

**QUEENSLAND RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY**

# Monthly Report

**June 2016**

A decorative graphic in the bottom right corner of the page, consisting of several overlapping, radiating lines in various shades of maroon and red, creating a sense of movement and depth.

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*Message from the Chief Executive Officer*

Major General Richard Wilson AO (Ret'd)  
Chairman  
Queensland Reconstruction Authority

Dear Major General Wilson

It is with pleasure that I present the June 2016 Monthly Report – the 64th report to the Board of the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (the Authority).

The Authority was established under the *Queensland Reconstruction Authority Act 2011* (the Act) following the unprecedented natural disasters that struck Queensland over the summer months of 2010-11. The role of the Authority has since been extended a number of times to cover historical and continuing disaster events in Queensland. In June 2015, the Authority's operations were made permanent, enabling it to continue the work of helping Queensland communities effectively and efficiently recover from the impacts of natural disasters.

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.

Since the last report, the Authority has continued to liaise with the Commonwealth after deferral of the Commonwealth payment due following lodgement of the State's 2014-15 Claim for Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) financial assistance in March 2016. The Commonwealth has indicated that it will need to undertake assurance activities over the claim before payment will be released. The Authority understands that these assurance activities commenced in late May 2016 and is actively engaging with the Commonwealth to progress the review and release the funding in a timely manner.

With the deadline nearing for completion of other 2014 events works, the Authority is working with delivery agents to ensure delivery of relevant works by 30 June 2016, as well as progress delivery of the 2015 event program and provide advice and assistance with damage assessments and submission preparation for the more recent 2016 events. Following the end of the 2016 disaster season, 33 local government areas in Queensland have been activated for NDRRA assistance as a result of six disaster events in the period.

Of the estimated \$970 million program of works for the 24 events from the 2014, 2015 and 2016 disaster periods in the delivery phase, \$759 million has been approved by the Authority to 30 April 2016. Additional submissions worth \$151 million are with the Authority and under investigation or awaiting additional information. \$500 million (52 percent) of works in relation to the delivery program has been reported to the Authority at 30 April 2016 as in progress or delivered.

The May report highlights completion of Noosa Shire Council's first NDRRA restoration project since de-amalgamating from the Sunshine Coast Regional Council in 2014 and Longreach Regional Council's efforts in completing their 2014 reconstruction program under budget after having been hit by natural disasters every year from 2007 to 2014. This month's report also profiles Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council's completion of repairs to an important piece of community infrastructure, the local swimming pool, which was damaged during Tropical Cyclone Oswald in 2013.

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



Brendan Moon  
Acting Chief Executive Officer  
Queensland Reconstruction Authority

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**Section one:**  
**Introduction**



# 1.0 Introduction

## 1.1 Purpose

The Queensland Reconstruction Authority (the Authority) was established on 21 February 2011 under the *Queensland Reconstruction Act 2011* (the Act) following the extensive series of natural disasters that impacted Queensland over the summer of 2010-11.

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.

Initially established for a two-year period, the Authority was extended a number of times as its role expanded to cover historical and continuing disaster events. In June 2015, the Authority was made permanent, enabling it to continue the critical work of helping Queensland communities effectively and efficiently recover from the impacts of natural disasters.

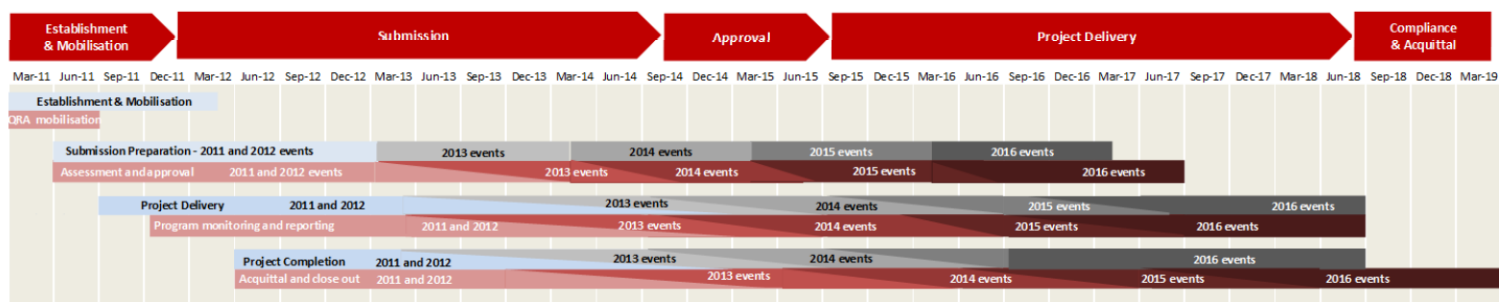
As part of its role, the Authority administers the rebuilding program for Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) activated disaster events and is responsible for the acquittal of NDRRA funding including Counter Disaster Operations, Emergent Works, Restoration of Essential Public Assets, Category C and Category D assistance to State Departments and Agencies (SDA) and Local Government Authorities (LGA). Since its establishment in February 2011, the Authority has managed and coordinated the infrastructure reconstruction and recovery for 58 disaster events activated for NDRRA relief measures.

## 1.2 Timing

The Commonwealth NDRRA Determination imposes time limits for the delivery and acquittal of works.

The Determination provides for a time limit of two financial years after a disaster to deliver reconstruction works and a further nine months after the end of the financial year in which the works were completed in order to acquit the works. NDRRA funding is formally acquitted through the annual submission of a financial statement to the Commonwealth comprising claims for financial assistance in respect of state NDRRA expenditure incurred on eligible disasters in the preceding financial year (Commonwealth Claim). Lodgement of Commonwealth Claims is required to secure reimbursement of the Commonwealth's share of eligible expenditure.

As the Authority is managing a series of events that occurred across a number of financial years, the Authority's program is spread across various stages in the delivery and acquittal phases.



Works for 24 disaster events activated for the 2014, 2015 and 2016 event periods are currently in both the delivery and acquittal phases.

On 24 March 2016, the Authority submitted the audited claim for NDRRA financial assistance to acquit more than \$1.6 billion of eligible state expenditure arising on works completed by 20 June 2015 in relation to the 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 event programs of work.

With the deadline nearing for completion of the majority of 2014 events works, the Authority is working with delivery agents to ensure delivery of relevant works by 30 June 2016, as well as progress delivery of the 2015 event program and provide advice and assistance with damage assessments and submission preparation for the more recent 2016 events.

The Authority is also continuing to participate in consultations with the Commonwealth and other jurisdictions in relation to potential natural disaster funding reforms. The Commonwealth is investigating a model to provide natural disaster recovery funding to states and territories based on upfront damage assessments and estimated reconstruction costs.

