

MILESTONE REPORT 2

April 12th (updated), 2019

- NURSERY UPGRADE -
- FUNDRAISING LAUNCH -
- FIRST PLANTINGS -
- SUPPORTING ENDANGERED SPECIES -



Grant acquittal
Santos Organics

Report to major supporters
Brendan Blaiklock, Maria Alta
and Josh Fry-Hall

Recognition of
Mullum S.E.E.D, Rainforest 4 Foundation
Paradise One, The Foundation for
Australia's Most Endangered Species
and The Richmond Birdwing
Conservation Network

Produced by Maximo Bottaro, edited by Michael Martin
on behalf of ReForest Now

DELIVERABLES - NURSERY UPGRADES

Accessibility, shade, capacity and a new seed house



In the past, we've been limited to growing just wildlings in our misting house. With this Santos grant we've been able to setup a new tunnel, build tables and overhead irrigation for plants grown from seed.

The left and right sides of the new 12 meter by 5 meter structure are now full with 55 new seedling trays.

Already, things are starting to germinate.

These include; the endangered Small Leaved Tamarind and 1,500 seed for the Birding Butterfly Vine.

This is our third structure. Steel frames have been acquired for our fourth...



Steel reinforcement and high quality shade cloth were stitched to our misting house at both ends as it was being damaged by cyclones this year. Three shade sails have been erected overhead for our volunteers and underground drainage was also installed in the misting house as it was too wet underfoot to work! Weed matting has been installed in the area between the three tunnels and inside the misting house.

Our shade house up to this point could hold approx. 2,000 trees with two overhead irrigation lines. From this upgrade we've been able to install two new lines and increase holding capacity of the shade house to 4,000 trees. Additionally, we had enough materials to build 5 tables for plants and we were able to complete the floor with weed mat, thus making the area usable for more trees.

The ReForest Now nursery is located at the Mullumbimby Community Gardens at 156 Station St.

EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN

Nursery Upgrade Spending

People costs

Mbottaro Contract	\$	1,995.00
Mmartin Contract	\$	2,055.00
Volunteer lunches x3	\$	65.00

Large materials

Weed matting 2 x 50m rolls	\$	162.00
Shade cloth 20m x 4m plus 3.66 x50m, plus 3.66m x 4, plus 4m x3.66	\$	448.74
25mm x 50m Poly irrig plus 25mm offcuts	\$	51.70
Shade sail 5m x 3m plus 6.5m triangle	\$	398.00
Ag pipe drainage 65mm x 20m	\$	56.95
Poles 2750mm x2	\$	27.90
Mesh reinforcing 1800m x 1000mm x 200x7mm x 15 units	\$	513.75
Pine poles x diam 2.4m x4, Pine fence posts x 100mm x 75mm x 2.4m x 12 units, Pine structural MGP10 70x35mm x 2.4m x9 units	\$	261.40

Stone, soil, mesh and fertiliser

Seedling raising mix x3	\$	40.60
Blue & brown stone for nursery ground x 1 cubic m	\$	63.00
Osmocote fertilizer 9kg	\$	72.99
Mouse mesh for seedling trays x 2	\$	114.49

Small materials

Gal staples and weedmatt pins 10 pack x11	\$	28.38
12mm Plastic snap on adjustable nozzle	\$	6.45
25 x 1" Poly connector	\$	19.91
3/4 Brass nipple, reducer, tap adaptor and T	\$	41.03
Misters and dropper assembly	\$	164.23
Eye bolts, nuts x2, carabiners and anchors	\$	44.76
Holman misting timer and batteries	\$	88.95
Cable ties and ratchet	\$	46.50
Ag pipe joiner x2 and coupling 65mm x2	\$	22.30
Inline barb taps for 25mm poly	\$	27.15
Masonry drill bit, auger drill bit and gloves	\$	24.46
25mm Elbow barbed, micro joiner barb and T	\$	16.74
Hose clamp x 20, 3/4 socket and Nipple 1" 3/4	\$	41.77
Nail staples x 20 x 2	\$	8.40

Total Expenditure \$ **6,907.55**

Santos Contribution \$ **6,500.00**

ReForest Now inkind contribution \$ **407.55**

Proposed Spending

Labour	59.51%
Materials	36.04%
Soils, mixes and mesh	4.45%

Actual Spending

Labour	59.57%
Materials	36.21%
Soils, mixes and mesh	4.21%

Our budget for upgrades was kept tightly on track for the production of this outcome (less than 1/4 of a % variance).

