



WHAT WE DO:

QRA is charged with managing and coordinating the Government’s program of **recovery and reconstruction** works within disaster-affected communities, with a focus on working with our state and local government partners to deliver best practice administration of public reconstruction and resilience funds. QRA is also the state’s lead agency responsible for **disaster recovery and resilience policy**, working collaboratively with agencies and stakeholders to improve risk reduction and disaster preparedness.

OUR VISION:

Make Queensland the most disaster resilient state in Australia.

OUR PURPOSE:

Enable recovery and build resilience to disaster events within our communities.

DISASTER RECOVERY ASSISTANCE

NDRRA/DRFA Grants Program

Since establishment, QRA has administered recovery and reconstruction programs through the joint State-Commonwealth Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) and Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) worth more than \$16.5 billion.

Works for 27 events from the 2019, 2020 and 2021 disaster seasons are currently in delivery with an estimated value of \$2.6 billion. An additional \$78 million of works from the 2017 and 2018 event periods remain in delivery under approved extensions of time.

Status of NDRRA/DRFA Delivery Program

	Prior Events	2019 Events	2020 Events	2021 Events
NUMBER OF EVENTS	-	12	5	10
\$2,690M Delivery Program	\$78M Program	\$1,465M Program	\$855M Program	\$292M Program
Deadline for Delivery	30 June 2020	30 June 2021	30 June 2022	30 June 2023
Time Elapsed	100% Remainder being delivered under EOT's	83%	33%	-
% Completion*	74% complete	79% complete	30% complete	1% complete

*% complete represents delivery progress reported by delivery agents. This may reflect greater progress than inferred by spend due to program efficiencies.

In the March quarter

31 council areas were activated for DRFA assistance for four disaster events that occurred in the quarter related to flooding and severe weather associated with Tropical Cyclone Imogen, FNQ Tropical Low, Tropical Cyclone Niran and Southern Queensland Severe Weather.

The focus of the disaster assistance grants program in the quarter was to finalise the audit of Queensland’s 2019-20 DRFA claim, followed by lodgement with the Commonwealth by its due date of 31 March 2021. The claim, totalling \$1.2 billion, comprised the first claim for ‘estimated reconstruction costs’ under DRFA of \$983 million (for 2019 events) and actual costs of \$315 million for other measures. The claim required two audit opinions – one for the estimate, the other for actuals – and both were finalised without adjustment or qualification in time for lodgement on 31 March.

Concurrently, QRA progressed assessment of reconstruction submissions arising from 2020 and 2021 disaster events for approval to enable councils and state agencies to progress reconstruction efforts.

Acquittal:

The state, through QRA, is up to date with the acquittal of NDRRA/DRFA claims to the Commonwealth. The 2019–20 claim was finalised and lodged with the Commonwealth on 31 March 2021. The \$1.2 billion claim will secure \$775 million of revenue to the state on acquittal by the Commonwealth.

RECOVERY

QRA works extensively on recovery planning with communities impacted by major disaster events, increasing capability and awareness through active participation and providing support.

Overview

QRA works extensively on recovery planning with communities impacted by major disaster events, increasing capability and awareness through active participation and providing support.

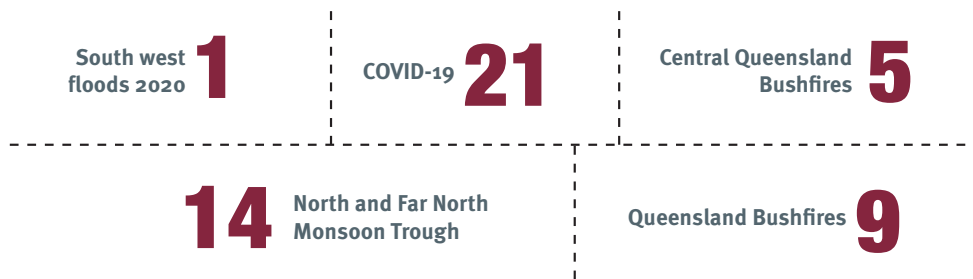
Operations

State Event Specific Recovery plans

QRA is currently coordinating the implementation of three state event specific recovery plans that underpin the Government’s commitment to helping communities recover, rebuild and reconnect from the following major weather events of recent years:

- **Queensland Bushfires (2019)**
- **North & Far North Queensland Monsoon Trough (2019)**
- **Central Queensland Bushfires (2018)**

In addition, QRA is supporting local government in the implementation of their event-specific recovery plans. Local recovery plans highlight initiatives to support recovery, reconstruction and opportunities for communities to reconnect.



