

# Monthly Report

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May 2018

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## Disaster Assistance

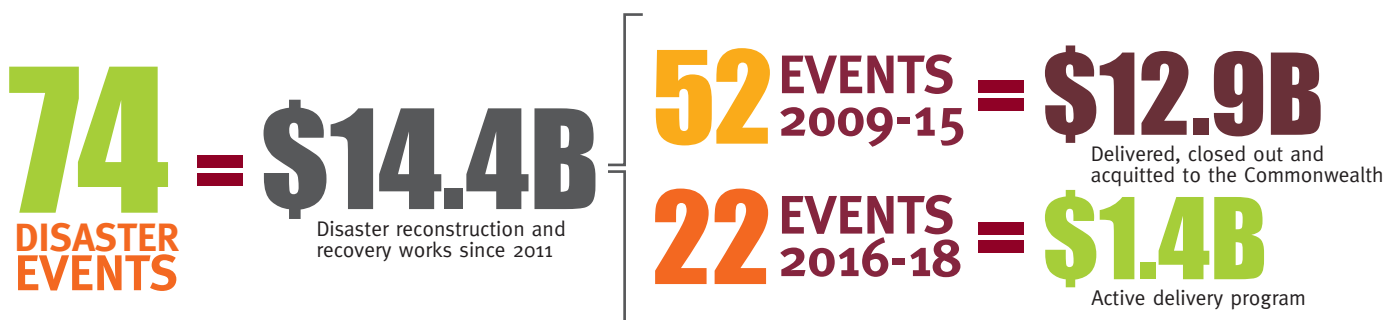
QRA has responsibility to administer Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) measures in Queensland, coordinating the Government’s program of infrastructure renewal and recovery within disaster-affected communities.

Since its establishment in February 2011, QRA has managed and coordinated \$14.4 billion of disaster reconstruction and recovery works for 74 disaster events activated for NDRRA relief measures.

The list of activated disaster events is found on [www.disaster.qld.gov.au](http://www.disaster.qld.gov.au).

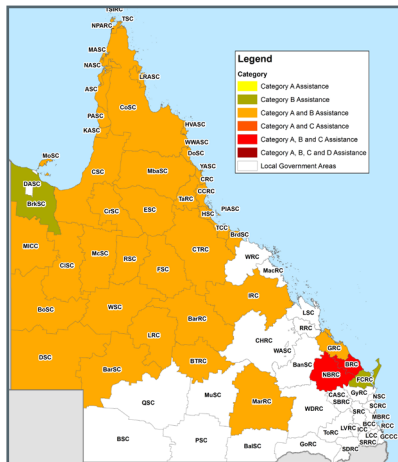
Of the program, \$12.9 billion for 52 events from the 2009-10, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 events are complete, having been delivered, closed out and acquitted to the Commonwealth in audited claims.

Works worth \$1.4 billion for the remaining 22 events from the 2016 to 2018 event periods are currently in the active delivery phase (**Delivery Program**).



# NO new NDRRA activations in April 2018

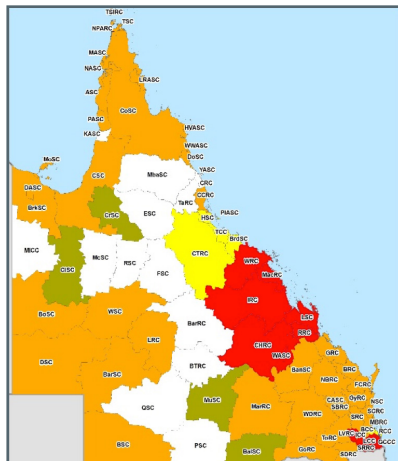
The figures below show the LGAs activated as at 30 April 2018 for NDRRA relief measures for the 2016 to 2018 event periods that are in the Delivery Program.



