

ReForest Now ANNUAL REPORT



2021-2022

reforestnow.org.au
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REFOREST NOW IS AN AUSTRALIAN NON-GOVERNMENT AND
NON-PROFIT ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANISATION.

AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS NUMBER: 40 887 914 802
ACN 656 965 856

ReForest Now is registered as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits
Commission (ACNC) with the charitable fundraising number CFN/24812. NSW Fair Trading
Registration INC1800070.

BUNDJALUNG COUNTRY, BYRON BAY, AUSTRALIA

REFORESTNOW.ORG.AU

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*Prepared by Franzi Kinzel
Edited by Maximo Bottaro & Kallen Marecic
on behalf of ReForest Now*

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Growing Rainforest Together



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ReForest Now is a young (Est. 2018) not-for-profit environmental organisation based in Northern NSW. Our primary activities are growing and planting trees, bush regeneration, camphor culling and maintenance of plantings. These activities employ a strong and passionate team of local people with experience in bush regeneration, environmental science and conservation. We also facilitate a growing network of volunteers at our nursery and planting sites.

Our primary area of works was once known as the Big Scrub rainforest - Australia's largest expanse of subtropical rainforest. After extensive clearing through 1850-1880, less than 1% remains, and these remnants are severely fragmented and degraded. Our work aims to regenerate, expand and reconnect the original rainforest. We grow over 110 species in our nursery in Mullumbimby and give a high priority to endangered and critically endangered species, as well as those that support the native fauna of the region.

In Far North Queensland (FNQ) we work in the Daintree Rainforest and Atherton Tablelands. Two highly diverse areas with ecology in the Daintree dating back to Gondwanan times, perhaps 150-170 million years ago. Here we have focused on closing down roads and tracks into the rainforest to allow for the expansion of cassowary habitat in particular and reduced fringe and fragment damage of dense endangered communities.

Tree planting through us is transparent, easy for everyone and approachable. Our model allows people and businesses to donate trees easily and know exactly; which day and site they were planted on, for which partner and come complete with mapping polygons. Over the last three years, we have partnered with over 80 businesses of all sizes and in various industries that fundraise to donate trees. Our website donor platform is increasing and is seeing donations from individuals in over 45 countries.

ReForest Now plants trees on behalf of donor individuals, organisations and businesses from around the world and is honoured to do this work on behalf of those who share our vision.



OUR MISSION & VISION

ReForest Now was created by an unabated passion to see large-scale reforestation and regeneration of Australian rainforest ecosystems. Our team of scientists, bush regenerators and nurserymen are working with partners and individuals around the world to see the immediate and effective restoration of critically endangered rainforests. We are collecting and growing the seeds of hundreds of varieties of rainforest species, teaching, learning and producing resources to further scientific understanding in fields such as; ecosystem restoration, endangered species management, bio precipitation, genetic diversity and fire ecology.

Rainforests support more than half of all the terrestrial biodiversity on the planet. We must restore them to oppose the worsening climate and ecological crises and repair the damage caused by our predecessors. There is a great team of passionate people here who are ready to act NOW on your behalf.

OUR VALUES

Transparency, ecological awareness, collaboration, community involvement, integrity, hard work, physical outcome focus. We believe in caring for our workers and aim to create a fulfilling, flexible and enjoyable work life.



We recognize the earth as a living system and we make it possible for people from all stages of life to contribute to the protection, renewal and survival of our forests in Australia.

Planting trees is one of the primary actions we can take to slow down climate change, among myriad other ecology services such as; pollution reduction/absorption, water quality, quantity and recycling, biodiversity, endangered species protection, bushfire and flood impact mitigation.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

304,194

NATIVES PLANTED
(primarily rainforest trees)

*in Australia,
as of end of FY21-22.*

equals



66.9

HECTARES

of land reforested



56,998

TONNES

*of CO2 estimated sequestered
once forest reaches maturity*

58.2

ADDITIONAL HECTARES

of rainforest regeneration works

36

LOCAL CONTRACTORS

*in full-time or part-time work
(as of FY21-22)*



Chairperson



MAXIMO BOTTARO
*Cert III NAR, BSc, BClin,
Hons 1st*

Secretary



Kallen Marecic
BEnvSc (Hons)

Deputy Chair



Josh Fry-Hall
Cert III NAR (candidate)

BOARD & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Founding Director



Tashi Maizy
*Cert IV Veterinary
Nurse*

Founding Director



Kim O'Sullivan

Founding Director



Odin Runga-Covington

OUR SUPPORTERS

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Our work is a collective and collaborative effort. No single person or organisation can create the tide of reforestation needed alone.

