QUEENSLAND RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY

Monthly Report

October 2013

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Message from the Chief Executive Officer

Major General Richard Wilson AO Chairman Queensland Reconstruction Authority

Dear Major General Wilson

It is with pleasure that I present the October 2013 Monthly Report – the 32nd report to the Board of the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (the Authority).

The Authority was established under the *Queensland Reconstruction Authority Act 2011* following the unprecedented natural disasters which struck Queensland over the summer months of 2010-11. The Authority is charged with managing and coordinating the Government's program of infrastructure renewal and recovery within disaster-affected communities, with a focus on working with our State and local government partners to deliver best practice expenditure of public reconstruction funds.

Following the widespread damage caused by ex-Tropical Cyclone Oswald in early 2013, the jurisdiction of the Authority was expanded by the *Queensland Reconstruction Authority Amendment Bill 2013* to cover this and other disaster events which occurred in the 2012-13 disaster event period, provide the Authority with a stronger focus on community resilience and extend the term of the Authority until 30 June 2015.

The Authority continues to monitor the progress of reconstruction and provide the resourcing and support necessary to build the momentum of reconstruction and enhance the resilience of communities for potential disasters. Whilst maintaining focus on the entire program, the Authority's current priorities are on progressing the remaining program of works from the 2011 and 2012 disaster periods, fast-track the progress to reconstruction works from the recent 2013 events and assisting councils and State agencies close out their completed works for the 2010 disaster period.

The October report provides an update on the progress of the program of works managed by the Authority. As at 1 October 2013:

- an additional \$265 million in submissions have been received by the Authority since last month
- an additional \$333 million has been processed by the Authority since last month
- a cumulative value of \$9.2 billion of the \$14.0 billion works program has been reported to the Authority as being in progress or delivered by delivery agents as at 31 August 2013.

The October report also provides an update on the \$80 million jointly funded program for Betterment projects open to LGAs affected by the 2013 events. The Betterment fund was announced in February 2013 for the restoration or replacement of essential public assets to a more disaster resilient standard than their pre-disaster standard. The October report profiles recently approved Betterment projects for Lockyer Valley Regional Council - Thistlethwaite Bridge.

The report also provides an update on the progress of the five functional recovery groups established in February 2013 under the Queensland 2013 Flood Recovery Plan (Recovery Plan) in response to the damage impacts of Tropical Cyclone Oswald.

I commend the report to you and recommend its release to the Minister and the public pursuant to Section 41 of the *Queensland Reconstruction Authority Act 2011*.

Yours sincerely

Graeme Newton Chief Executive Officer

Queensland Reconstruction Authority

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Section one: Introduction

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background

Queensland has been struck by a series of unprecedented natural disasters in recent years. Between November 2010 and April 2011, extensive flooding caused by periods of extremely heavy rainfall, destruction caused by a number of storm cells including Cyclones Tasha, Anthony and Severe Tropical Cyclone Yasi and subsequent monsoonal flooding, resulted in all of Queensland being declared as disaster affected.

On 21 February 2011 in response to the 2011 disaster events, the Queensland Government established the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (the Authority) under the *Queensland Reconstruction Act 2011*. The Authority's role was subsequently extended to cover historical and continuing disaster events in Queensland and, on 26 September 2012, the State Government announced the initial extension of the term of the Authority's operations to June 2014.

The Authority has since been given responsibility to administer Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) for the large scale natural disaster caused by Tropical Cyclone Oswald in late January 2013 and additional events which have occurred in the 2012-13 disaster event period. The *Queensland Reconstruction Authority Amendment Bill 2013* was passed on 14 February 2013 to expand the jurisdiction of the Authority to include these recent events, provide the Authority with a stronger focus on community resilience and extend the term of the Authority to 30 June 2015.

1.2 Purpose

The Authority's mission is to reconnect, rebuild and improve Queensland communities and its economy.

The Authority is charged with managing and coordinating the Government's program of infrastructure renewal and recovery within disaster-affected communities, with a focus on working with our State and local government partners to deliver best practice expenditure of public reconstruction funds.

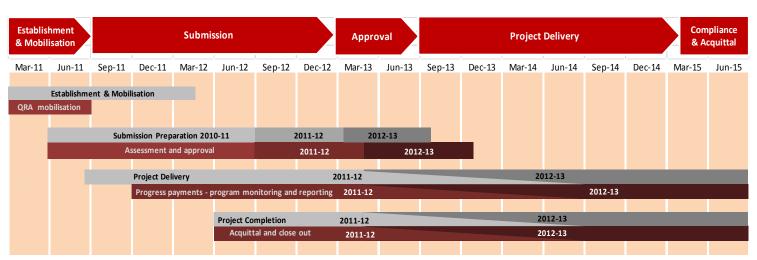
The Authority operates with reference to recovery and reconstruction plans established by the State in response to the 2011 disaster events and more recently following Tropical Cyclone Oswald. The Queensland 2013 Flood Recovery Plan (Recovery Plan), approved on 25 February 2013, provides strategic guidance for the coordination and management of recovery, reconstruction and community resilience activities undertaken across the State after Tropical Cyclone Oswald.

Five functional recovery groups have been established under the Recovery Plan to manage and coordinate recovery initiatives across impacted regions. The Authority provides support to, and reports on progress of the groups against their key tasks with decentralised responsibility for delivery across responsible agencies for each functional recovery group. The functional recovery groups follow from the lines of reconstruction established following the 2011 disaster events, the key tasks of which are now substantially complete.

1.3 Timing

The Authority's priorities are currently assisting councils and State agencies to progress their remaining program of works from the 2011 and 2012 disaster periods, with the bulk of the reconstruction work occurring prior to June 2014. Concurrently, the Authority is focused on accelerating the submission and application approval process for the recent 2013 events with a view to fast-tracking the 2013 program of works into project delivery phase as soon as practicable.

With the period to deliver works for the 2010 disaster period now complete (at 30 June 2013), the Authority is assisting delivery agents with the reporting of final expenditure and close out of the completed program of works for 2010 events.



Source: the Authority at February 2013

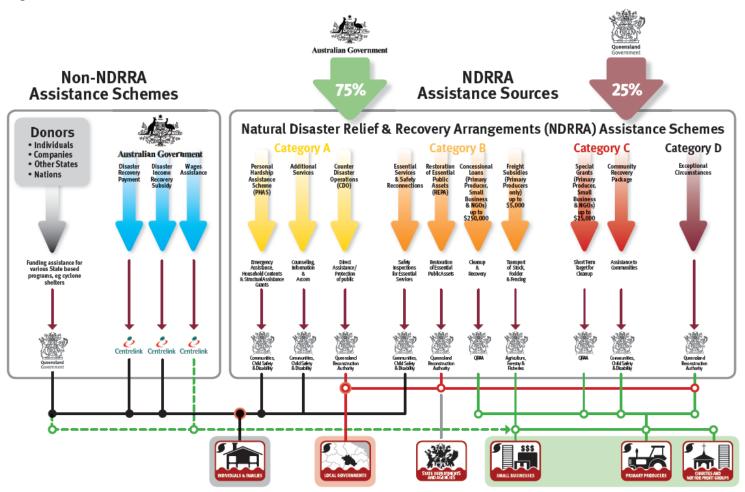
Section two: Disaster Assistance

2.0 Disaster Assistance

2.1 Queensland Disaster Assistance Framework

The available Queensland Disaster Assistance schemes are separated between NDRRA (jointly funded by the Commonwealth and State governments) and Non-NDRRA funding schemes. The diagram below indicates the different elements of assistance available and how each element operates.

Figure 2.1.1 Queensland Disaster Assistance Framework



Whilst elements of the assistance schemes are delivered by other State agencies, all of the NDRRA assistance sources (and elements of the non-NDRRA assistance schemes) are administered by the Authority for historical and continuing disaster events in Queensland.

Disaster events managed by the Authority

The list of the activated disaster events managed by the Authority are set out in **Section 3.1** and can also be found on www.disaster.gld.gov.au.

This report includes references to event periods described as follows:

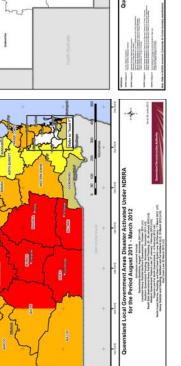
- 2012-2013 events: Activated disaster events managed by the Authority from October 2012 to April 2013
- 2011-2012 events: Activated disaster events managed by the Authority from August 2011 to March 2012
- 2010-2011 events: Activated disaster events managed by the Authority from November 2010 to April 2011 including Tropical Cyclone Yasi and Queensland flooding (November 2010 to February 2011)
- 2009-2010 events: Activated disaster events managed by the Authority prior to November 2010
- Combined Program: relates to all the activated disaster event programs managed by the Authority.

2.2 Disaster assistance by event period

The maps below show the LGAs activated for relief measures under NDRRA for each event period managed by the Authority under the Queensland Disaster Assistance Framework.

Map 3 - LGAs disaster activated under NDRRA for 2012-2013 events

Map 2 - LGAs disaster activated under NDRRA for 2011-2012 events Map 1 - LGAs disaster activated under NDRRA for 2010-2011 events



* Different funding periods exist for each Category type.

2.3 Additional assistance measures

The State Government in conjunction with the Commonwealth have activated a range of jointly-funded Category C, Category D and other relief measures to alleviate distress due to the impact of Tropical Cyclone Oswald and the 2011 events. The measures are summarised below:

2.3.1 Betterment fund

On 8 February 2013, the Queensland Government signed the National Partnership Agreement (NPA) with the Commonwealth Government which recognised the need for a more streamlined process for the approval of Betterment funding. The Queensland Government announced a \$40 million commitment to Betterment funding which will match the Commonwealth Government contribution, resulting in the establishment of the \$80 million Betterment Fund.

Correspondence was received from the Commonwealth in August 2013 agreeing to the extension of the Betterment fund beyond its original coverage of LGAs declared for NDRRA assistance for Tropical Cyclone Oswald to also cover LGAs declared for the two additional disaster events that occurred after Oswald through to June 2013 (Longreach Flood (18 February 2013) and Central and Southern Queensland Low (25 February to 5 March 2013)). The Betterment fund is available for the restoration or replacement of essential public assets to a more disaster resilient standard than their pre-disaster standard. The intent of betterment is to increase the resilience of communities to natural disasters, while at the same time reducing future expenditure on asset restoration, reducing incidents, injuries and fatalities and improving asset utility during and after natural disasters.

Where a damaged asset is approved as a betterment project, the normal cost of restoring or replacing the asset to its pre-disaster standard will continue to be funded under Category B of NDRRA assistance and the incremental cost to 'better' the asset to a more disaster-resilient standard will be financed from the Betterment fund.

