

**QUEENSLAND RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY**

# **Monthly Report**

**October 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 October 2016 Monthly Report – the 68th report to the Board of the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA).

QRA 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 QRA has since been extended a number of times to cover historical and continuing disaster events in Queensland. In June 2015, QRA'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.

QRA 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. QRA is now also the State's lead agency responsible for disaster recovery, resilience and mitigation policy. In this role, QRA is working collaboratively with other agencies and key stakeholders to improve risk reduction and disaster preparedness.

In recent weeks, we have seen the ferocity of Mother Nature with severe weather across different parts of the country. Representing an early start to the 'wet season', Queensland has been hit a number of times by unseasonal heavy rainfall and flooding during the winter and spring seasons and the State has now been activated for the first event for the 2017 financial year. Five local government areas have been activated for Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) assistance for the *Central Queensland Severe Weather, 15-20 July 2016* event.

The October report provides a snapshot of progress in the State's recovery and reconstruction from the disaster events of recent years and an update on progress in recovery, resilience and mitigation activities.

In relation to the recovery and reconstruction program, QRA is currently working with delivery agents to progress delivery of the 2015 disaster event program and provide advice and assistance with damage assessments and submission preparation for the more recent 2016 and 2017 events. Program estimates and reporting in relation to the 2017 events will commence following the next estimates review process during October.

Of the estimated \$677 million program of reconstruction works from the 2015 and 2016 disaster periods that are in the delivery phase, \$545 million has been approved by QRA and additional submissions worth \$82 million are being assessed by QRA or awaiting additional information. QRA is working with delivery agents to progress their preparation of submissions for the remaining program. \$282 million (42%) of works in relation to the delivery program has been reported to QRA at 31 August 2016 as in progress or delivered.

QRA is also managing the close out of an estimated \$855 million works from the 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 disaster periods that will be acquitted in claims to the Commonwealth over the next three financial years. Of this, QRA is currently working with delivery agents to gather and assess completion documentation to close out 2014 event and other works for acquittal in the next disaster funding claim due to the Commonwealth in early 2017.

The October report also provides an update on progress of recovery, resilience and mitigation activities being undertaken by QRA in collaboration with partner agencies. The report also profiles the completion of Cloncurry Shire Council's 2015 event program ahead of the summer wet season and the securing of additional special Category D NDRRA assistance for Rockhampton Regional Council to restore the Kershaw Gardens recreation area damaged by Tropical Cyclone Marcia in 2015. The report also profiles TMR's continued preparation for the 2017 summer storm season with its ongoing rollout of its annual Resilience Program across the State, which incorporates disaster continuity and preparedness sessions.

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*.



Brendan Moon  
Chief Executive Officer  
Queensland Reconstruction Authority

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



# 1.0 Introduction

## 1.1 Purpose

The Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) 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.

QRA's mission is **to reconnect, rebuild and improve Queensland communities and its economy.**

QRA 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.

QRA is also the State's lead agency responsible for disaster recovery, resilience and mitigation policy. In this role QRA is working collaboratively with other agencies and key stakeholders to improve risk reduction and disaster preparedness.

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

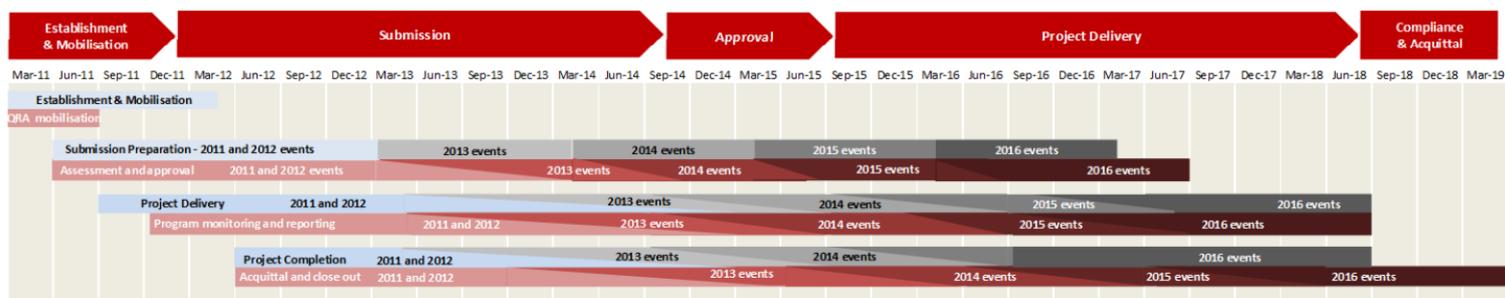
As part of its role, QRA administers the rebuilding program for Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) activated disaster events and is responsible for the acquittal of NDRRA funding including Counter Disaster Operations, Emergent Works, Restoration of Essential Public Assets, Category C and Category D assistance to State Departments and Agencies (SDA) and Local Government Authorities (LGA). Since its establishment in February 2011, QRA has managed and coordinated the infrastructure reconstruction and recovery for 62 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 QRA is managing a series of events that occurred across a number of financial years, QRA's program is spread across various stages in the delivery and acquittal phases.



Works for 26 disaster events activated for the 2014, 2015 and 2016 event periods are currently in the delivery and acquittal phases. The first 2017 event has also been activated with damage assessments underway ahead of delivery.

With the deadline now passed for completion of the majority of 2014 events works, QRA is working with delivery agents to gather and assess completion documentation to close out 2014 event and other works for acquittal in the next claim due to the Commonwealth in early 2017. QRA is also working with delivery agents to progress delivery of the 2015 event program and provide advice and assistance with damage assessments and submission preparation for the more recent 2016 and 2017 events.

QRA 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. At the same time, QRA is facilitating the Commonwealth's review of seven Commonwealth Claims lodged by Queensland dating back to 2008-09 that have not yet been acquitted by the Commonwealth.