Thank you to every individual donor who donates trees through our website. Thank you to every business partner who has chosen to plant trees on behalf of their customers, their product sales or services provided.

Together we truly are reforesting and we are proud to plant trees on behalf of you.

OUR PARTNERS

PRIOR TO AND CONTINUING IN THE '21-'22 FINANCIAL YEAR

Alex Hanton, Herbalife Nutrition

Avarcas Australia

Beyond Byron E Bikes

Boo & Woo

Bush Tucker Babies

Clinton & Co Accounting

Duo Pilates

Earthwise Painters

ECOSIA (Wildfire Relief)

Go-To Skincare

Helm

KIGI

Living Neuro

Look Who's Charging

Mega Movement

Memory Lane

Mullumbimby Psychology

Night Grind

Piccolo Byron Bay

Qudos Bank

Santos Organics

Simply Ethical Advice (Hope Evans)

Sprout Nutrition

Stevies Stall & Co

Sweet Nutrients

Talenza

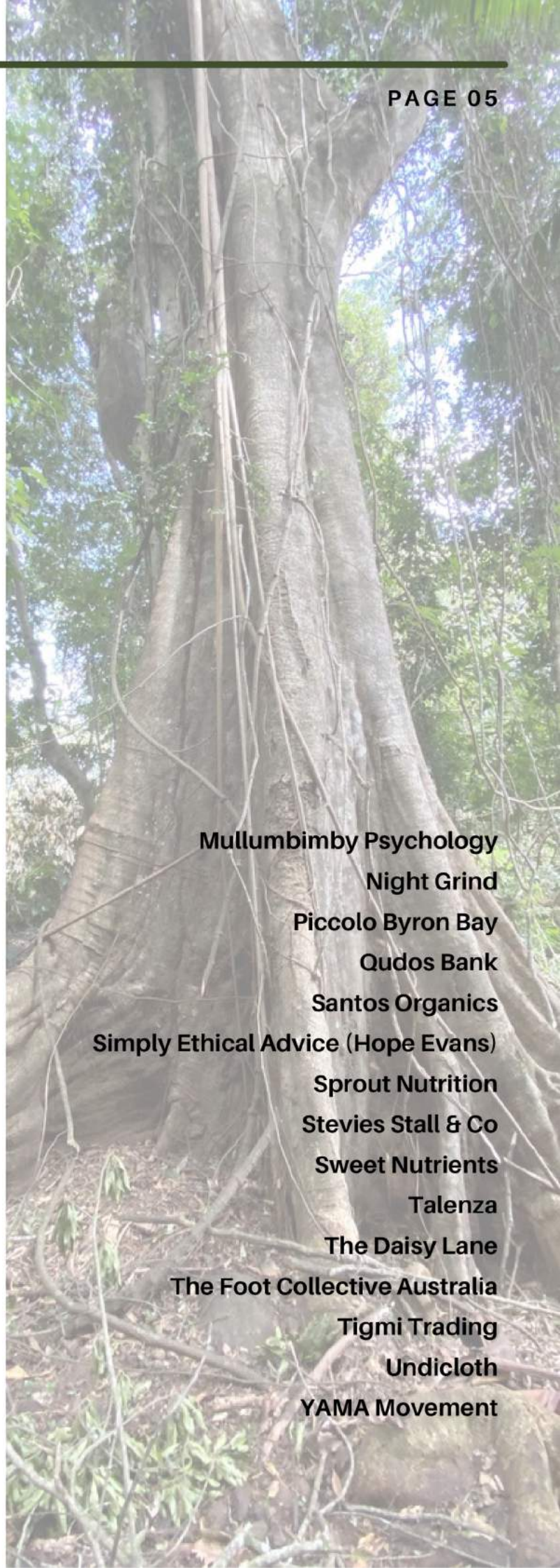
The Daisy Lane

The Foot Collective Australia

Tigmi Trading

Undicloth

YAMA Movement



OUR SUPPORTERS

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NEW IN THE '21-'22 FINANCIAL YEAR

Alan Riva
Aussie Ark
Bardon Trees
Big Scrub Building
Birds of Condor
Bywebber
Core3
Di Stefano Coffee
Dr Libby
Forest Designs
Gillie & Marc
Green Edge Technologies
GreenPact Sustainability