The status of the Betterment fund and profiles of recent approved Betterment projects is set out in Section 4.6 of this report.

2.3.2 Other assistance measures

Tropical Cyclone Oswald

- Community Recovery Package \$5 million Funding for community development officers in the hardest hit communities of Bundaberg and North Burnett, support for mental health services and a flexible fund that assists communities to implement engagement and development activities.
- Clean Up and Recovery program \$10 million Program to assist primary producers to clear debris and restore fencing in the worst affected areas; to maintain workers while income generating activities are reduced and to clear debris from watercourse that poses a hazard to downstream infrastructure and activities.
- **Industry Recovery Officers** \$1.5 million Placement of Industry Recovery Officers to assist business and primary producers recover from flooding.
- Enhanced concessional loans and grants Loans of up to \$650,000 (with a grant component of up to \$50,000) are available to applicants that have suffered extreme damage such that the existing concessional loan and recovery grants under NDRRA category B and C are insufficient to support recovery.
- **Environmental Recovery program \$10 million*** Program to fund existing programs to conduct flood specific clean up and soil conservation work following the 2013 flooding.
- Rural Financial Counselling Services \$1.5 million* Provision of financial planning advice for rural businesses and primary producers to assist in the recovery of local economies following the disaster.

2011 events

- Queensland Local Council Package \$315 million Funding to help local councils repair utilities and infrastructure, and support their efforts in recovering from the floods and Cyclone Yasi. The package comprises two components: \$265 million to fast-track the repair of damaged infrastructure, including the Strengthening Grantham project, Brisbane ferry terminals and Riverwalk; and \$50 million to contribute to regional and remote councils employing people to perform important clean-up and repair work.
- Cassowary Coast Support Package \$15 million Funding to restore vital council infrastructure and restore natural vegetation and beach damage in the Cassowary Coast region. Specifically, the Support Package provides for the repair of Dunk Island Jetty, the repair of Clump Point Jetty and the restoration of Cardwell beach foreshore and its natural vegetation.
- **Exceptional Disaster Assistance Scheme** Concessional interest loans of up to \$650,000, with grant component of up to \$50,000, to eligible businesses, primary producers and not-for-profit organisations that suffered extreme damage.

In addition, the State Government and Commonwealth have agreed to an extended Day Labour Trial, which enables councils to deliver restoration works with their own workforce on condition that they provide evidence of savings in both time and cost.

^{*} Non-NDRRA measures funded 50% by the State and 50% by the Commonwealth; Commonwealth share is being delivered directly through existing Commonwealth programs.

Section three: Framing the Challenge

3.0 Framing the Challenge

3.1 Events managed by the Authority

The Authority has responsibility to administer NDRRA relief measures for historical and continuing disaster events in Queensland.

The Authority currently manages and coordinates the infrastructure reconstruction and recovery for 18 disaster events activated for NDRRA relief measures since the Authority's establishment in February 2011 and the remaining program of works for an additional 16 disaster events which occurred prior to the Authority's establishment.

2012-2013 natural disaster events managed by the Authority:

- South West Queensland Wildfires, 21 December 2012
- Far Northern Queensland Bushfires, late October -December 2012
- Tropical Cyclone Oswald and Associated Rainfall and Flooding, 21-29 January 2013 *
- Longreach Flood, 18 February 2013 *
- Central and Southern Queensland Low,
 25 February 5 March 2013 *

2011-2012 natural disaster events managed by the Authority:

- · Queensland Bushfires, August to October 2011
- Localised Heavy Rainfall Northern Queensland,
 October 2011 *
- Southern Queensland Flooding, November to December 2011 *
- South East Queensland Heavy Rainfall and flooding,
 23- 26 January 2012 *
- Western Queensland Tropical Low, 27 January to February 2012 *
- Far Northern Queensland Tropical Low,
 3-4 February 2012 *
- North Coast Queensland Storms and flooding and East Coast Hybrid Low, 24 February - 7 March 2012 *
- Northern and Far Northern Queensland Heavy Rainfall & flooding, 15 March 2012 *
- East Coast Low, 22 March 2012 *

2010-2011 natural disaster events managed by the Authority:

- Queensland Flooding and Tropical Cyclones Tasha and Anthony, November 2010 to February 2011*
- Severe Tropical Cyclone Yasi on 2 February 2011*
- Queensland Monsoonal Flooding Event, 8 February 2011*
- South West Flooding, April 2011*

2007-2010 natural disaster events managed by the Authority that have open submissions for damage:

- South East and North Coast Queensland East Coast Low, August 2007
- South West Queensland storms and flooding, 23-30 November 2007
- Central Western Queensland storms and flooding, 22-30 December 2007
- South East Queensland East Coast Low, 27 December 2007 -7 January 2008
- Queensland Monsoonal flooding, January 2008
- Queensland Monsoonal flooding, February March 2008
- South West Queensland flooding, June 2008
- Queensland storms and associated flooding, 16-22 November 2008
- Queensland Monsoonal flooding and Tropical Cyclone Charlotte and Ellie, January - February 2009
- South East Queensland Low, May 2009
- Queensland Bushfires, September October 2009
- South West Flooding, 20 25 November 2009
- Northern, Central and South West Queensland Flooding,
 22 December 2009 to 8 January 2010
- Queensland Monsoonal Flooding and Tropical Cyclones Olga, Neville, Ului and Paul, January to April 2010
- South West Queensland Low and Associated Flooding, September 2010
- 2010 South East Queensland Flooding, 9-12 October 2010.

^{*} Events covered under the National Partnership Agreement for Natural Disaster Recovery and Reconstruction (NPA) between the State and Commonwealth Government signed 8 February 2013 (NPA Events)

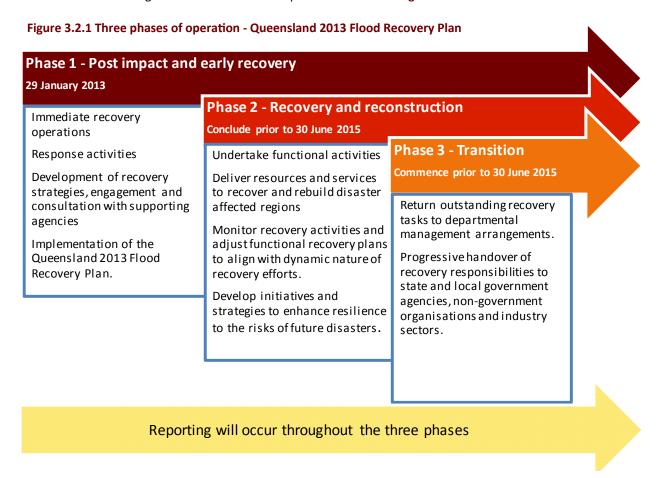
3.2 Queensland 2013 Flood Recovery Plan

The Recovery Plan has been prepared to set the framework for the recovery from the flood and damage impacts of Tropical Cyclone Oswald. The aim of the plan is to assist affected communities to get back on their feet as quickly as possible while ensuring the effective and efficient employment of limited resources.

The Recovery Plan establishes the context for recovery at the State and local levels of government through setting the governance framework and providing strategic guidance for the coordination and management of recovery, reconstruction and community resilience activities of those areas impacted by Tropical Cyclone Oswald.

The Recovery Plan also sets the context for improved enhancement of resilience and aims to improve the State's ability to withstand, and bounce back from, future natural disaster events.

The plan coordinates the prioritisation and alignment of resources from multiple sources to support the broad range of recovery activities. These activities are being undertaken across three phases as set out in **Figure 3.2.1.**



The Recovery Plan also establishes the structure for recovery activities from Tropical Cyclone Oswald.

Disaster Recovery Coordinators have been appointed to coordinate disaster recovery efforts within the regions most impacted by Tropical Cyclone Oswald:

- Northern Queensland Region— Don Cousins
- Bundaberg/North Burnett Region—Deputy Commissioner Brett Pointing APM
- Southern Queensland Region—Bill Mellor.

The composition of the three regions is set out in **Appendix B**.

Functional recovery groups, led by relevant State agencies, have also been established to effectively manage and coordinate recovery initiatives across impacted regions. The roles and responsibilities of each functional recovery group, together with the key performance metrics used to measure the rate of recovery progress, are set out in the Recovery Plan and summarised in Section 3.3.

The Authority provides support to the Disaster Recovery Coordinators and reports on progress of the functional recovery groups against their key tasks.

3.3 Functional Recovery Groups

The Recovery Plan provides a broad overview of each functional recovery group's roles and responsibilities and sets out the key performance metrics used to measure each group's progress.

An update on the progress of the functional recovery group against their key performance metrics is set out in this section of the report.

3.3.1 Human and social

The Human and Social functional recovery group coordinates the efficient and effective delivery of human and social recovery activities. These activities include the provision of financial assistance and personal support services for individuals, families and communities.

The status of the key metrics being monitored by the Human and Social Recovery Group in relation to the recovery from Tropical Cyclone Oswald has been reported by the group at 30 September 2013 as follows:

Human and social	Metric	Status
Human and social	Wetric	Status
All Essential Household Contents Grant (EHCG)	Number of grant applications	4,625
applications assessed and paid when eligible	Number of grant applications assessed	4,625
	Number of grant applications assessed as payable and paid	3,540
	Number of grant applications	726
2. All Structural Assistance Grant (SAG) applications assessed	Number of grant applications under assessment or awaiting additional information	43
	Number of grant applications assessed as payable and paid	350
2.485	Number of grant applications Number of grant applications under assessment or awaiting additional	416
3. All Essential Services Safety and Reconnection Scheme Grant (ESSRSG) applications paid when	information	44
eligible	Number of grant applications assessed as payable	233
	Number of grants paid	233
4. Communities are supported by additional	Number of new clients receiving support from NDRRA funded services	See below
'counselling, other' services	Number of hours of service provision by NDRRA funded services	See below
5. All displaced households seeking housing	Number of displaced households seeking housing assistance	652
assistance are assessed for housing need and	Number of households assisted	652
referred to appropriate housing services.	Number of applications under assessment	0

Personal Hardship Assistance Schemes (PHAS)

PHAS comprises EHCG, SAG and ESSRG.

At 30 September 2013, 5,767 applications have been received across the three categories of PHAS. Of these:

- 4,123 have been assessed as payable, an increase of 31 approvals during the month—refer Figure 3.3.1.1
- 87 are under assessment or unable to be processed until supporting documentation is received from the applicant.

