

On the scent - Rocky the fox-den-finding dog returns to Mackay

MEDIA INVITED TO SITE WEDNESDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER

11:30am, Wetland Walkabout property - 92 Keeleys Rd, Slade Point

Reef Catchments invites media to meet one charming conservation character.

Rocky the English Springer Spaniel is a specially trained conservation detector dog.

He uses his acute canine senses to locate a wide range of pest species, including fox dens, dingoes and wild dogs, rabbits and cats.

Reef Catchments first brought Rocky and his handler (Tom Garrett, Queensland Murray-Darling Committee) to the Mackay region in March this year. Rocky successfully sniffed out 13 fox dens in the Slade Point headland.

Now, with assistance from Reef Catchments and funding from Mackay Regional Council and North Queensland Bulk Ports, Rocky and Tom have returned to the region.

This time round it is breeding season for the foxes. Rocky will be revisiting known den sites as well as finding new ones, and indicating which ones are currently being used by foxes. This allows land managers to implement highly targeted control programs.

Media are invited to meet and film Rocky this Wednesday 19th September at 11:30am, on the Wetland Walkabout property - 92 Keeleys Rd, Slade Point.

Available for interview and vision:

Rocky the conservation dog

Handler Tom Garrett

Cass Hayward, Reef Catchments

Carl Ptolemy, North Queensland Bulk Ports

