

Rising crow death toll sparks concern

CLEVELAND residents have been asked to help find a possible crow killer after 12 of the birds have been found either sick or dead, suspected to have been poisoned, in the city area in the past month.

Last Friday, RSPCA inspector Joanne Warnock and members of local wildlife group Pelican and Seabird Rescue knocked on more than 100 doors in the city area.

Along with Queensland Parks and Wildlife Rangers, the group dropped off leaflets about the bird deaths.

Earlier this month, a 12th crow was found on the ground in the Woolworths car park at Cleveland.

It died just after it was found, bringing the number of crow deaths to nine, since a piece of mince, suspected to have been poisoned, was found on the top of a rubbish bin in the council's Doig Street carpark in Cleveland last month.

Pelican and Seabird Rescue vice president Nat Forrest said she hoped someone had



ALERT: Pelican and Seabird Rescue vice president Nat Forrest with one of the poisoned crows.

seen something that would offer a clue as to who or what was continuing to poison the birds.

"Crows are native animals and are protected so it is illegal to kill them or leave poison baits about for them," she said.

"The baits can also kill humans so we are asking all residents and local shop owners to remain vigilant."

Anyone with information about the dead birds can contact Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service on 1300 130 372, the RSPCA on 1300 852 188 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.