

Support the Project

We are very keen to involve the local community in the project to a greater extent and are humbled by the many people who have already committed their passion, skills and time to the project.

More than 200 volunteers from far and wide are participating in the Springbrook Rescue Project. For many, the hands on work helping the Parks and Wildlife Service build new national park and World Heritage areas can be a transformative and inspiring experience.

If you would like to get involved please contact Rhea Phelan at rhea.phelan@rainforest.org.au or register your interest via our new website.



Photo: Brisbane Bushwalkers on Mundora Recovery Area



A World Heritage

The 16th of November 2012 marked the 40th anniversary of the signing of the World Heritage Convention by the international community in recognition of the need to preserve and protect our global natural and cultural heritage.

Springbrook is the wet heartland of the Gondwana Rainforests World Heritage Area which contains outstanding examples of geological and evolutionary history found nowhere else in the world. Ancient songbirds such as the Albert's Lyrebird and the Rufous Scrub-bird rely on protecting and restoring these forests to survive.

Springbrook Rescue's goal is to help create a resilient World Heritage refuge for ancient plants and animals so they can endure and evolve for millennia to come.

The Springbrook Rescue website celebrates World Heritage and the Convention through which these natural wonders are protected.

You can view the website at:
www.springbrookrescue.org.au



Gondwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage Area

Springbrook is the wet heartland of the Gondwana Rainforests World Heritage area preserving outstanding examples of ecosystems and relict plants and animals from which many modern species around the world arose.

Springbrook has:

- some of the oldest elements of the world's ferns from the Carboniferous period,
- an outstanding ancient record of flowering plants (Angiosperms),
- an outstanding number of the oldest lineages of the Corvida, one of the two major groups of true songbirds, which arose about 65 million years ago, and
- outstanding examples of other relict vertebrate and invertebrate fauna from ancient lineages linked to the break-up of Gondwana.



The Rufous Scrub-bird is one of the most ancient songbirds in the world. Photo: Michael Morcombe

World Heritage Convention

Australia has an obligation under the World Heritage Convention to ensure the outstanding universal value and integrity of our World Heritage areas such as Springbrook are maintained or restored and adequately protected by law.

Expanding the Protected Area

In 2005 the Queensland Government started a program of acquiring more land to expand the national park and improve the health and viability of the Springbrook World Heritage Area.

Forty-five properties were purchased of which 705 hectares have been transferred to national park or national park (recovery).

All landholders sold their properties willingly and properties were bought at a fair market price.

The expanded national park will help restore critical habitats, landscape integrity and connectivity and give the World Heritage Area a greater chance of surviving future climate change and other impacts.

The Australian Rainforest Conservation Society

The Australian Rainforest Conservation Society, founded in 1982, is a national, non-government organization whose mission is to protect, repair and restore the rainforests of Australia.

Springbrook Rescue

The Australian Rainforest Conservation Society accepted responsibility, at no extra cost to taxpayers, for managing the restoration program on land the state Government bought at Springbrook for the benefit of all Queenslanders.

ARCS will contribute more than \$3.4 million in value to ensure World Heritage survives and contributes to the social and economic wellbeing of the local and world community.

Springbrook Rescue is a long-term 10- to 20- year project, recognized as an international Case Study, to recover a more viable World Heritage Area where ancient lineages of outstanding universal value can flourish.



Eupomatia bennettii. Photo: Lui Weber
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