## 2018 Events – \$373 million NDRRA program

*(Works to be delivered by 30 June 2020, with acquittal by March 2021)*

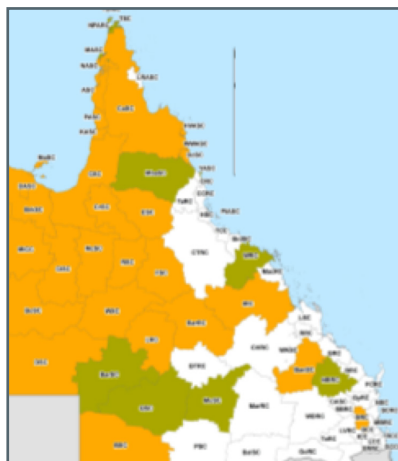
- Severe Tropical Cyclone Nora and Associated Flooding, 24-29 March 2018
- North Queensland Flooding, 6-10 March 2018
- North and North West Queensland Low and Associated Rainfall and Flooding, 24 Feb – 8 Mar 2018
- Central Queensland Storm, 20 February 2018
- Cape York Queensland Trough, 26 January – 2 February 2018
- Central Coast Queensland Severe Weather, 16 – 19 October 2017



## 2017 Events – \$822 million NDRRA program

*(Works to be delivered by 30 June 2019, with acquittal by March 2020)*

- Far North Queensland Trough, 21-28 March 2017
- Far North Queensland Trough, 3-10 February 2017
- Severe Tropical Cyclone Debbie, associated rainfall & flooding, 28 March-6 April 2017
- Gulf Tropical Low, 15-24 February 2017
- Far North Queensland Low, 8-11 January 2017
- Western Queensland Flooding, 13-20 September 2016
- Central Queensland Severe Weather, 15-20 July 2016



## 2016 Events – \$240 million NDRRA program

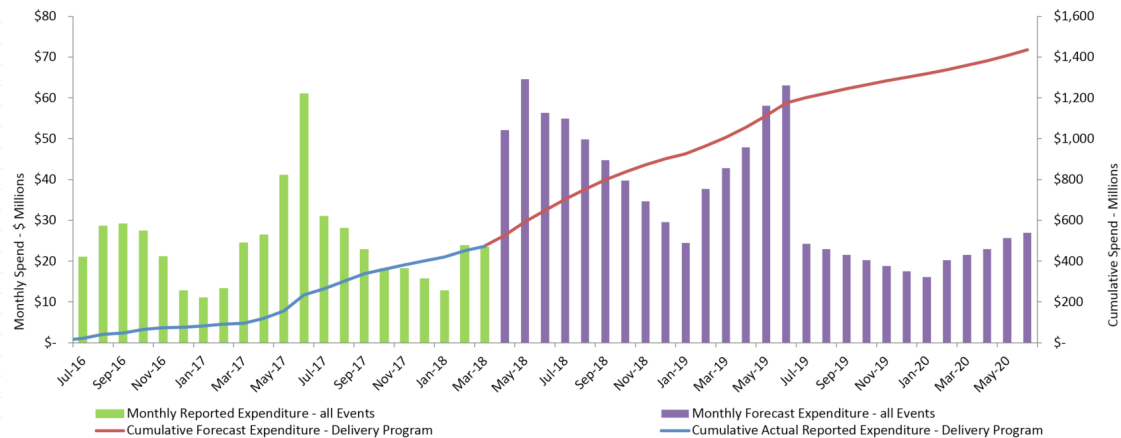
*(Works to be delivered by 30 June 2018, with acquittal by March 2019)*

- Central Western Queensland Flooding, 13-19 June 2016
- Far North Queensland Upper Level Trough, 21-23 May 2016
- South West Queensland Floods, 7-9 May 2016
- Far North and North West Queensland Tropical Low, 14-18 March 2016
- Western Queensland Trough, 7-11 March 2016
- Central Coast Surface Trough, 4-8 February 2016
- Central Western Queensland Heavy Rainfall & Flooding, 2-4 February 2016
- Gulf of Carpentaria Monsoon Trough – 20-31 December 2015
- Fernvale Severe Storm, 27 October 2015.

### NDRRA Delivery Program status

The **Delivery Program** comprises \$1.4 billion of works for 22 events across the 2016, 2017 and 2018 Events.

The graph below shows the actual reported and forecast monthly remaining expenditure for all NDRRA works since 1 July 2015, and estimated total costs remaining to complete the Delivery Program as at 31 March 2018.



The status of the Delivery Program by event year is as follows:

#### 2016 Events

All submissions for the 2016 events have been pre-approved and works are required to be complete by 30 June 2018 in order to be eligible under NDRRA.

QRA is monitoring and assisting councils and state agencies with progressing their program of 2016 event works through delivery.

#### 2017 Events

Across the 2017 disaster season, 62 councils were activated for NDRRA assistance from seven events.