A whole new nursery tunnel has been setup for ReForest Now. It encompasses 60 square meters of space & will be used as our new seedling house.

We pride ourselves on transparency and always reach further than what is requested by our supporters.

Since our nursery started growing trees in October 2018, it has provided 714 trees to planting sites in the Byron Shire!



UPGRADE SPECIFICS

Outcomes directly associated with Santos Organics support include;



Shade House Upgrades

Installed two new 20m irrigation lines and populated one with sprinklers, increasing capacity for another 1,000 to 1,500 trees.

Improved pressurization capacity of watering systems and pump to handle another 60 square meters.

Built 5 tables from recycled materials to hold ready to plant trees.

Finished weed matting the floor of 100 square meters to hold another 5,000 trees.

Mist House Upgrades

Installed steel bracing on misting house ends to protect from cyclone damage.

Replaced both ends of the misting house with new, clean and professional materials (replacing scrap and offcuts).

Installed trenching, drainage piping and clay pebbles to dry out flooring and installed weed matting to suppress weeds.

Seed House Construction

Built 12m x 2m steel & wood benches for x 3 runs, installed irrigation, misters, valves and timers for seedlings.

Potted up 55 seedling trays, including 1,500 seeds of the Birdwing Butterfly vine. **Replaced sections of floor that were unsafe, added stone tiles, added a roof cover of 50% shade.**

Built mesh seedling covers for new seedling house to prevent predation of seed, purchased additional fertilized soil for new seedlings.

Outdoor Upgrades

Installed 3 large shade cloths for potting up volunteers working outside, 6.5m x 5m, 5m x 3, and 3m x 3m.

Flattened and weed matted outdoor area between structures for work-ability.



DONORS & SUPPORTERS I



Mullum S.E.E.D has provided ReForest Now with a site for our nursery at the Community Gardens in Mullumbimby, since September 2018. Without their strong support, we would still not have a nursery to speak of! A special thank you to Sasha Mainsbridge and the S.E.E.D board for supporting our recent expansion of the nursery in accordance with this grant round from Santos Organics. We deeply appreciate all the support we receive, their supplied access to materials, tools and trailer make us able to do our work.

Brendan and Maria supported ReForest Now last year, when they generously donated \$2,600 towards the establishment of our nursery and fundraising program. This year they have provided a further investment in our capacity building of \$7,000. What this means for RN is the ability to provide monthly outcomes on their behalf and our supporters in the community. A big thank you to them both for volunteering in the nursery the last 6 months, and Brendan for coming with us to plant 2,500 trees in the Daintree, January 2019, it was hard going it he stuck it out with us!



Paradise One Retreat, again contributed this year with a donation of endangered Small Leaved Tamarind trees. They grew these from seed and we have potted them on, ready to plant in a special project that increases their genetic diversity. We've been collecting seed and seedlings of this species from all over and with a little luck, we'll be creating a more diverse group than is left in the wild. It's been said there were only 15 survivors of the species after logging in the 1850's and maybe 100-150 in the wild by 2004. ReForest Now has over 100 in our nursery at this stage, from 5 different sources and will be collecting more.

Reforest Now has a partnership with the Rainforest 4 Foundation to raise funds to support our projects. We greatly appreciate the financial support which enable us to keep on growing. This is a relationship a decade in the making and we are planning many joined outcomes with Rainforest 4 over the coming years.



DONORS & SUPPORTERS II



This is our second grant with Santos Organics and we cannot say enough that we would have not have a nursery without the funding of Santos. 714 trees have already been planted that were grown and cared for in the initial nursery startup funded by Santos in 2018. The interface between RN and SO is one that we consider rare and ideal, we are both not for profits, with neither having to convince the other that caring for our Earth is the number one priority for us all. We look forward to a continued relationship in the future and are very pleased to represent their ethics in rainforest restoration.

We started communicating with the Richmond Birdwing Conservation Network in 2018 and found them to be very active in planting around 9,500 Birdwing vines with their members across South East Queensland. With this nursery upgrade we have finally had the capacity to grow Birdwing vine ourselves. The RBCN were so supportive of our desire to support the recovery of the species that they have sent us 2,500 Birdwing vine seeds to germinate in the new seed tunnel. We've sown 1,500 of these already. We look forward to creating a network of vines to support surviving populations here in Byron and reconnect these to Gold Coast populations that have been supported by the RBCN.



