Rainforest birds on film

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Elusive bird: Mission Beach is one of the few places in the world where the endangered cassowary can be seen.

THE fascinating lives of Mission Beach's giant rainforest birds will be revealed in a new documentary.

Film-maker Bianca Keeley takes viewers on an action-packed journey deep into the rainforest at Mission Beach, south of Cairns, to reveal intimate and compelling moments in the life of a cassowary family.

Her documentary includes footage of mating season, of adult males walking with their chicks and of ranger teams who helped the endangered southern cassowaries fight back after Cyclone Larry destroyed their food sources.

It also looks to the future, with scientists predicting more severe cyclones due to climate change and questioning whether there will be enough rainforest left for the already isolated and endangered birds.

Cassowaries can be seen on ABC1 from 7.30pm on Sunday.