John Luddington
Laluca Creative
Mahi Collective
Metaphorically Speaking
Mindful Pet Care
Orgonomix
Quadrant Rail Consulting
Resin Buddy
ReviewForest
SelfOtherEarth
Stuart Latham Solicitors
VenusArtBench
Wild Flora Studio

ONCE OFF SUPPORTERS IN THE '21-'22 FINANCIAL YEAR

2022 All-Actuaries Summit Speakers
A Mano Surf
Australian College of Commerce & Management
Barwon Heads Triathlon 2022
Brady Australia
Elaine & Matt Sponge
Flow Hive
Grassy Knoll Brewing

KMPG Australia
Reckitt Benckiser
Rose Trimboli
Slalom Australia
The Murphy Family
The Story Of Telling
The Wilson Family (Russell Wilson)
Thermo Fisher Scientific Australia
Up2You Italy



GRANTS

Northern Rivers Community Foundation
LUSH Australia (Bush Animal Fund)
Joanne Parkinson Foundation
Commonwealth Bank

(more details under "Grants Received" page 20)

CAMPAIGNS

Frank Green
ICAP Charity Day
Meluka Australia
Plants In A Box
Roo Collective

Sampology Regrowth
Specialized Bicycles Australia
Tasman Eco
Tennis Warehouse Australia
World Gym Burleigh

INDIVIDUALS

ReForest Now opened a platform on the website in September 2019 to allow individuals from around the world to plant trees with us.

In this financial year we had over 4,800 trees (over \$24,000) donated from individuals. This does not include unallocated funding from individuals via our donorbox portal.



LANDHOLDERS

Individual landholders have contributed funds for over 28,000 natives (over \$140,000) in the financial year '21-'22. Landholders are also financing the maintenance of all trees planted on their land by us.

Thanks to all landholders who have contributed funds to plant and maintain natives as listed on the right side.



Thanks from our team to all of our individual donors, partners and landholders for believing in us and taking action.

- Mark & Darlsy Powell**
- Akora Byron Bay Pty Ltd.**
- Anton**
- James Cadden**
- Andrew Clarke**
- Jesse Coonrod**
- Greg Cromwell**
- Tony Farrell**
- Beck Gardiner**
- Dearbhla Hannigan**
- Shane Irving**
- Joshua Kinnear**
- Clive Klugman**
- Sofi Krige**
- James O'Conner**
- Bridget Ovcar**
- Robert & Billie Schwamberg**
- Shared Outlook P/L**
- Brian Grant & Nicole Swain**
- EGS Investments**
- Aaron Thomas**
- Jason Warren**
- Nigel Watchorn**



GOVERNANCE

ReForest Now is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission (ACNC) with the ABN 40 887 914 802 and the NSW Incorporate number 18 000 70.

We are insured for 20 million through Ceneta Insurance and Landcare NSW. Our workers are secured by a full policy with WorkCover (iCare) that covers them for all serious matters, including; permanent injury or death.

Our charitable fundraising authority is CFN/24812. We are in the process of applying to receive Tax Deductibility status and have a current tax concession from the Australian government.

MANAGEMENT

CEO

Managers

are responsible for the major aspects of the organisation such as; nursery, bush regen, tree planting, maintenance, partnerships, IT, logistics.

Supervisors

have middle responsibilities, they train staff and assist managers where necessary - oftentimes having expert knowledge in specific aspects.

ReForesters

have basic responsibilities, they follow our codes of conduct, safety and objectives from Supervisors and Managers.



MAXIMO BOTTARO

CERT III NAR, BSc, BClin, Hons 1st

The financial year started strong. We were expanding, taking on new projects and employing more people. In Q3 of 2021 we planted the most trees ever in one quarter and started a fantastic collaboration with Aussie Ark in Casino NNSW, creating rainforests and koala food tree lots in their 1,500 ha nature refuge. Our management team was becoming more structured and nuanced and we moved to a far more sophisticated communications platform that allowed us to increase intelligence, knowledge and coordination far better than before.



Then it started raining... and it didn't stop raining. For 6 months we barely saw the sun. During that time, around late February we were hit by a flood that broke all historical records by 2 additional meters of water. People drowned, animals drowned, many houses and businesses were destroyed, Lismore NNSW (one of our locations) was so badly devastated it resembled a warzone. People relied on pop up tents with community volunteers for basic needs... We went out to help there, mobilizing many staff. Several of our staff became homeless and/or lost their vehicles themselves. We had to find a way to keep the organisation turning over, despite the fact that the nursery was one meter underwater, all the machinery equipment was destroyed and every aspect of works were being cancelled weekly. We couldn't safely maintain plantings, we couldn't do regeneration, we couldn't prepare sites for plantings and we couldn't deliver on outcomes effectively. ReForest Now survived entirely on its broad flexible structure. We were able to find a way to keep the team employed by our integrated and interchangeable staffing system and broad training. A planter could repair the nursery, a regenerator could drill camphors and so on. We made it, and now this organisation has survived 6 months of drought, record breaking local bush fires, 2 years of COVID and 2 record breaking flood events.