QRA is currently focused on submission approvals in order to progress the reconstruction program into delivery as soon as possible. Delivery agents have until 30 June 2019 to deliver eligible NDRRA works.

#### 2018 Events

Across the 2018 disaster season to date, 46 councils have been activated across six disaster events.

QRA is assisting with activation requests and damage assessments in relation to the 2018 events, as required.

**NDRRA Acquittal Program status**



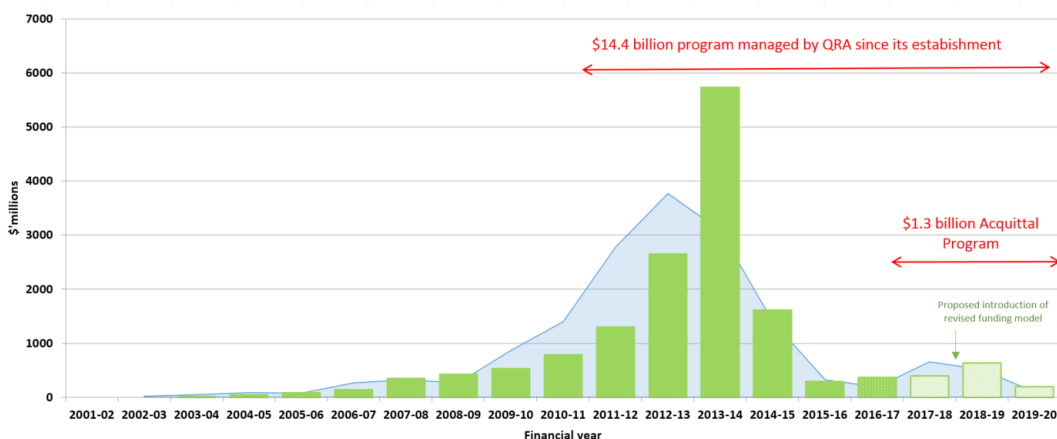
The **Acquittal Program** comprises \$1.3 billion of works that is yet to be acquitted in claims to the Commonwealth, across the 22 events from the 2016 to 2018 Events in the Delivery Program and a small number of projects from the 2015 event period that received extensions of time for delivery.

On 23 March 2018, QRA submitted the State’s annual NDRRA claim to the Commonwealth for works completed in the year to 30 June 2017. The claim included final works from the 2015 events and components of the 2016 and 2017 event works completed by 30 June 2017.

The claim, accompanied by an unqualified audit opinion, comprised \$370 million of State Expenditure and will result in more than \$170 million reimbursement when accepted and acquitted by the Commonwealth.

The Commonwealth will undertake its own assurance activities over the claim before releasing payment and QRA is actively engaging with the Commonwealth to progress the review in order to expedite the acquittal of, and payment due on the claim.

The following graph shows the historical and projected acquittal profile for Queensland as per Commonwealth Claims submitted for the 2001-02 to 2016-17 financial years and preliminarily expected to be submitted for 2017-18 to 2019-20 in order to finalise the Acquittal Program.



### Additional Recovery Measures – Severe Tropical Cyclone Debbie (2017)

A range of NDRRA and non-NDRRA relief measures have been activated to alleviate distress for communities, businesses, industries and the environment impacted by Severe Tropical Cyclone (STC) Debbie.

#### NDRRA Category C Community Recovery Fund (\$14.9 million)

**COMMUNITY  
RECOVERY FUND  
NDRRA  
CATEGORY C  
\$14.9M**

- Fund to support initiatives and projects over a two year period to restore social networks and build community resilience and capacity for the future in the Gold Coast, Isaac, Logan City, Mackay, Rockhampton, Scenic Rim and Whitsunday council areas.
- The Queensland Government Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors and Queensland Health is delivering three support programs to individuals, and community mental health and community development programs, with detailed status reports provided on a quarterly basis.