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

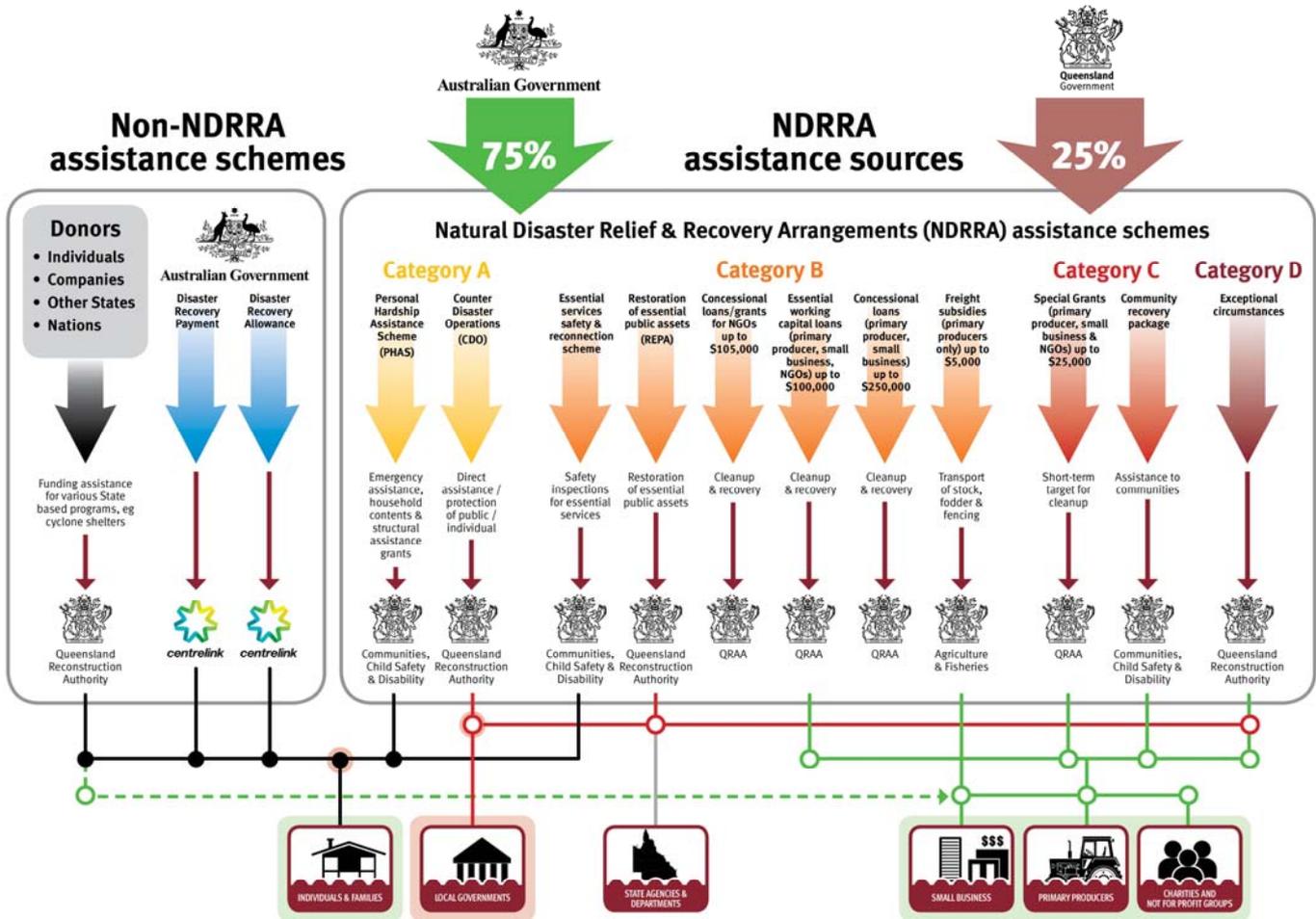


## 2.0 Disaster Assistance

### 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 QRA for historical and continuing disaster events in Queensland.

#### Disaster events managed by QRA

The list of the activated disaster events managed by QRA 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:

- **2017 events:** Activated disaster events managed by QRA occurring in the financial year ending **30 June 2017**
- **2016 events:** Activated disaster events managed by QRA occurring in the financial year ending **30 June 2016**
- **2015 events:** Activated disaster events managed by QRA which occurred in the financial year ended **30 June 2015**
- **2014 events:** Activated disaster events managed by QRA which occurred in the financial year ended **30 June 2014**
- **2013 events:** Activated disaster events managed by QRA 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 QRA which occurred in the financial year ended **30 June 2012**
- **2011 events:** Activated disaster events managed by QRA 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 QRA

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

Since its establishment in February 2011, QRA has managed and coordinated the infrastructure reconstruction and recovery for 62 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 19 events from the 2015 to 2017 event periods are currently in the delivery phase<sup>1</sup> and completed works from a further 9 events from the 2014 event period are also in the acquittal phase<sup>1</sup>.

During October, the first 2017 event period was activated for NDRRA relief measures - *Central Queensland Severe Weather, 15-20 July 2016*.

The figures opposite show the LGAs activated for relief measures under NDRRA for the 2011 to 2016 event periods managed by QRA<sup>2</sup>.

### 2017 events

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

- Central Queensland Severe Weather, 15-20 July 2016

### 2016 events

*(Works to be delivered by 30 June 2018, with final acquittal due 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.

### 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.

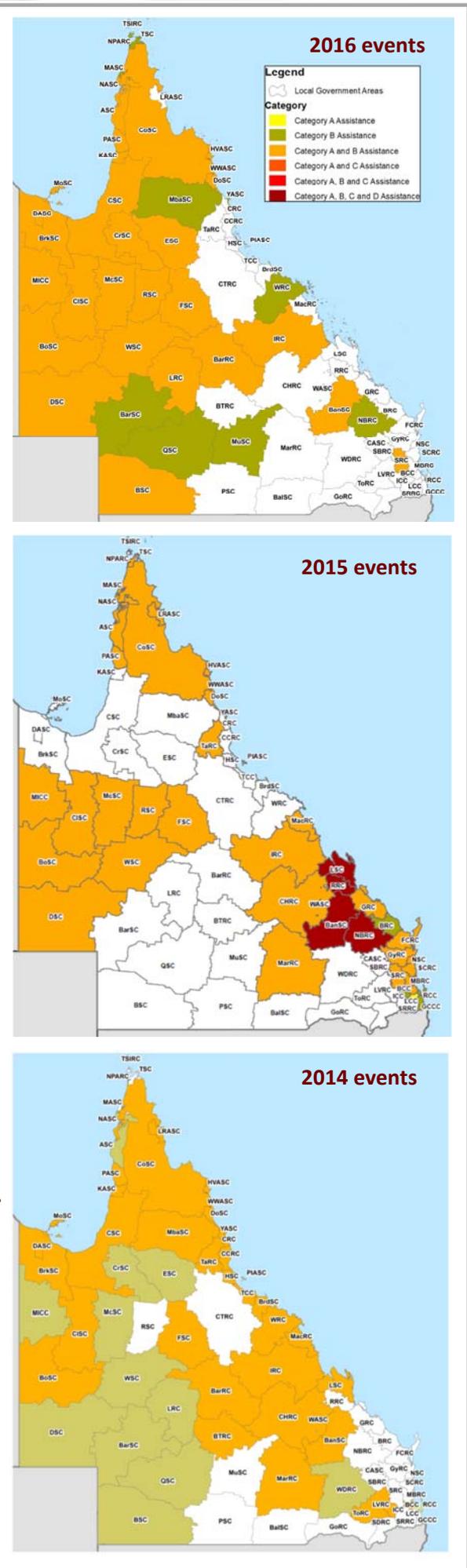
### 2014 events

*Delivery of works complete with final acquittal due by March 2017, other than three LGA programs that received extensions of time for delivery)*

- 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

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 to acquit completed works (acquittal phase) through lodgement of an annual claim to the Commonwealth. Following extension of time approvals, a number of projects from the 2013 and 2014 event period are still in delivery and acquittal phases.

2. In addition, Rockhampton, Livingstone, Isaac, Woorabinda and Winton LGAs have been activated for 2017 events.



## 2.2 Events managed by QRA (cont.)

### 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 & Associated Rainfall & Flooding, 21-29 January 2013<sup>#</sup>
- Longreach Flood, 18 February 2013
- Central & Southern Queensland Low, 25 February - 5 March 2013.