We've been tested. Our organisational structure has had its tires kicked and they were found to be reinforced and rock solid. We know with confidence, that this is a charity model that is adaptable, strong, flexible and versatile and we're determined to bring it to great scale. We are here to stay.

KALLEN MARECIC

BEnvSc (Honours)

We never knew just how many people would come on board and take reforestation into their own hands. One might imagine that ReForest Now has spent the last few years reaching out to new potential donor organisations, but in fact, we've spent that time receiving enquiries from people all around the world asking how they can help.



It's been my task to work with over 80 such organisations who have proactively sought out ways to help and find a partnership arrangement that works for them. The diversity of companies and businesses ranges from a mum and pop cafeteria to companies with 100 000 employees, so there are many considerations in creating arrangements that work coherently.

Our organisational structure means that I've been able to report on outcomes with great confidence and provide quality deliverables including media, mapping, species lists, data, and more, which gives me confidence when building relationships with donors that ultimately rely on trust.

We have made really strong bonds with our partners. After the flood hit our nursery and our community, we received an outcry of support. Our long-term and very close partner, Talenza, looked out for our staff - many of who were unable to access any financial support after the life they once knew and their entire community was obliterated by the floodwaters. Talenza committed \$5,000.00 and raised an additional \$1,830.00 within their community to see our staff recover quickly and get back on their feet to restore rainforest. Talenza, your support during this difficult time won't ever be forgotten by our staff. Thank you.

I look forward to seeing our partnerships strengthen and invite others to get involved, to connect and heal country together. I see the supporters of ReForest Now enabling this organisation to make landscape-level changes in Australia over the coming years. Let's do it!

Compared to the last financial year 2020-2021 we were able to grow and achieve the following objectives:

Objectives	FY '20-'21	FY'21-'22	Change
Increased Employment	27 Staff Members	36 Staff Members	+133%
Increased Rate of Tree Planting¹	116,158 Natives	139,165 Natives (primarily rainforest trees)	+120%
Increased area of Bush Regeneration²	36.6 Hectares	58.2 Hectares	+159%
Increased Diversity of Species grown in our Nursery	65 Species *	113 Species *	+174%

* more species were planted (bought from outside)



Table 1: Rate of Tree Planting for the financial years '20-'21 & '21-'22.

Note: COVID-19 and record flooding event disturbances.

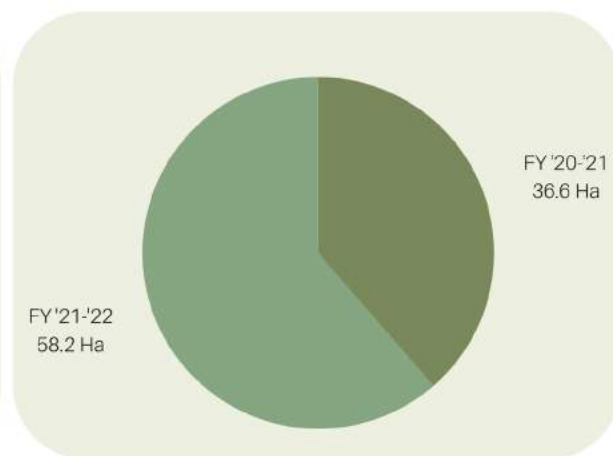


Table 2: Area of Bush Regeneration for the financial years '20-'21 & '21-'22

MONGO VALLEY WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

23,258 rainforest trees planted with 73 species utilised and 2.55 hectares of rainforest regenerated

We have partnered with Aussie Ark to help grow a wildlife sanctuary. Our team pushed through heavy downpours on 22nd-24th Nov 2021 to plant 6 hectares in Upper Mongogarrie (25km southwest of Casino, NSW). This follows 2.5 hectares of regeneration work in adjacent forest that was suffocated by invasive weeds.



Funded and supported by: Aussie Ark, Go-To Skincare, Lush Australia, Qudos Bank, Joanne Parkinson Foundation and our individual donors

Images: Our planting crew at Upper Mongogarrie (top). Aerial view of a part of the planting site (bottom).