**Section two:**  
**Disaster Assistance**

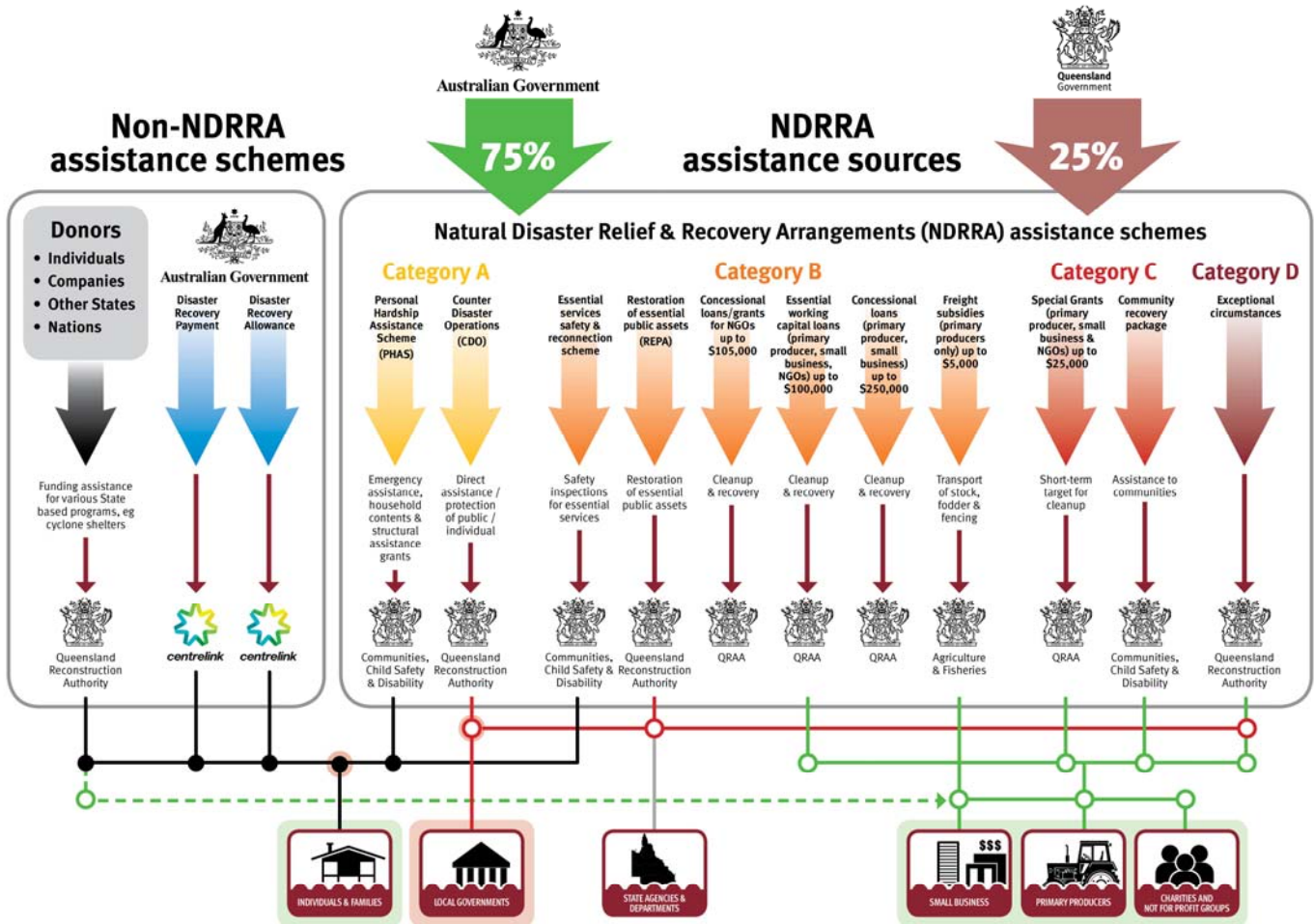


## 2.0 Disaster Assistance

### 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



Elements of the assistance schemes are delivered by State agencies, however all 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 2.2** and can also be found on [www.disaster.qld.gov.au](http://www.disaster.qld.gov.au).

This report includes references to event periods described as follows:

- **2016 events:** Activated disaster events managed by the Authority occurring in the financial year ending **30 June 2016**
- **2015 events:** Activated disaster events managed by the Authority which occurred in the financial year ended **30 June 2015**
- **2014 events:** Activated disaster events managed by the Authority which occurred in the financial year ended **30 June 2014**
- **2013 events:** Activated disaster events managed by the Authority which occurred in the financial year ended **30 June 2013**, including Tropical Cyclone Oswald and associated rainfall and flooding (January 2013)
- **2012 events:** Activated disaster events managed by the Authority which occurred in the financial year ended **30 June 2012**
- **2011 events:** Activated disaster events managed by the Authority which occurred in the financial year ended **30 June 2011**, including Tropical Cyclone Yasi and Queensland flooding (December 2010 to February 2011).



## 2.2 Events and relief measures managed by the Authority

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

Since its establishment in February 2011, the Authority has managed and coordinated the infrastructure reconstruction and recovery for 58 disaster events activated for NDRRA relief measures. Of these, 34 events are complete, having been delivered, closed out and acquitted to the Commonwealth in audited claims.

Works for 24 disasters from the 2014 to 2016 event periods are currently in the delivery and acquittal phases<sup>1</sup>.

The maps opposite show the LGAs activated for relief measures under NDRRA for the 2011 to 2016 event periods managed by the Authority. No activations for NDRRA assistance have occurred since the last report.

### 2016 events

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

- 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.

### 2015 events

*(Works to be delivered by 30 June 2017, with final acquittal due by March 2018)*

- South East Queensland Low, 30 April – 1 May 2015
- Tropical Cyclone Nathan and associated rainfall & flooding, 11-15 March 2015
- Severe Tropical Cyclone Marcia and South East Queensland Trough - 19 to 22 February 2015
- Tropical Cyclone Lam, 15-18 February 2015
- North Queensland Severe Weather and Flooding - 8 to 15 February 2015
- Central Eastern Queensland Heavy Rainfall and Flooding - 21 to 29 January 2015
- Western Queensland Heavy Rainfall and Flooding - 5 to 18 January 2015
- Central Queensland Heavy Rainfall and Flooding - 8 to 14 December 2014
- Brisbane Severe Thunderstorm - 27 December 2014.

### 2014 events

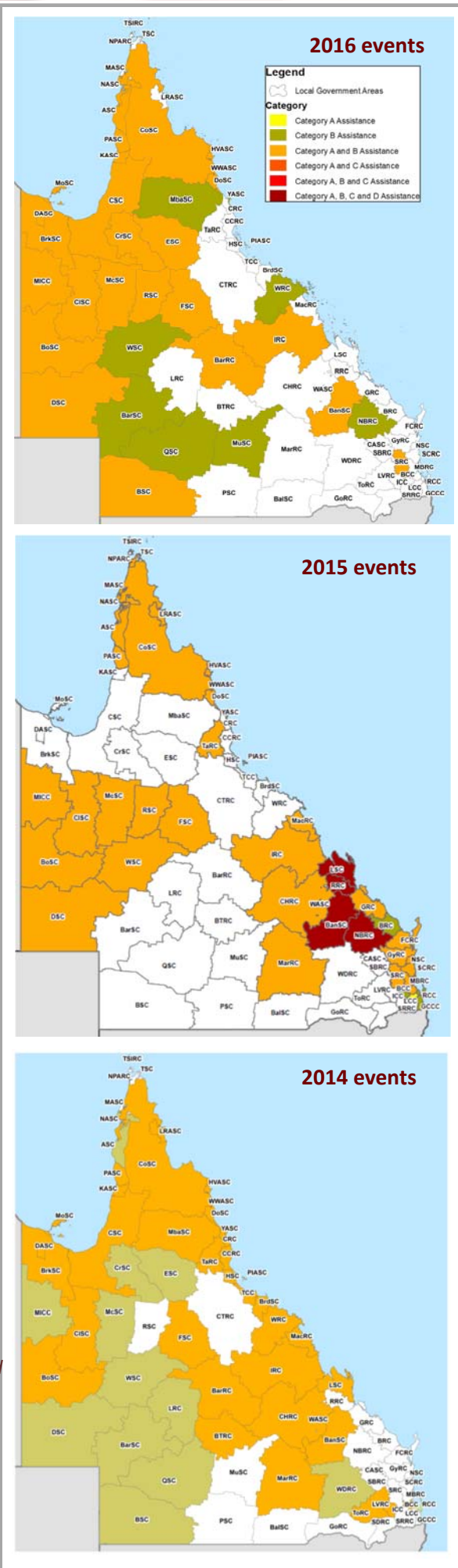
*(Works to be delivered by 30 June 2016, with final acquittal due by March 2017)*