Package Purpose and status	Key metrics to date	
<b>Individual Support Program (DCDSS) – \$6.120m funding available</b>		
<b>Financial Counselling</b>		
Financial Counsellors have assisted families provide budget support for household, education and finance related expenditure through programs including Money Ready, Parent Next and Budgeting for the Unexpected	Hrs direct service user contact Service users case plans closed	2,407 127
<b>Personal Support</b>		
Counsellors are working across impacted regions in direct contact through general counselling and support to individuals experiencing personal, social or emotional difficulties. Individuals are also being referred to other existing support services where relevant. Service demand has significantly increased in the quarter, particularly service users from Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds	Hrs direct service user contact Service users with improved quality of life	6,621 1,024
<b>Targeted Family Support</b>		
Counselling and support to families, addressing the heightened sensitivities of families following the impact of STC Debbie on their emotional and economic wellbeing. The programs help build the skills and capabilities of families so they are more resilient in the long term.	Family Support online programs activated	1,815
<b>Community Mental Health Program (QHealth) – \$6.126m funding available</b>		
To support emotional wellbeing of disaster-affected individuals, carers, families & communities, through mental health support. Mental Health Screening continues in all regions with clients being referred to appropriate mental health services as part of the program delivery. Clear referral pathways have been established and are resulting in referrals of 'severe and complex cases' through to specialist and targeted mental health services. Following screening activities and participation in community programs, Queensland Health identified a need to engage CALD Community Engagement Officers to help identify and connect with hard to reach CALD communities in impacted areas, with particular focus in Logan-Beaudesert and Mackay.	People assessed Clients Clinical hours	1,815 132 2,344
<b>Community Development Program (DCDSS – \$2.38m funding available)</b>		
<b>Events and activities</b> have included Pillowcase Project, Clarke Creek Movie Night, Australia Day Awards, Disaster Preparedness for the Aged Care Sector and Rural Minds Workshops. There has been strong community participation and involvement from community organisations such as Lions, Rotary, Benevolent Society and Zonta International A variety of workshops and forums have been held across the impacted areas targeting Seniors, families on school holidays, community organisations and specific cultural groups. Forums have included topics such as Community Emergency Planning and Psychological First Aid. <b>Resources and Tools</b> developed or in development include Disaster Preparedness for Older People, Information flyers (A disaster has occurred...what now?), How to Manage Spontaneous Volunteers, Springbrook on a Page and Mudgeeraba on Page..	Hours developing & delivering events Hours developing resources tools Hours on training and learning	2,879 2,807 560
<b>Reporting and Evaluation (DCDSS/QRA) – \$288k funding available</b>		
A service provider has been appointed to undertake the evaluation and reporting component. A Project Plan has been drafted outlining the sampling and consultation methodology.		

**EXCEPTIONAL  
DISASTER MEASURES  
NDRRA  
CATEGORY D  
\$96.3M**

Package	Purpose	Status
<b>Local Council Package (\$17.3 million)</b>	<p>Infrastructure projects to generate employment, boost the local economy and drive community resilience in key impact areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Shute Harbour Marina (\$15.2 million)</b> – demolish and replace the existing jetty, rebuild the terminal building, repair an existing seawall, and replace ancillary infrastructure</li> <li>• <b>Airlie Beach repairs, Whitsundays (\$850k)</b> – for repairs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whitsunday Regional Council are in the process of engage a design consultant for <b>Shute Harbour</b>. Concept design was completed in March. Demolition works on the Lloyd Roberts jetty and terminal building will commence in April 2018 (delayed due to TC Iris). Functional design brief is nearing completion.</li> <li>• Detailed design is completed for the repair works on the <b>Airlie Beach foreshore</b> parklands, with documentation currently out to the market for tender. Works are expected to commence in June 2018. Whitsunday Regional Council are in the process of determining the eligible NDRRA Category D component, not covered by insurance.</li> </ul>
<b>Resilient Infrastructure (Betterment) (\$41.9 million)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To restore or replace essential public assets to a more disaster resilient standard.</li> <li>• The normal cost of restoring or replacing the asset to its pre-disaster standard is funded under Category B NDRRA and the incremental cost to “better” the asset to a more disaster-resilient standard is funded by a capped allocation from the Betterment fund and Council contributions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$1.9 million has been pre-approved by the Commonwealth to cover the betterment component on the Shute Harbour Marina seawall</li> <li>• Expressions of Interest (EOI) were received from eligible councils activated for Category B (REPA) seeking \$114 million</li> <li>• Of this, over 100 submissions have been received from 22 Councils, with 71 submissions worth \$37 million approved to date and the remaining submissions under assessment.</li> </ul>
<b>Environmental Recovery Package (\$35 million)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure the recovery of impacted environmental areas, including the clean-up of beaches, recreational parks, rivers and waterways</li> <li>• \$35 million of the Environmental Recovery Package across five areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Coastal</li> <li>B. Environmental</li> <li>C. Riparian</li> <li>D. Mapping</li> <li>E. Water Courses</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>A &amp; B (Coastal, Environmental) – \$19.4 million</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EOIs were received from 14 of 37 eligible Councils seeking \$31.5 million. Projects were shortlisted and Councils requested to submit detailed applications.</li> <li>• 42 submissions worth more than \$19.2 million has been approved to date across 15 Councils.</li> </ul> <p><b>C, D &amp; E (Riparian, Mapping, Water Courses) – \$15.6 million</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following receipt of EOIs from seven Natural Resource Management (NRM) bodies, all funding has been allocated to eligible projects.</li> </ul>
<b>Economic Recovery Package (\$2.1 million)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support recovery of industry and businesses in and around impacted areas that experienced significant disruption and damage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Agriculture &amp; Fisheries has Industry Recovery Officers (IRO) in impacted areas across five primary industries including nursery, grazing and cropping, horticulture, sugarcane and dairy.</li> <li>• Rural financial counselling services are delivering support on the ground and IROs have been assisting primary producers with Category C Recovery Grant applications to QRIDA. Agronomic advice is being provided to farmers on a needs basis.</li> </ul>



