

SPRINGBROOK AT A CROSSROADS

Will one of the world's oldest rainforests be protected for future generations
or
transformed before the public fully understands what is proposed?

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Urgent Call to Protect Springbrook World Heritage Area Before October Planning Decisions

Springbrook, Queensland

Concerned residents, scientists, senators and community stakeholders are calling for immediate independent scrutiny of a series of major planning and development proposals affecting the Springbrook Plateau.

One of the key documents now available is the **Springbrook Groundwater Investigation (2021–2025)**, which confirms that Springbrook's groundwater, streams and rainforest ecosystems are closely interconnected and recommends capped tourism and continued monitoring before long-term environmental thresholds can be confidently established. Environmental impact studies, of the area from previous decades, based on less tourism, have found the area far too sensitive for any previously proposed developments. Something on this scale, proposing to increase Tourist numbers by 7 to 10 times, with so many moving parts, is impossible to predict its full environmental impact, but could well be a fast-tracked environmental disaster.

"We are not opposed to responsible community planning," said Dr Shé D'Montford, speaking on behalf of concerned the 735 Springbrook residents. "Our concern is that irreversible decisions could be made before all of the environmental, hydrological, cultural and cumulative impacts have been independently assessed."

Residents are now seeking assistance from environmental lawyers, scientists, universities and conservation organisations to undertake independent reviews of the available evidence and identify whether additional environmental investigations should be completed before major planning decisions proceed.

The community is calling for:

- Independent cumulative environmental impact assessments.
- Updated ecological and biodiversity studies.
- Independent hydrogeological review.
- Comprehensive assessment of World Heritage values.
- Transparent public access to environmental reports and planning documentation.
- Meaningful consultation with Traditional Owners and local communities.
- Independent scientific review before irreversible approvals are granted.

With planning milestones expected before October, the time for independent review is now.

Media Contact:

Dr S. D'Montford

Springbrook, Queensland

Phone 0410582295

Website: <https://savespringbrook.org>