- Tropical Cyclone Ita & Associated Rainfall & Flooding, 11-14 April 2014
- Tropical Cyclone Gillian - 10 to 11 March 2014
- Central Coast & Southern Queensland Trough, 26-30 March 2014
- Central & Western Queensland Flooding & Rainfall, 18-28 February 2014
- North East Queensland Monsoonal Rainfall & Flooding - 7 to 9 February 2014
- Tropical Cyclone Fletcher, commencing 2 February 2014
- Far North Queensland Peninsula Flooding (27-31 January 2014)
- Tropical Cyclone Dylan, 31 January 2014
- North Stradbroke Island Fires, commencing 29 December 2013.

### 2013 events

*(Delivery and acquittal of works complete other than three projects that received extensions of time for delivery, with acquittal due by March 2017)*

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



## 2.2 Events managed by the Authority (cont.)

### 2012 events

*(Delivery and acquittal of works complete)*

- Queensland Bushfires, August to October 2011
- Localised Heavy Rainfall Northern Queensland, October 2011
- Southern Queensland Flooding, December to December 2011 #
- South East Queensland Heavy Rainfall and flooding, 23- 26 January 2012 #
- Western Queensland Tropical Low, January - 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 & Far Northern Queensland Heavy Rainfall & flooding, 15 March 2012 #
- East Coast Low, 22 March 2012.

### 2011 events

*(Delivery and acquittal of works complete)*

- South West Flooding, April 2011
- Queensland Monsoonal Flooding Event, 28 February 2011
- Severe Tropical Cyclone Yasi on 2 February 2011
- Queensland Flooding and Tropical Cyclones Tasha and Anthony, December 2010 to February 2011 \*.

### 2007-2010 events managed by the Authority

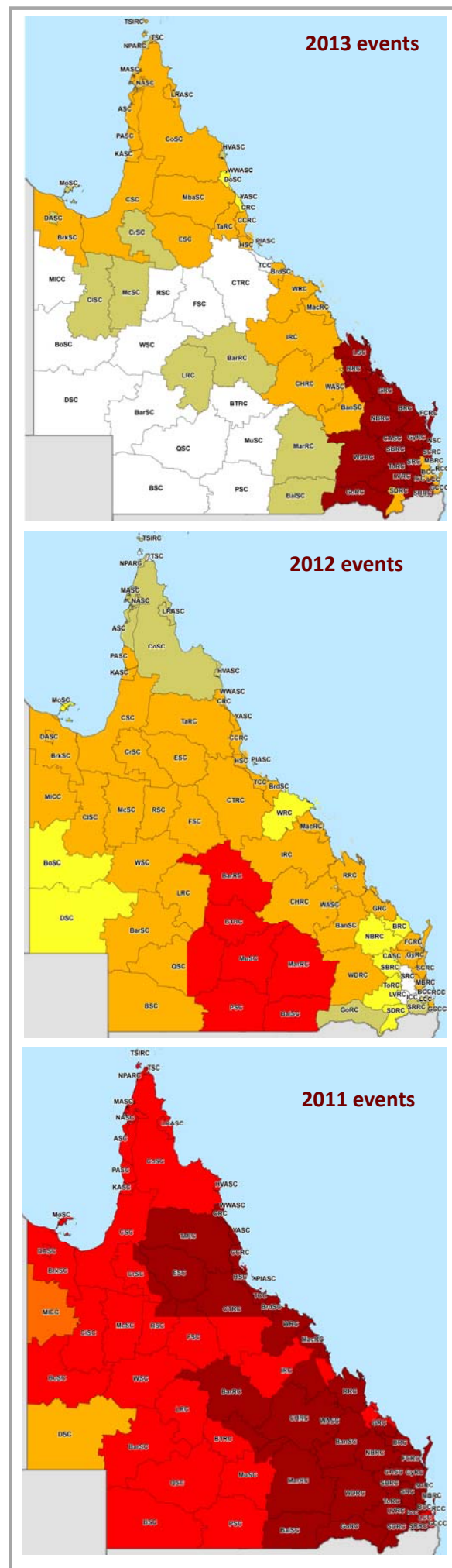
*(Delivery and acquittal of works complete)*

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

1. The NDRRA Determination imposes a time limit of two financial years after a disaster to deliver reconstruction works (delivery phase) and a further nine months after the end of the financial year in which the works were completed to acquit the works (acquittal phase). Acquittal occurs through lodgement of an annual claim to the Commonwealth and is required to secure reimbursement of the Commonwealth's share of eligible expenditure.

# Event includes works that received extension of time for delivery to 31 December 2014. All other 2012 events have completed delivery and acquittal phases.

\* Event includes works that received extension of time for delivery to 30 June 2015. All other 2011 events have completed delivery and acquittal phases.



## 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 the 2015, 2014, 2013 and 2011 events.

Measures relevant to the 2014 and 2015 events that are still in the delivery and acquittal phase are summarised as follows:

### 2015 events (Tropical Cyclone Marcia)

- **Betterment fund - \$20 million** - available for the restoration or replacement of non-State owned 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 disaster events.
- **Clean-up and restoration of national parks, beaches and recreational assets - \$6 million** - funding to clean-up and repair damaged community infrastructure such as picnic areas, walking tracks and associated amenities.
- **Green waste clean-up - \$1 million** - assist LGAs in the most heavily impacted areas of Rockhampton, Livingstone, Banana and North Burnett with the costs of extensive green waste clean-up and removal activities from private properties and businesses.
- **Industry Recovery Officers - \$750,000** - Placement of Industry Recovery Officers to provide recovery information and support to primary producers in the worst affected areas.
- **Community Recovery Package (Category C) - \$5.1 million** - Funding to engage community development officers and personal support managers and case workers to aid the recovery of severely affected communities in the local government areas of Rockhampton, Livingstone, Banana, North Burnett and part of Gladstone.

### 2014 events

- **\$1.6 million** funding for the additional costs incurred by Cook Shire Council for disaster reconstruction work on the Peninsula Road Network.

### Other active Category D measures

- The State Government and Commonwealth have agreed to an extended **Day Labour** Trial for the 2014, 2015 and 2016 events, which enables councils to deliver restoration works with their own workforce on condition that they provide evidence of savings in both time and cost
- Three projects funded under the **\$80 million Category D Betterment fund** in relation to **2013 Events** received extensions of time for delivery beyond 30 June 2015.

**Section three:**

# **Program Status**





### 3.0 Program Status

#### 3.1 Recent developments

On 24 March 2016, the Authority submitted Queensland’s \$1.6 billion audited claim for NDRRA financial assistance in relation to the 2014-15 financial year. Following release of the 2016-17 Federal Budget, the Commonwealth has indicated that it will defer payment of more than \$1 billion funding due to the State on the claim until it has undertaken assurance activities. The Authority understands that these assurance activities commenced in late May 2016 and is actively engaging with the Commonwealth to progress the review and release of the funding in a timely manner.