## STATE PACKAGES \$62M

- The state has committed to fund the full \$110 million of additional assistance measures that it would have funded under its original Category D proposal to the Commonwealth. Of this, the State will fund an additional \$62 million of recovery measures in addition to its \$48 million (50 percent) contribution to the \$96 million NDRRA Category D packages approved by the Commonwealth.
- To date, the State has announced funding of \$2.65 million towards the revitalisation of the Airlie Beach Foreshore. Additional funding is being provided through the state's Building our Regions program (\$2.83 million) and Category D (\$850,000).

### Natural Disaster Funding reforms

QRA is continuing to trial and participate in consultation with the Commonwealth and other jurisdictions in relation to the Commonwealth's proposed reforms to natural disaster funding arrangements.

The Commonwealth is investigating a model to provide natural disaster recovery funding based on upfront damage assessments and estimated reconstruction costs.

Should funding reforms be introduced as envisaged from 1 July 2018, the state will administer and submit claims under both the existing NDRRA Determination and also under the revised arrangements for a two year period (2018-19 and 2019-20) whilst the existing model is phased out.



*Artist impression of Airlie Beach Foreshore Project courtesy Whitsunday Regional Council.*

Recovery, resilience and mitigation activities

**NDRP**  
**Resilient Queensland 2018-21**  
 Burnett Catchment Resilience Strategy Pilot  
 Brisbane River Catchment Flood Studies  
 Recovery Capability Project  
 Recovery Capability Development  
 NSI Bushfire Management Plan  
 Flood warning Gauge Network Program  
 Disaster Recovery Plans

QRA is leading disaster recovery, resilience and mitigation policy in Queensland. A summary of recent progress is set out below:

**Natural Disaster Resilience Program (NDRP)**

**\$12M**  
 FUNDING AVAILABLE  
**NDRP**

The 2017-18 Natural Disaster Resilience Program (NDRP) opened on 4 April 2018 for funding applications for projects supporting natural disaster resilience activities.

The NDRP is jointly funded (50/50) by the Queensland and Australian Governments under the National Partnership Agreement on Natural Disaster Resilience and is administered by the QRA.

Total funding available for the 2017-18 financial year is \$12 million and the applicant is expected to financially contribute to the project.

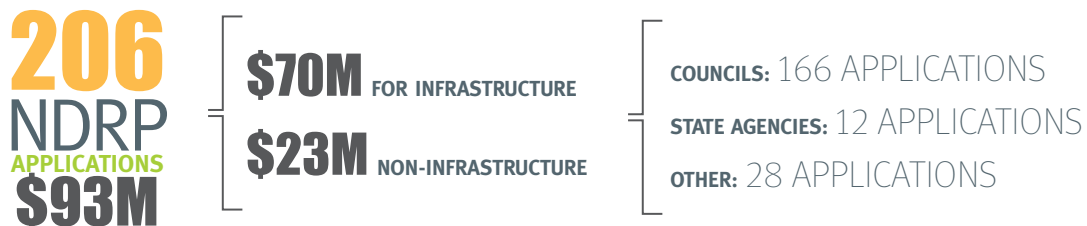
Funding can be sought for both infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects, such as education programs, flood studies and flood or bushfire risk management studies and plans.