### 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 Mar 2012
- East Coast Low, 22 March 2012.

### 2011 events

*(Delivery and acquittal of works complete)*

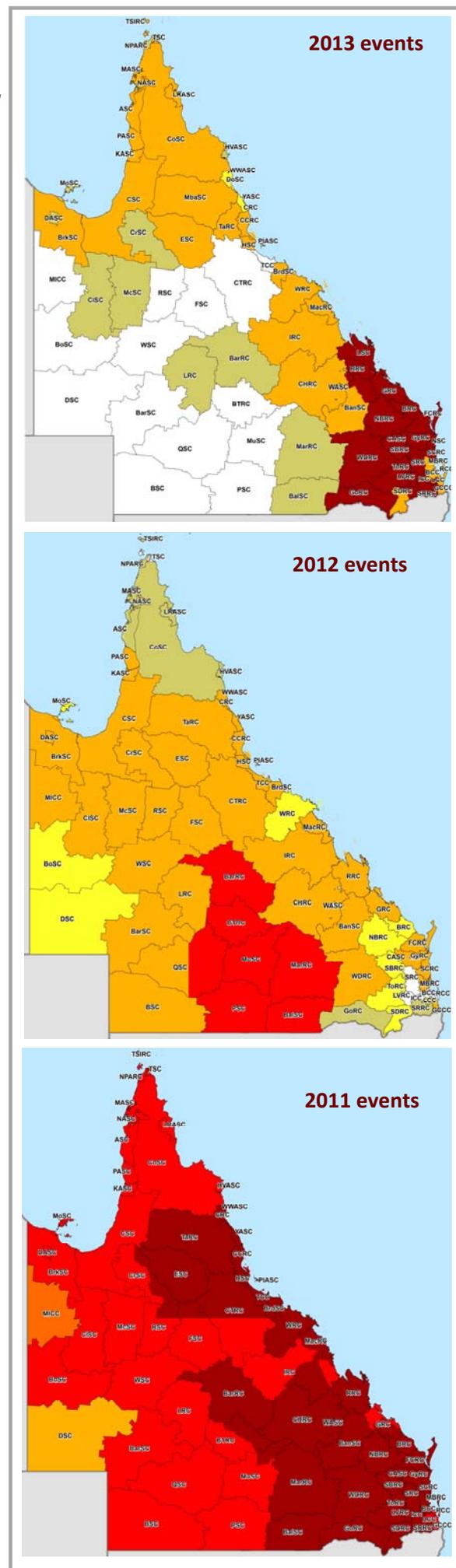
- South West Flooding, April 2011
- Queensland Monsoonal Flooding Event, 28 February 2011
- Severe Tropical Cyclone Yasi on 2 February 2011
- Queensland Flooding and Tropical Cyclones Tasha and Anthony, December 2010 to February 2011.

### 2007-2010 events managed by QRA

*(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.

<sup>#</sup> Three 2013 Event Betterment projects received extensions of time for delivery, with final acquittal due by 31 March 2017. All other 2013 event s have completed delivery and acquittal phases.



**Section three:**

# **Program Status**



## 3.0 Program Status

### 3.1 NDRRA program status

The value of the total NDRRA program of works managed by QRA since its establishment is estimated to be \$13.29 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 active delivery and/or acquittal phases.

Representing an early start to the 'wet season', Queensland has been hit by unseasonal heavy rainfall and flooding during the winter and spring seasons and the State has been activated for the first event for the 2017 financial year. Five local government areas have been activated for NDRRA assistance for the *Central Queensland Severe Weather, 15-20 July 2016* event.

#### Active program

QRA is managing the assessment of submissions and delivery of works with an estimated value of \$677 million for the 2015 Events and 2016 Events (**Delivery Program**) and an **Acquittal Program** worth \$855 million, comprising the remaining works from the 2013 Events, 2014 Events, 2015 Events and 2016 Events that are yet to be acquitted in claims to the Commonwealth.

Damage estimates for the recent 2017 event will be gathered through QRA's next estimates review process, which will occur through October 2016.

#### Delivery Program status

QRA is working with delivery agents to progress delivery of the 2015 event program and provide advice and assistance with damage assessments and submission preparation for the more recent 2016 events.

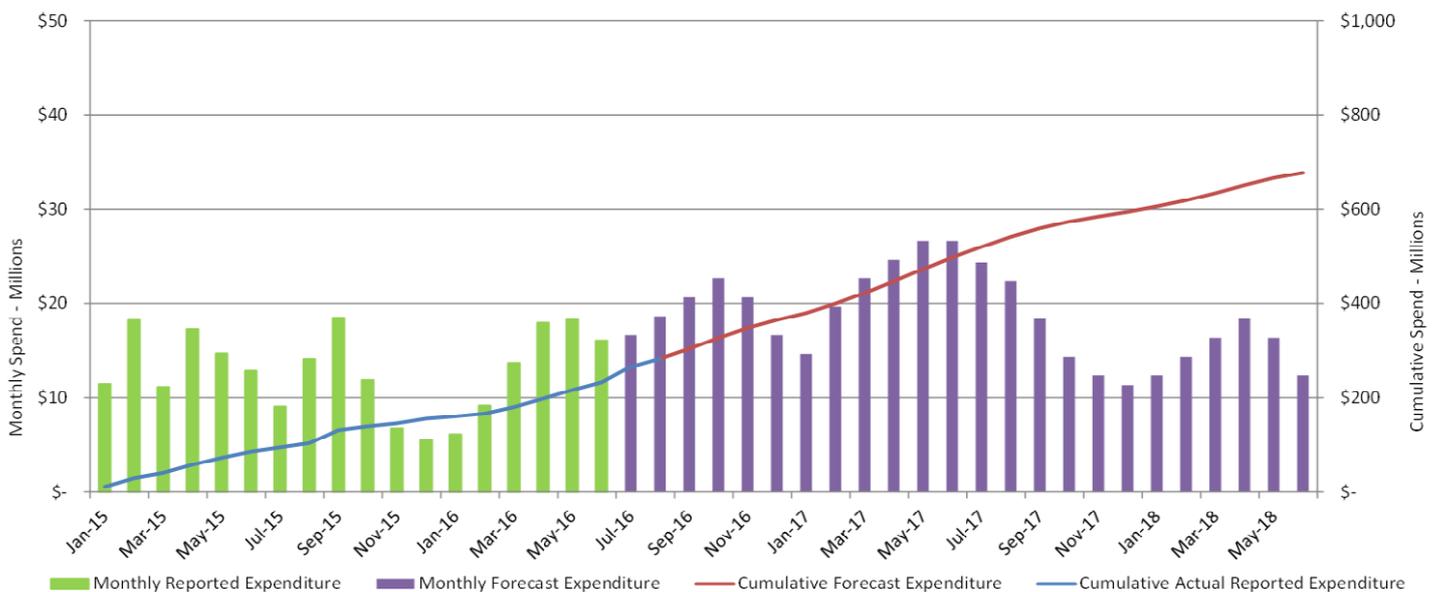
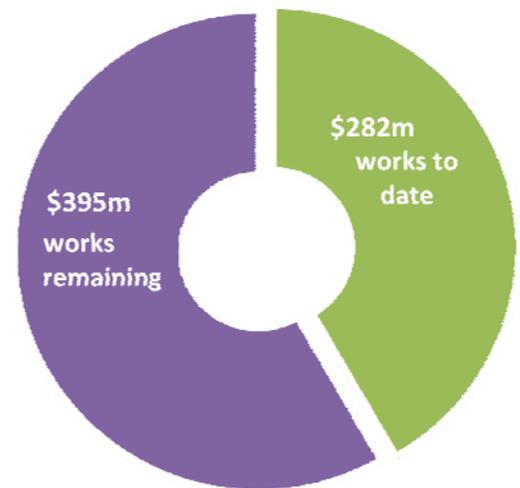
Since the last report, QRA's program has progressed as follows:

- A cumulative value of \$796 million in submissions have been received in relation to the Delivery Program, an increase of \$31 million since last month
- A cumulative total of \$545 million has been approved, an increase of \$27 million since last month. Additional submissions worth \$82 million are with QRA and under investigation or awaiting additional information
- A cumulative value of \$282 million (42 percent) of the Delivery Program has been reported to QRA at 31 August 2016 as in progress or delivered.

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

The graph below shows the monthly reported expenditure and forecasted monthly costs to completion at 31 August 2016 on a combined basis for the Delivery Program (2015 and 2016 Events).

#### Delivery Program (2015 to 2016 Events) progress



(Source: The Authority, 30 September 2016)

### 3.1 NDRRA program status (cont.)

#### Delivery Program - State-controlled roads and highways

The Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) manages the recovery and reconstruction works of Queensland's integrated transport system (state-controlled roads, ports, navigation aids and rail network).

- All 112km of TMR's road pavement reconstruction projects in relation to the **2015 events** are now complete. During August 2016, construction was completed on one project on the Burnett Highway (Mt Morgan-Rockhampton) in Fitzroy district, and two projects commenced, including works on Rockhampton-Yeppoon Road in Fitzroy District.
- TMR districts are currently undertaking the assessment of damage to the state road network from the **2016 events**. A total of 8,394km of the state road network was reported as closed or had limited access as a result of the 2016 events, including 1,655km affected by multiple events.



Dawson Highway (Gladstone-Biloela) - Damage (left) and post completion of works (right) to damage from Tropical Cyclone Marcia (February 2015)

Flinders Highway – erosion behind concrete batters from Gulf of Carpentaria Monsoon Trough (December 2015–January 2016)

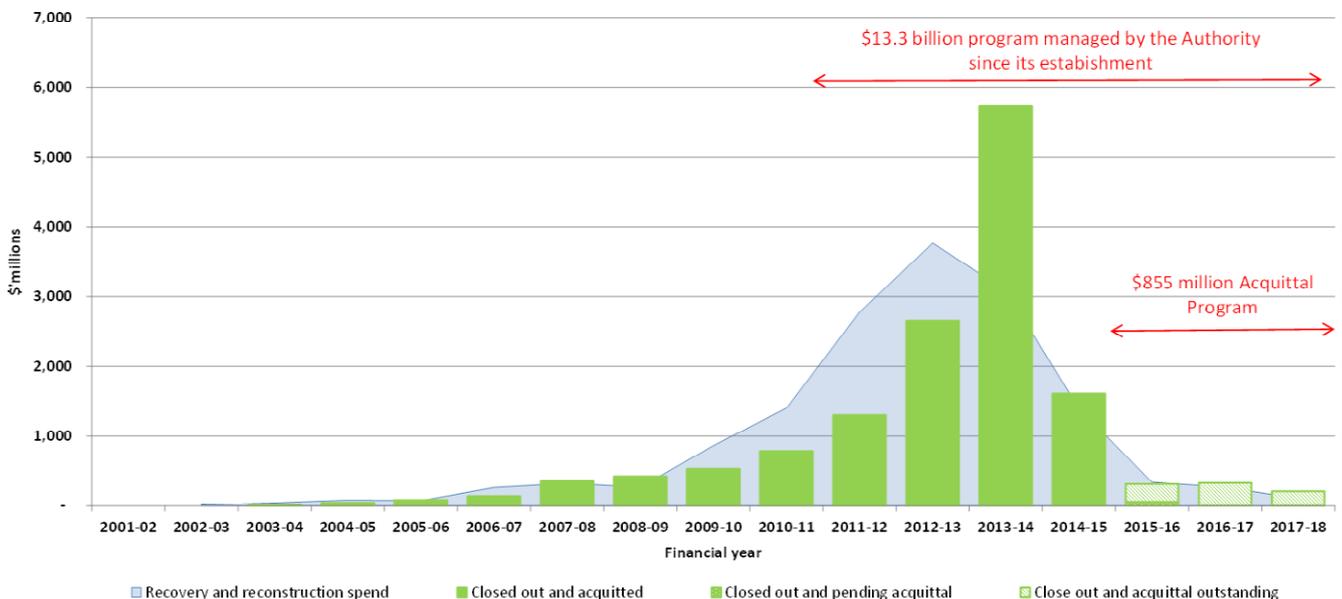
#### Acquittal Program status

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.

Through the Federal Budget in May 2016, the Commonwealth 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. QRA is actively engaging with the Commonwealth to progress the review and release of the funding in a timely manner.

The next Commonwealth 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, QRA will progressively close-out submissions for the claim through to December 2016 prior to audit review in early 2017. The 2015-16 Commonwealth 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 \$855 million remaining in the Acquittal Program.



(Source: QRA, 30 August 2016)

### 3.1 NDRRA program status (cont.)

#### Additional NDRRA assistance measures

The State Government in conjunction with the Commonwealth have activated a range of jointly-funded Category C, Category D and other relief measures to alleviate distress due to the impact of Tropical Cyclone Marcia in 2015.

Package	Purpose	Status
<b>2015 Events Betterment Fund (\$20 million)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For the restoration or replacement of essential public assets to a more disaster resilient standard than existed pre-disaster.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expressions of Interest (EOI) were received for 190 projects across eight LGAs eligible for funding. The proposals principally comprise works to increase the resilience of damaged roads, culverts and floodways.</li> <li>Projects have been progressively prioritised to allocate the available pool of funding. Submissions for 130 projects have been received by QRA to 30 September 2016. Of these, 58 submissions with a total project value of \$39.6 million, including \$19.99 million Betterment funding, have been approved.</li> <li>Delivery of 2015 betterment works will be required by 30 June 2017 in accordance with NDRRA requirements.</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> <li>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.</li> </ul>
<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>QRA 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> <li>QRA is monitoring the delivery of works. Any project savings identified may be considered for reallocation to eligible works.</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>QRA 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>IROs are in delivery phase with a range of support activities delivered including workshops, field visits, soil testing and feed sample analysis work.</li> </ul>
<b>Category C Community Recovery Package (\$5.1 million)</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>

#### 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 2103 Events Betterment fund** received extensions of time for delivery beyond 30 June 2015 due to excessive rainfall and other factors:
  - Aroona Road (Central Highlands)
  - Boolburra Edungalba Road (Central Highlands)
  - Booyal Crossing Road (Bundaberg) (since completed).