With the deadline nearing for completion of other 2014 events works, the Authority is working with delivery agents to ensure delivery of relevant works by 30 June 2016, as well as progress delivery of the 2015 event and more recent 2016 event programs into and through the delivery phase.

#### 3.2 Program status

The value of the total NDRRA program of works managed by the Authority since its establishment is estimated to be \$13.3 billion. Of this, \$12.3 billion of works from the 2009-10, 2011, 2012 and 2013 Events have been finalised (delivered and acquitted) with the remaining works for the 2014, 2015 and 2016 event years in the delivery and acquittal phases.

The Authority is actively managing the assessment of submissions and delivery of works with an estimated value of \$970 million for the 2014, 2015 and 2016 Events, which are due for completion by 30 June 2016, 30 June 2017 and 30 June 2018 respectively (**Delivery Program**). Of this, \$813 million is yet to be acquitted in claims to the Commonwealth (**Acquittal Program**).

##### Delivery Program status

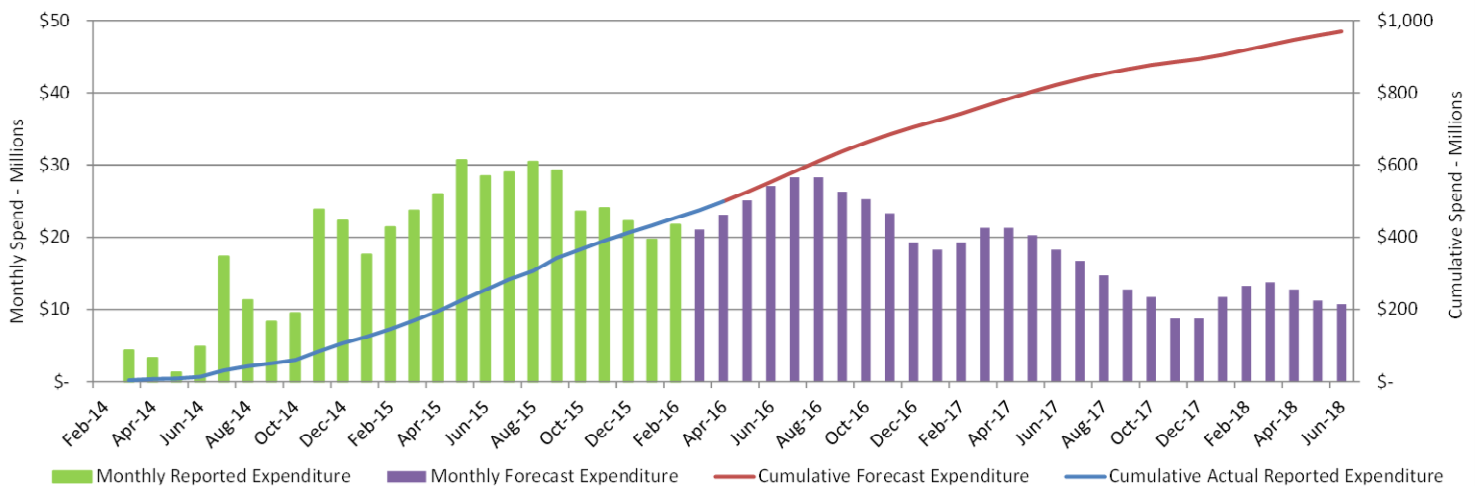
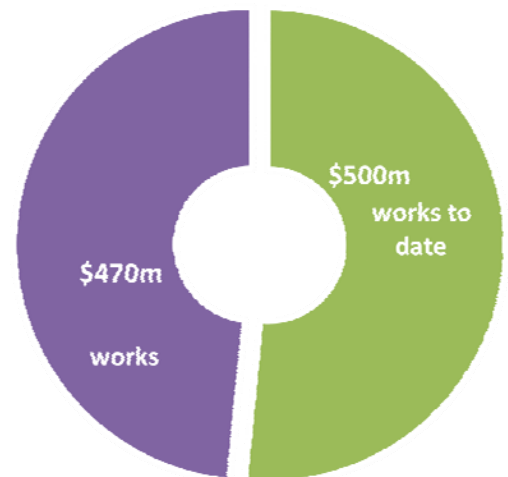
Since the last report, the Authority’s program has progressed as follows:

- A cumulative value of \$1.2 billion in submissions have been received in relation to the Delivery Program, an increase of \$99 million since last month
- A cumulative total of \$759 million has been approved, an increase of \$20 million since last month. Additional submissions worth \$151 million are with the Authority and under investigation or awaiting additional information
- A cumulative value of \$500 million (52 percent) of the Delivery Program has been reported to the Authority at 30 April 2016 as in progress or delivered.

The 2014, 2015 and 2016 Event works are due for completion by 30 June 2016\*, 30 June 2017 and 30 June 2018 respectively.

The graph below shows the monthly reported expenditure and forecasted monthly costs to completion at 30 April 2016 on a combined basis for the Delivery Program (2014, 2015 and 2016 Events).

Delivery Program (2014 to 2016 Events) progress



\* Four LGAs have received extensions of time for delivery of 2014 Event works beyond 30 June 2016

(Source: The Authority, 31 May 2016)

### 3.2 Program status (cont.)

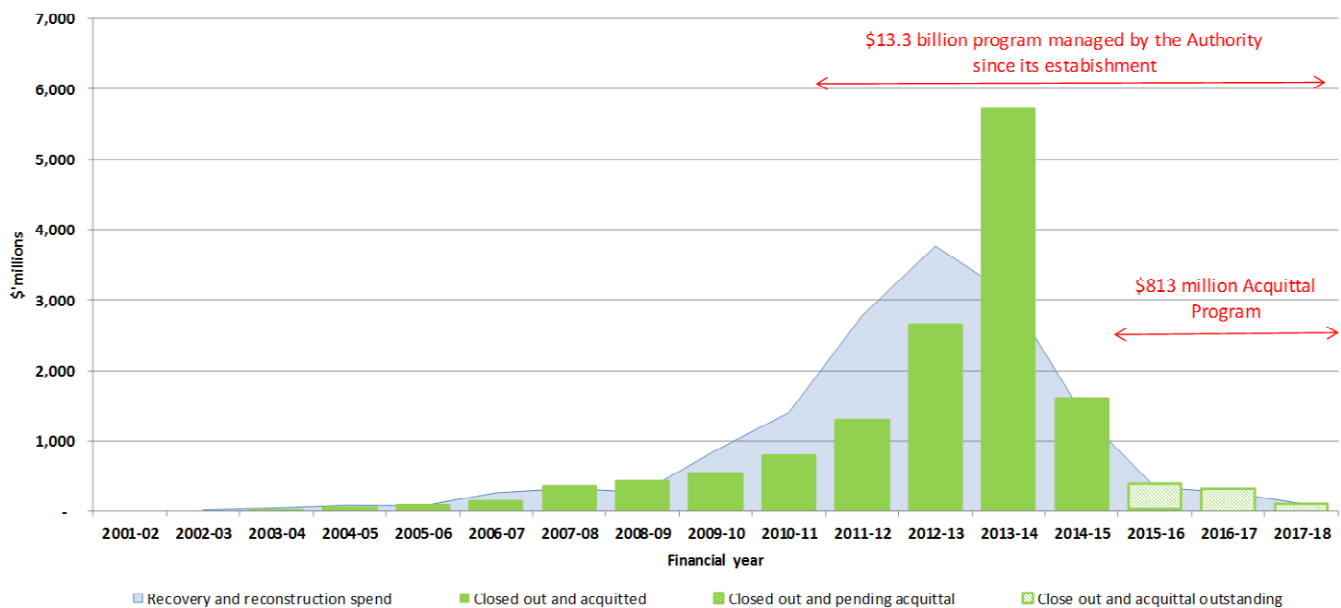
#### Acquittal Program status

The 2014-15 Commonwealth Claim was submitted to the Commonwealth on 24 March 2016. The claim acquitted \$1.6 billion of works completed in the year ended 30 June 2015. On acceptance by the Commonwealth, the claim will secure approximately \$1.1 billion of funding to the State.