QRA also supports local recovery operations by participating in operational Local Recovery Group meetings, acting as a conduit for recovery problem solving across government and providing support to achieve identified recovery objectives. A joint Southern Downs Regional Council and QRA Damage Assessment and Reconstruction Monitoring (DARM) activity occurred last month. The focus was on 47 residents in the communities of Maryvale, Swanfels and Emu Vale. As a result of the DARM activities residents were provided with referrals to ongoing support services and given an opportunity to raise their ongoing concerns. Concerns raised include debris removal, vegetation management plans and fencing repairs, which have been elevated to unmet needs projects underway at State and Commonwealth level.



Image: DARM in Swanfels.

During the quarter, QRA and partner agencies also undertook the first DARM activity to review reconstruction three months after the 31 October 2020 South East Queensland severe hailstorm. Of 2065 properties inspected in Springfield and surrounds, the operation identified 236 properties with severe damage, 740 properties with moderate damage and 321 properties with minor damage. It was not possible to determine the level of damage to a further 290 properties, while 478 properties were fully repaired or had no damage at all. QRA subsequently coordinated meetings between state agencies and insurance industry representatives to address local concerns around the rate of repair on houses. A Community Recovery Forum was also held on 3 March 2021, drawing together state and local government representatives, insurance and building industry representatives, and community mental health services.

Capability

The QRA team supports recovery capability at the local, district and state disaster management levels. The Capability program incorporates participating in and providing guidance and recommendations to local recovery groups, district disaster management groups and the functional recovery groups.

In March 2021, QRA’s Recovery Governance and Planning Training Package was identified as equivalent to the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services’ (QFES) Queensland Disaster Management Training Framework Recovery Module One. This enables participants in QRA’s training to obtain their recovery certification from QFES whilst actively participating in the development of their Recovery Sub-Plans.

Projects

District Recovery Alignment project

The Disaster Recovery Alignment Project aims to identify how recovery is managed in each District under the five lines of recovery, and identify what assistance and training is required to ensure District recovery arrangements are prepared for, planned for and implemented to support the Local Disaster Management Groups (LDMG) during recovery.

A survey was sent to each District for disbursement to the DDMG members and advisors, which received 66 responses across 16 (of 23) districts.

Key findings indicate that the majority of respondents (50) are confident in the knowledge and governance of recovery, and a high number responded that the District’s role in recovery is to support the local level (61 respondents) and to raise issues to the State (59 respondents).

The findings from the survey and Functional Recovery Group feedback are currently being consolidated to identify recommendations and the future direction of the project, including training packages and other assistance where required.

Recovery Planning and Governance Project

The project is designed to develop and enhance understanding of recovery governance and planning at the local level to support disaster management, response and recovery activities.

There are 51 Council Recovery Sub-plans endorsed across Queensland, and QRA is continuing to work with 25 councils to support the development or enhancement of their recovery sub-plans.

The recovery team is also working with state agency counterparts to adapt and improve on recovery outcomes and practice. In March, QRA finalised a Transition from Response Operations to Recovery Operations process, diagram and template for the local level, which reflects and supports the Queensland Recovery Plan and the Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements.

Workshop planning is underway with three councils to develop the Community Profile component of their recovery planning, which will enhance readiness, response and recovery activities through increased awareness of things like location of water points for bushfires, and access to suitable plant and equipment locally to support clean-up activities.

Recovery Strategy

QRA is contributing to national recovery strategy through participation in key projects developed and delivered through the Community Outcomes and Recovery Sub-committee (CORS), part of the Australia-New Zealand Emergency Management Committee (ANZEMC) framework. Work continues on the National Recovery Needs Assessment Project, the Interim National Recovery Framework, and the National Disability Strategy Targeted Action Plan; Emergency Management.

