



## FRIDAY ENVIRONMENT FORUM NPA Environment Centre

26 October 2018

### K'gari – Fraser Island

The traditional owners of Fraser Island, the Butchulla people, call their place K'gari or 'Paradise' and it is little wonder that the island has World Heritage listing for it is truly a place of great natural beauty. This week at Noosa Parks Association's Friday Environment Forum the National Geographic documentary, "Fraser Island" will be screened and audience members will be treated to an armchair journey to some of the natural wonders of this special place.



*Rainforest at Wanggoolba Creek*

At 120 kilometres long and 24 kilometres wide Fraser Island, is the world's largest sand island. This sand supports complex ecosystems varying from towering eucalypts to cool rainforests, from shady mangrove forests lining its western waterways to the unique, peat based fens. Immense sand dunes, blown by the wind are ever changing, whilst scattered across the island are around 100 freshwater lakes.

Platypus Bay on the island's western side is a sheltered place for female Humpback whales to nurture newborn calves before making the long journey back to Antarctic waters and migratory seabirds such as Bar Tailed Godwits are annual visitors. Dugong and turtles enjoy the sea grass beds of Great Sandy Strait on the island's west, but the iconic dingo is the top predator on land. Family groups are closely monitored by park rangers and the dingoes are always hunting for any food coming their way, including that left by humans. The camera follows another scavenger, the wily Lace Monitor, as it patrols the sand banks where Rainbow Bee Eaters nest, in the hope of finding a tasty egg that's not well hidden.

K'gari supports a treasure trove of flora and fauna to be discovered, so join the audience at the **Environment Centre, 5 Wallace Drive Noosaville** to learn more. The **forum begins at 10.30am** and coffee will be on offer from 10am.



*Looking north from Indian Head*

Those wishing to enjoy the birds and insects of Wallace Park are invited to meet Valda in the car park at 8.30am for an Interpretive Birding walk. All welcome.

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