Since the last report, the Commonwealth has indicated that it will defer payment of the funding due on the 2014-15 Commonwealth Claim until it has undertaken assurance activities over the claim. The Authority is actively engaging with the Commonwealth to progress the review and release of the funding in a timely manner.

The next claim is due to be submitted to the Commonwealth by 31 March 2017 to acquit works completed up to 30 June 2016. On receipt of claim documentation from delivery agents, the Authority will progressively close-out submissions for the Claim through to December 2016 prior to audit review in early 2017. The claim will include final works from the 2014 events and those components of the 2015 and 2016 works that were completed by 30 June 2016.

The following graph shows the historical and projected acquittal profile for Queensland as per Commonwealth Claims submitted for the 2001-02 to 2014-15 financial years and Commonwealth Claims preliminarily expected to be submitted for 2015-16 to 2017-18 in order to finalise acquittal of the \$813 million remaining in the Acquittal Program.



(Source: The Authority, 30 April 2016)

### 3.3 State-controlled roads and highways

DTMR is managing the recovery and reconstruction works of Queensland's integrated transport system for the 2014, 2015 and 2016 event works currently in the delivery phase through its Program Delivery and Operations Branch.

The transport system includes state-controlled roads, ports, navigation aids and the rail network.

#### Current status

- Reconstruction on all 102 recovery and reconstruction projects in the 2014 events program was completed in December 2015, six months ahead of the funding deadline. Works included 214km of road reconstruction, repairs to 52 structures including bridges and culverts, and 56 locations requiring earthworks and batter repairs.
- Of the 112km of roads that DTMR is forecast to reconstruct following 2015 events, 99.3km of works have been completed and the remaining 12.4km is under construction on active works contracts. During April, construction started on ten projects, including works on the Dawson Highway in Fitzroy District.
- DTMR is currently targeting to complete the majority of 2015 event works on State-controlled roads and highways by 31 December 2016, six months before the funding deadline (weather permitting).
- DTMR districts are currently commencing the assessment of damage to the state road network from the 2016 events and are undertaking emergent works to restore damaged state roads to a safe condition where required. A total of 7071km of Queensland's state road network has been closed or had limited access as a result of the 2016 disaster events to date, including 1327km affected by multiple events.

(Source: DTMR, 30 April, 2016)

### 3.4 Additional assistance measures

#### 2013 and 2015 Event Betterment Funds

The \$80 million 2013 Event Betterment fund and \$20 million 2015 Event Betterment fund are Category D relief measures available to those LGAs declared for NDRRA assistance as a result of the 2013 cyclone and flood events and for Tropical Cyclone Marcia respectively. Betterment funding is available for the restoration or replacement of essential public assets to a more disaster resilient standard than existed pre-disaster.

Where a damaged asset is approved for betterment, 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 relevant Betterment fund and Council contributions.

Betterment funding is allocated on the basis of the estimated cost of the approved projects. Should the betterment component of a project be delivered for a cost below the capped allocation, then the savings will be returned to the Betterment fund for allocation to other eligible projects, where possible. The current status of the 2013 and 2015 Event Betterment Funds is summarised as follows:

2013 Event Betterment Fund	2015 Event Betterment Fund
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 2013 Event Betterment Fund was allocated to 232 approved projects across 35 LGAs to improve the resilience of infrastructure to natural disasters following the 2013 events.</li> <li>Betterment projects include improved bridges, floodways, culverts, levees, water treatment plants and numerous roads across Queensland.</li> <li>All works were completed by the deadline of 30 June 2015 other than three betterment projects, which received extensions of time due to excessive rainfall and other factors:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aroona Road (Central Highlands)</li> <li>Boolburra Edungalba Road (Central Highlands)</li> <li>Booyal Crossing Road (Bundaberg) (since completed).</li> </ul> </li> <li>In early May 2016, the Commonwealth agreed to a further extension for delivery of the remaining two betterment projects for Central Highlands Regional Council to 31 December 2016.</li> <li>On completion, the total cost of all 2013 Event betterment projects is estimated to be \$150 million, of which \$76 million will have been funded from the 2013 Event Betterment fund.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expressions of Interest (EOI) were received for 190 projects across eight LGAs eligible for 2015 Event Betterment funding. The proposed projects principally comprise works to increase the resilience of damaged roads, culverts and floodways.</li> <li>Projects are being progressively prioritised to allocate the available pool of funding. Submissions for 127 projects have been received by the Authority to 31 May 2016. Of these, 52 submissions with a total project value of \$39.1 million, including \$19.6 million betterment funding, have been approved.</li> <li>One Betterment project was approved during May - Netherby Road (Fraser Coast Regional Council).</li> <li>Delivery of 2015 betterment works will be required by 30 June 2017 in accordance with NDRRA requirements.</li> </ul>

Package	Purpose	Status
<b>Clean-up and restoration of national parks, beaches and recreational assets (\$6 million)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To clean-up and repair community infrastructure such as picnic areas, walking tracks and associated amenities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Authority received EOIs from seven applicants for more than \$16 million</li> <li>Nine submissions worth \$6 million have been approved across the seven applicants fully allocating the program funding.</li> </ul>
<b>Green waste clean-up (\$1 million)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To assist with the costs of green waste clean-up and removal activities from private properties and businesses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Authority received EOIs for more than \$1.7 million from three of the four LGAs eligible for funding allocation applicants</li> <li>Five submissions worth \$1 million have since been approved across the three applicants, fully allocating the program funding.</li> </ul>
<b>Industry Recovery Officers (\$750,000)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For placement of industry recovery officers (IRO) to provide recovery information and support to primary producers in the worst affected areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) appointed the Queensland Farmers Federation (QFF) to manage the IRO program, with IRO officers located with Growcom, Queensland Dairyfarmers Organisation (QDO), AgForce and the Nursery and Gardening Industry Queensland (NGIQ)</li> <li>Around 72 primary producers have been assisted by IROs to date.</li> </ul>
<b>Community Recovery Package (\$5.1 million Category C)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To engage community development officers and personal support managers and case workers to aid the recovery of severely affected communities in Rockhampton, Livingstone, Banana, North Burnett and part of Gladstone LGAs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Package is being managed by Queensland Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services (DCCSDS)</li> <li>Livingstone, Gladstone, North Burnett and Banana councils and Rockhampton Uniting Care Community have commenced delivery of Community Development and Personal Support &amp; General Counselling programs across each of the five affected communities.</li> <li>Relationships Australia and Uniting Care Community are delivering Personal Support and General Counselling services, undertaken stakeholder and community engagement.</li> </ul>

(Source: The Authority, DCCSDS and DAF; 31 May 2016)

### 3.5 Program spotlights

#### Longreach Regional Council Longreach's long road to recovery

Queensland has faced many years of unprecedented natural disasters and Longreach Regional Council has not been without its fair share.

Central Queensland's Longreach Regional Council has become experienced at delivering restoration programs, with the region hit by natural disasters each year from 2007 to 2014.