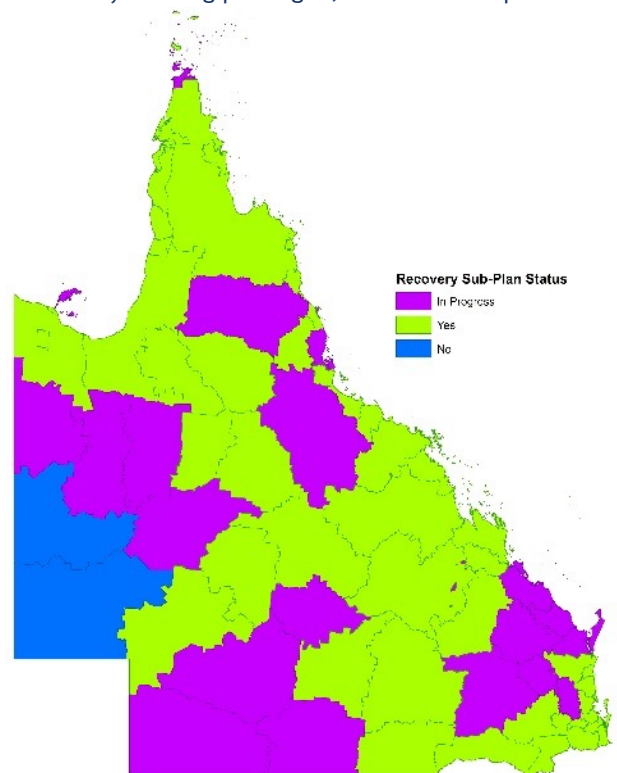
QRA has also engaged with the Central Queensland University First Nations Disaster Hub, with the aim of sharing knowledge and participating in this Australian-first initiative.

Monitoring and Evaluation

QRA is undertaking the evaluation of several Community Recovery packages in relation to the 2018 Central Queensland Bushfires, the 2019 Monsoon Trough, and the 2019 Queensland Bushfires. These include:

- **2018 Central Queensland Bushfires: Rural Residential Recovery Program** - completed
- **2019 Monsoon Trough:**
 - Industry Recovery Officers** – completed
 - Community Development Officers** – completed
 - Small Business Recovery Program** – nearing completion
 - Riparian and Coastal Environmental Recovery Program** – nearing completion
- **2019 Queensland Bushfires: Wine and Tourism Recovery Officers program** – monitoring and evaluation framework developed.

Monitoring of the extraordinary funding packages for these events continues, with quarterly progress reports completed from a local government, state agency and a functional recovery group perspective. Recommendations for future Community Recovery funding, and delivery of future extraordinary funding packages, will be developed.



ADDITIONAL RECOVERY MEASURES

QRA is administering a suite of exceptional DRFA assistance measures for recent events.

QUEENSLAND BUSHFIRES (2019) – \$66.975M

TOURISM RECOVERY PACKAGE \$6.0M	
Marketing Campaign \$1.5M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tourism Events Qld has delivered two regional marketing campaigns working with Scenic Rim, Southern Downs, Sunshine Coast and Noosa LGAs. <i>Go Local</i> campaign is being finalised and will support Scenic Rim, Southern Downs, Sunshine Coast and Noosa LGAs.
Tourism Recovery Officers (TRO's) \$0.75M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three Tourism Recovery Officers have been appointed for Scenic Rim, Southern Downs and the wine industry who will work across the region. The Scenic Rim and Southern Downs Officers are supporting the delivery of each council's activities and initiatives.
Tourism Recovery Fund for Local Government \$2.75M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scenic Rim Regional Council has developed six activities/initiatives and Southern Downs Regional Council has developed 12 initiatives for funding.
Walking Trail Restoration and Resilience \$1.0M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contractors have engaged and in December, they started the first stage of the walking track repairs at Binna Burra, which will take several months. Repairs on Gwongoorool pool walking track are also underway. Once this is complete the Illinbah Circuit track repairs will follow, this follows on from the recently completed arborist works.
Binna Burra Recovery Package \$1.775M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recovery works are progressing for Binna Burra Lodge and the second of five milestones under the deed agreement with BBL and DSDTI has been made. The former Binna Burra Lodge site was used to open the Gondwana Festival, on 1 March 2021, which was the first time the festival has occurred in South East Queensland. Separate works (not part of the Binna Burra Package) by DTMR for the restoration of the road to Binna Burra completed.
COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND \$14.0M	
Mental Health and Wellbeing \$4.7M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clinical staff now fill all 10.25 funded positions and are providing mental health support to the communities in the Hospital and Health Service districts of Central Queensland, Sunshine Coast, West Moreton, Darling Downs and Metro South.
Community Development Officers \$3.0M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five Community Development Offices (CDO) have been appointed out of the six LGAs allocated CDOs.
Flexible Funding Grants \$6.0M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 37 Flexible Funding Grant Projects approved in Round 1 to a value of \$1.799M. Round 2 valued at \$4.2M closed in February 2021 and successful projects will be published later in April.
Monitoring and Evaluation \$300K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring and Evaluation framework and resources are under development. Tourism program – two meetings with DTIS and recovery officers have been held to discuss and develop a monitoring and evaluation template and framework for data collection.
Local Economic Recovery Program \$36.8M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expressions of interest closed 7 September 2020. Six projects for \$6M, across five Local Government Areas have been approved.
Exceptional Assistance Immediate Support Package \$8.4M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% funding distributed to 13 impacted councils identified by the Commonwealth. Councils are progressively submitting project plans to QRA.