(Source: QRA, DCCSDS and DAF; 31 July 2016)

### 3.2 Recovery, resilience and mitigation activities

Following Cabinet's recent review of disaster management roles and responsibilities in Queensland, the QRA is now the lead agency responsible for disaster recovery, resilience and mitigation policy. A summary of recent progress is set out below:

#### Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience

One of QRA's immediate priorities is to update the Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience.

QRA attended a workshop on 29 August 2016 with stakeholders from across government and the private sector, such as Griffith University, to discuss and develop the strategy.

#### Brisbane River Catchment Flood Study (BRCFS)

QRA chairs the BRCFS Steering Committee, with membership comprising relevant Queensland Government agencies as well as SEQWater, Brisbane City Council, Ipswich City Council, Somerset Regional Council and the Lockyer Valley Regional Council.

Key achievements in September 2016 from Phase Two (Hydraulic Assessment) of the BRCFS were:

- The Hydraulic Assessment detailed modelling was completed and the report was circulated for stakeholder review
- The Hydraulic Assessment Technical and Summary Reports progressed and are nearing completion.
- The Communications and Engagement Working Group met to chart the communication strategies for the flood study release and the Floodplain Management Study engagement program.

Key achievements from Phase Three (Floodplain Management Study and Strategic Floodplain Management Plan):

- The Building Control Working Group met on 12 September to develop the Problem Definition and Outcomes Statement regarding building controls in flood prone areas
- The Field Survey Working Group met on 21 September to scope existing data available and develop tender specification for procuring floor level survey in the catchment
- Preparation of the Expression of Interest tender pack for the main Floodplain Management Study and Strategic Floodplain Management Plan (FMS and SFMP) progressed with the tender process commencing in early October.
- An expression of interest has been submitted to the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning for funding consideration through their joint funding arrangements, to provide additional funds for delivery of the FMS and SFMP.

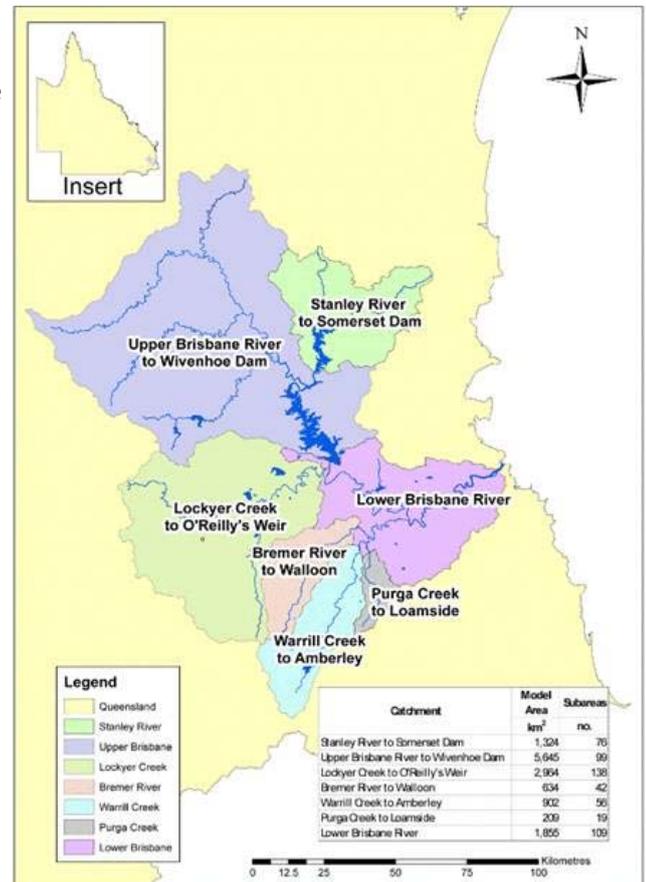
#### State Recovery Policy and Planning Coordinator (SRPPC)

QRA Chief Executive Officer Brendan Moon has been appointed as the State Recovery Policy and Planning Coordinator (SRPPC) to assist in the rapid recovery of communities following natural disasters.

In September 2016 the SRPPC role included:

- Continued development of the Strategic Policy Framework for Flood Risk Management and Resilience, with contributions sought from all relevant state government agencies.
- Finalisation of the draft Interim State Recovery Plan and obtained feedback from Functional Recovery Group lead agencies: Department of the Premier and Cabinet, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services and the Local Government Association of Queensland.
- Continued the audit of the Queensland Floods Commission of Inquiry recommendations assigned to local governments.
- Commenced the development of the Disaster Recovery Coordinator Guide to provide information and guidance on the roles, responsibilities, training and induction requirements, management arrangements and operational issues relating to Disaster Recovery Coordinators in Queensland.

BRCFS mapping area



### 3.3 Program spotlights

#### Cloncurry Shire Council

##### Cloncurry completes reconstruction works ahead of wet season

Cloncurry Shire Council has reached another significant natural disaster recovery milestone with the completion of its \$7 million reconstruction program to repair infrastructure damaged in 2015.

Cloncurry has seen more than its fair share of damage in recent years having been impacted by 11 natural disasters since 2011. So experienced at rebuilding following disaster events, Council has completed its latest restoration program well ahead of the Commonwealth Government's deadline of 30 June 2017.

Flooding in January 2015 caused widespread damage to town streets, the rural gravel road network and the Cloncurry weir with more than 24 sites across the region needing repairs as part of Council's restoration program.

Severe damage to vital roads such as Granada-Clonagh Road in the north of the Shire and Selwyn-Chatsworth Road in the south required major works to re-sheet their gravel surfaces.

Cloncurry's major industries of cattle and mining suffered disruption during this flooding, with many of the cattle properties unable to access the roads for supplies or moving stock and produce. Many of the roads servicing mine sites were also damaged causing disruption to mining industry operations during this time.

Cloncurry Shire Council Mayor Greg Campbell said Council's 2015 NDRRA restoration program was completed earlier than required due to Council's experience and ability to get on with the job.

"This achievement is thanks to Council's experienced staff who have managed multiple NDRRA events over the past five years," Cr Campbell said.

"Cloncurry Shire's rural road network provides vital access routes for the residents of the small townships within the Shire.

"Many of these roads to Kajabbi, Duchess and Dajarra were disrupted, with some of the gravel roads impassable.

"Residents of Kajabbi were unable to gain road access in or out of town for just over three weeks and Council had to airlift food and medical supplies to the community during this time.

"Small townships in the southern section of the Shire also experienced difficulty due to the state of the majority of the unsealed roads in the area.

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

"We can now concentrate on works from the 2016 natural disasters before the upcoming wet season," he said. Local contractors started works in September 2015 and completed them in May 2016.



*Damage (left), and following major works to re-sheet the gravel surface (right) to Selwyn– Chatsworth Road —Cloncurry Regional Council*

### 3.3 Program spotlights (continued)

#### Rockhampton Regional Council Additional funding for Kershaw Gardens

Rockhampton Regional Council has secured an extra \$1.4 million to restore Kershaw Gardens to its former glory.