All EHCG applications have now been assessed and paid, where eligible. Applicants have until 30 June 2015 to apply for a grant, however the majority have now been received.

The process for finalising SAG and ESSRG grants requires site inspection by community recovery officers or qualified tradespeople prior to payment.

Figure 3.3.1.1 Number of PHAS applications assessed as payable



Counselling and other services

The Personal Support and Community Development programs, part of the \$5 million Community Recovery Package, are underway. North Burnett and Bundaberg Regional Councils have community development officers in place and UnitingCare Community has commenced service delivery, with 57 clients seen in the August/September reporting period.

An Aged Care Resilience Forum was held in Bundaberg on 17 September with approximately 70 attendees. The purpose of the forum was to improve business continuity plans with a view to enhancing disaster preparedness for aged care and nursing home facilities and the establishment of an Aged Care and Disability Providers Network in the region.

At 30 September, no provider has been approved for provision of mental health services, a NDRRA Category C initiative.

Displaced households

Housing service centres have now returned to normal business activities following completion of this recovery initiative. 652 displaced households were provided with housing assistance, of which 280 households were assisted into temporary accommodation and the remaining 372 requests were met through other means (alternate housing solution found, returned to own home, insurance company assisting). No requests are outstanding.

(Source: DLGCRR at 30 September 2013)

3.3.2 Economic

The Economic recovery group coordinates the efficient and effective planning and implementation of economic recovery activities. These activities include advice on the economic impacts of current disaster events and the group also provides information on the needs of local government and industry in responding to the events and getting the economy back to full production.

The status of the key metrics being monitored by the Economic Recovery Group in relation to the recovery from Tropical Cyclone Oswald has been reported by the group at 30 September 2013 as follows:

Economic	Metric	Status
1. Coal exports (Coal Export Tonnage) Data is sourced from the monthly Queensland Coal Transport Report. This report provides an overview of Queensland coal exports and coal transport system performance. To 30 June 2013, 2012-1 wide measure and so rather than reflecting to the control of the coal transport system performance.		Queensland coal export throughput in August 2013 totalled 34.0Mt, an increase of 31.5% increase on August 2012. To 30 June 2013, 2012-13 coal exports totalled 180.2Mt, a 9% increase over 2011-12. This is a statewide measure and so can only be used as a broad indicator of overall health of the economy, rather than reflecting the recovery of specific regional industries. However, the current figures can be considered to represent a solid recovery.
2. NDRRA Financial assistance	Categories and amount of funding approved	Range of Category C and Category D measures activated to alleviate distress due to the impact of Tropical Cyclone Oswald - see Section 2.3. Cat B loan approvals: - \$2.9m to 31 primary producers - \$0.36m to 5 small business Cat C grant approvals: - \$9.34m to 826 small businesses - \$38.75m to 3,528 primary producers - \$1.53m to 128 non-profit organisations Cat D loan-grant approvals: - \$10.38m to 35 primary producers - \$2.27m to 4 businesses - \$1.66m to 4 small businesses. See Figure 3.3.2.1

Economic Recovery Initiatives

The Local Government Traineeship Strategy, being delivered by the Local Government Association of Queensland, is underway with 25 affected councils allocated 120 traineeship positions. To date, 20 trainees are undertaking the program across eight councils, an increase of four trainees during September.

Mentoring for Recovery workshops, aimed at assisting flood affected businesses address business challenges and issues, were held in September for North Burnett and Bundaberg.

A draft Economic Impact Assessment Report of the floods on the Bundaberg and North Burnett regions is in the process of approval and will be submitted to the councils in October 2013.

The Bundaberg and the North Burnett Regional Councils are each undertaking a flood study of the Burnett River (and associated tributaries) as they impact upon their respective regions. Members of the Burnett River Floodplain Management Action Plan - Community Reference Group were appointed by Bundaberg Regional Council on 17 September with nine community consultation meetings occurring between 23 and 28 September 2013.

A workshop to improve communications redundancy in the Bundaberg and North Burnett regions (and neighbouring regions) was held on 24 September with a focus to identify communication black spots, redundancies, improved shared services and future enhancements.

A workshop to improve air service coordination during disaster events at all levels was held in Bundaberg on 10 September attended by representatives of emergency services, local government and helicopter providers. The focus was to develop better disaster management arrangements at a state and local level.

Primary producers, rural and small businesses

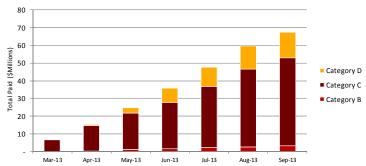
Removal of debris in cane fields is ongoing with assistance from Bundaberg Mary Regional Group (BMRG) volunteers and 12 NEATO job-seekers (long-term unemployed) who will gain certifications as a result of the training given and experience gained. This included the dismantling of a dilapidated house which was washed down by floodwaters to a canefield approximately two kilometres from its original location.

Approximately 80% of the sugar cane crushing in the Bundaberg region has been completed to date.

Under NDRRA Category D measures, 17 full-time Industry Recovery Officers (IRO) are operating as the primary point of contact for farmers and small businesses to access government assistance programs and services.

NDRRA Category B, C and D grants and loans worth \$67.2 million have been provided to 3594 primary producers, 839 business and small businesses and 128 non-profit organisations. Of this, \$7.6 million was paid in September to 223 applicants. Application dates for these loans and grants has now been extended to 29 November 2013. Refer *Figure 3.3.2.1*.

Figure 3.3.2.1 NDRRA grants and loans approved –Tropical Cyclone Oswald



(Source: DLGCRR at 30 September 2013)

3.3.3 Environment

The Environment recovery group coordinates the efficient and effective planning and implementation of environment recovery activities. These activities include advice on the measures required to achieve environmental recovery and to monitor and provide advice on current and potential environmental and cultural heritage issues. It also facilitates information exchange and maximises efficient allocation of resources towards recovery. A key focus is to progress strategies to reduce future impacts on the natural environment, in both urban and rural landscapes, focussing on long term resilience and sustainability.

The status of the key metrics being monitored by the Environment Recovery Group in relation to the recovery from Tropical Cyclone Oswald has been reported by the group at 30 September 2013 as follows:

Environment	Metric	Status
1. National parks	National parks affected by this event to re-open for conservation management	266 (45%) affected 265 recovered or partially opened
2. Sewage treatment and water supply	Sewage treatment plants (STP) and water treatment plants (WTP) affected by this event return to compliance with their relevant environmental authorities	Recovery complete 122 affected 122 recovered
3. Mining operations	Mining operations affected by this event return to compliance with their relevant environmental authorities.	Recovery complete 35 have conducted mine water releases 35 have returned to compliance*

^{*} returned to compliance with their relevant environmental authority regarding water releases.

1. National parks

266 (45%) of Queensland's national parks, conservation parks, state forests and resource reserves have been affected by the Tropical Cyclone Oswald event. Of these, 124 were subject to closure.

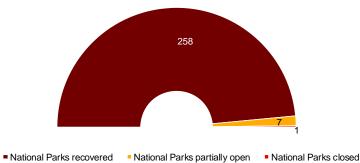
The current estimation of damage costs to national parks is \$6.275 million.

At 30 September 2013:

- 258 (97%) protected areas have been recovered
- seven (3%) protected areas have been partially opened
- only one protected areas remain closed or is inaccessible.
 Figure 3.3.3.1

Repairs at the Glen Rock State Forest in the Lockyer Valley, the park that remains closed, are complete. However, the park is restricted from reopening by local road closures. Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service staff are continuing to liaise with council officers as to proposed timeframes for completion of access road repairs.

Figure 3.3.3.1 Affected national parks



2. Sewage treatment and water supply

All 122 sewage treatment plants, water treatment plants and sewage pump stations affected by the Tropical Cyclone Oswald event have now been recovered.

3. Mining operations

35 Queensland mines have conducted mine water releases as a result of the Tropical Cyclone Oswald event, comprising 28 of the 45 coal mines in the Fitzroy Basin, one mine in the Burdekin and six mines in southern Queensland.

All Temporary Emissions Licences issues have now expired, with all mining operations reverting back to operating under their environmental authorities.

Clean-up and recovery program

On-farm productivity contracts to the value of \$10.0 million and environmental recovery contracts to the value of \$4.5 million were executed prior to 30 June 2013. Remaining funding will be contracted and spent in 2013-14 and 2014-15 financial years.

As at 30 September 2013, year to date spend has been \$5.4 million for on-farm productivity contracts and \$2.6 million for environmental recovery contracts.

3.3.4 Building

The Building recovery group coordinates the efficient and effective information exchange, issues identification and resolution between government agencies, building industry and insurance providers to ensure the efficient and prioritised use of available resources.

The status of the key metrics being monitored by the Building Recovery Group in relation to the recovery from Tropical Cyclone Oswald has been reported by the group at 30 September 2013 as follows:

	Building	Metric	Status
		Timely procurement of adequate numbers of accommodation units	On track see below
	. Provision of immediate and longer-term temporary accommodation	Number of displaced households seeking housing assistance	On track see below
		Number of households assisted into temporary accommodation	On track see below
		Number of significantly affected State public buildings and extent of damage $^{\mathrm{1}}$	99
ag	ovision of assistance and advice to building client gencies to support the repair and restoration of State ublic buildings	Number of significantly affected State public buildings repaired/restored to service ²	99
		Significantly affected State public buildings with repairs in progress	5
3	s. Provision of building advice and information to support	Building Services Authority (BSA) website updated with factsheets relevant to natural disaster recovery	On track see below
	the community in its recovery	Regular status updates by Industry Associations to Building Recovery Group (BRG) Sub Committee	Complete. No further activity required
4	Provision of advice to the recovery supply chain including contractors, subcontractors and material suppliers	Regular status updates by Industry Associations to BRG Sub Committee	Complete. No further activity required
5. Participation in future planning forums and discussion panels		Regular status updates by Industry Associations to BRG Sub Committee	Complete. No further activity required

¹ Significantly affected is defined as water 100mm over the floor level or serious structural damage and loss to related assets.

Provision of immediate and longer-term temporary accommodation

As set out in Section 3.3.1, 652 displaced households were provided with housing assistance. Housing service centres have now returned to normal business activities following completion of this recovery initiative.

Immediate accommodation provided consisted of two fully serviced camps (340 beds) established in the week commencing 27 January 2013. Both camps were closed by 13 March 2013.

Longer term temporary accommodation (approximately 6 to 12 months) was established in the first weeks of the flood event in Bundaberg (77 beds), Mundubbera (58 beds) and Gayndah (22 beds). All residents temporarily housed at Bundaberg have now been rehoused, and work to remove the modular units has been completed.