Longreach was still in the process of completing NDRRA works from damage caused by the 2012 and 2013 events when the area was hit again by Mother Nature in February 2014.

The Central and Western Queensland Flooding and Rainfall event caused widespread damage to the region from Kensington in the north to Vacy Road in the south.

Council advised damage was spread across 63 roads including 12 roads that had been damaged in 2013.

Longreach Regional Council Chief Executive Officer Ian Bodill said Council's 2014 restoration program was completed for approximately \$3.7 million, a significant saving on the original estimate of \$5.1 million for the works.

"Council was able to achieve these savings by engaging a local contractor who was able to work through drought conditions with very few variations," Mr Bodill said.

"Council has worked closely with the Queensland Reconstruction Authority on our submissions and progress reporting so we were able to get on with the job of rebuilding as quickly as possible.



*One of Longreach Regional Council's 2014 event restoration projects - damage to Yaraka River Road floodway at Isisford (left) and following restoration works (right)*



### 3.5 Program spotlights (continued)

#### Noosa Shire Council Noosa completes first restoration project

Noosa Shire Council has completed its first NDRRA restoration project since de-amalgamating from the Sunshine Coast Regional Council in 2014.

In February 2015, the Sunshine Coast region received between 350mm and 400mm of rainfall in 48 hours as a result of a weather system from ex-Tropical Cyclone Marcia.

The downpour caused significant damage to the slopes, above and below, Cooroy Belli Creek Road at Cooroy. The uphill slopes literally slipped onto the road and the road carriage was in danger from the downhill landslip.

Hundreds of vehicles use Cooroy Belli Creek Road daily, as it provides an important link between the Cooroy and Ridgewood communities, and a direct link to the Bruce Highway.

Slip repair works were broken down into three components downhill slip repair, uphill slope stabilisation and culvert replacement.

The Queensland Reconstruction Authority held workshops with Council, which included NDRRA eligibility specialists to assist Council with its understanding of NDRRA requirements and submission procedures.

Noosa Council Planning and Infrastructure Director Martin Drydale said Council was pleased to have gained a better understanding of the NDRRA process, in addition to seeing the repairs completed.

“It was important to repair Cooroy Belli Creek Road for the community in the first instance, but it was also very helpful for us to be able to work with the QRA on this NDRRA restoration project,” Mr Drydale said.

“As a Council we can feel confident knowing when a natural disaster inevitably strikes again we have the knowledge and experience to manage the NDRRA process.

“We would like to thank the Commonwealth and State governments for their assistance in repairing this important roadway.”

Contractors carried out the works on behalf of Council. The project started in March 2016 and was completed in May 2016.



*Right: Uphill slope stabilisation and downhill slip repairs completed on Noosa Shire Council's Cooroy Belli Creek Road*



### 3.5 Program spotlights (continued)

#### Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council Kowanyama swimming pool repaired

Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council has repaired the popular local swimming pool.

The Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire community is well known for its remoteness, with road access to the town limited to the dry season from Pormpuraaw to the north, Normanton to the south and Cairns to the east.

The swimming pool was damaged during Tropical Cyclone Oswald, which devastated the small community in January 2013.

The unusually high water table caused by the large rainfall event and prolonged saturation of the soil placed pressure on the shell of the pool, which caused it to fail and break into two pieces making it impossible to repair.

Council's only option was to rebuild a complete new concrete shell inside the existing cracked shell using the existing pool walls as form.

The QRA worked closely with Kowanyama to prepare a business case for Emergency Management Australia (EMA) for the swimming pool to be considered eligible for NDDRA funding.



The pool is vital to the community due to the remote nature of the township, the extreme heat and the lack of other suitable swimming facilities.

During the summer months, swimming in the local water holes is dangerous due to the threat of crocodiles and the nearby beaches suffer from marine stinger infestations.

EMA assessed the business case and agreed that it would be eligible under NDRRA. The Kowanyama community now has its 25-metre, six-lane pool with an infant's wading pool restored to its original condition.

Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council Mayor Michael Yam said he was pleased that all three levels of government were able to work so well together to deliver a great outcome for the Kowanyama community.

*Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council swimming pool damaged during Tropical Cyclone Oswald.*

"We are thrilled to be able to enjoy the benefits of the newly repaired swimming pool," Cr Yam said.

"The local swimming pool is such an important part of our community as it provides everyone with a safe place to swim.

"It's also used by the school for swimming lessons, which is very important to ensure our kids can learn to swim in safety.

"The entire community is glad to have the pool up and running again."

Contractors carried out the works on behalf of Council with the project being completed last year in time for summer.



*Kowanyama's popular local community swimming pool after restoration*

## **Section four: Communications**



## 4.0 Communications

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

### 4.1 Communicating progress

#### Media analysis

There has been a total of 130 media items in May 2016 (68 print – 52%, 13 TV – 10%, 49 radio – 38%), which reached a cumulative audience of 1.95 million people.

There were media mentions for regions recovering from recent and previous natural disaster events including articles in Australian Financial Review, Cairns Post, Capricorn Coast Mirror, Central Telegraph, Clifton Courier, The Courier Mail, Daily News, Dalby Herald, Fraser Coast Chronicle, Gladstone Observer, Gympie Times, Innisfail Advocate, Mareeba Express, Morning Bulletin, Nambour Weekly, News Mail, Port Douglas & Mossman Gazette, Queensland Times, Sunshine Coast Daily, The Valley Weekender, Toowoomba Chronicle, Torres News, Townsville Bulletin, Western Star, and the Western Times; TV coverage on the Channel 9 and Seven networks throughout the State; and radio mentions on ABC Radio Queensland, 4CA AM Cairns, 4BC Brisbane, Radio National Canberra, 4BU Bundaberg, Zinc 666 Mt Isa, SEA FM Rockhampton and Zinc FM Mackay.

There were media mentions for the continuation of repairs in the wake of the NDRRA-activated event, *Severe Tropical Cyclone Marcia and South East Queensland trough, 19-22 February 2015*, with articles in the Cassowary Coast Mirror, Morning Bulletin and the Capricorn Coast Mirror.

Rockhampton Regional Council revealed the design of the Kershaw Gardens redevelopment with news coverage on Seven Local News Rockhampton.

Also making news this month was the Federal Budget and its effect on natural disaster funding.

#### Engagement

On 17 May 2016, **Queensland Reconstruction Authority Acting Chief Executive Officer Brendan Moon** attended the Western Queensland Local Government Authority annual conference meeting in Bedourie in Diamantina Shire Council. Other councils in attendance were; Barcaldine Regional Council, Barcoo Shire Council, Blackall-Tambo Regional Council, Boulia Shire Council, Central Highlands Regional Council, Flinders Shire Council, Isaac Regional Council, Longreach Regional Council, Richmond Shire Council and Winton Shire Council.

Mr Moon also presented at the Australian and New Zealand Disaster and Emergency Management Conference on 31 May 2016.

#### Communications

The Authority keeps its stakeholders and the community informed and ensure access to the latest information regarding the reconstruction effort through its website, phone hotline and management of correspondence.

