6yo male



Mated with Barbara 2009

Joov 6yo male



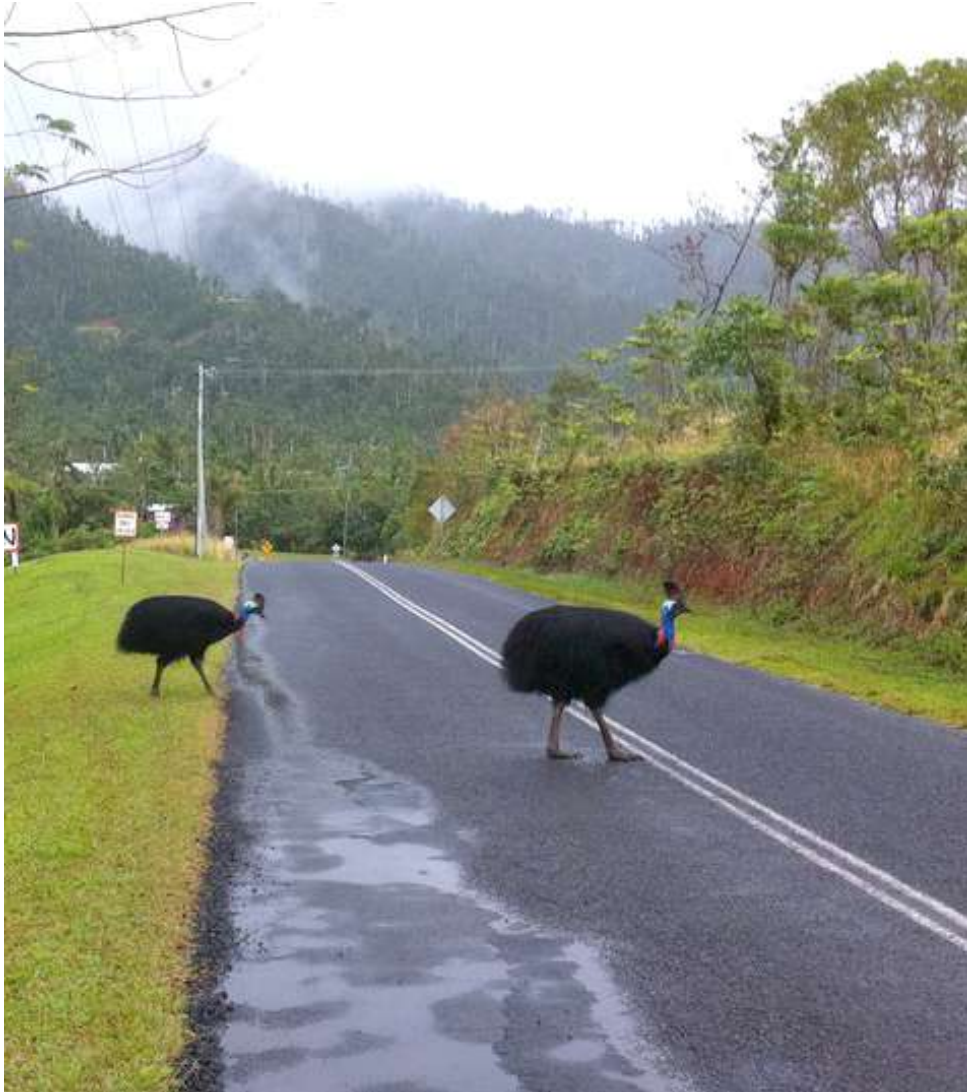
Mated with Barbara 2010 - 2 chicks

Joov 6yo male



Mated with Barbara Aug/Sept 2011

Joov 6yo male



Crossing Bingil Bay Road with
Barbara Sep 2011

QPWS 'Recent Crossing' signs are
placed here regularly

Ms Cass 12yo female



2006



2011

Ms Cass 12yo female



Survived cyclone Larry

Known locally from a chick

Mated with Joov 2009

Not known where she goes in the long periods not seen.

Visits 4 or 5 times a year

Has been observed encountering Lelol, Joov, and Blackie.

Tolerant of Joov.

Ms Cass 12yo female



White patch on back of right foot

Third wattle



Ms Cass 12yo female



Name

Age



Ms Cass

11

Bernie 19 months old



Photo taken July 2010
Council Reserve area
north Bingil Bay

Bernie 19 months old



Survived cyclone Yasi

Observed crossing Bingil Bay Road regularly

Petition started to slow traffic at Bingil Bay prompted by concern for Bernie

Bernie struck by by car July 24 2010

Bernie found alive August 13th

QPWS treating Bernie



Liz Gallie

Bernie turned up today. His foot has mended after the car accident on Bingil Bay Road .He is looking a bit thin but his coat is shiny and he is finding his place in the Bingil Bay cassowary population.



