WONGA Beach State School’s Sustainable School project won the Far North Queensland Region’s Year of Environmental Sustainability Symposium held at Edge Hill State School on Thursday, September 9.

Wonga Beach SS showcased the work they have done in rehabilitating a wetland area adjacent to the school, revegetating their school grounds and strategies developed to recycle waste and minimise energy use.

Students are involved at all stages and are developing deep knowledge and practice through the active learning this project provides. Wonga Beach SS presented a lively take-off of the popular television show Man vs Wild.

Students from eight other schools; Feluga SS, Atherton SS, Millaa Millaa SS, Machans Beach SS, Gordonvale SS, Mission Beach SS, Trinity Beach SS, and Whitfield SS presented their projects alongside Wonga Beach using audio visual technologies.

Projects included all aspects of sustainability from rainforest to creeks, rivers, wetlands, sustainable transport and energy conservation. Students and schools have developed strong partnerships with community and business groups to support their projects. The judges acknowledged the very high standard all schools attained.

Gordonvale State School scooped the pool for the schools section of the Keep Australia Beautiful Awards which were also presented on the day.

The keynote speaker on the day was Daryl Hannah, actress and leading conservationist. Wonga Beach SS will become FNQ Region’s Climate Smart Environmental Ambassadors and will now send a team of five students and two teachers to present at the International Kids Teaching Kids Coastal Conference (IKTKCC) to be held in Caloundra from Sunday, October 17, to Tuesday, October 19, 2010. The IKTKCC will incorporate the YES State Symposium.