Project applications should align with both the National Strategy for Disaster Resilience, and the four objectives underpinning our statewide all-hazards Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience:

- Queenslanders understand their disaster risk
- Strengthened disaster risk management
- Queenslanders are invested in disaster risk reduction
- Continuous improvement in disaster preparedness, response and recovery.

Invitations to submit NDRP applications and secure application form login details have been sent to all council CEOs. Information about the NDRP including a fact sheet, application guidelines and a secure online application form is available on QRA’s website at [www.qldreconstruction.org.au/ndrp](http://www.qldreconstruction.org.au/ndrp).

Following initial close of the application period on 27 April 2018, QRA had received 206 applications for \$93 million NDRP funding as follows:



QRA is currently assessing applications in order to allocate the \$12 million available NDRP funding in June 2018.

## Recovery and Resilience Activities

Activity	Purpose	Status
<b>Recovery Capability Development</b>	<p>Recovery from Severe Tropical Cyclone Debbie and IGEM's 2017 Disaster Management Plan Assessment Report highlighted the varying levels of recovery capability across local governments.</p> <p>The Recovery Capability Development Project aims to address gaps in recovery capability through a series of training workshops and exercises.</p> <p>The project is being developed and delivered collaboratively with state government and local recovery partners in 3 stages:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Initial Engagement</li> <li>2. Training and Exercise Package Development</li> <li>3. Training and Exercise Delivery</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phase 1 of the project has been completed for all councils, with the exception of indigenous Gulf of Carpentaria local governments recently impacted by STC Nora.</li> <li>Recovery partners are being engaged to scope potential long-term recovery and resilience building initiatives for these Gulf communities, taking into account local preferences and aligning assistance with community needs</li> <li>Current engagement with disaster impacted local governments is providing an opportunity to deliver recovery capability development training, particularly recovery planning. To date, this has occurred in Hinchinbrook and Cassowary Coast.</li> </ul>
<b>Burnett Catchment Flood Resilience Strategy (pilot project)</b>	<p>The Burnett Catchment Flood Resilience Strategy is a pilot project to facilitate delivery of improved flood resilience on a catchment scale, and will support LGAs in developing their own flood risk management strategies and resilience plans. The purpose of the pilot is to test and evaluate the relevant methodologies for potential State-wide application.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project has the support of the Wide Bay Burnett Regional Organisation of Councils (WBBROC), who act as the Steering Committee for the project. Formal endorsement of the project was provided by the committee on 1 March 2018.</li> <li>Several risk identification and resilience workshops with local councils and a range of other stakeholders were successfully held in Bundaberg and Biggenden between October 2017 and February 2018.</li> <li>Draft Strategy content was provided to Council officers in mid-April.</li> <li>In-principal endorsement of the Strategy will be sought at the May 17 WBBROC meeting.</li> <li>The project is on track to be delivered by mid-2018.</li> </ul>
<b>Resilient Queensland 2018-2021</b> <b>Delivering the Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience</b>	<p>The Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience was released in July 2017 and provides an overarching framework to empower Queenslanders to factor in resilience measures and activities as they anticipate, respond and adapt to changing circumstances.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resilient Queensland, Delivering the Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience 2018-2021 is currently being finalised for release.</li> </ul>
<b>Brisbane River Catchment Flood Studies</b>	<p>The Queensland Government, through QRA and partner agencies, and local councils (Brisbane, Ipswich, Somerset and Lockyer Valley) are working together on a long-term plan to manage the impact of future floods and enhance community safety and resilience in the Brisbane River floodplain.</p> <p>The project includes development of a Flood Study followed by a Strategic Floodplain Management Plan (SFMP) that will guide a coordinated approach to planning and response activities to manage flood across the floodplain.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Flood Study is complete and available to the public following its launch on 5 May 2017.</li> <li>The Flood Study supports the development of a draft SFMP, which is underway and scheduled for completion in the latter half of 2018.</li> <li>A range of regional scale opportunities are being investigated as part of the SFMP including structural mitigation options, disaster management, land use planning, community awareness and resilience, building controls and integrated catchment management.</li> <li>Detailed Local Floodplain Management Plans (LFMPs) will commence following the completion of the SFMP.</li> </ul>