Like · Comment · Unfollow Post · November 14 at 11:35pm near Brisbane, Australia

Kelvin Davies, Cynthia Francis, Helen Larson and 5 others like this.



Rainforest Rescue Great news Liz :)
November 15 at 11:48am · Unlike · 2



Kerry Kokani Yay!!! Good on you Bernie!!
November 15 at 4:56pm · Unlike · 2



Cynthia Francis hello Bernie, welcome back.
November 15 at 6:11pm · Unlike · 2



Ken Turnip Good on ya, Bernie. If only they all did as well as you.
November 16 at 7:07am · Like



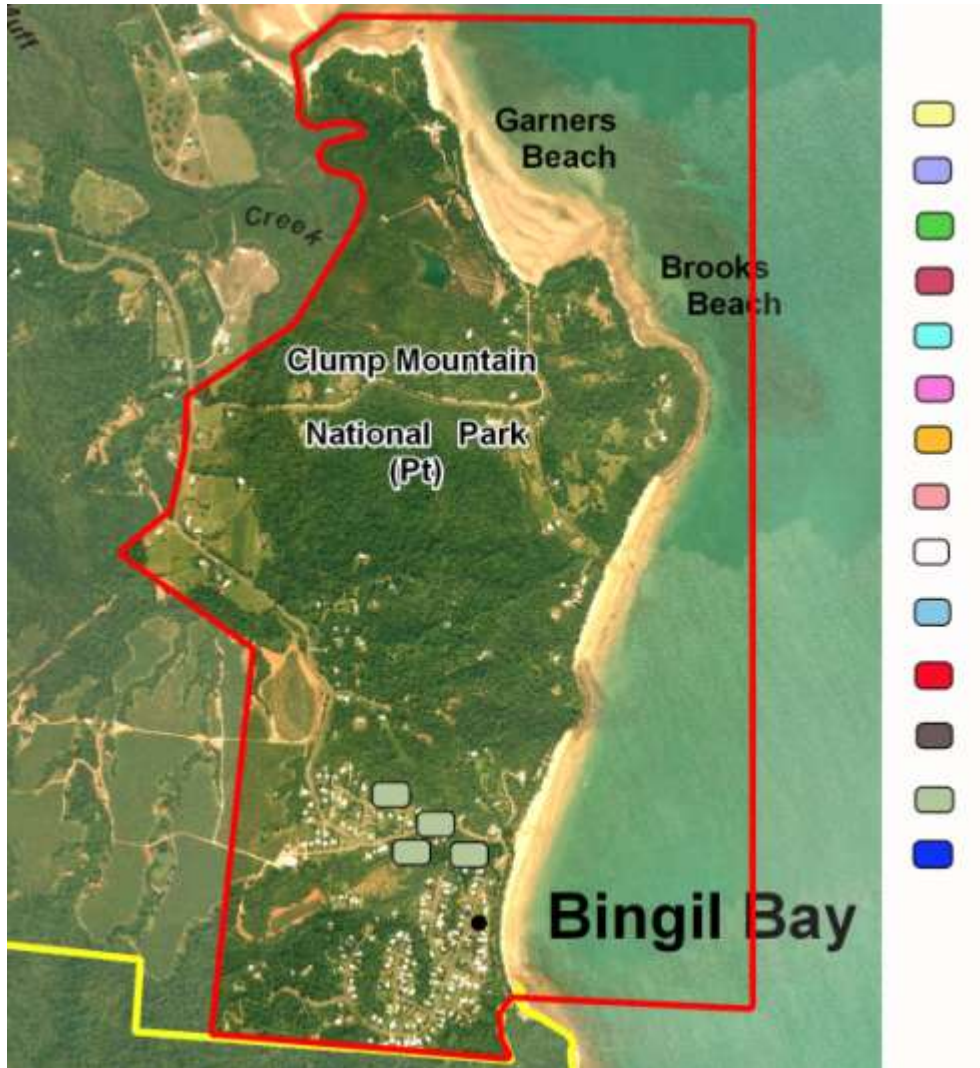
Liz Gallie Yes. It looks like the Bingil Bay Road at the village may be reduced to 50k's. Bronwyn from Bingil Bay Cafe started a petition after watching Bernie cross the road with a few near misses until he finally got hit. The Bingil Bay community placed signs up as well so great to get such a positive result. Now how to get the message through to all these new tradies in town?

November 16 at 7:23pm · Like · 6

Community follows a recovered Bernie and his progress as he finds his place in the Bingil Bay/Garners Beach cassowary population

Nov 14 2011

Bernie 19 months old



Name

Age

Bernie

19 months

Bella >40yo



Bella known as one of the oldest birds in Bingil Bay/ Garners Beach area.