All households in temporary housing in North Burnett have an exit strategy in place, which may include returning to a private home, returning to private rentals, or working with RentConnect to find rental accommodation.

Two further households were relocated in September leaving nine households in relocatable units in the North Burnett (five in Munduberra and four in Gayndah).

(Source: DLGCRR at 30 September 2013)

Provision of assistance and advice to building client agencies

There were 99 State public buildings significantly affected by Tropical Cyclone Oswald and all were restored to service (are operational or operating from temporary accommodation) by March 2013.

One school building in Gladstone had repairs completed during September. Five remaining public buildings, all Queensland Health, continue to have repairs in progress or are awaiting repair.

Provision of building and other advice to the community and recovery supply chain

The BRG Sub-Committee has been stood down following substantial completion of its key tasks. Activities of the BSA have largely returned to business as usual with requests for information, guidance or support now channelled to relevant staff members within BSA for action.

The Community Rebuild Project, which assists vulnerable residents in the Bundaberg/North Burnett region to repair their flood damaged homes to a safe and habitable state, has finalised the rebuild of 20 clients in the Bundaberg region, and one household in the North Burnett (13 householders completed in September). Approximately 80 vulnerable households were identified at the commencement of the program in August 2013 which has now increased to around 95.

² Data provided refers to significantly affected public buildings which include schools and early childhood centres; ambulance, police and fire stations; hospitals; government employee accommodation and social housing.

3.3.5 Roads and transport

The Roads and Transport recovery group coordinates the efficient and effective delivery of road and transport recovery activities. These activities include input to the development of the Roads and Transport Recovery Program, including identifying priorities. The Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) is responsible for delivering the state-controlled roads and transport response, recovery and reconstruction and is engaging directly with industry and the community on the reconstruction phases following the natural disaster.

The status of the key metrics being monitored by the Roads and Transport Recovery Group in relation to the recovery from the events of early 2013 has been reported by the group at 30 September 2013 as follows:

Roads and Transport	Metric	Status
	Total length of damaged roads (kms)	620 km
Damaged state-controlled roads to be reconstructed (kms)	Total length of damaged roads reconstructed (kms)	35 km
	Total length of damaged roads under reconstruction (kms)	37 km
2. Kms of rail line	Total length of impacted/damaged lines (kms & %)	3,100 kms (43%)
Impacted/damaged rail line	Total length of impacted/damaged rail line recovered (kms)	Recovery complete 3,100 kms

1. Damaged State controlled roads

The status of DTMR's recovery and reconstruction program (inclusive of 2010 to 2013 event works) is discussed in further detail in Section 5.2 Progress of State-controlled roads and highways.

DTMR has completed its road recovery phase, clearing, repairing and reopening 5,544 km of state controlled roads affected by the three natural disaster events of early 2013.

Under DTMR's reconstruction program, reconstruction of 35km of roads damaged by Tropical Cyclone Oswald has been completed and an additional 37km is under construction - refer *Figure 3.3.5.1*.

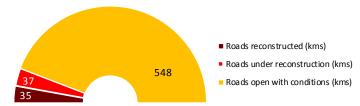
To 31 August 2013, projects to reconstruct damage to the state-controlled road network following the natural disasters in early 2013 valued at over \$428 million have been sent out to market.

Key reconstruction work projects completed and underway are set out opposite.

2. Rail network

All 3,100km (43% of the total rail network) impacted as a result of the 2013 events have been recovered.

Figure 3.3.5.1 Roads reconstruction program—Tropical Cyclone Oswald event



Key reconstruction works complete

- Tallon Bridge on the Isis Highway in Bundaberg was fully reconstructed within three weeks of the flooding event and access restored for all traffic.
- Neerkol Creek Bridge 30 km west of Rockhampton on the Capricorn Highway was reopened within days of the event.

Key reconstruction works underway

- Burnett Highway, Mt Morgan Range—reconstruction works following 35 cut/fill slips started in May 2013 and is scheduled for completion in early February 2014, weather permitting.
- Mt Sylvia Road, Lockyer Valley—reconstruction works commenced in July 2013 and are scheduled for completion by July 2014, weather permitting. Traffic has been moved onto sidetracks and construction of permanent floodways is underway.
- Warrego Highway, Jondaryan to Dalby— pavement testing
 is complete and detailed designs are being progressed
 following pavement failures as a result of the 2013 events.
 Detailed design of works is due to be complete by 30
 November 2013 and construction complete by December
 2014, weather permitting.
- Burnett Highway, Ban Ban Springs to Monto—interim recovery works have returned the full road to normal operating conditions. Further reconstruction work is scheduled in early 2014.
- Bruce Highway, Maryborough to Gin Gin— interim recovery works have returned the full road to normal operating conditions. Further reconstruction work is scheduled in late 2013.

(Source: DLGCRR at 30 September 2013)

Section four: **Program Status**

4.0 Program Status

4.1 Recent developments

Since the last report, there have been no additional disaster event activations declared for NDRRA financial assistance.

With a deadline of 30 June 2013 for delivery agents to incur NDRRA-eligible expenditure on works arising from the 2010 disaster period, the Authority was active in the period leading up to this date assisting delivery agents with residual 2010 works complete their programs. With this period now passed, delivery agents are focused on delivery of the remaining program of works.

4.2 Combined program status

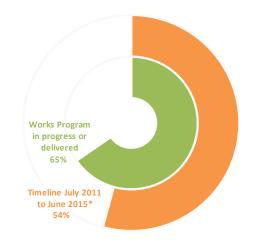
Following completion of the Authority's regular quarterly review process at June 2013, the program of works for all events actively managed by the Authority (2009 to 2013) is estimated to be \$14.0 billion.

The estimated cost of the damage from the events of early 2013 is more than \$2.4 billion and the cost of the 2010-2011 and 2012 events are estimated to be \$7.0 billion and \$1.9 billion respectively. Ahead of reporting of final expenditure and close out of the relevant programs, the final cost of works for the 2009 and 2010 events is estimated to be over \$2.7 billion.

Since the last report, the combined program of works for all events managed by the Authority has progressed as follows:

- a cumulative value of \$15.3 billion in submissions have been received by the Authority to 1 October 2013, representing an increase of \$0.3 billion since last month
- a cumulative total of \$12.6 billion has been processed by the Authority to 1 October 2013 representing an increase of \$0.3 billion since last month
- a cumulative value of \$9.2 billion of the \$14.0 billion works program has been reported to the Authority as being is in progress or delivered by delivery agents as at 31 August 2013
- funding acquitted for individuals, small business, primary producers and non-profit organisations amounts to \$504.2 million.

Figure 4.2.1 Combined program progress



4.3 Looking forward

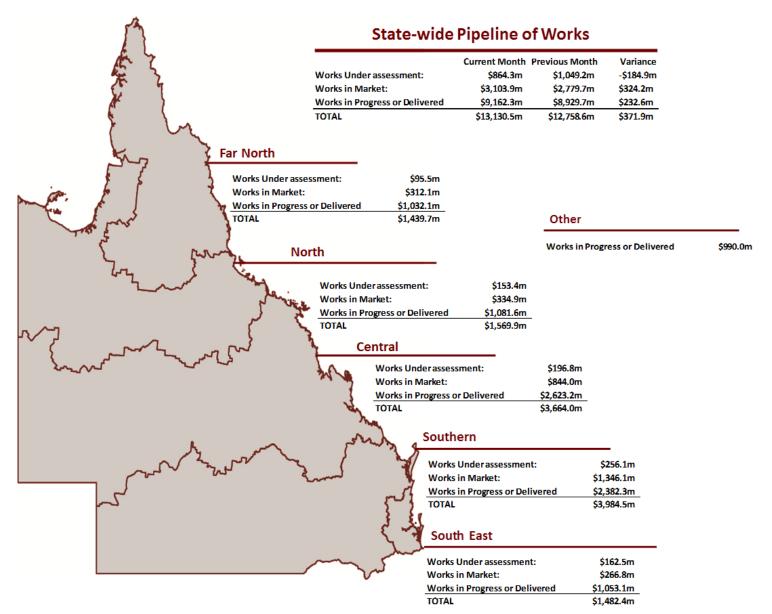
As noted above, the Authority's priorities are focused on assisting councils and State agencies to progress their remaining program of works from the 2011 and 2012 disaster periods, with the bulk of the reconstruction work occurring prior to June 2014. Concurrently, the Authority is focused on accelerating the submission and application approval process for the recent 2013 events with a view to fast-tracking the 2013 program of works into project delivery phase as soon as practicable.

As the period to deliver works for the 2010 disaster period concluded on 30 June 2013, the Authority is assisting delivery agents with the reporting of final expenditure and close out of the completed program of works for 2010 events.

^{*} Proportion of allowable time passed for delivery of total program since 1 July 2011(following Authority's establishment) to data reporting date

4.4 State-wide pipeline of works

The Pipeline of works for all events actively managed by the Authority (2009 to 2013) has an estimated program value of \$14.0 billion, the status of which is set out below.



Note:

- 1. Works Under Assessment and Works in Market represents data as at 31 August 2013 (DTMR) and 1 October 2013 (LGAs and Other). Works in Progress or Delivered represents spend by delivery agents to 31 August 2013 as reported to the Authority at 1 October 2013. Additional works have been conducted but are yet to be reported to the Authority
- 2. Other encompasses SDAs other than DTMR as well as the 2011 and 2013 Other Assistance.

Pipeline of Works Definitions

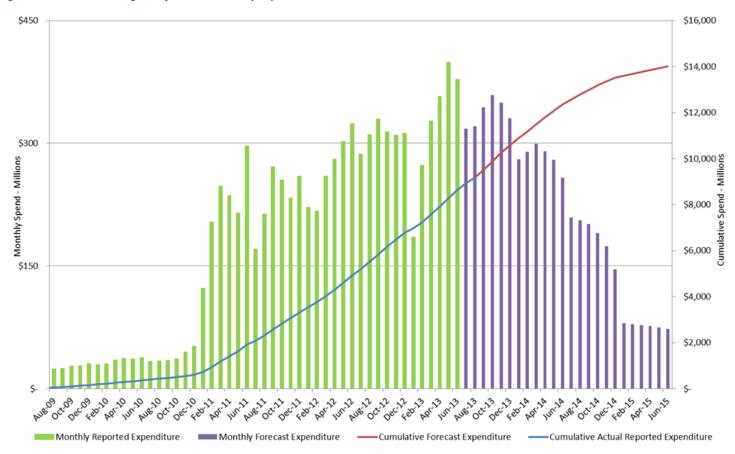
Stage	Description
Works under Assessment	Applications for packages which are currently under assessment by the Authority or are awaiting additional information from the applicant.
Works In Market	Applications for packages which have been approved by the Authority and are in the tender or contract process.
Works in Progress or Delivered	Expenditure as reported to the Authority on packages in progress or delivered.