Prior to its transformation into a popular recreation spot, Kershaw Gardens was a former land-fill site. Damage caused by Severe Tropical Cyclone Marcia in February 2015 exposed hazardous materials that required extensive clean-up before the park could be re-opened. In addition, nearly all of the park's infrastructure such as the barbeques, playground equipment, toilets, pathways, gardens and irrigation systems were destroyed by the cyclone.

In response to Tropical Cyclone Marcia, the Commonwealth and State Governments established a \$6 million exceptional circumstances package under Category D of the NDRRA for clean-up and restoration efforts that fall outside usual NDRRA eligibility.

In late 2015, Rockhampton Regional Council received \$3 million from the package to undertake clean-up and remediation works in Kershaw Gardens. The additional \$1.4 million recently allocated will help with Council's ongoing recovery effort and brings the total approved for Kershaw gardens to \$4.4 million.

Rockhampton Regional Council Mayor Margaret Strelow said the additional funding was another welcomed step towards recovery from the damage to the region from Tropical Cyclone Marcia.

"The destruction of Kershaw Gardens has left a painful visual reminder of the damage caused by Tropical Cyclone Marcia to our great city," Cr Strelow said.

"The restoration of this popular public space symbolises another step forward on Rockhampton's road to recovery and highlights the progress we've made since Marcia," she said.

"To date, large areas of the High Street end and Grevillia Hill area of the park have been capped with clean material, covering the exposed landfill.

"In addition, pedestrian pathways damaged from trees being uprooted have been repaired, along with works to remove hanging branches and trees required to make areas safe for public access.

"Looking forward, plans have been developed for the remediation of the central entrance (Knight Street) to provide the required level of capping material for a safe multi-use play area," Councillor Strelow said.

"I would like to thank the Australian and Queensland Governments for approving this funding under the NDRRA to help the Rockhampton community recover," she said.



*Kershaw Gardens received extensive damage from Severe Tropical Cyclone Marcia*

### 3.3 Program spotlights (continued)

#### TMR

#### Resilience Program gets districts ready for wet season

Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is gearing up for the coming summer with its annual Resilience Program, which incorporates continuity and preparedness sessions across the state.

Following six Continuity Network Response Plan (CNRP) sessions held in Brisbane, Cairns, Bundaberg, Maroochydore, Toowoomba and Barcaldine during July and August, a further six Preparedness sessions are being held in Cloncurry, Mackay, Rockhampton, Roma, Nerang and Townsville in September and October. The sessions are led by TMR's Transport Network Security and Resilience team, with content tailored to each district's needs.

During the CNRP sessions, external participants from Queensland Police Service (QPS), Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES), local government, Inspector General of Emergency Management (IGEM) and other areas of TMR acted as observers and provided valuable feedback on district processes.

District staff at the Preparedness sessions will be joined by representatives from the emergency management field, including QPS, QFES, Local and District Disaster Management Groups and Queensland Rail. This year's program focuses on TMR's role and capability in disaster management and identification of issues that may impact transport systems.

Along with an overview of disaster-related issues and updates that need to be shared with the group, each session will feature a scenario desktop exercise. The exercise is designed to clarify, reinforce and assess knowledge and processes.

The program supports TMR's risk, disruptive event management and resilience approach, and provides a level of assurance that the department has the ability to deliver on its required outcomes. As well as serving as a refresher on key processes, the sessions enable staff new to roles in disaster management to gain a better understanding of responsibilities before, during and after an event.

The Preparedness sessions will be complemented by further training for district staff involved in delivering recovery and reconstruction works through the NDRRA program.



Above: TMR Preparedness session in Townsville

## **Section four: Communications**



## 4.0 Communications

QRA 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 124 media items in September 2016 (59 print – 48%, 9 TV – 7%, 38 radio – 30%, 18 online – 15%), which reached a cumulative audience of approximately 1.4 million people.

There were media mentions for regions recovering from recent and previous natural disaster events including articles in the Buderim Chronicle, Bundaberg Guardian, Caboolture News, Cairns Post, Capricorn Coast Mirror, Central and North Burnett Times, Courier-Mail, Dalby Herald, Fassifern Guardian, Fraser Coast Chronicle, Gladstone Observer, Hervey Bay City Independent, Innisfail Advocate, Jimboomba Times, Rockhampton Morning Bulletin, Bundaberg News Mail, Queensland Country Life, Queensland Times, Southern Downs Weekly, Toowoomba Chronicle, Townsville Bulletin, Western Star, Western Times, and the Warwick Daily News; Internet coverage at abc.net.au, cairnspost.com.au, couriermail.com.au, goldcoastbulletin.com.au, theaustralian.com.au, and townsvillebulletin.com.au; TV coverage on the Seven and WIN networks throughout the State; and radio mentions on ABC Radio Queensland, 4BU Bundaberg, 4RO Rockhampton, 4CA Cairns and Radio 4KZ Innisfail, River FM Ipswich, SEA FM Rockhampton.

Making news in September 2016 were ongoing works on Betterment projects for communities recovering from Tropical Cyclone Marcia with articles appearing in the Central and North Burnett Times, Capricorn Coast Mirror and the Fraser Coast Chronicle. Rockhampton Regional Council, Livingstone Shire Council, North Burnett Regional Council, Gladstone Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council have all had projects funded under the \$20 million 2015 Betterment Fund.

#### Engagement Activities

On 15 September 2016, **Deputy Premier Jackie Trad** was key note speaker at the Get Ready Queensland Resilient Australia Awards, which is a national program to recognise and promote initiatives that strengthen community disaster resilience.

The ceremony was attended by **Chief Executive Officer Mr Brendan Moon** and **QRA Chair Maj-Gen Richard Wilson** and saw Sunshine Coast Regional Council's disaster hub win the Resilient Australia Government Award, with Bundaberg Regional Council and Cairns Regional Council receiving High Commendations. Category winners will now vie for the national Resilient Australia Awards, to be announced in late 2016.

#### Communications

We keep our stakeholders and the community informed and ensure access to the latest information regarding the reconstruction effort through our website, phone hotline and management of correspondence.