Josh Fry-Hall has been a serious contributor to ReForest Now as a startup since the beginning of 2018. Our co-founders have worked with him for many years before starting the organization and where possible, we've found him contractor roles, as he's worth his weight in brains and brawn. He has been an absolute backbone to the organization and has worked in many aspects from field research, augering, seed collection/propagation/wildling collection, nursery construction, volunteer management/tour guiding, bush regen and site preparation. This year we will be inviting him to take a role as a youth director. We have two such positions available for clever and capable young people who want to represent their generation for the future.

The logo for FAME (Foundation for Australia's Most Endangered Species) features the letters 'F', 'A', 'M', and 'E' in a bold, green, sans-serif font. The letter 'M' is stylized, with a white leaf-like shape integrated into its right side.

local Daintree cassowary male, Garrus
who lives in Diwan, Daintree, Cape Tribulation
- Photo by Connie Kerr

ReForest Now has been working with the Foundation for Australia's Most Endangered Species since 2018. We have together closed 4 roads in the Daintree rainforest by planting them out with 2,500 trees of over 100 species, to increase cassowary habitat. This month (April, 2019), we are closing another road with 1,100 trees for FAME and establishing cassowary monitoring at several sites. We have two new exciting projects opening this year...

Firstly, habitat restoration for the Pink Underwing Moth and the planting of a high genetic diversity population of the Small Leaved Tamarind Tree (brought within 15 individuals of extinction).

Secondly, we are working together on a further planting of 3,300 trees in prime cassowary breeding habitat in Cow Bay in the Daintree. This will buffer a high value conservation area with individual plants dated at two and five thousand years old and provide food trees for the cassowaries.

We've recently started to collaborate with a Lush Forest in conservation with big plans for 2019. At this time we are organizing what Paul Daley from ALF calls "Regenerative EcoTourism", where we will engage businesses and individuals to venture with us to the Sumatran rainforest for a tree planting and explorative journey. This for us represents a chance to help the disadvantaged acquire employment in culturally and environmentally sound areas, while fighting palm oil encroachment on National Parks and defending endangered wildlife, including, tigers, orangutans, asian elephants and rhinoceros. We give a big thank you here to ALF for producing our latest outreach video and continuing to assist us with their nursery knowledge, photography of events and networking.





Tashi Maizey with our newly delivered seeds for the Richmond Birdwing Vine! (background our wildling house is producing thousands!)



Fifteen such seeds of this species survived the logging of the 1850's. This is the Small Leaved Tamarind and RN have it's survival at heart.



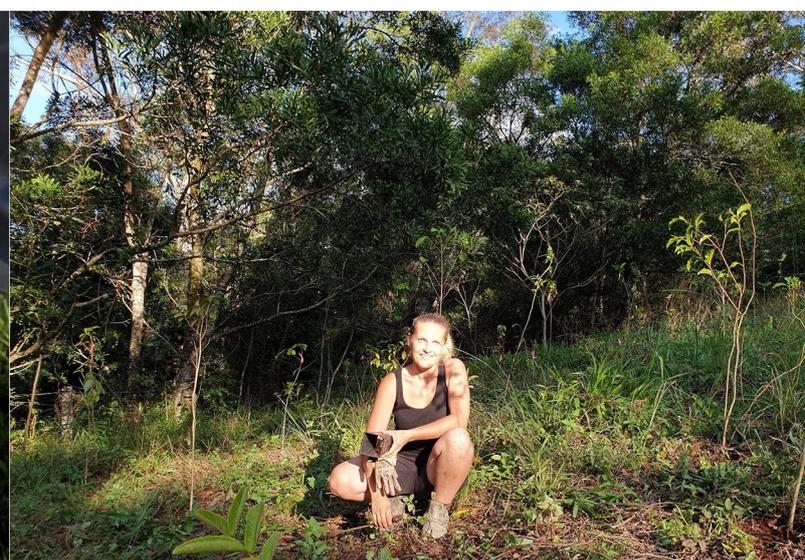
From left (Max, Zac, Mike) planting in the rain at the Pocket, April 2019.



RN folks gearing up for a planting of 300 trees at the beginning of April. We've planted 3,214 across Byron Bay and Daintree in 2019.