## Recovery and Resilience Activities

Activity	Purpose	Status
<b>Flood Warning Gauge Network Program</b>	QRA continues to assist the Bureau of Meteorology (Bureau) to ensure the best available information is available for providing flood warnings and forecasts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Stage 1 and Stage 2 Flood Warning Gauge Network Investment Plans have been finalised. In total 44 Investment Plans have been issued and 62 local councils identified in a state-wide review as requiring more detailed review of flood warning infrastructure.</li> <li>The Brisbane catchment audit was completed and issued in Nov 2017</li> <li>The Queensland (rest of state) gauge audit report has been received in draft from the Bureau. QRA has provided feedback and is awaiting the final report back from the Bureau.</li> <li>QRA is reviewing the status of the Network Investment Plans with councils with regards to implementation of recommendations.</li> </ul>
<b>North Stradbroke Island Bushfire Management Plan</b>	<p>The QRA and Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation (QYAC) are partnering to deliver Township Bushfire Management Plans for Point Lookout (Mooloomba), Amity (Pulan Pulan) and Dunwich (Goompi).</p> <p>QRA is undertaking this project in partnership with QYAC with support from the Department of Environment and Science.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All three plans are scheduled for completion in early-mid 2018.</li> <li>Community information sessions took place in March 2018 to the communities of the three townships.</li> <li>A short video has been produced in conjunction with QYAC to promote the concept of the bushfire management plans on North Stradbroke Island. This is on QRA and QYAC's websites and has been shared at the community information sessions.</li> </ul>
<b>Operation Queensland Recovery Plan and reporting (2017 Recovery Plan)</b>	<p>The Operation Queensland Recovery Plan provides the framework for a community-led approach to recovery following STC Debbie in 2017.</p> <p>The plan focuses on empowering local governments, supported by state agencies, to deliver local solutions to ensure communities are able to lead their own recovery and build resilience for future events.</p> <p>The Recovery Plan includes local recovery plans for the eight most severely impacted local government areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 2017 Recovery Plan was tabled in Queensland Parliament and publicly released on 9 May 2017.</li> <li>QRA is continuing to monitor and coordinate recovery progress and effectiveness of recovery efforts.</li> </ul>
<b>Queensland 2018 Severe Storm, Cyclone and Flood Event Recovery Plan (2018 Recovery Plan)</b>	<p>The 2018 Recovery Plan provides the framework for locally-led approach to recovery following the series of disaster events that have impacted 46 LGAs since mid-January 2018.</p> <p>The 2018 Recovery Plan will help close the gap between local/community based recovery capability and community recovery needs, harnessing the capability of government agencies and the knowledge of recovery partners, as required.</p> <p>The plan focuses on supporting impacted communities, through their local governments and provides the framework for recovery coordination across the impacted areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 2018 Recovery Plan is being developed in consultation with recovery partners to frame, define and develop and understanding of recovery needs in the state's disaster impacted regions.</li> <li>The plan will include Local Recovery 'Plans on a Page', as approved by the relevant councils. It will also include District level Recovery 'Plans on a Page' for councils activated primarily for Counter Disaster Operations and Restoration of Essential Public Assets.</li> <li>The 2018 Recovery Plan will work in conjunction with the existing 2017 Recovery Plan, where relevant.</li> <li>The Plan will be submitted to the Queensland Disaster Management Committee (QDMC) in mid-May 2018 for consideration.</li> </ul>

## Program spotlights

### Cook Shire shines in Get Ready video

Cook Shire Council's Disaster Management, Media and Communications and Grants teams joined forces with former Chocolate Starfish front man Adam Thompson and his company MusoMagic, to create a community-driven music video encouraging people to 'Get Ready' for the next inevitable disaster season.

Sponsored by funding from the \$2 million 2017-18 Get Ready Queensland Fund, the catchy tune engaged community members to get involved in their community's disaster preparedness.

The MusoMagic team drove around the vast Cook Shire and neighbouring Wujal Wujal and Hope Vale Aboriginal Shires for a week filming residents, local emergency services and community organisations.

Like the recent flooding from Severe Tropical Cyclone Nora and the Cape York Queensland Trough in January 2018, the area regularly experiences disasters including flood, fire and cyclones.

As the largest land area shire in Queensland, one of Cook's biggest issues in preparedness is distance. With internet access rapidly increasing and improving across the region, and Facebook being used as a key tool for the Council to deliver messages, this channel became the key driver for the 2017 disaster preparedness information.