The website is regularly updated, including information about progress on Betterment projects and current recovery efforts. There has been a large number of visits to the website since it was launched on 18 February 2011. At 31 May 2016, total website visits amounted to 495,700 – a 0.4 per cent increase since last month. *(See Figure 5.1.1)*

In May, the Authority received an additional 29 calls to our dedicated hotline and managed 233 pieces of written correspondence *(See Figure 5.1.2)*

Fig. 5.1.1 Website traffic

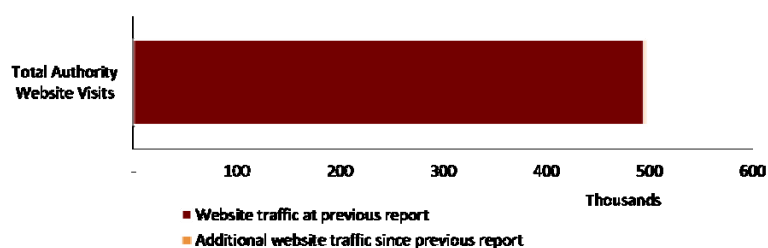
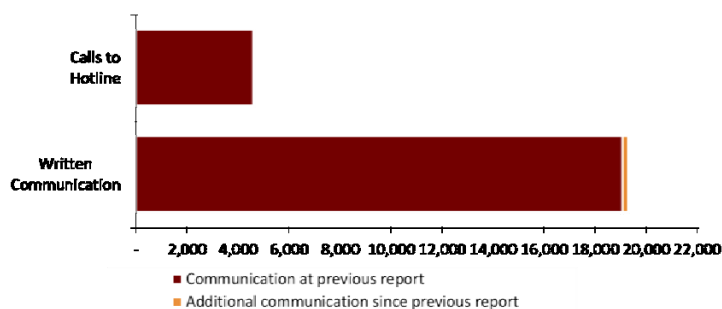


Fig. 5.1.2 Communications



Source: the Authority at 31 May 2016



# Capricorn Coast Pineapple Rail Trail reconstruction

Capricorn Coast Mirror—9 May

MAYOR Bill Ludwig was joined by Member for Keppel Brittany Lauga for a tour of reconstruction works at the Capricorn Coast Pineapple Rail Trail in Yeppoon.

Officially commissioned in early 2014, the Rail Trail was a joint Livingstone Shire Council and State Government initiative that had its genesis in a historic agreement entered into by the two parties in 2006.

Now a popular recreational attraction and pedestrian/cycleway link, the rail trail stretches 4.5km from the Yeppoon town centre through bushland to the golf course and club estate.

Significant damage to the trail was incurred when Tropical Cyclone Marcia hit the Capricorn Coast in February last year.

Mayor Ludwig and Ms Lauga toured the reconstruction works at Capsize Gully, which include reinstating the footpath and improving erosion protection on the embankment.

"Council would like to thank both the Commonwealth and State governments for providing \$105,000 in NDRRA funding which allowed council to repair the significant damage to the Rail Trail," Mayor Ludwig said.

"Located between Condon Drive and Tucker St in Yeppoon, Capsize Gully will be protected from future

potential flood water damage and provide a higher level of safety as a result of the project.

"Importantly, it will also reduce the risk of serious injury or accident for cyclists and pedestrians travelling along the Rail Trail," Mayor Ludwig said.

Member for Keppel Brittany Lauga said the Queensland Government was committed to working

with communities to delivering recreational facilities of a high standard.

"The State Government is committed to the region's long-term recovery and investments like repairing the Rail Trail will ensure the shire is a progressive place to live, work, invest and raise a family," Ms Lauga said.

Works are expected to be finished later this month.



THEM: MANNINGULLEN; C: SM: A6/7308-STORY

## Rail Trail revitalisation starts

### Work mends damage by cyclone

THE Capricorn Coast Pineapple Rail Trail is a popular attraction and pedestrian/cycleway link on the Capricorn Coast, but it did not escape Cyclone Marcia's fury last February.

Works to Capsize Gully started last week and would include reinstating the footpath and improving erosion protection on the embankment.

Mayor Bill Ludwig was joined by Member for Keppel Brittany Lauga for a tour of the reconstruction at the Rail Trail last week.

Officially commissioned in early 2014, the Rail Trail was a joint Livingstone Shire Council and State

Government initiative that had its start in an agreement between the two in 2006.

The trail stretches 4.5km from the Yeppoon town centre through bushland to the golf course and Club Estate.

"(The) council would like to thank both the Commonwealth and State Governments for providing \$105,000 in NDRRA funding which allowed (the) council to repair the significant damage to the Rail Trail," Cr Ludwig said.

"Located between Condon Drive and Tucker St in Yeppoon, Capsize Gully will be protected from future potential flood water damage and provide a higher level of safety as a result of the project," he said.

"Importantly, it will also reduce the risk of serious injury or accident for cyclists and pedestrians travelling along the Rail Trail."

Ms Lauga said the State

Government was committed to working with communities to deliver recreational facilities of a high standard.

"The State Government is committed to the region's long-term

recovery and investments like repairing the Rail Trail will ensure the shire is a progressive place to live, work, invest and raise a family," she said.

Work is expected to be finished later this month.

Morning Bulletin, Rockhampton—12 May

# We've recovered from the big flood: councillor

Hayden Johnson

THE head of the Fraser Coast's Disaster Management Group has declared the community has completely recovered from the 2013 flooding disaster.

Disaster resilience councillor Rolf Light could "confidently say" the community has returned to normal.

"I feel we've recovered," he said.

"I can't speak for every single individual - in terms of the overall community I think we've recovered."

Earles Point Place in Maryborough was inundated in January 2013.

The thousands of dollars damage has been cleaned out and owner Melissa White said things were almost normal.

"We're getting close - it's all about cash flow and that sort of stuff," she said.

"A lot of the cash flow problem is really in the downturn of industry; we can't put it all down to the floods."

The resilience of the Fraser Coast comes as the state and federal governments engage in a

tussle about National Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangement funding.

In this month's Federal

Budget the reimbursement of more than \$1 billion in disaster funding to the State Government was delayed.

Fraser Coast Regional Council CEO Lisa Desmond said the council had already been reimbursed by the state for the 2013 disaster.

"Council estimated that the repair bill for the 2013 flood was \$8.3 million and received \$7.65 million in NDRRA funding," she said.

"The council component of the repair bill came to \$650,000.

"Under the NDRRA guidelines council was liable for the first \$400,000 and NDRRA deemed \$250,000 of the claim was ineligible.

"While council has a long-term sustainable financial plan which includes contingencies for natural disasters, it relies heavily on federal and state funding to pay for repairs to damaged infrastructure."

Cr Light said the community had recovered from the last disaster and was prepared for any future

one, thanks to the council's initiative.

"We've empowered our satellite communities to be self-reliant and

self-prepared," he said.

"These were the real areas that can get isolated easily and we've helped with generators, defibrillators, radios and Red Cross kits.

"I think we've done a really good job of this."

Seven new defibrillators have been ordered and will be placed in the region's halls, libraries and at the Hervey Bay Airport.

### ESSENTIAL ASSETS ON TRACK FOR COMPLETION

RESTORATION of essential public assets following extreme weather in 2014 should be complete by June 30. Cassowary Coast Regional Council's works department is finalising the last of many projects under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements' Works Program. The \$8.3 million in funded projects included repairing landslips at Tully Gorge and Bingil Bay along with repairs to culverts and sealed and unsealed roads.



WORKS: JRT excavators repair beachside rock walls at Yeppoon's Main Beach. PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

## Beach rock wall damage repairs are continuing

CREWS from local firm JRT moved to the Merv Anderson Park side of Ross Creek on Saturday for repairs to beachside

rock walls that were damaged during Cyclone Marcia. While excavators were needed for works on the main beach, the

project will now include installing hand-placed concrete on the northern side of the Ross Creek Tidal Wall.