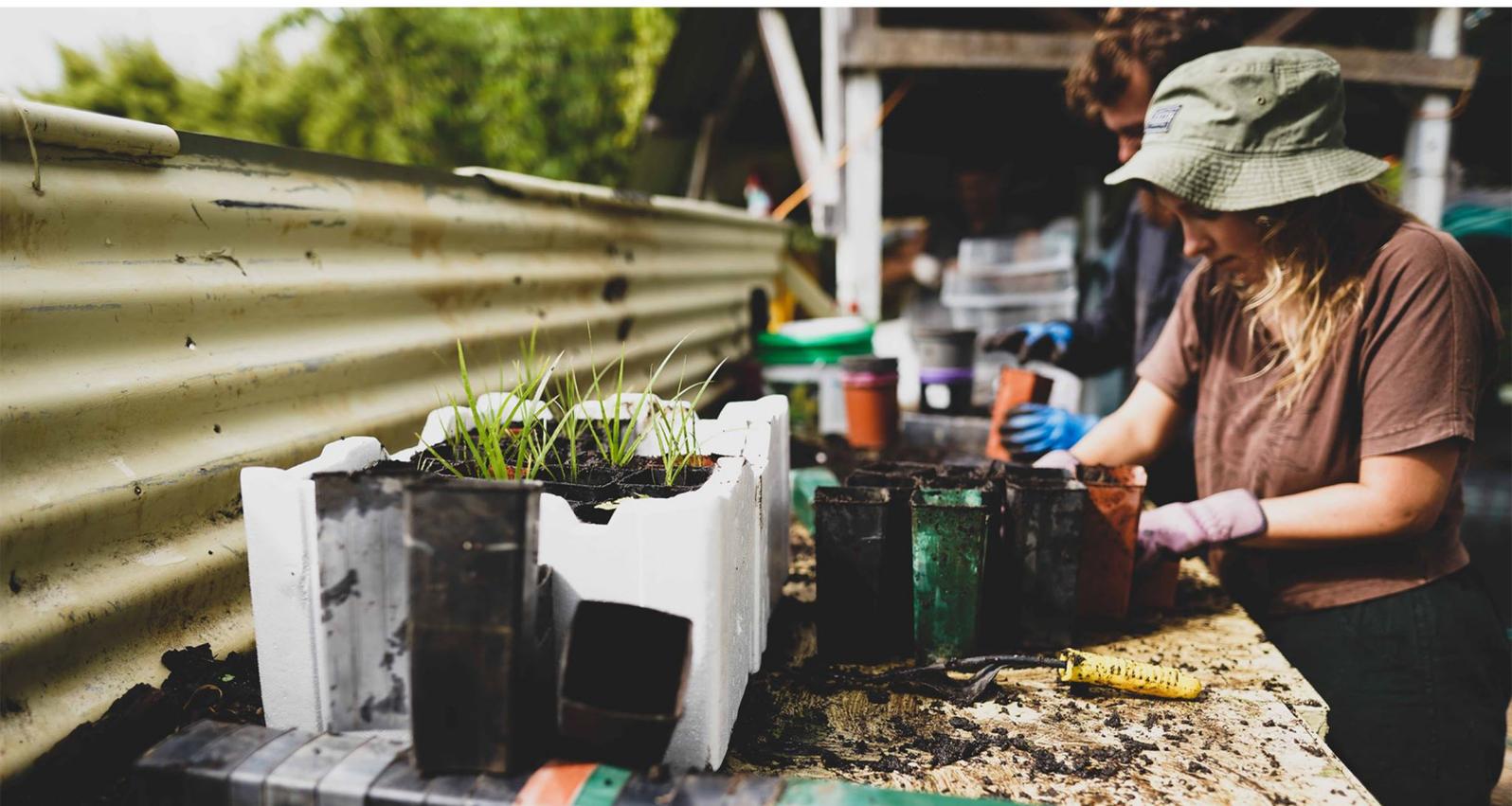
Fruits of the White Beech tree, now growing in the new seed house. Special thanks to Jodie from The Farm for these!



Tashi Maizey planting 150 trees in Upper Wilsons Creek, Mullumbimby. This project focused on high fruiting trees for native rainforest birds



These are your plants Santos Organics! We grew these on last October as soon as the nursery was ready! So lush and green from the wet, warm, misting house!



Elise Landry potting up Lomandras for the nursery, we can handle about six volunteers on a given day with our current infrastructure and needs. We have a facebook group for people who want in!





New shade sail overhead for working on hot days, bench space for five to pot up, vehicle access, great company and fun. We're having a blast with what were doing and if this looks like you, contact us at info@reforestnow.org.au



Elise Landry has just finished planting a Homalanthus pioneer tree here, /photobomb from ReForest Now co-founder Michael Martin and volunteer Zachariah Holt.