NORTH & FNQ MONSOON TROUGH (2019) – \$242M

Infrastructure \$124M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$116.6M allocated to 166 projects, to restore and improve the disaster resilience of flood damaged essential public, community and water assets.
Economic \$34M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 Industry Recovery Officers (IRO) and 3 Rural Financial Counsellors in operation on the ground. 404 small business grants approved with payments to date of \$2.83M. Over 245 business owners accessed free mentoring under the Mentoring for Growth program. 12 scholarships awarded for Event Management and Tourism Programs. 41 Travel bursaries provided for delegates to attend the Destination Q Events Conference. \$1.93M provided to councils and Rural Aid for fodder supply costs.
Environment \$46M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16 riparian reconnaissance projects are complete and close out documentation submitted to the QRA. 17 of 25 urgent riparian projects contracted as at 31 December 2020 are complete. 53 riparian projects are underway, including an additional 14 projects allocated in late 2020. 32 weeds and pest projects are underway, including an additional 8 projects resulting from an additional \$1M allocated to this program. 17 coastal projects are almost complete.
Human & Social \$12.25M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 Community Development Officers in place. 15 Mental Health clinicians, social and health workers and one Child and Youth Mental Health service delivering services through Townsville, North West and Central West HHSs.
Resilience \$25.75M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$13.13M Flexible Funding Grants approved across 187 projects. Townsville Flood Mapping project initiated.
Monitoring & Evaluation \$500K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Recovery Officers evaluation report was presented to the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Queensland Farmers Federation in February 2021. Field work is ongoing to support the evaluation in the Environmental Recovery Program. Interim reviews have been completed on the Mental Health and Community Development Officer Programs.

RESILIENCE

QRA is responsible for coordinating the development and implementation of whole-of-government policies for managing flood risks and improving the resilience of communities, and facilitating mitigation against potential disasters.

Resilience grant programs



National Disaster Resilience Program (NDRP)

The final round of the joint State-Commonwealth NDRP program allocated \$14.9 million to 76 approved projects from 54 councils and 14 organisations and agencies in 2017–18. The program aims to build disaster resilience across the State. All NDRP Projects were completed by 31 December 2020.

Queensland Disaster Resilience Fund (QDRF) and Prepared Communities Fund (PCF)

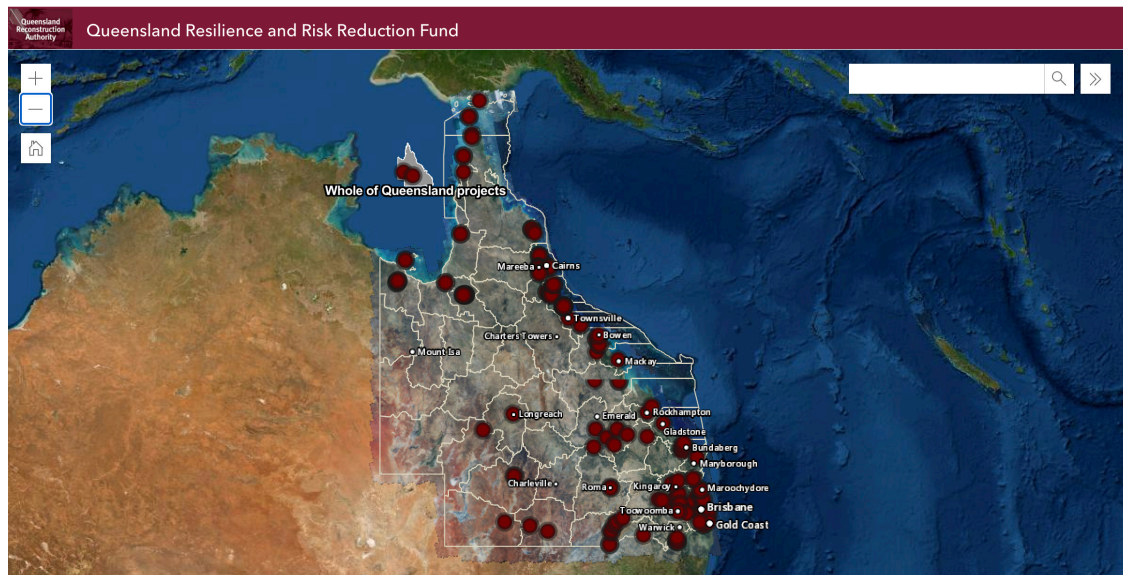
For 2018–19, \$10.65 million was allocated to 74 projects to strengthen the resilience of Queensland communities, including funding under the fully State-funded QDRF (\$9.5M, 65 projects) and the joint State-Commonwealth funded PCF (\$1.15M, 10 projects). As at 28 February 2021, 40 projects were completed and 34 were in progress.

Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Fund (QRRRF)

Queensland’s commitments under the National Partnership on Disaster Risk Reduction are being delivered via the \$13.1 million QRRRF. The fund consists of \$8.3 million in State Government funds and \$4.8 million from the Australian government.

The 2019–20 QRRRF allocated funds to 67 projects across 53 recipients. A list and interactive map of the successful projects is available on the [QRA website](#).

The 2020–21 QRRRF funding applications were called for on 10 March and closed on 7 April with more than 400 expressions of interest seeking more than \$150 million submitted to the Queensland Reconstruction Authority for initial review for the \$19.1 million available. The \$19.1 million is made up of \$3.5 million funded by the Queensland Government for resilience projects, \$9.6 million joint State-Commonwealth-funding for risk reduction projects and \$6 million Commonwealth-funding to manage disaster risks for 14 local governments severely impacted by the 2019 North and Far North Queensland Monsoon Trough event. This high level of enthusiasm from applicants demonstrates the desire across the state to improve resilience within our communities.



Recovery and Resilience Grants

\$12 million has been made available from the Commonwealth’s National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency to support locally-led recovery and resilience activities in the 14 local government areas most impacted by the North and Far North Queensland Monsoon Trough, January-February 2019.

The objective of the Recovery and Resilience Grants is to provide impacted Local Governments with funding for projects and activities they deem essential for the recovery of their communities and to increase resilience, consistent with the strategic pillars and actions identified in the Australian Government’s, ‘*After the flood: A strategy for long-term recovery*’.

Each local government will receive up to \$857,000 for eligible activities, with work programs due to QRA by 31 March 2021. Projects must be delivered by 1 December 2023.

Resilience projects and activities



Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience

In line with international best practice, the Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience seeks to incorporate the considerable knowledge and experience that exists across government and non-government organisations to deliver a comprehensive and coordinated all-hazards approach to building disaster resilience throughout Queensland.

A key component of the strategy is harnessing local knowledge that supports actions to create stronger, safer, healthier and more secure communities.

The strategy capitalises on the good work already being delivered by our state agencies, local governments and communities and provides a cohesive approach to building resilience throughout the state.

www.qra.qld.gov.au/QSDR

Resilient Queensland 2018–2021: Delivering the Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience

Resilient Queensland – Delivering the Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience 2018-2021 is a blueprint for use across government, the community, not-for-profit sector, business and industry that see regions across Queensland co-develop individually tailored regional resilience plans.

Activities delivered under Resilient Queensland are strengthening our communication networks, encouraging shared knowledge, identifying gaps and opportunities and supporting greater coordination of disaster resilience activities across all levels of government, private and community sectors across Queensland.

Resilient Queensland in Action, released in February 2020, is the 18-month progress report highlighting how Queensland is delivering on the objectives of the Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience (QSDR). It showcases achievements including case studies and initiatives by our state agencies, local governments and communities, incorporating climate risk and delivering a comprehensive, all-hazards approach to building disaster resilience.

www.qra.qld.gov.au/resilient-queensland

Regional Resilience Plans

A key outcome of Resilient Queensland is the development of regional resilience plans to support the coordination and prioritisation of future resilience building and mitigation projects across Queensland.

By 2022, every local government in Queensland will be part of a regional resilience strategy that clearly identifies and prioritises actions to strengthen disaster resilience over time.

This locally led, regionally coordinated and state-facilitated approach is strengthening relationships between local governments and state agencies to support the development of resilient building strategies that can be better coordinated and aligned to future funding opportunities, providing better value for money and a more disaster resilient Queensland.