Source: DTMR at 31 August 2013; and the Authority at 1 October 2013

4.5 Program of works expenditure

The figures below represents the monthly reported expenditure and estimated costs on a combined basis for all events managed by the Authority.

Figure 4.5.1 Combined Program of Works—monthly expenditure



Source: the Authority - cumulative expenditure by delivery agents to 31 August 2013 as reported to the Authority at 1 October 2013; and program estimates per 30 June 2013 NDRRA Review

4.6 Betterment fund status

The \$80 million Betterment fund is a Category D relief measure available to LGAs that have been declared for NDRRA assistance for the flood, storm and cyclone disaster events that occurred in Queensland in early 2013 for the restoration or replacement of essential public assets to a more disaster resilient standard than their pre-disaster standard.

Status

The Betterment Fund was announced in February 2013 following Tropical Cyclone Oswald which caused damage to many of the assets which had been repeatedly damaged and restored from earlier disaster events. Correspondence was received from the Commonwealth in August 2013 agreeing to an extension of the Betterment fund beyond its original coverage of LGAs declared for NDRRA assistance for Tropical Cyclone Oswald to also cover LGAs declared for the two additional disaster events that occurred after Oswald through to June 2013 - Longreach Flood (18 February 2013) and Central and Southern Queensland Low (25 February to 5 March 2013).

Expressions of Interest (EOI) have been received by the Authority from 48 councils with approximately \$1 billion worth of Betterment projects to improve the resilience of infrastructure to natural disasters. Relevant LGAs have been invited to submit more detailed information necessary to progress the Preferred Betterment Proposals through to the next stage.

Under the Betterment Framework, in addition to the normal NDRRA submission assessment process, the Authority is considering the financial and non-financial benefits of the betterment proposal such as possible prior damage, loss of availability and its impact on economic or social factors of the community. Where an LGA has a priority or shovel ready project, additional information was able to be supplied in the EOI to accelerate the process to delivery.

Approvals

As at 30 September 2013, 67 projects with a Betterment component have been approved. These projects have an estimated total cost of more than \$55.7 million, which includes \$24.1 million in Betterment funding and Council contributions of \$3.9 million.

Of these, 20 projects with a Betterment Fund component of \$6.8 million were approved since the last report (2 September 2013) including:

- Gayndah-Mundubbera Road (North Burnett Regional Council)
- Cattlecreek Road and Scanlans Road (North Burnett Regional Council)
- Thistlethwaite Bridge (Lockyer Valley Regional Council)
- Colleges Crossing Recreation Reserve (Ipswich City Council)
- works to nine local roads in the Banana Shire (Banana Shire Council)
- Aroborthree Road, Dakins Road and Yerra Road (Fraser Coast Regional Council)
- Yarrabah Range Road, Buddabadoo Road and Bilma Road (Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council).

A profile of the Thistlethwaite Bridge Betterment project is provided over the page.



Above: damage to Jambin-Dakenba Road, one of nine roads approved for Betterment funding for Banana Shire Council.



Above: 2013 event damage to Gayndah-Mundubbera Road (North Burnett)



Above: damage from 2013 events to Colleges Crossing Recreation reserve (Ipswich)

Source: the Authority at 30 September 2013

4.6 Betterment fund status (continued)

Feature betterment project: Lockyer Valley Regional Council Thistlethwaite Bridge

A betterment proposal has recently been approved to make the Thistlethwaite Bridge on Grantham-Winwill Road more resilient.

Thistlethwaite Bridge on the Grantham-Winwill Road is a low-lying, two-lane bridge crossing the Lockyer Creek just east of where it meets Sandy Creek, about 1.2 kilometres south of the town of Grantham.

Grantham-Winwill Road is a major arterial servicing a productive vegetable cropping district and the Stanbroke Meat Processing Plant, the region's largest employer. The road has B-Double truck capacity and is a key transport route for produce to local markets and ports for export trade. It also provides access for local residents and properties in the district and is a school bus route.

The closure of Thistlethwaite Bridge can compromise the safety of the community as well as jeopardising its economic viability.

Thistlethwaite Bridge sustained damage in 2011, and the 2013 floods caused severe damage to the approaches of the bridge and the structure itself.

Lockyer Valley Regional Council's betterment project aims to increase the resilience and functionality of the Grantham-Winwill Road by replacing the existing timber bridge with a concrete bridge and installing gabion basket protection upstream to prevent scouring of the creek's bank.

The total cost of the Thistlethwaite Bridge betterment project is estimated at \$2.61 million with \$1.26 million provided through the Betterment Fund, a joint State and Commonwealth initiative. Council is also making a significant contribution to this project.



Above: Flood damaged Thistlethwaite Bridge.



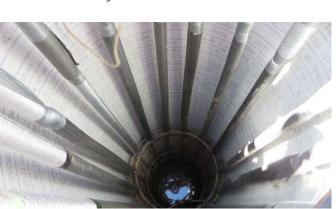
Above: (Left to right) Minister for Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience David Crisafulli, Member for Lockyer Ian Rickuss and Lockyer Valley Regional Council Mayor Steve Jones at Thistlethwaite Bridge.

4.7 Iconic projects in reconstructing Queensland*

Project	Value (\$m)	Description	Status
BCC Riverwalk (Cat D)	\$72.0	The Brisbane Riverwalk was a unique pedestrian and bicycle path which linked the city's CBD with the inner suburb of New Farm. It also provided a direct link with tertiary education, entertainment, recreation, commercial, community and residential precincts in the inner city. The floating infrastructure was destroyed by the January 2011 floods and the whole structure was subsequently removed. Following detailed public consultation, the Brisbane City Council decided to replace the previously floating walkway with a fixed, jetty-like 850 metre long structure between New Farm and the CBD. The Riverwalk deck will be approximately 3.4 metres above	The tender to rebuild the Riverwalk was awarded to the John Holland Construction Group in April 2013. Piling works commenced in late July 2013 with a 55m-long barge mobilised in the Brisbane River carrying a 280-tonne crane and a piling rig. Since works commenced, five piles have been poured and removal of the old abutments of the existing
		the average high tide level, high enough to minimise corrosion caused by salt water. The walkway's 37 piles will be anchored into the riverbed, providing the structure with a strong, more flood-resilient foundation. It will feature 24 hour lighting, separate pedestrian and cyclist paths and shaded rest areas. The design also included a rotating opening span to allow for the passage of vessels to and from moorings. Funding for the project is being provided through special (Category D) funding under NDRRA arrangements.	floating walkway at both the Merthyr Road and Howard Smith Wharf ends is ongoing. A pre-cast concrete girder yard was established at the Howard Smith Wharves during September and casting of the first concrete girder has occurred during the month. Completion of the Riverwalk is expected by June 2014, weather permitting.



Above: looking back from the barge along the line of piles towards the Story Bridge and Howard Smith Wharves



Above: Looking down inside one of piles before the concrete is poured; the steel bars are for reinforcement.



Above: a view of the works underway from the Storey Bridge.



Above: assembly of pre-cast mold for the concrete girders

(Courtesy: Brisbane City Council)

^{*} Iconic projects represent projects that may be complex or of great significance to the local community.

4.7 Iconic	4.7 Iconic projects in reconstructing Queensland (continued)		
Project	Value (\$m)	Description	Status
Clump Point and Dunk Island Jetties (Cat D)	\$5.5	Mission Beach and Dunk Island are tropical tourist destinations located between Cairns and Townsville. The two jetties provide the departure point to local resort islands and the Barrier Reef and are crucial for reviving the area's struggling tourism industry. Both jetties were severely damaged as a result of Cyclone Yasi in February 2011. \$5.5 million was provided for the restoration of the jetties as part of a \$15 million NDRRA exceptional circumstances package for the Cassowary Coast region. The new jetty at Clump Point has been built just south of the existing structure and is 170m long and 5m wide to accommodate vehicular and pedestrian traffic. All major components have been prefabricated off site and transported to site by truck for installation. The old Clump Point jetty has been demolished as part of the works.	Dunk Island jetty reached practical completion on 29 May 2013 when the jetty was handed over to Council. The jetty is now operational and available for use by the public. Completion of Clump Point jetty is also now substantially complete with the only remaining works required being construction of stairs at the end of the jetty. Clump Point Jetty is expected to be open in November 2013.
Palm Island seawall	\$12.3	The Palm Island foreshore provides the focal point for the island's community. It is the location of culturally significant landmarks and memorials as well as the island's community facilities. The seawall in Challenger Bay provides wave dissipation and erosion mitigation. Damage to the seawall occurred as a result of Cyclone Yasi in February 2011.	The design of the seawall is substantially complete and has been endorsed by Council. Council have appointed the winning works to Koppen Developments, a Cairns-based construction company. On receipt of final development approval, site works will commence. Completion is expected in early 2014.
Riverside Park, Karalee	\$2.25	Located on Settler Way, Karalee, Riverside Park lies along the Brisbane River and is a popular picnic and recreational area near the junction of the Brisbane and Bremer rivers and close to Ipswich CBD. The Park has a boat ramp facility and a complex of structures and open amenity areas including car parks, seating and shelter structures and playground. The flood event in early January 2011 inundated the park up to nearly 20 metres of water and destroyed almost the entire lower level of the park, including the car park area, infrastructure, shelters, playground and ancillary park equipment. The built assets and developed vegetation on the lower level of the park were effectively swept away by the flood. The park was further	Community consultation and information sessions were conducted in early 2013. The tender to carry out the work was awarded to Digit Landscapes in September 2013. Detailed designs are currently being prepared and construction planned to commence in November 2013. Works are expected to be completed in January 2014, weather permitting.

Right: damage to Riverside Park, Karalee

damaged as a result of Tropical Cyclone Oswald in January 2013.

4.7 Iconic projects in reconstructing Queensland (continued)

Project	Value (\$m)	Description	Status
Cardwell foreshore (Cat D & Cat B)	\$36	The Cardwell foreshore is an important infrastructure project in North Queensland that combines a range of projects intended to restore social, economic, transport and tourist infrastructure in a community that was severely impacted by Tropical Cyclone Yasi. Funding for the project has been provided as restoration of essential public assets (REPA - Category B) and through special (Category D) funding under NDRRA arrangements. Works at Cardwell include the reconstruction of a 1.4km two-lane section of the Bruce Highway known as Victoria Street; works on the foreshore, recreation, picnic, and pedestrian facilities; memorial; a roundabout and formal parking. Works to the Coral Sea Memorial and northern playground include dunal revegetation, landscaping installation and concrete pads to seating areas. Paths have been constructed around the jetty playground and plaza. See Civil Pty Ltd was awarded the contract for the Reconstructing Cardwell project.	Work on the reconstruction of the Bruce Highway is now complete. Practical completion of the Cardwell foreshore redevelopment and associated works is expected mid-October. The official opening of the Reconstructing Cardwell project is scheduled for 9 November 2013.