Our 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 30 September 2016, total website visits amounted to 504,179 – a 0.4 per cent increase since last month. *(See Figure 5.1.1)*

In September, we received an additional 30 calls to our dedicated hotline and managed 255 pieces of written correspondence *(See Figure 5.1.2)*

Fig. 5.1.1 Website traffic

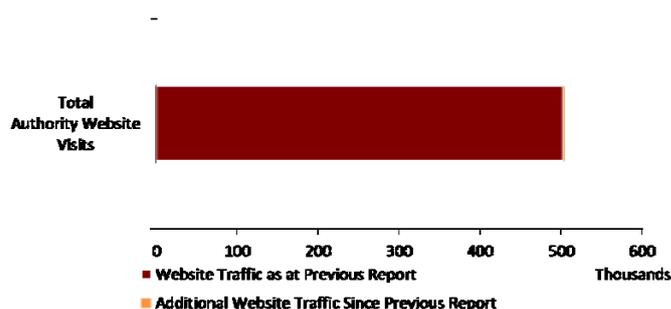
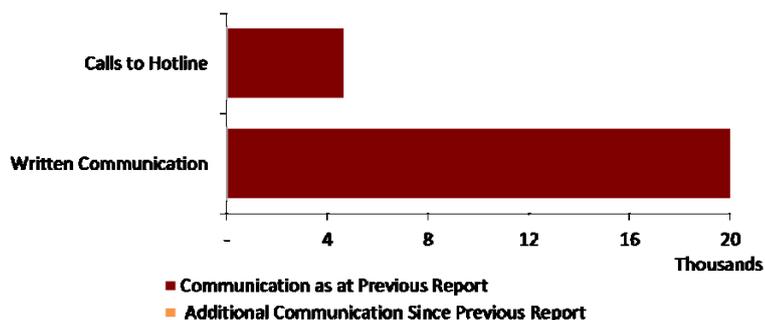


Fig. 5.1.2 Communications



Source: QRA at 30 September 2016

# Flood safe works are recognised

SIGNIFICANT work undertaken by Bundaberg Regional Council since the recent floods and tomatoes of January 2013 have been recognised at an awards ceremony at Queensland Parliament House.

The Burnett River Floodplain Action Plan, which has enhanced flood resilience across the region, received a Highly Commended Resilient Australia Government Award at the Get Ready Queensland Resilient Australia Awards.

Council's CEO Peter Byrne, Infrastructure and Planning general manager Andrew Fulton and design manager Dwayne Honor received the award from Deputy Premier Jackie Trad and Member for Bundaberg Leanne Donaldson.

Bundaberg Acting Mayor Bill Trevor said the plan combined community feedback with rigorous scientific, econometric and engineering analysis.

"A tremendous amount of valuable feedback was generated through this engagement and coupled with the recommendations of an independent Community Reference Group, council was able to formulate the Action Plan," he said.

"Outcomes of this project include...the construction of a levee and upgraded evacuation routes that provided added protection to property as well as being key infrastructure in the preservation of life in future flood events.

"River and rain gauges were improved to provide earlier warning of flooding and council staff were largely responsible for developing the innovative Burnett River Flood Gauge Mapping System, which has enabled citizens and disaster managers alike to access top-quality flood mapping for individual properties based on upstream flood gauge levels."

Bundaberg News Mail—19 September

# Fixing flood-hit roads

Council receives \$770,000 for upgrades

**Tabi Loftus**  
 tabi.loftus@western.com.au  
 THE North Burnett has received almost \$800,000 in funding from the State and Federal Governments to upgrade flood-affected roads.

Flynn MP Ken O'Dowd said the \$770,000 would help North Burnett Regional Council upgrade four roads hit by Cyclone Marcia.

Leggett's Rd, Barram Rd, Swinton Rd and Karribee Rd will be upgraded.

"Our region's roads are the supply network for so much great produce, the first link in a chain that takes our mandarins, blueberries, beef, cotton, to the world, and delivers goods jobs, and opportunity back to the regions," Mr O'Dowd said.

Federal Justice Minister Michael Keenan said the betterment program made sure roads across the North Burnett were better prepared for natural disasters.

"Today's funding will provide North Burnett the opportunity to rebuild to a better standard, improving the resilience of the roads and helping the community on its way to a full recovery," Mr Keenan said.

Queensland Deputy Premier Jackie Trad said the \$770,000 joined about \$3 million in betterment funds already provided to the North Burnett.

"These roads are vital

links to essential services flooded, you put it back where it was and it gets flooded again," Cr Chambers said.

"It's a ridiculous notion that if something gets flooded, you put it back where it was and it gets flooded again," Cr Chambers said.

"It's the definition of stupidity if you do something over and over again," she said.

"Betterment allows us to improve the road in the hope that what we do to the road decreases the damage that we have to repair next time.

"I thank the Australian and Queensland governments for their support in helping our region recover."

Central & North Burnett Times—1 September

# Talking points.

Gladstone Regional Council this week awarded Miriam Vale Plant Hire a \$3 million contract to repair and construct floodways on roads damaged by ex-Tropical Cyclone Marcia.

The repair program is to be conducted with funds provided by the Commonwealth and State governments' Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) initiative.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said the betterment works would restore affected floodways to the state they were in prior to the February floods and construct new floodways in areas identified as being otherwise vulnerable to future flood damage.

"The affected roads are located in our region's west where the storm conditions created by Marcia were at their worst," Councillor Burnett said.

Agnes Water Coastal Rag—17 September

**Bridge upgrades**  
**NORTH Burnett Regional Council has announced four bridges will close over the next month. As part of North Burnett Regional Council's NDRRA program, the bridges will be closed for about two weeks from Saturday, September 17 while betterment works are undertaken. The bridges are Jack Parr Bridge on Coonambula Rd, Burnett River No. 1 Bridge on Humphery Binjour Rd, Reids Creek on Mt Debatable Rd and Bon Accord Bridge on Bon Accord Wetheron Rd. The projects will involve the reconstruction of bridge approaches and replacement of the sealed pavement with concrete. The bridges will re-open on Monday, October 3, weather permitting.**

## FLOOD RESTORATION UPDATE

Over the next fortnight, flood restoration works will be concentrated in the following locations:  
**Gayndah Area** - Bon Accord Wetheron Rd, Humphery Binjour Rd, Mt Debatable Rd  
**Mundubbera Area** - Coonambula Rd



Section of Redvale Road, Gayndah 'completed' Council acknowledges the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) funding is a joint Commonwealth and State Government program.

Central & North Burnett Times—15 September

Central & North Burnett Times—8 September

# Bridge works coincide with end of fruit-picking season

NORTH Burnett Regional Council is using the finish of fruit-picking season to begin works on local bridges as part of the Federal Government's National Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements program.

From Saturday, September 17, the following bridges will be closed for two weeks while works are carried out:

- Jack Parr Bridge located on Coonambula Road, Mundubbera;
- Burnett River No. 1

Bridge located on Humphery Binjour Road, Gayndah;

- Reids Creek located on Mt Debatable Road, Gayndah; and
- Bon Accord Bridge located on Bon Accord Wetheron Road, Gayndah.

The projects will involve the reconstruction of one or both of the bridge approaches and replacement of the sealed pavement with concrete.

Due to the project scope, the council is unable to construct side tracks for these

locations, thus work has been scheduled to coincide with the finish of the fruit picking season and to minimise disruption to local school buses.

The bridges are expected to re-open on Monday, October 3.

The road closures will ensure the completion of more cost effective, quicker and safer projects, and when complete, the upgraded roads will provide greater flood resilience.

Bundaberg Guardian—8 September

# Keppel beaches, parks funding

KEPPEL'S beaches and national parks, along with North Rockhampton's creek crossings and Kershaw Gardens, will be upgraded through \$1.7 million of new funding to help the region to continue rebuilding after Tropical Cyclone Marcia.

