

Rainforestation Pty Ltd

Kennedy Highway
PO Box 54, Kuranda QLD 4870
Res Phone: (07) 4085 5008
Fax: (07) 4085 5016
Sales: (07) 4085 5006
Email: sales@rainforest.com.au
Email: res@rainforest.com.au
Web: www.rainforest.com.au
ABN: 71 673 022 885



- Army Duck Rainforest Tour
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MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 31st May 2019

New Rescued Koalas at Rainforestation A Promise To This “Functionally Extinct” Species



Rescued koalas Kandy (left) and Willow

The award-winning Rainforestation Nature Park Kuranda has welcomed two rescued wild born koalas.

The two female koalas, Kandy and Willow, have recently arrived at Rainforestation from Australia Zoo's Wildlife Hospital. Both of the adorable marsupials were originally rescued from the wild and are unable to return due to sustained lifetime injuries.

With koala's recently being declared "functionally extinct", the two new arrivals are promising for the park's captive koala population.



Cairns and Port Trips & Attractions

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With only 80,000 koalas remaining in the wild, maintaining healthy captive koala populations is more important than ever.

Rainforestation Nature Park implements many procedures to ensure that a healthy and genetically diverse koala population is sustained. This includes tracking koala family trees, partaking in koala swaps with other parks and choosing suitable male and female partners.

Of the two new rescued koalas, it's Willow who shows breeding promise.

Willow was found injured in Moura, Central Queensland and had sadly been hit by a car. She was taken into the iconic Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital in October 2018 with severe head trauma and a broken scapula.

Willow spent many months in recovery at Australia Zoo, but unfortunately her sustained injuries meant that she was unable to return to the wild. Her head injury has left her with ongoing neurological problems and her Scapula has healed bent, which impedes her climbing and grooming abilities.

Kandi arrived at Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital in May last year and had to have a full hysterectomy due to illness. She is around 2 to 3 years old and is enjoying her new "home amongst the gum trees at Rainforestation".

Rainforestation's Head Wildlife Keeper Kate Barnard is passionate about ensuring the species future.

"Wild koalas are in decline due to deforestation, wild weather patterns and urban development. It is very important for wildlife parks to sustain healthy koala populations to keep this iconic Australian animal from becoming endangered".

"I believe that captive koalas are a fantastic way of educating both Australians and overseas visitors to the dangers and threats that these marsupials face".

CaPTA Group is locally owned and operated by the Woodward family of Cairns, consisting of Rainforestation Nature Park, Tropic Wings Coach Tours, Jungle Tours & Trekking, The Wildlife Habitat, Cairns ZOOM and Wildlife Dome, Australian Butterfly Sanctuary, ABC Sales & Maintenance and Careers Training Centre and Wooroonaoran Safaris.

For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact CaPTA Group Digital and Media Manager, Amanda Perry on 0437 724 529.



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