MURWILLUMBAH, NSW

Over 27,000 rainforest trees planted with over 100 species utilised and 4.17 hectares of rainforest regenerated



Begin of April 2022 we started a new planting and regeneration project in South Murwillumbah. Since then, we have been reforesting several hillsides on the property that run down into a large flat. This area will be engineered into a flood dam to protect the environment nearby from sulphate runoff in future anticipated flood events. We have planted a variety of species which also includes Richmond Birdwing Butterfly vines to attract the endangered Birdwing Butterfly.

Funded and supported by: the landholder - Marl & Darlsey Powell (Northern Rivers Estate), business and individual donors

Images: View of Wollumbin from the planting site (top). Our planting crew at the Murwillumbah site (bottom).



2022 EASTERN AUSTRALIA FLOODS

\$10,000 NRCF Grant to plant 5,000 lomandras shrubs in flood-affected areas
\$10,000 Grant to repair nursery after it was inundated in February 2022.



The first quarter of 2022 was dominated by a disproportionate amount of rain that turned out to be quite challenging for us, especially the floods of February and March that devastated our community.



During this time, work sites became inaccessible, the floods damaged our nursery and many staff members lost homes and vehicles in the floods. This severely limited our ability to work and produce outcomes for several months (as per the dip in tree planting seen in Q1 of 2022). We have received grants with the purpose to restore flood-affected areas that are under risk of further degradation of the land (e.g. alongside creeks, landslips).

Funded and supported by: Northern Rivers Community Foundation and Commonwealth Bank

Special thanks to our partner Talenza who organised a fundraiser and raised \$6,830 to help our flood-affected staff!



Images: Our nursery in Mullumbimby flooded on the 28/2/2022 (top left). Aerial view of flooded houses in Mullumbimby (top right). Plantings of Lomandras alongside creeks and landslips in flood-affected areas of the Byron Shire (bottom).



NURSERY UPGRADES

In the financial year '21-'22 we were able to diversify our species list and increase the number of species grown in our nursery to 113. In the financial year before, we had 65 species and relied on species bought from other nurseries to maximise the diversity of native rainforest trees for our plantings.



We are also well underway to build a bigger and more efficient nursery. We have gained an additional area of 891m² next to our existing nursery that provides space for benches to grow native species. Once completed, with the expansion of our nursery we will be able to grow upwards to 136,500 of natives at a time (*roughly 280,000 per year as trees are grown for 6 months*).

Funded and supported by: 4 Amazonia (\$40,000 Grant in previous financial years for the construction of new nursery spaces), Patagonia, SCCU, others

Images: Trays of natives in the new nursery area (top). Our nursery with the new area marked in black (bottom).



ALLANSBY REMNANT, EUREKA, NSW

Over 58,000 rainforest trees planted with over 100 species utilised and regenerating 12 hectares of rainforest

This is our biggest project to date!

The Allansby remnant is an ancient patch of the original Big Scrub Rainforest (only 1% remains), containing an ecologically-significant community of flora and fauna that survived European colonisation and is trying to expand naturally.

From around only 3 hectares in size, this ancient fragment grew to 12 hectares but remains restricted today due to a heavy weed competition and invasion.

Several grants have been put to use to help rid this rainforest remnant of suffocating vines and invasive weeds and assist its expansion.



Funded and supported by: the landholder, business and individual donors.

Images: Josh is drilling a Camphor Laurel (top). Our bush regeneration team in the Allansby remnant (bottom).



HIGHEST POINT IN BYRON BAY, NSW

Over 35,000 rainforest trees planted with over 65 species utilised at the highest point in Byron Bay



We started planting native trees on this site overlooking the Byron Lighthouse in February 2021 and since then over 35,000 rainforest trees have been planted, including 180 Richmond Birdwing Butterfly vines to attract known populations on St. Helena Rd.

Many of these trees have been growing at an accelerated rate. They are supported by our maintenance crew until established and self-sufficient in fighting weed competition.

This project will work in adjacency to several other large scale reforestation projects that have previously been undertaken in the area.

Funded and supported by: the landholder, business and individual donors

Images: View onto trees that were planted months ago at St. Helena Road (top). Nathan and Handy are standing next to trees that were only saplings a few months ago (bottom left and right). We fertilize natives to ensure a quick growth (bottom middle).