The Member for Keppel, Brittany Lauga, said \$314,000 has been allocated to upgrade those crossings with a history of flood damage, including the Frenchmans Creek crossings on Kerrigan and Beasley Sts, and the Thozet Creek crossing on Rockonia Rd, which provides access to the Frenchville State School.

"Kershaw Gardens, an

important piece of community infrastructure that was severely damaged, has been allocated an additional \$1.4 million," Mrs Lauga said.

She welcomed the announcement by the Federal Minister for Justice, Michael Keenan, and Queensland Deputy Premier Jackie Trad for these vital infrastructure projects under the jointly funded Commonwealth-State Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements.

"This new funding is part of the \$20 million Betterment Fund to help local governments improve disaster resilience of

damaged essential public assets.

"This funding is in addition to the \$5.2 million in Betterment funding already approved to repair and upgrade Pilbeam Dr, the Glenmore Water Treatment Plant and six other roads damaged as a result of Cyclone Marcia."

"The funding announcement brings the number of approved Betterment projects for Rockhampton Regional Council to 11, with total project costs estimated at approximately \$10 million, with approximately \$5.5 million secured from the Betterment Fund.

Capricorn Coast Mirror—7 September

# Sentimental names for Morven roads

MURWEH shire has renamed a number of road segments in Morven and Charleville.

The Queensland Reconstruction Authority asked the shire to develop electronic roads data. In so doing, the shire discovered that eight existing roads were not officially given names. Five were in Charleville, three in Morven.

The road running to Morven's saleyards has been given a nostalgic name,

recalling a time where it was a camp zone for farm workers of all sorts.

Councillor Robert Eckel initially proposed Rum Jungle Lane as an appropriate title, before changing it to Gala's Lane after the area's once-large bird population.

Council finally agreed on Drover's Lane.

There will also be a Reservoir Road and a Stock Street in Morven, running to the town bore and from the

Warrego Highway to Killarney Road respectively.

In Charleville, the area from the Cemetery to the Sewerage Treatment Plant will now be known as Date Palm Dr, and the area at the rear of Tas Mini Motors running from Wills St will be known as Levee Esplanade.

Several roads in Charleville, including Adrian St, have been extended.

Central & North Burnett Times—1 September

# Netherby Rd wins funding

NETHERBY Rd, just south of Gundiah, will be upgraded through a \$740,000 Betterment funding grant.

The grant was announced by the Federal Minister for Justice Michael Keenan and Queensland Deputy Premier Jackie Trad.

"Fraser Coast Regional Council has secured funding to construct a new eight-metre-wide floodway with increased protection from future natural disasters," Mr Keenan said.

## FLOOD RESTORATION UPDATE

Over the next fortnight, flood restoration works will be concentrated in the following locations:  
**Gayndah Area** - Redvale Rd, Slab Creek Rd  
**Mundubbera Area** - Hawkwood Rd



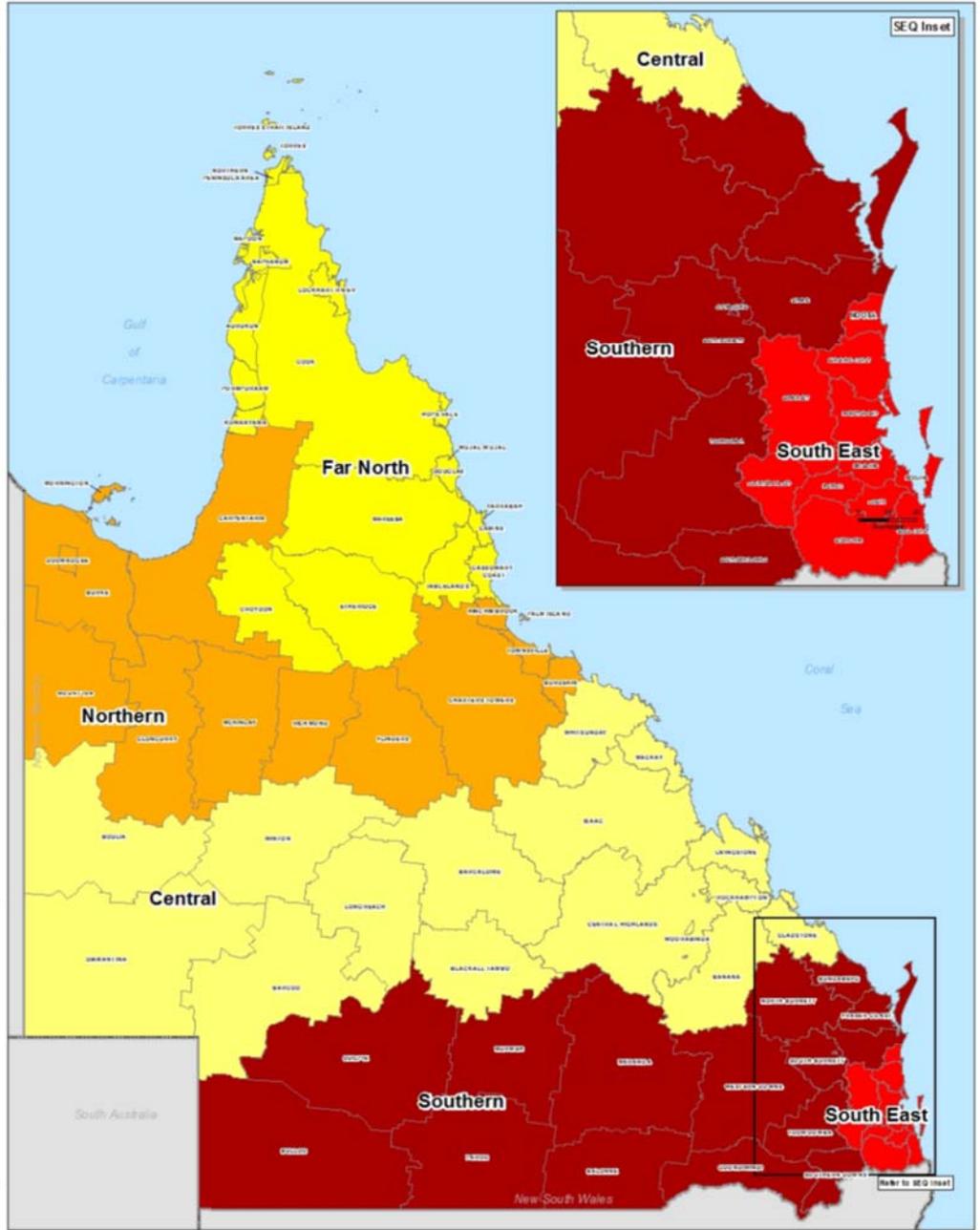
A Creek Rd, Mundubbera 'completed' Council acknowledges the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) funding is a joint Commonwealth and State Government program.

Fraser Coast Chronicle —1 September

# Appendices

# Appendix A: Local Government Areas by Region

Region	Local Government Areas (LGA's)		
Far North Queensland (FNQ)	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		
North Queensland (NQ)	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	
	Central Queensland (CQ)	BanSC	Banana Shire Council
		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	
Southern Queensland (SQ)	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		
South East Queensland (SEQ)	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

