

**The Rainforest Habitat
Wildlife Sanctuary**

Port Douglas Road
PO Box 1077, Port Douglas QLD 4877

Res Phone: (07) 4099 3235

Fax: (07) 4099 3100

Sales Email: sales@rainforesthabitat.com.au

Email: info@rainforesthabitat.com.au

Web: www.rainforesthabitat.com.au

ABN: 54 842 110 919



- Australia's leading wildlife experience
- Wetlands, Rainforest, and Grasslands Environments
- Breakfast with the Birds
- Lunch with the Lorikeets

MEDIA RELEASE

THURSDAY 14TH JUNE 2007

HABITAT BREEDS RARE TREE KANGAROO

A rare species of tree kangaroo has been successfully bred for the first time in captivity in the Tropical North.

The Rainforest Habitat Wildlife Sanctuary is one of only two Zoos in the world that houses the Lumholtz's Tree Kangaroo, which is native to the region.

The newly-born "joey" is about 6 months old, and has only recently stuck its head out of its mother's pouch, where it will stay for another four months.

The Rainforest Habitat Curator Terry Carmichael said there had been a breeding colony in Townsville for over twenty years, but this has since been disbanded.

"This is the successful culmination of 11 years work, so we are extremely excited and proud about the birth, and the wildlife keepers here at the Habitat have done an exceptional job to successfully breed this rare species," he said.

"One of only two species found in Australia, we hope the interest generated by this unique birth will promote awareness in the community and develop understanding of the plight of the Lumholtz's Tree Kangaroo in the wild."

The tree kangaroo joey is yet to be named, and The Rainforest Habitat will be holding a competition some time in the near future.

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

For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact The Rainforest Habitat Curator Terry Carmichael on 0417 626 597 or (07) 4099 3235.



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