Above: Reconstructing Cardwell completed works, September 2013—roadway (left) and common use pathway (centre) - and locally known Cyril the Croc who kept a watchful eye on works (right)

Grigor Bridge, Conondale

\$4.5

The Grigor Bridge is a major crossing of the Mary River on the Maleny-Kenilworth Road near Conondale, in the Sunshine Coast hinterland. The original single-lane timber Grigor Bridge was built in 1929 and was extensively damaged during flooding in October 2010 and again in January 2011.

The total project comprises \$4.5 million of NDRRA funding representing the estimated cost of replacing the original structure, and more than \$5 million additional complementary funding for an additional land and raising the bridge plus associated costs of embankments and culverts. The complementary works are intended to improve flood immunity, safety and traffic capacity.

Construction activity in the river is scheduled to accommodate the breeding cycles of a number of iconic species found in the Mary River including the Mary River Turtle and Mary River Cod.





Construction of the new bridge started in March 2013.

A team of specialists undertook aquatic clearances and captured freshwater turtles prior to the placement of the rock platforms in the Mary River. Platypus clearances were completed using a flexible cable camera looking for burrows in the river bank.

A short sidetrack is open to allow motorists to continue accessing the area while works are underway. Work has finished on the headstocks and abutments and in September 2013 the project hit another key milestone with the installation of the deck units – 36 units weighing about 25 tonne each.

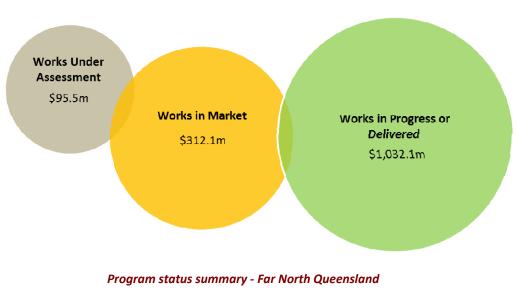
The project is on track for completion by June 2014.

Left: Grigor Bridge ballast wall prior to pouring (left) and installing deck units in September 2013 (right).

Section five: **Progress Reports**

5.1.1 Far North Queensland





Case example: Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council Wunga Road

Yarrabah is an Aboriginal community situated approximately 53 kilometres by road from Cairns on Cape Grafton.

Wunga Road extends east from the town to the coast providing access for local community to the Yarrabah township and residents of the wider area to a cultural significant beach area.

Wunga Road sustained significant pavement damage caused by a combination of a prolonged wet season and flood inundation as a result of Severe Tropical Cyclone Yasi (2 February 2011). Cyclonic gale force winds caused destruction of vegetation and property. Debris and sediments were subsequently washed into drainage channels and pipe and culvert structures by the fast overland flows and overtopping of streams and drains due to the torrential rainfall. These conditions caused scouring of roads, causeways, batters, culverts and other drainage infrastructure as well as depositing silt, broken foliage and other major debris in and around the road and drainage infrastructure.

Completed restoration works included gravel resheeting, culvert repairs, removing silt and debris, scour repair with rock backfill and removing silt from pipes.

Work was completed in November 2012 at a total cost of approximately \$0.7 million.





Above: completed works Wunga Road, Yarrabah

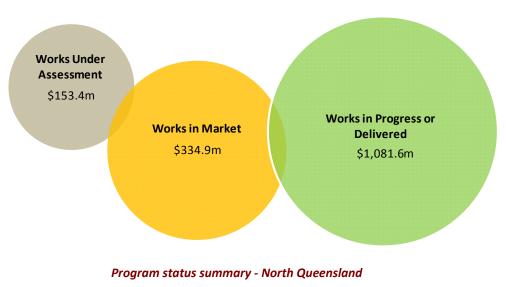




Left: damage to Wunga Road, Yarrabah as a result of Tropical Cyclone Yasi

5.1.2 North Queensland





Case example: Hinchinbrook Shire Council Challands Street, Industrial Avenue and Market Street, Ingham

Challands Street, Industrial Avenue and Market Street are the main thoroughfares within the western side of the industrial precinct that crosses the Bruce Highway on the southern approaches to Ingham.

The western side of the precinct is linked to the Bruce Highway, and consequently to Ingham, via Challands Street and is the location of a number of businesses that service local industry and residents. Ingham is located midway between Townsville and Innisfail and is the main service centre for the surrounding sugar industry.

The area sustained damage from flooding associated with Tropical Cyclone Yasi in early 2011. Torrential rain and subsequent flooding from the monsoonal flooding event caused moisture inundation of the pavement resulting in extensive pavement and seal failures, cracking, patching and shoving; and undermining of kerbs.

Restoration works included boxing out damaged pavement, cleaning out table drains and culverts as well as removing debris washed into drains. Level correction of kerb lines was also undertaken to reinstate correct drainage where kerbing has settled as a result of undermining. Council and landowners funded additional complementary seal widening and driveway works as part of the project.

Work was completed in June 2012 at a total cost of approximately \$3.8 million across the three roads.







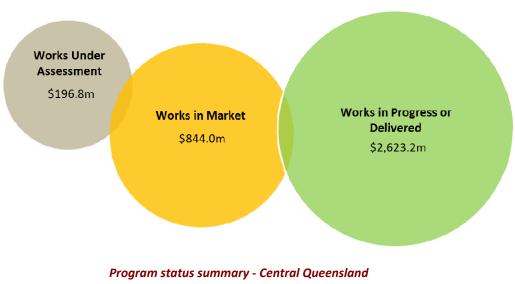


Above: Ingham industrial precinct under flood (top) and following completion of works - Challands Street, Ingham (bottom)

Left: damage (left) and following completion of works - Market St, Ingham

5.1.3 Central Queensland





Case example: Banana Shire Council Theodore Moura Road

Banana Shire Council is well advanced through its program of reconstruction works resulting from damage caused by the disaster events of 2010-2011.

Banana's 2011 program comprised more than \$35 million of works to repair and reconstruct damage to more than 300 roads and other assets across the shire caused by the monsoonal flooding events of late 2010 and early 2011.

Banana Shire is situated approximately 120 km west of Gladstone and includes the coal and gas mining and exploration areas of the Surat Basin as well as home to beef production, power generation, dryland cropping and irrigation cropping. The Shire's population is spread over 28,577 square kilometres, of which only 27 square kilometres is urbanised.

Examples of Council's 2011 events works include repairs to the Theodore to Moura road, a rural road that connects the Dawson Highway in the north near the coal mining town of Moura to the Leichhardt Highway to the south and provides access to a number of coal mines in the area. Works to the road consisted of restoring the pavement and floodway damaged by flooding and was completed in November 2012 at a cost of approximately \$1 million.

Council commenced its program of 2011 events works in May 2011 and has delivered its works using a combination of third party contractors and Council's labour force under the day labour model.







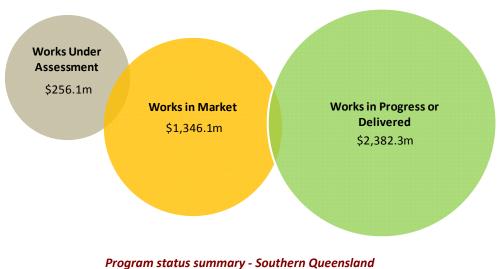


Above: damage (top) and completed works (bottom) to Theodore-Moura road

Left: damage (left) and following reconstruction works (right) to Defence Road, another of Banana Shire's roads damaged in the 2011 events

5.1.4 Southern Queensland





Case example: Murweh Shire Council Mount Tabor Road

Murweh Shire Council is towards the end of a three year succession of flood restoration programs which has multiplied its demand for road works many times over normal levels.

These demands have required the use of local materials in significant quantities at a time when depleted supplies of traditional materials have exposed the need for conservation, sustainability and innovation in the choice and application of construction materials.

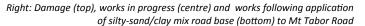
The restoration of Mount Tabor Road is one example where Council applied such innovative approaches to address resource constraints in its works program.

Mount Tabor Road extends 189km from Augathella north-east to the Carnarvon Range and provides the only link for the cattle stations bounded by the road and five feeder roads to Roma, Charleville, Tambo and Blackall for access to schools, airports and health services.

The road was damaged following severe scouring, pavement loss and rutting from floods in February 2012 that rendered its upper sections inaccessible to conventional vehicles.

Works commenced to repair the road in February 2013. In undertaking the works, Council sought to use non-standard construction materials found close to the site, such as using naturally occurring unprocessed rock as a deep lift fill and sub-base for filling deep scours and mixing readily available local materials to provide a working platform—in this case blending silty sand (the predominant roadside material) with clay (which is sporadically available).

Applying such approaches and through engaging an experienced and equipped contractor has meant that the road works are currently tracking to be completed below the initial estimated cost of \$14.6 million and residents now have restored access to this vital route whilst works continue.



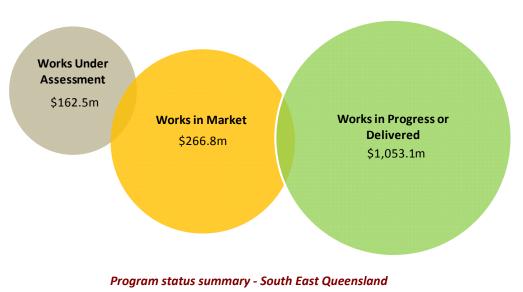






5.1.5 South East Queensland





Case example: Gold Coast City Council Berree-Badalla Boardwalk, Currumbin Creek, Palm Beach

The Berree-Badalla boardwalk is an important commuting corridor for walkers and bicycles along Currumbin Creek, connecting Thrower Drive to the Gold Coast Highway, and provides student access to the Palm Beach Currumbin High School. The boardwalk leads onto coastal bikeways and footpaths, and is part of the City of Gold Coast extensive foreshore ways transport network.

The boardwalk also supports ecological educational programs within local schools throughout the Gold Coast enabling users the ability to pass through an environmentally-sensitive area of Currumbin Creek, without causing damage or disturbance to the wetlands and the declared fish habitat.