One of '*Mrs Jorrissen's birds*'

Very large bird distinctive casque and wattles

Bella >40yo



Bella and Dad first reported chicks of the season 6 July 2011 crossing Garners Beach Road.

Bella >40yo



Unusual behaviour

Bella and Dad shared
parenting

Bella >40yo



Bella alone with two of the
chicks

13 Sept 2011

Bella >40yo



Bella with one chick

Bella >40yo



Dec 2010 Dad and two chicks
die in pig trap



Bella >40yo



Bella raises one chick

Bella >40yo



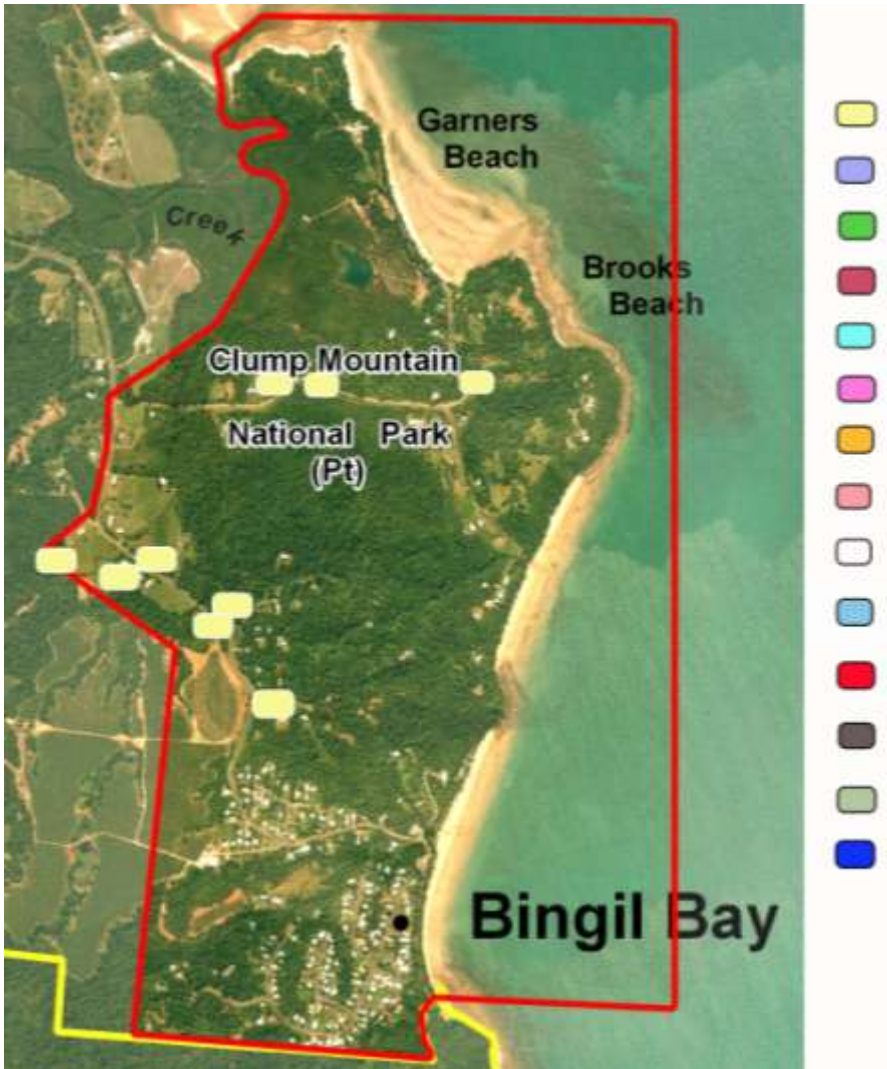
Bella abandons chick seen
here near QPWS
rehabilitation centre
31 July 2011

Bella >40yo



Photo of Bella with Cyril or Blackie (?) posted on facebook Sept 11 2011

Profile of 14 individual birds



Name

Bella

Age

>40

Overview map



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Unlike Comment



Jeff Larson ▸ Mission Beach Cassowaries

I think this is one of my 'Tip' birds from last year! It must have survived, yahoo. Now it is a 'Construction' bird that oversees the building of the Wheatly creek bridge ha! I watched it crawl Under the barbed wire fence into the paddock near the creek...it just flattened out and stepped through. The lowest rung on the fence was just 20 inches high and it gone UNDER it.

Unlike · Comment · Unfollow Post · November 17

You, Tania Devereux, Helen Larson and Cynthia Francis like this.



Cynthia Francis Thanks for sharing Jeff Larson well at least one cassowary can manoeuvre over 1 fence!

November 17 at 11:53am · Like

Album: Photos of Mission Beach Cassowaries

Shared with: Public

Tag This Photo

Download

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Facebook is current communication tool used by many people

Mission Beach Cassowaries is open facebook group with 370 members alerted to each post

Thousands of posts

Information about individual birds and obstacles in the landscape, e g;

- fences,
- dogs,
- roads,
- clearing of habitat.