Under phase 1 of the project, regional resilience strategies have been delivered for the Central West, Mary, Fitzroy and Burnett Catchment regions.

Phase 2 of the statewide rollout of regional resilience strategies commenced early October 2020 and the project team completed inception visits to all state regions by 31 December 2020. Strategy co-design activities and the development of Terms of Reference documentation is underway.

www.qra.qld.gov.au/resilient-queensland/regional-resilience-strategies



Resilience projects and activities



Brisbane River Strategic Floodplain Management Plan (SFMP)

- QRA has oversight of 52 SFMP actions including 34 for State government, of which QRA is responsible for 12 actions.
- Work progresses on multiple actions and deliverables, many forecasting completion by early 2021.
- A desktop flood preparedness exercise (Exercise Cascade) was held on 19 November 2020. A post exercise report is being finalised including actions and recommendations for follow up.
- QRA and the Brisbane River catchment councils have collaboratively produced a 'Regional Guideline for Flood Awareness Mapping and Communication' document which addresses action CAR2.3 of the SFMP. Final publication is available on the QRA website.
- The QRA project team finalised the 'Framework for the economic assessment of flood management projects', which will address action FM7 of the SFMP with publication expected soon.
- The QRA project team has now completed the final report for the 'Cumulative Impact Assessment', which addresses action LU1 of the SFMP, with publication expected soon.
- Somerset Regional Council (SRC) have completed their Local Floodplain Management Plan (LFMP) (FM3). Incorporating into their obligations for their LFMP were SFMP actions, FM8, FM9, FM12.2, DM3.1, DM3.2, LU2.1 and LU2.2.
- Somerset Regional Council has also completed SFMP action SO6, Fernvale Levee Options Assessment.
- Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water has completed their SFMP actions including SO1.2 Investigation into reduced flood risks through early releases from Wivenhoe Dam - facilitated via potential buy-back of some of the more flood prone properties and SO2 Warrill Creek Flood Mitigation Storage Investigation.
- 19 SFMP reportable actions are now complete.



North and Far North Queensland Monsoon Trough Cat D - Flood Mapping and Flood Warning Programs

- The \$1 million Burdekin and Haughton Catchment Resilience Strategy Project will develop locally-led and regionally-coordinated resilience solutions to address recent and emerging disaster risks for councils in the catchment area including Townsville City Council. This project is currently underway and is on track for completion by April 2021.
- The \$8 million Flood Warning Infrastructure Network Project has seen the three area of operations prepare their tender documents for the appointment of delivery contractors. The NQ tender process has been completed, and they will award early-April. Site selection for the new assets has been completed in NQ and FNQ, with NWQ due to be completed in April. The FWIN website has been updated, and all councils and FWIN stakeholders have been provided with a project update.
- The Townsville Recalibrated Flood Modelling and Mapping Project, supporting Townsville City Council to update and recalibrate flood modelling and mapping across the council area including the Ross River, is underway.

Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements (RCNDA)

- The Royal Commission's final report was released in late October 2020. It contains 80 recommendations across 20 themes focussing on improvements to national preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery arrangements, including clarification of roles and responsibilities of all levels of government, warning systems and community education, and improvements to firefighting capabilities and resource sharing.
- QRA is contributing to a whole-of-government response to the Commission's recommendations. DPC and QFES are leading a submission for government consideration in due course.

we continually improve how we prepare, respond and recover from disasters

Review of Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

- On 13 March 2020, the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) tasked Emergency Management Australia (EMA) to lead a review of the DRFA in consultation with States and Territories.
- Following stakeholder consultation, EMA identified the following key areas for review:
 - national comparison of state and territory DRFA assistance measures;
 - streamlining the Category C activation process; and
 - reviewing the assurance arrangements for the DRFA.
- QRA is leading reform negotiations on behalf of Queensland Government agencies.
- Key progress on each of the reform measures includes:
 - National comparison of state and territory DRFA assistance measures – The Commonwealth is pursuing increasing consistency in recovery measures available between states. The Commonwealth has implemented benchmarks for assistance measures to be considered by state and territory governments for the 2020-21 disaster season.
 - Streamlined Category C activation process - An updated Category C activation process, which removes the need for states to meet the strict criteria previously applied, is in place for the 2020-21 disaster season. Jurisdictions are also working on ‘off-the-shelf’ Category C packages to enable fast and efficient delivery of recovery measures.
 - Review of assurance arrangements for the DRFA - QRA is continuing to participate in the review of assurance arrangements

GET READY QUEENSLAND (GRQ)

GRQ is a year-round, community resilience program that helps Queenslanders prepare for disasters. The program integrates a state-wide research driven awareness campaign led by QRA, alongside a grass roots grants program providing \$2M across all 77 Queensland councils and one town authority to tailor information most credible and relevant to their community.