GREEN DIAMOND, COORABELL, NSW

Over 30,000 rainforest trees planted with over 75 species utilised and 28.9 hectares of rainforest regenerated

We are now well into a mega project that will see over 60 hectares of rainforest restored and 40 hectares of trees planted in Federal, NSW.



Dubbed the Green Diamond – this is a series of plantings and regeneration projects across several adjacent properties on Coorabell Rd. We are now well into this mega project and have just been granted access to another remnant of the original Big Scrub Rainforest. A truly special place, likely home to extremely rare and endangered (*or even lost*) species. The entire left flank of this project is run by the Wilsons River, a central point for rainforest resilience in Northern NSW.

Funded and supported by: the landholder, business and individual donors



Images: Our planting crew at different planting sites on Coorabell Rd, alongside the Wilsons River.



Commonwealth Bank - \$10,000

used to repair our nursery after the flooding and our application for government support was rejected. Commonwealth Bank, please stop financing fossil fuels.

LUSH LUSH Australia (Bush Animal Fund) - \$20,000

4,000 rainforest trees planted at Upper Mongogarie near Casino, NSW.

LUSH Australia (Bush Animal Fund) - \$20,000

will be used to plant 4,000 rainforest trees likely next to Booyong Flora Reserve, NSW.

Joanne Parkinson
Foundation

Joanne Parkinson Foundation - \$5,000

2.44 hectares of land regeneration for a nature refuge in Upper Mongogarie near Casino, NSW.



Northern Rivers Community Foundation - \$10,000

2,000 rainforest trees planted at three sites across the Tweed, Byron and Ballina Shire.

Northern Rivers Community Foundation - \$10,000

5,000 Lomandras planted in flood-affected areas that are under risk of further degradation of the land.

Images from left to right: Our nursery in Mullumbimby during the floods (top). Planting at Upper Mongogarie (top). Bush regeneration at Upper Mongogarie (bottom). Planting at Friday Hut Road (bottom). Lomandra planting at Upper Main Arm (right).





Images: Our team of passionate ReForesters and volunteers growing rainforest together.



Images: Our crew planted 139,165 native species in 50 days of planting this financial year '21-'22.



Images: ReForest Now planting crew at one of our mega project sites in South Murwillumbah.



Images: In this financial year '21-'22 we planted on a variety of sites. 28 sites, all planted with a diverse mix of native species.



Images: Our nursery in Mullumbimby (top) and some of our bush regenerators in the forest (bottom).

So, now things are getting really exciting.

We begin, on the 24th of August 2022, our Magnum opus to date. It is called Banyula (place of many trees).

It will see 300,000 rainforest trees planted in just a single location, equivalent to all our works completed in 3.5 years - but we are doing it in 9 months. It will stretch around 7 kms of the Wilsons River (*the one that flooded*) near Byron Bay and will take approx. 1.5 hours to walk through.



www.banyula-saratinifarms.au

The planting will incorporate over 160 native rainforest species and use the adjacent Booyong Flora Reserve as a reference population for this (having those 160+ species within it). The site also includes our largest rainforest regeneration zone of a further 21 ha, allowing us to merge both bush regeneration and plantings into a single contiguous 900 acre site.

Therefore, at current rates, we are aiming to break half a million rainforest trees planted by the end of 2022. By the end of the year after, it is not unreasonable that we will be approaching 1 million.

At this time we are also investigating reforestation of several islands in our regional neighbourhood north of Australia in tropical Melanesia. From here we can gain support from the international community who cannot afford to fund tree planting in Australia.

The benefits of conserving and expanding the rainforest are for all of us, for the species within it and for the generations to come. Without forests of the world, we cannot survive and without a collective effort, the forests will not survive in a changing climate with ongoing threats of heat and drought from development.

The conservation and expansion of it is a collective effort and we welcome everyone to plant with us. There are different ways you can contribute to this work.

DONATE TREES

Through our website, you can donate a number of trees once or on a monthly basis.

Follow this link to plant trees with us:

reforestnow.org.au/planttrees

HELP US GROW

Donating directly to us helps us grow as an organisation. These funds are used for purchasing new equipment, administration fees and other costs that we need to address in order to do our work.

*Follow this link to help us grow:
donorbox.org/donate-to-reforest-now*

BECOME A BUSINESS PARTNER

Businesses of all sizes can become ReForest Now partners. By donating a percentage of sales, a tree for every product sold or another variation, we can grow rainforest together. You will know where your trees have gone and the impact they have had through our reporting.

To find out more, email:

partnerships@reforestnow.org.au



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REFOREST NOW
GROWING RAINFOREST TOGETHER