Capricorn Coast Mirror—4 May

Fraser Coast Chronicle—16 May

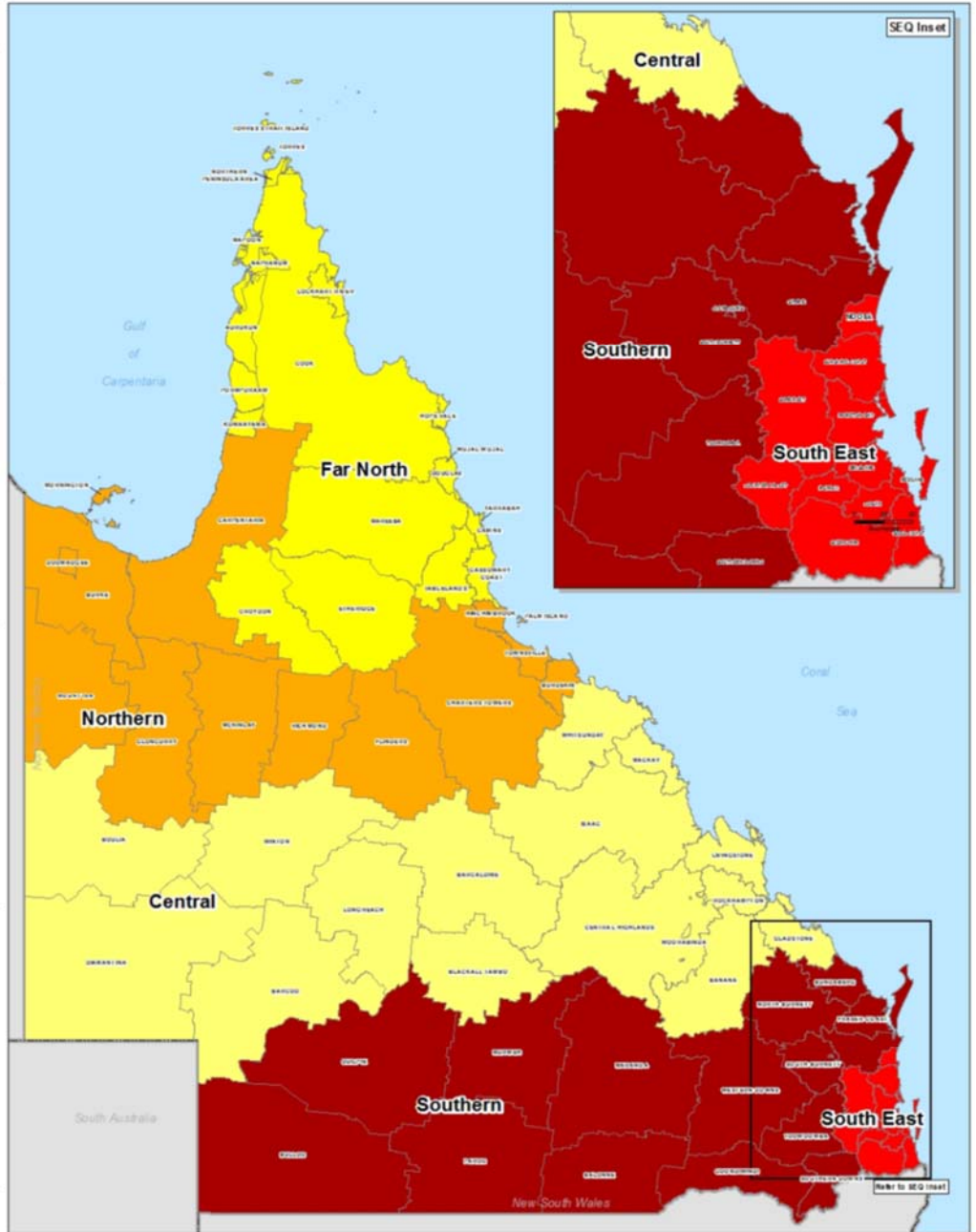
Innisfail Advocate—7 May

# Appendices



# Appendix A: Local Government Areas by Region

Region	Local Government Areas (LGA's)	
<b>Far North Queensland (FNQ)</b>	ASC	Aurukun Shire Council
	CRG	Cairns Regional Council
	CCRC	Cassowary Coast Regional Council
	CoSC	Cook Shire Council
	CfSC	Croydon Shire Council
	DSC	Douglas Shire Council
	ESC	Etheridge Shire Council
	HVASC	Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council
	KASC	Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council
	LRASC	Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council
	MASC	Mapoon Aboriginal Shire Council
	MbaSC	Mareeba Shire Council
	NASC	Napranum Aboriginal Shire Council
	NPARC	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council
	PASC	Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council
	TRC	Tablelands Regional Council
	TSC	Torres Shire Council
	TSIRC	Torres Strait Island Regional Council
	WWASC	Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council
	YASC	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council
<b>North Queensland (NQ)</b>	BrdSC	Burdekin Shire Council
	BrkSC	Burke Shire Council
	CSC	Carpentaria Shire Council
	CTRC	Charters Towers Regional Council
	CISC	Cloncurry Shire Council
	DASC	Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Council
	FSC	Flinders Shire Council
	HSC	Hinchinbrook Shire Council
	McSC	McKinlay Shire Council
	MoSC	Mornington Shire Council
	MICC	Mount Isa City Council
	PIASC	Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council
	RSC	Richmond Shire Council
	TCC	Townsville City Council
	<b>Central Queensland (CQ)</b>	BanSC
BarRC		Barcaldine Regional Council
BarSC		Barcoo Shire Council
BTRC		Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
BoSC		Boulia Shire Council
CHRC		Central Highlands Regional Council
DSC		Diamantina Shire Council
GSC		Gladstone Regional Council
IRC		Isaac Regional Council
LSC		Livingstone Shire Council
LRC		Longreach Regional Council
MacRC		Mackay Regional Council
RRC		Rockhampton Regional Council
WRC		Whitsunday Regional Council
WSC		Winton Shire Council
WASC	Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council	
<b>Southern Queensland (SQ)</b>	BaSC	Balonne Shire Council
	BSC	Bulloo Shire Council
	BRC	Bundaberg Regional Council
	CASC	Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council
	FCRC	Fraser Coast Regional Council
	GoRC	Goondiwindi Regional Council
	GRC	Gympie Regional Council
	MarRC	Maranoa Regional Council
	MuSC	Murweh Shire Council
	NBRC	North Burnett Regional Council
	PSC	Paroo Shire Council
	QSC	Quilpie Shire Council
	SBRC	South Burnett Regional Council
	SDRC	Southern Downs Regional Council
	ToRC	Toowoomba Regional Council
WDR	Western Downs Regional Council	
<b>South East Queensland (SEQ)</b>	BCC	Brisbane City Council
	GCCC	Gold Coast City Council
	ICC	Ipswich City Council
	LVRC	Lockyer Valley Regional Council
	LCC	Logan City Council
	MBRC	Moreton Bay Regional Council
	NSC	Noosa Shire Council
	RCC	Redland City Council
SRRC	Scenic Rim Regional Council	
SRC	Somerset Regional Council	
SCRC	Sunshine Coast Regional Council	



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Queensland Reconstruction Authority

**Local Government Areas  
and QldRA Reporting Regions**

Scale at A4: 1:6,700,000

**Legend**

- Far North Queensland
- North Queensland
- Central Queensland
- Southern Queensland
- South East Queensland
- Local Government Areas

As at 5/02/2014

