



Queensland
Government

Our ref MC84611

Department of
Transport and Main Roads

22 December 2015

Ms Liz Gallie
missionbeachcassowaries@gmail.com

Dear Ms Gallie

I refer to your email to the Honourable Mark Bailey MP, Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy, Biofuels and Water Supply, about the protection of cassowaries on the roads around Mission Beach. The Minister has asked that I respond on his behalf.

Minister Bailey is very supportive of any conservation efforts that help to prevent further deaths of cassowaries on the state-controlled road network, and appreciates the work done by the community to keep this iconic bird safe.

On 9 December 2015, officers from the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) met with members of the Cassowary Recovery Team, at the intersection of Tully – Mission Beach and Lindsay Roads. This intersection had been identified by participants at a community-run cassowary workshop on 22 September 2015 as a vehicle strike 'hot spot'. During the site visit, TMR committed to:

- developing a road treatment to be trialled in two areas. This treatment will include line marking and signs to highlight the cassowary crossings. The signage for the trial will incorporate feedback from local community stakeholders
- gathering speed data in these two areas prior to installation of the new road treatment, and monitoring the areas following installation
- investigating better reductions, and removing vegetation from the roadside at Carmoo.

These treatments which can be implemented in the short-term, were well-received at the December meeting, and if successful, could be used more broadly across the network where relevant to limit the number of cassowary deaths. I also understand there will be further consultation with the local community on the implementation of these treatments.

TMR is also investigating if it can adapt or redevelop Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) technology like that which has been used successfully to detect koalas near the Moreton Bay Rail Link project site, for use in cassowary protection. As this investigation is likely to take some time, local cassowary conservation groups will be updated, as required.

I can assure you that consultation with individuals and the community will continue on important issues, such as, the protection of cassowaries. Any potential solutions put forward to protect cassowaries on the state-controlled road network, will be investigated thoroughly to ensure the right balance between network safety and efficiency, and the delivery of real conservation benefits.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Julie Mitchell

**A/Deputy Director-General (Infrastructure Management and Delivery)
Department of Transport and Main Roads**