

TREAT News

Dry Season 2013

Trees for the Evelyn & Atherton Tablelands (Inc.)

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Tablelands Wildlife Rescue

Bronwyn Robertson

A brand new group has started on the Tablelands dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation and release of sick, injured or orphaned native wildlife. The unique wildlife found on the Tablelands and the specific problems faced by the area's native animals prompted a group of committed wildlife carers to establish the new group.

Habitat fragmentation and impacts from residential development have a big effect on native wildlife. The work of many local groups, including TREAT, to restore connectivity between vegetated areas significantly improves the safe movement of wildlife between remnants. Unfortunately however, carers still receive calls for many hundreds of animals requiring rescue each year, with some of the most frequent problems being animals hit by

cars, attacks from dogs and cats and poisoning.

The new wildlife rescue group covers the Tablelands, including Atherton, Ravenshoe, Mareeba, Mt Molloy and Dimbulah. A 24 hour hotline has been established, which is manned by volunteers. Anyone finding sick or injured wildlife can call the hotline on **4091 7767**.

It's an exciting and busy time for members of the new group, and also an ideal time for anyone interested in wildlife rescue to join up. New members and carers are very welcome and full training is provided for all volunteers. Members are also covered by **Tablelands Wildlife Rescue's** permit to care for native wildlife. A workshop for beginner bird carers will be run shortly and interested people can call the hotline to register their interest.