New chicks
at South Mission
Oct 2011
(email)



Liz Gallie ▸ Mission Beach Cassowaries

Here is a photo of the new Cass Family at South Mission. Thanks Helen.

Like · Comment · Unfollow Post · Edit · November 14

👍 Tania Devereux, Cynthia Francis and 2 others like this.



Liz Gallie Notice Dad's distinctive wattle. This can happen while they are moving through barbed wire fences which this bird is often seen doing at the junction of South Mission Beach Road and Wheatley Road. Cassowaries can generally learn how to m...[See More](#)

November 14 at 9:39pm · Like



Cynthia Francis I for one welcome the 'background info' thanks Liz Gallie

November 14 at 9:55pm · Unlike · 🔄 1

Album: Photos of Mission Beach Cassowaries

Shared with: 🌐 Public

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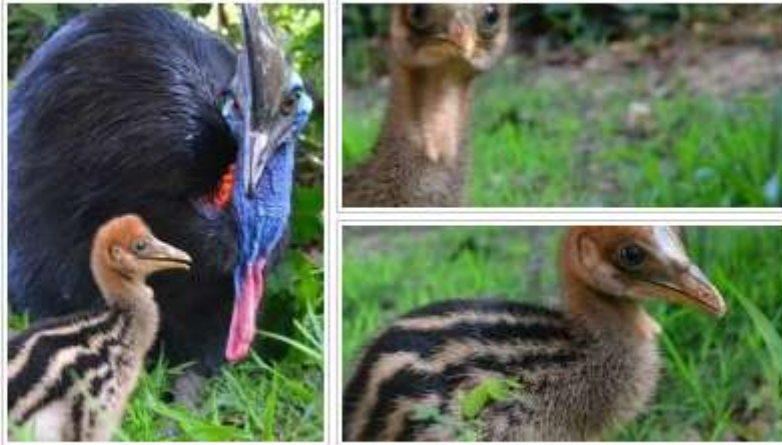
Same male

“Cassowaries crossing on 24 Feb 2010 on South Mission Beach Road near Wheatley Road.

Behaviour suggests they are being fed”.



Andy Hills added photos to 13 November 2011.



Like · Comment · Unfollow Post · November 13 at 8:31pm

Rainforest Rescue, Kelvin Davies, Cynthia Francis and 2 others like this.



Liz Gallie Thanks for sharing these Paul. New chick seen at Wongaling.

November 14 at 7:15am · Like



Kerry Kokani Amazing photos! ♥

November 14 at 7:36am · Like

Write a comment...



Paul Toogood

<http://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10150453613443115.421914.507943114&type=3> Some of the most gorgeous pics of cassowaries I have seen. Thanks Andy Hills

Like · Comment · Unfollow Post · November 13 at 6:43pm

Dez Ewing likes this.

View all 4 comments

New chicks at Wongaling
Nov 2011



Liz Gallie

Thanks for reporting this Dennis. The first chicks of this year were seen late October at South Mission Beach. Is this one at Carmoo. Last year the first chicks were at Garners on 6th July and after cyclone Larry it was two years before any were seen.



" It's Baby Time" by Dennis Marker

Dennis was thrilled to see Mr Cassowary and his chick this morning.
By: C4 - Community for Coastal and Cassowary Conservation
Photos: 2

Like · Comment · Unfollow Post · November 13 at 1:43pm

Suzanne Bellamy, Cynthia Francis and James Biggs like this.



Cynthia Francis oh Dennis Ingrid Marker I wish I had known you followed these beautiful creatures. thanks for sharing the pics.
November 13 at 4:19pm · Like

Write a comment...

More chicks Carmoo
Nov 2011

Comments of importance
of cassowaries



Russell Constable

Whilst waiting for a reef trip at Cairns Reef Terminal we bumped into this cassowary. An important sighting as it reminds us all just how important this bird is to tourism and overseas visitors!



Community Cassowary Identification and Tracking Project



Involves the community

Provides important information

How many birds

How they use the landscape over long period

Mating behaviour and interaction

Survival

Where they cross roads

Community Cassowary Identification and Tracking Project



A lot of information is being gathered

CSIRO; DNA analysis

DERM; Satellite tagging

Placement of recent Crossing signs, recorded deaths, photos currently being obtained from food stations

COMMUNITY; Community wants to be involved, fills gaps in information already being gathered, is up to date and ongoing

Desired Outcome

To engage the community by sharing information to ensure the cassowary survives and thrives in the Mission Beach landscape



- Day to day observations – detail of on the ground situations
- Understanding community attitudes
- Disseminating information to the community and by the community
- A big continuous database of detailed information

All information and photos in this presentation copyright
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