Insurance awareness advertising campaign

With continued wet weather late into the 2020–21 disaster season, QRA launched a community awareness campaign to remind Queenslanders to check their insurance is up-to-date. Having insurance is an indicator of disaster resilience and statewide market research by QRA found that 20% of Queenslanders do not have home and/or contents insurance that covers damage from disasters.

The Get Ready Queensland Flood Insurance campaign was funded through Category C DRFA (Community Education) to target Queenslanders living in the 39 Local Government Areas impacted by the 2019 Monsoon Trough. The campaign, which used television, radio, social media and newspaper advertising was in market from mid-March to mid-April 2021.

Following the campaign, creative assets will be shared with all Queensland Councils to promote ongoing flood preparedness in their local communities.

Market research will be conducted in mid-April to evaluate effectiveness of messages and shape future flood awareness messages and campaigns.



2021 Resilient Australia Awards

Submissions are now open for the 2021 Resilient Australia Awards. The awards highlight initiatives that build resilience and inspire others to act, making communities safer, more connected and better prepared for disasters and emergencies.

There are seven categories in this year’s awards including Business; Government; Local Government; School; Photography; Community; and Mental Health and Wellbeing.

The Mental Health and Wellbeing Award is a new national category for the 2021 Resilient Australia Awards and celebrates initiatives that promote and enhance the wellbeing of communities before, during and after disaster.

Last year, Queensland won the national award for the Queensland Centre for Perinatal and Infant Mental Health’s Birdies Tree resources. Queensland also took the top spot in the Schools Category with Thuringowa State School’s Disaster Resilience for a Changing Climate Grand Challenge.

The Resilient Australia Awards are managed by the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience (AIDR) and coordinated through the Strategy and Engagement team.

For more information and to submit your project, visit www.aidr.org.au.



PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

SEQ COASTAL TROUGH WORKS UNDERWAY

Emergency works are continuing across hinterland roads in southern Queensland, in response to damage caused by heavy rain associated with the South East Queensland Coastal Trough event in December 2020.

The most severely damaged site is located on lower Tamborine Mountain Road, known locally as the Goat Track, where large boulders detached and fell from a natural rock outcrop, resulting in a large path of damage and landslip onto the road and private property below.

To make the area safe, Transport and Main Roads crews have been removing unsafe material from the slope above, with more than 1000 tonnes removed to date. This includes successfully bringing down an extremely large unstable boulder, estimated to be 250 tonnes in weight, six metres wide and two metres thick.

Bringing down the boulder, which was deemed at risk of falling onto the road below, was a complex and meticulously undertaken task. Given the unstable nature of the site, the removal was undertaken by geotechnical experts on ropes, rock scaling and using air bags inflated between fault lines in the rockface. To protect the road from the falling boulder, a one-metre-high earth bund was built up, using 420 tonnes of material.

Crews are continuing to remove debris and assess the rockface to ensure there are no additional unstable rocks required to come down.

The Goat Track remains impassable and is expected to remain closed for some time. Once the area is deemed safe, damage assessments will be undertaken to determine the repairs needed to safely reopen the road.

Early assessments indicate there are a large number of minor damage sites on roads across the hinterland region, comprising mostly of landslips, tree falls, flood damage, drainage issues and scouring to bridge structures.

Emergency works are underway and involve clearing hazards and making roads safe for motorists. Following detailed damage assessments, it is expected further road repairs will be required at sites across the region.

Eligible reconstruction works are jointly funded by the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).



Image: Lamington National Park Road landslip site.



Image: Tamborine Mountain Road landslip site.



Image: Currumbin Creek-Tomewin Road landslip site.



Image: Pacific Motorway culvert damage.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

FLOOD WARNING INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK PROJECT



In Queensland, more than 3200 rainfall and river gauges inform statewide flood warnings and forecasts.

QRA is currently working with 28 councils to deliver an \$8 million Flood Warning Infrastructure Network Project to support recovery following the 2019 North and Far North Queensland Monsoon Trough. This project is part of the \$242 million Category C and D Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) package jointly funded by the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments.