The impacts of the video are already showing positive results, with Cook Shire communities responding well as recovery is being planned from the recent events. Activities such as the video help the community respond, recover and increase its resilience in dealing with the impact of events.

In addition, Cook Shire Council, Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council and Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council have recently signed a memorandum of understanding for regional collaboration on disaster management to bring disaster preparedness, recovery and resilience issues across the Cape to the forefront of people's minds.

The Get Ready Queensland program is a year-round, all-hazards, resilience building initiative to help communities prepare for natural disasters.

Projects such as Cook Shire Council and MusoMagic's Get Ready music video are a shining example of community driven initiatives driving grass-roots resilience encouraging Queenslanders to check their 'WHAT IF?' plan and get ready to respond if a disaster strikes.

The Cook Shire Get Ready Music Video is already attracting 'likes' on YouTube. See it for yourself at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v3oZ1ut46RM>



*Cook Shire Councillors in the Get Ready Music Video*



*Local music students blowing up a storm in the Cook Shire Get Ready Music Video*

## Program spotlights

### Flood Warning Gauge Network delivering resilience for Queensland

Ongoing flood events, such as those recently seen in much of Central, Western, Northern and Far North Queensland, continue to remind us about the need for catchment-based solutions that consider the distribution and maintenance of flood warning infrastructure, as well as the efficient sharing of information during flood events.

The Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) has been working with Local Government Agencies to develop Flood Warning Gauge Network Investment Plans that identify possible improvements to flood warning systems and networks.

Flooding is the number one disaster risk in Queensland. That is why it has been so important for us to work together to ensure communities in flood-prone areas have better access to timely and accurate flood warnings.

In 2015, a state-wide Network Performance Review identified the Bureau of Meteorology uses data from more than 3400 rainfall and river gauges owned and operated by more than 50 entities.

Since 2016, more than 50 stakeholder workshops have been held across the state, involving local governments, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services and the Bureau of Meteorology. These workshops have been hugely successful and helped to identify 1200 gauges that were not readily visible to all stakeholders. Workshop discussions also helped identify priority locations for additional further early flood warning infrastructure such as rainfall and stream flow gauges, and cameras on bridges.

The flood gauge network investment plans provide Queensland catchments with a strategic direction for new and improved flood gauge asset management on a local and catchment scale, which will benefit all stakeholders in the following ways:

- future network improvements will be of a standard approved by the Bureau
- related transmission of data will be suitable for use by the Bureau
- real-time visibility of data relevant to local governments, the State Disaster Coordination Centre and the Bureau.

QRA continues to work collaboratively with individual councils, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services and Regional Organisations of Councils to support the installation, commissioning and maintenance of flood warning systems across Queensland.



*QRA's Adam Moss gives an overview of the Brisbane catchment at a FWGN stakeholder workshop with Ipswich City Council*



*A flood gauge in Burdekin Shire Council*



*Monitoring flood levels in action*

## Program spotlights

### Major milestone reached on Lamington National Park Road repairs

Lamington National Park Road sustained extensive damage during Severe Tropical Cyclone Debbie in March 2017, with more than 80 landslips directly above and below the road.

The road is the only access point to eco-tourism resort O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat, Lamington National Park (part of the World Heritage-listed Gondwana Rainforests of Australia) and a number of residential properties in the area.

The Lamington National Park Road project reached a major milestone in February 2018, with completion of Stage 1 reconstruction works to stabilise embankments and reinstate the road at three sites.

Stage 2 works also commenced in February 2018, to restore more than 80 sites across a 19km stretch of winding and mountainous road corridor with steep and fragile embankments. Treatment methods include constructing gabion walls and mattresses, bored piled walls, shotcreting, and reinstating drains and road pavement. Other works include surveying, weed spraying, revegetation and hand-scaling loose rocks. Reconstruction works will be undertaken during day and night shifts to expedite works, which are expected to be completed by November 2018.

Significant progress has been made on Stage 2 works, with one site complete and a further 12 sites in varying stages of production. Night-time road closures are in place between Sunday and Thursday to allow heavy machinery to use the narrow road corridor to repair embankments.

To ensure the safety of travellers and staff through the work sites, a vehicle load limit is in place and will be reviewed by TMR as the project progresses.



*Lamington National Park Road – work complete at Site 64 (Chainage 3)*