Due to the severe wind and wave action from Tropical Cyclone Oswald in early 2013, the boardwalk deck and footings were torn from their supporting structure. The boardwalk's deck was uplifted from the sub-structure across a 250 metre long section, along with the loss of 86 piles.

The restoration of the Berree-Badalla Boardwalk involved reinstatement of key structural elements, followed by reconstruction of the decking platform and kick rails. Where possible, Council reused existing posts and sections of the boardwalk where damage was minimal and reconstructed sections in between.

Work totalling approximately \$275,000 commenced in April 2013 and reached practical completion stage in September 2013. Importantly, the health of the fishery surrounding the boardwalk has been preserved during the works and access to the high school was able to be kept open at all times.





Above: damage (top) and post-completion (bottom) Berree-Bedalla boardwalk











Above: damage (left) and post-completion (right) to the boardwalk

5.2 Progress of State-controlled roads and highways

DTMR's Transport Network Reconstruction Program (TNRP) manages the recovery and reconstruction of Queensland's integrated transport system to reconnect Queensland communities and economies following the damage from natural disaster events in 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013. The transport system includes state-controlled roads, ports, navigation aids and the rail network.

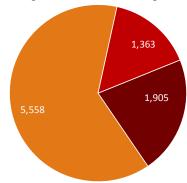
The current state of activity:

- Roads \$3.5 billion of projects have been completed for both recovery and reconstruction works (excluding maritime infrastructure) for works resulting from the disaster periods of 2010 to 2013 and \$1.9 billion of reconstruction works are currently underway. Of the 8,826km of roads which DTMR plans to reconstruct following damage from these natural disaster events, 5,558km has been reconstructed to 31 August 2013. A further 1,363km of road is under construction on active works contracts. See Figure 5.2.1 and TNRP Summary map.
- Rail 3,100km (43%) of Queensland Rail lines were closed or had limited access due to the natural disaster events in early 2013, and all have been recovered and services resumed.
- Maritime repairs have been required to navigation aids, jetties and other boating infrastructure following natural disasters from 2010 to 2013. The events of 2013 affected seven ports (all of which have since been reopened without restriction) and damaged or destroyed 348 aids to navigation, of which 280 have since been recovered and 19 temporarily fixed.

Key achievements:

- During August 2013, DTMR expended \$168 million on reconstruction works from 2011 to 2013 events across the State.
- The cumulative spend on reconstruction of the transport network to 31 August 2013 is \$4.5 billion for works resulting from the 2010 to 2013 disaster periods, consisting of \$0.7 billion on recovery works and \$3.8 billion on reconstruction works.
- There was 308km of damaged roads reconstructed in August 2013 bringing the total reconstructed since the program commenced to 5,558km of the total damaged.
- Construction commenced on 33 projects valued at \$84 million in August 2013 including works on the Leichardt, Bruce, Captain Cook, Cunningham, Flinders, Mt Lindsay and D'Aguilar highways.
- 98% or \$327 million of a total of \$334 million of Priority 1 Roads works across the State arising from the 2013 events were out to market by 31 August 2013. Projects to go to market relating to repair of land slips and scours are being packaged with other TNRP projects to minimise the impacts on the travelling public, the freight industry and mining sectors and to ensure value for money. The remaining projects will be out to market by 31 December 2013.

Fig.5.2.1 Roads damaged/reconstructed following 2010 to 2013 events



- Roads (km) to be reconstructed with works yet to commence
- Roads reconstructed (km)
- Roads under construction (km)





Right: works underway on Gregory Development Road (centre) and Mt Lindesay Highway, Beaudesert (bottom)

Fig.5.2.2 TNRP summary of reconstruction works to date—August 2013

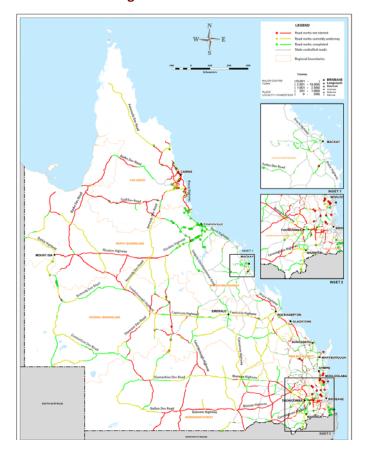
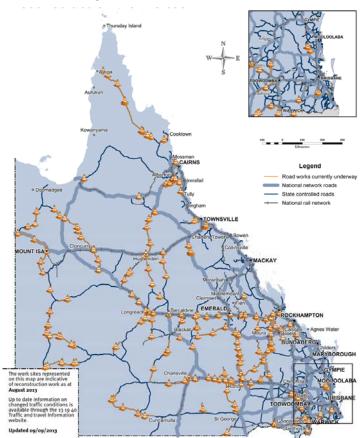


Fig 5.2.3 TNRP reconstruction work sites

— August 2013



(Source: DTMR 31 August 2013)

TNRP case example Welcome to Country for road reconstruction workers

HEH Constructions recently commenced reconstruction work on a 3.6 kilometre section of the Mulligan Highway in Far North Queensland. The project includes pavement restoration and works on culverts in drainage lines and waterways traversing the road.

This section of road is adjacent to the Black Mountain National Park and north of the Little Annan River Crossing. The area is of great spiritual and cultural significance to the Kuku Nyungkal Traditional Owners. Engagement with the Kuku Nyungkal Traditional Owners commenced more than twelve months before the start of the project.

The project team recently undertook a Cultural Heritage Induction held at the Cooktown Event Centre by SKM's Senior Archaeologist, Matt Schlitz, and this included a talk by the Kuku Nyungkal Traditional Owners. At the conclusion of the induction, the project team undertook a Welcome "On Country" and warming ceremony at the construction site at Little Annan River.

Traditional owners, Doreen Jones and Carol Toby collected wood from the surrounding bushlands and started a fire. They also added green leaves from the Ironwood tree which is a natural medicine for cleansing and warding off illness. The Traditional Owners spoke to their ancestors as the project team walked through the smoke, asking their ancestors to keep them safe for the life of the project. "Our Ancestors are watching you – and we have asked them to keep you safe while you are on our land," said Carol Toby.

Top: Elder Doreen Jones explains the importance of the land for the Traditional Owners Centre: Traditional Owners, Doreen Jones and Carol Toby with SKM's Matt Schlitz at the construction site Bottom: Doreen Jones and Carol Toby ask their ancestors to protect the contractors and staff for the project duration







5.3 Communications

The Authority is focused on building stakeholder confidence in the reconstruction by ensuring consistent and regular communication of public information.

5.3.1 Communicating progress

Media analysis

There has been a total of 187 media items from 1 to 30 September (129 print - 69%, 9 TV - 5%, 49 radio - 26%), which reached a cumulative audience of over 3.6 million people with the focus this month being on council recovery and betterment funding for those regions hardest hit by the 2013 event.

September media coverage saw mentions for those regions still recovering from the 2013 event. There was good coverage of successful Betterment Fund projects in North Burnett, Gympie, Ipswich, and Lockyer Valley, with articles appearing in regional media including the Gympie Times, Sunshine Coast Daily and Gatton Lockyer Brisbane Valley Star. There was also coverage of the commencement of NDRRA restoration works in North Burnett, Tablelands, Mackay, Fraser Coast and Lockyer Valley, as well as the opening of the George Bishop Bridge in Somerset.

Engagement activities

In September, the Minister for Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience David Crisafulli visited the Moreton Bay, North Burnett and Lockyer Valley regions to highlight infrastructure that will be rebuilt as part of the \$80 million Betterment program. Visits to Cairns, Dalby, Ipswich, Roma and Toowoomba regions also highlighted the Government's plans for flood mitigation and resilience projects as Queenslanders continue to work together to better protect vulnerable communities against future flood events.

Queensland Reconstruction Authority CEO Graeme Newton visited Somerset Regional Council and joined **Mayor Graeme Lehmann** to officially open the George Bishop Bridge on Mt Stanley Road at Linville on 2 September 2013.

Communications

There are a number of methods available to the public to communicate with the Authority.

The Authority's website provides information to the public and continues to be enhanced with ongoing updates, including the launch of the public Flood Information Portal. There have been a large number of visits to the website since it was launched on 18 February 2011.

At 30 September 2013, total website visits amounted to 354,696 - an increase of 2.7% since last month. (See Figure 5.3.1)

In September, the Authority received an additional 46 calls to its dedicated hotline and 147 additional pieces of written correspondence were received. (See Figure 5.3.2)



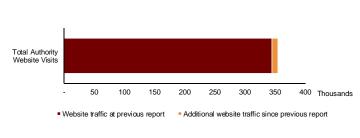
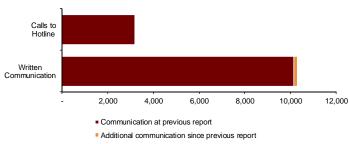


Fig. 5.3.2 Communications



(Source: the Authority at 30 September 2013)

Funding granted after residents air concerns

Govt pledges \$2m for reconstruction

he bridge. Mr Crisafulli was happy for

orks (Stanbroke) and vehicles," Mayor Steve mestworks (Stanbroke) and heavy vehicles," Mayor Steve Jones said. The total cost of the project is



HELP ON ITS WAY: Community Recovery and Resilience Minister David Crisafulli, Ment Rickuss and Lockyer Valley Mayor Steve Jones on Thistlethwaite Bridge.

Rural Weekly, 26 September 2013

Saturation works are in full swing

"With significant works such as this occurring across the region simultaneously for a period of time, council is

On top of these s

Queensland Times, 26 September 2013

One Mile Bridge repairs closer to being started

Tender for \$3.9m project to be announced in 'near future'



Laidley Plainland Leader, 1 September 2013

Post-flood recovery is on track

A RANGE of restoration projects kicked off around the Lockyer Valley in September as the region's post-flood journey continues.

"We are shaping up to finish 2015 on a strong note and on track." Lockeyer Valley Regional Council Mayor Jones sail.

said.
"Our restoration journey has certainly not lost momen-tum and we are committed, more than ever, to restoring our region's infrastructure. "Obviously, having so many projects under way at once

fember.

Drayton St, Laidley
Crews will be on site conducting pavement reconstruction and bitumen seal
work in mid-September.

Robinson Rd, Laidley
In late September, pave-

■ Railway St Table drain works, pave

ment reconstruction and bitu-men seal work will be carried out in late September Sippel Rd In early September, pave-ment reconstruction and bitu-men seal work will be carried

out.
The project will take around one week to complete.
All start and finish times are subject to alteration due

to wet weather.
Restoration works are approved by the Queensland Reconstruction Authority and are delivered under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements, a joint Federal (75%) and State (25%) Government initiative. For more information contact the council on 1500 005 872 or visit the council's website website or the council on the council on the council on the council or the cou

Queensland Times, 20 September 2013

Damaged Valley bridge to be rebuilt to last this time

A TIMBER bridge near Grantham that is part of a key road for locals, primary producers and emergency services, which has twice been damaged by floods, will be rebuilt to a better standard.