Extensive consultation was undertaken with all impacted councils, local communities, the Bureau of Meteorology, Transport & Main Roads, Queensland Rail, Sunwater, and state agencies to determine which projects will deliver the best safety outcomes and value for money. By August 2020, 28 councils were approved for a total of 188 flood warning infrastructure projects.

Work underway includes site assessments and surveys, site approvals (including cultural heritage) and signoff from each council, as well as tender documentation for appointing contractors for installation.

To improve efficiencies, councils have been organised into three areas of operation, with each area having its own project manager who will oversee the delivery of gauges in the area.

All new infrastructure investment will conform to the National Flood Warning Infrastructure Standard and the work aligns with the National Framework for Flood Warning Infrastructure.

Images (above l-r): Automatic rain river gauge with manual gauge, awautomatic rain gauge, automatic rain river gauge with manual gauge.

In addition to the DRFA funding and in line with the 2017 COAG Intergovernmental Agreement on the Provision of Bureau of Meteorology Hazard Services to the States and Territories, the Bureau of Meteorology will progressively cease its shared maintenance arrangements for local government-owned flood gauges by June 2022.

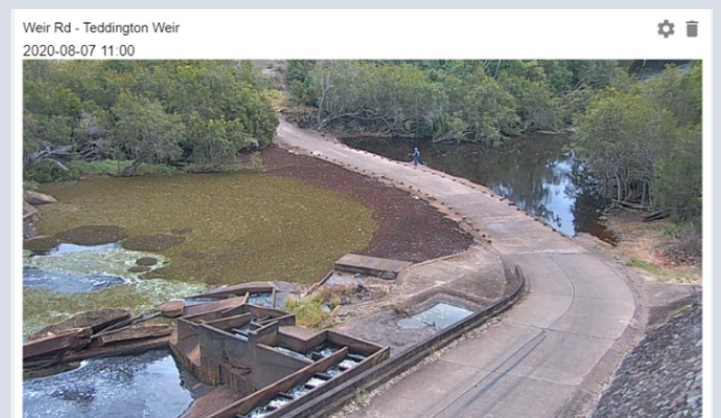
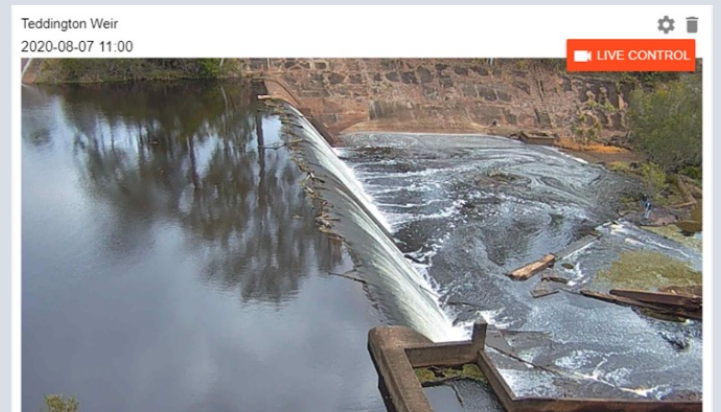
The maintenance transition will see 24 local governments taking full responsibility for the maintenance of 569 flood warning gauges.

QRA is working with the Bureau, the Department of Resources, Queensland Treasury, the Local Government Association of Queensland and local governments to ensure a smooth transition for these arrangements.

The Queensland Government is committed to ensuring people in flood-prone communities have appropriate warning of flood events and this includes investment in new and upgraded flood warning infrastructure.

The \$8 million Flood Warning Infrastructure Network Project will ensure our Flood Warning Infrastructure Network is fit-for-purpose for the flood risk that exists in Queensland, ensuring the safety and prosperity of Queensland communities.

For more information visit www.qra.qld.gov.au/fwin.



Department of Transport and Main Roads

Home List view **Cameras** Public transport More information Road Lookup Outback road conditi

Select a geographical area Cairns and Far North area

Select a traffic camera

- Cairns North - Captain Cook Hwy & Airport Ave - South - 4870
- Caravonica - Caravonica Roundabout - South - 4878
- White Rock - Bruce Hwy & Murgatroyd Rd Interchange - South - 4868**
- Woree - Bruce Hwy & Kate St - East - 4868

Images (clockwise from above): Example of proposed signage, example of proposed camera, images it produces, TMR flood warning dashboard.