

The Wildlife Habitat
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- Australia's leading wildlife experience
- Wetlands, Rainforest, Savannah and Woodlands Environments
- Breakfast with the Birds
- Lunch with the Lorikeets

ABN: 54 842 110 919

MEDIA RELEASE

MONDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 2019

PORT DOUGLAS TOURISM ICONS COLLABORATE FOR KOALAS

Locally owned Port Douglas tourism icons, Sailaway Port Douglas and CaPTA Group's Wildlife Habitat, have collaborated to create a new koala Eucalypt plantation, advancing eco-tourism in Tropical North Queensland.

Land donated by Sailaway has been used to plant 250 trees of eight different local Eucalypt species that meet the unique dietary requirements of Wildlife Habitat Port Douglas's koalas.

The new seedlings were recently planted by horticultural staff at Wildlife Habitat at Eco Shamba, adjacent to native rainforest on the Captain Cook Highway, with bore water used to increase the success and productivity of locally propagated seedlings.

The trees will be ready for harvest in two years and will contribute to providing the 400-500 grams of Eucalypt leaf that each Koala consumes per day.

Wildlife Habitat Manager Andrew Hearn said that growing the Eucalypt locally has advantages for both the environment and the park's resident koalas.

"It's great to work with a company like Sailaway that's 100% committed to Eco-Tourism and to growing the Port Douglas tourism market and visitation to the Great Barrier Reef" he said.

"We have been looking for a site close to Wildlife Habitat so that we can minimize travel and provide our animals the freshest cuts possible."

Sailaway Owner Operator Steve Edmondson said best practices, environmental awareness and appreciation are important roles eco tourism delivers and where better to highlight our nature than Tropical North Queensland.

"Small local initiatives go a long way and provide background and education to our visitors and our fragile natural surroundings, whilst enjoying a fun day on holiday in Tropical North Queensland and interacting on the Great Barrier Reef," he said.

Koalas require a large amount of Eucalypt leaf, as the plant provides them with 100% of their water requirements and although there are 700 species of Eucalypt in Australia, Koalas can only consume 90 of them.



Cairns and Port Trips & Attractions

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Wildlife Habitat Port Douglas is Australia's leading wildlife experience, providing visitors with a chance to observe a huge range of flora and fauna up close.

Sailaway Port Douglas is a locally owned and operated company offering luxury catamaran tours to the Low Isles and The Great Barrier Reef.

For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact Wildlife Habitat Manager Andrew Hearn on 0488 932 377.



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