

4.5 In the Rainforest

Of course humans have an impact on the Wet Tropics! This is a bit of a no-brainer! But, it's not often that we go into the rainforest and really look for human impact. The goal of this activity is to complete a transect study that examines human impact on the forest.

Travel to a patch of rainforest that is close to human habitation.

Create a transect line of approximately 100 metres. A transect is a path along which you record or count the occurrences of something.

The object of your transect study is to count the number of things you find that show that humans have impacted on the rainforest. For instance, if the transect crosses a road you would need to record the road (a human impact). Other items you might find are bottles, rubbish, human shoe prints, cigarette butts, tent pegs, markers on trees, tracks or fences.

Record your data in the table below:

Location of rainforest: _____ **Date of visit:** ___/___/___

Evidence of human impact	Number found	Possible effects of human impact
eg. milk bottle ring	2	Visual pollution. Potential hazard to birds and lizards which may choke on small plastic.