

Plans afoot to stop animal road deaths

Tony Grant

Environment reporter

A WILDLIFE management plan to try and stop animal deaths on roads for the Barron River Delta and northern beaches has won major backing.

A recent meeting between Wildlife groups, developers and State Government agencies agreed the proposal was needed.

Member for Barron River, Lesley Clark, said two key issues would have to be addressed between Trinity Park and Trinity Beach.

She said large numbers of wallabies had been displaced by development to the north of the delta and others had been feeding in cane farms.

"This has caused considerable distress to farmers whose cane crops have been decimated by these wallabies and have reported crop losses of up to 30 per cent or about \$170,000," Dr Clark said.

A Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service spokesman denied claims farmers had applied for Damage Mitigation Permits which would allow them shoot wallabies found encroaching on their property.

Dr Clark called for balance in the debate.

"It is crucial to have that balance between the interests of conservationists, farmers and developers and meetings such as this are a good starting point," Dr Clark said.



Healing: Trinity Park resident Tiffany Hungerford plays with three orphaned wallabies found close to a development site near her home.