The project is part of the State Government's push to make flood-ravaged communities more resilient.

Community Recovery and Resilience Minister David Crisafulli said the Lockyer Valley Regional Council would receive \$1,259,160 in 'betterment" funding to replace the old Thistlethwaite Bridge on Lockver Creek with a new concrete structure, and to fund work to help prevent riverbank scouring upstream. The total cost of the project is

"In the past, the guidelines for replacing infrastructure have been so rigid and bureaucratic that councils were only allowed to rebuild structures to the same standard in the same location," Mr Crisafulli

"What the betterment project does is let local communities put forward a solution that might cost a little more up front but will save us all paying for damage over and over again.

Structural damage reduced the bridge to one lane after the 2011 floods and it suffered further damage during the floods in January, forcing council to close it for a week while emergency repairs were carried out.

Gympie Times, 19 September 2013

10-storey crane arrives to help build \$4 million bridge over the Mary River

A safer Moy Pocket Rd

THE new \$4 million Pickering Bridge at Moy Pocket is starling for lake shape, with a 30 metre crane arriving on site this week to position the roadway decking.

Member for Gympie David Gilsson. Sunshine Coast Council Division 10 Council-lor Greg Rogerson and Gympie Regional Council Division 8 Councillor Sunshine Council Division 8 Councillor Sunshine Council Division 8 Councillor Greg Rogerson and Gympie Regional Council Division 8 Councillor Julie Walker agreed the new ple Regional Council Divi-sion 8 Councillor Julie Walker agreed the new bridge was welcome by both the community and the con-

metres mass.

The project is a win both for locals and our construction industry, because along with improved safety and flood resilience, it will also aid the delivery of supplies for the current Bruce Hwy upgrades. upgrades.
"It's exciting to see the pro-

Councillor Rogerson said positioning of the deck units was a milestone in construction of the bridge.

"The new Pickering Bridge will make a big difference to local residents and the quarry truck drivers - it will mean a safer trip along Moy Pocket Rd and less chance of the bridge going under when the river rises," Cr Rogerson said.

to be completed aner tras year."
Councillor Walker said the new bridge would provide a boost to tourism and the lo-cuted of the provided and the lo-ter of the lot of the lot of the The Perketing Bridge will provide a buge benefit to lo-cal businesses as it is an im-portant connection between the Sunshine Coast Council and Gympie Regional Coun-cil local government areas," said Ct Walker.
"It will reduce the number of trucks using Mary Valley Rd, which is safer for altroad

Gatton Lockyer Brisbane Valley Star, 4 September 2013

Two new bridges open

THE Somerset community will THE Somerset community will benefit from two new bridges totalling more than \$1.5 million at Linville and Jimna. George Bishop Bridge on Mt Stanley Rd at Linville and Sunday Creek Rd Bridge at Jimna were officially compad by Somerset

officially opened by Somerset Regional Council Mayor Graeme Regional Council Mayor Graeme Lehmann, Madonna Oliver, a representative for Blair MP Shayne Neumann and Queensland Reconstruction Authority CEO Graeme Newton on Monday, George Bishop Bridge is an historic bridge in the Separates region that

bridge in the Somerset region that was named after a former Esk Shire

was named ander a normer ask St Councillor who was also a well known Linville farmer. Almost \$600,000 was spent on building a single-lane concrete bridge at the site replacing the timber bridge that was severely damaged in the languary 2011 for damaged in the January 2011 floods

Somerset Regional Council Mayor

Graeme Lehmann said the replacement of the George Bishop Bridge was possible thanks to 60% of funding from the Queensland Reconstruction Authority.

"We are very appreciative of the financial support and assistance we have received from the Oucensland

have received from the Queensland Reconstruction Authority," Cr Lehmann said.

Lehmann said.
"The bridge on Mt Stanley Rd is an important transport link for the local cattle industry and the replacement of the bridge shows the strong co-operative support between council and the government for Somerset's rural economic base."

rural coonomic nasc."
Council invested about \$225,000 on
George Bishop Bridge.
Residents at Jimna who use
Sunday Creek Rd Bridge have
benefited from the installation of a
steel unibridge after the previous bridge was severely damaged during the January 2013 flood.

Queensland Times, 12 September 2013

Mayor says a swag of roadworks this month

IT IS full steam ahead for the restoration of flood-damaged roads

in the Lockyer Valley.
Lockyer Valley Mayor Steve
Jones said September would be a
busy month for restoration projects, with a swag of works soon to start.

"As a council, we are committed to let the community know where we are currently working, and where crews will be in the coming weeks and months," he said. Restoration works scheduled to

start this month include:

Lockyer Creek Rd, Helidon
Thomas St, Laidley
Osbornes Rd, Gatton

- Schroeders Rd, Woodlands
 Princes Rd, Gatton

■ Napier St, Laidley
■ John St, Laidley
■ Cooper St, Laidley
With such an extensive program of works set down for September, Cr Jones said the length of works could vary from a day to weeks. All start and finish times are subject to alteration due to

program changes, unforeseen conditions or delays due to rain.

Restoration works are approved by the Queensland Reconstruction Authority and are delivered under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements

Call 1300 005 872 or visit ww.lockyervalley.qld.gov.au

Tablelands Advertiser, 27 September 2013

Bonus to build on road works

AN unexpected bonus will allow a section of road in the west to be upgraded to a sealed stan-

At its meeting last week, Tablelands Regional Council was advised that an extra \$125,000 was available under the Far North Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils' Transport Infrastructure

Transport Infrastructure Scheme.

"This is the result of previous variations in projects," Mayor Rosa Lee Long said. "Council voted to approve the upgrade of Cunnawarra Rd a section of Gunnawarra Rd using this funding, along with an additional \$125,000 from general revenue for a total project cost of \$250,000," she said. Council also approved a num-ber of tenders for Natural Disas-

ter Relief and Recovery Arrangements through the Queensland Reconstruction

Queensiana Reconstruction Authority.

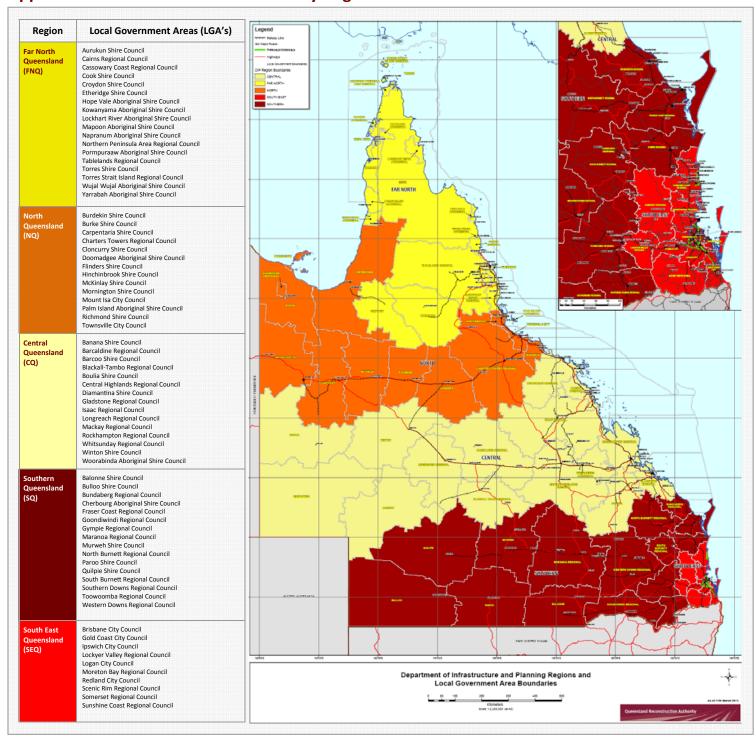
They include repairs to Price Creek Rd, Rains Rd, Leadin-gham Creek Rd, Leafgold Weir Rd, Pickford Rd, Bryde Rd, Marks Lane and Andrickson

An extension of time was granted by QRA for works granted by works underway on Bellevue Rd, Bol-warra Rd, Crystalbrook Rd, Mount Mulgrave Rd, Nychum Rd, Torwood Rd, Blackdown Rd, Bulimba Rd, Drumduff Rd, Mount Mulligan Rd, OK Mine

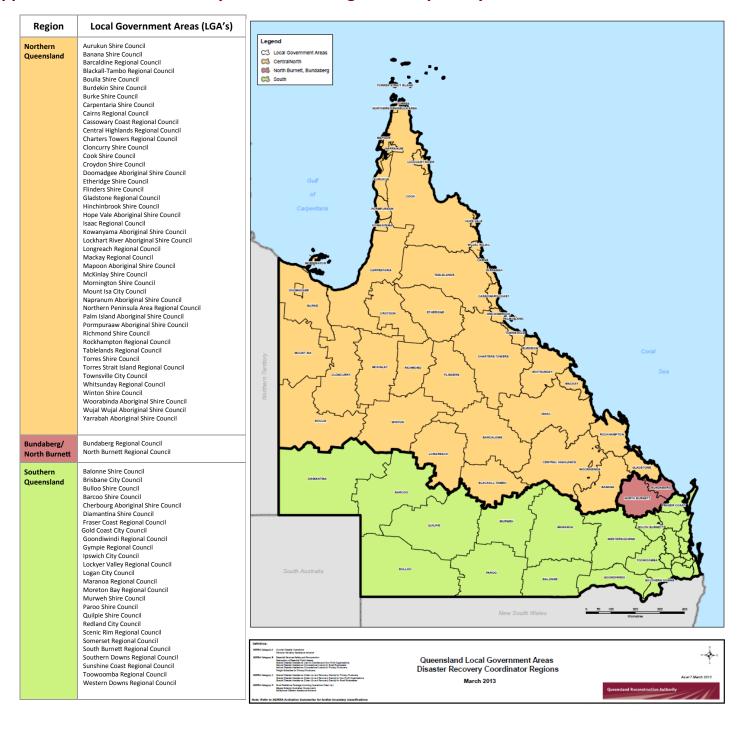
Rd and Strathleven Rd.
In total, the cost for work
approved by Council is \$2,167,700,91.

Appendices

Appendix A: Local Government Areas by Region



Appendix B: Disaster Recovery Coordinator Regions - Tropical Cyclone Oswald



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