

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 ASSISTANCE AND RESILIENCE GRANTS PROGRAM



61 events



77 councils with an active program



\$17.6 billion

2021-22



9 events



66 councils



\$4.93 billion



ETD \$3.73 billion



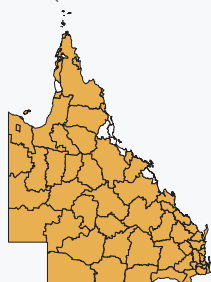
EFC \$3.88 billion



30/6/2024



96% complete
(remainder under EOTs)



2022-23



8 events



57 councils



\$1.31 billion



ETD \$899.2 million



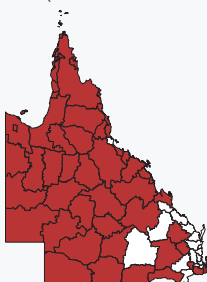
EFC \$0.99 billion



30/6/2025



91% complete
(remainder under EOTs)



2023-24



13 events



66 councils



\$3.86 billion



ETD \$1.93 billion



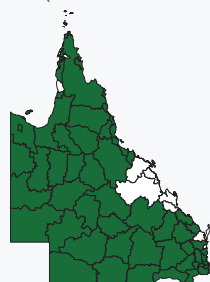
EFC \$3.37 billion



30/6/2026



57% complete
(remainder under EOTs)



2024-25



17 events



73 councils



\$5.33 billion



ETD \$1.03 billion



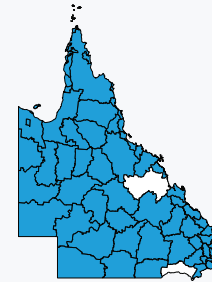
EFC \$5.08 billion



30/6/2027



20% complete



2025-26



14 events



75 councils



\$2.14 billion



ETD \$40.1 million



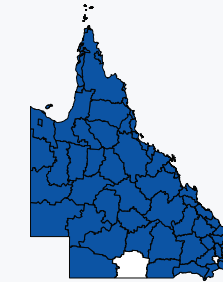
EFC \$2.14 billion



30/6/2028



2% complete



2025-26 DISASTER SEASON ACTIVATIONS

To date, the 2025-26 disaster season has triggered 14 DRFA event activations across 75 of Queensland's 77 local government areas.

In addition to standard DRFA Category A and B recovery measures offered, more than \$222 million of Category C and D extraordinary assistance packages were developed and approved during the disaster season to provide short and medium-term targeted assistance for relief, emerging recovery needs and resilience building activities.

Along with QRA's lead role in managing and coordinating Queensland's recovery and reconstruction program within disaster-impacted communities, QRA also administers a range of disaster resilience funding programs on behalf of the State – helping to strengthen the disaster resilience and preparedness of Queensland communities.

Information on the projects being delivered under these programs is available on QRA's website.

DISASTER FUNDING REFORMS

The Commonwealth announced proposed reforms to disaster funding arrangements on 5 June 2026.

The Commonwealth proposes to replace DRFA with a new Disaster Recovery Funding Framework (DRFF) and has requested formal feedback from states by 19 August.

The Commonwealth's proposed DRFF represents a significant change from the existing DRFA which has underpinned disaster recovery efforts across Australia since 2018 and is expected to have a disproportional impact on Queensland, as Australia's most disaster-prone state.

On Monday 6 July the Commonwealth circulated its Disaster Management Reform Discussion Paper, requesting that jurisdictions provide feedback and posing a number of questions relating to aspects of the reform.

QRA is working with state agencies and local governments to understand and respond to the implications of the proposed reforms.

HAZARD AND RISK MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONS

QRA leads the state's hazard and risk functions in the areas of Flood Risk Management, Hazards, Risk & Resilience, and Geographical Information System (GIS), as well as initiatives in Community Engagement and Education and Community Awareness Campaign.

QRA's responsibilities include providing a statewide approach to assessing risk from potential hazards, through the design and delivery of a risk assessment framework that is locally appropriate and fit for purpose.

Key hazard and risk program highlights include:

Queensland Hazard and Risk Assessment Framework (QHRAF)

QRA has progressed development of a revised hazard and risk assessment, informed by a comprehensive stakeholder consultation process that included webinars, regional workshops and engagement with representative local governments and state agencies.

The QHRAF currently includes:

- **Strategic Guidance:** outlines the elements of the framework and how it has been developed, provides guidance on how to use the framework and the benefits of undertaking a risk assessment.
- **Methodology:** outlines the standard risk assessment methodology which has also been incorporated into the QHRAF Tool.
- **Leading Practice Guidance:** guidance for undertaking a leading practice risk assessment. This is an optional approach for those local governments with the capacity, data and desire to build on the QHRA Methodology.

QRA has also developed GIS Tool for local government (and User Guide) which, steps users through the risk assessment Methodology and provides outputs that inform local resilience action plans and strategic risk-informed decision making.

The QHRAF has recently undergone pilot testing with a small number of councils providing feedback. The QHRAF is expected to be released in 2026-27.

INDUSTRY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Insurance roundtable

Following the successful Insurance in Rural and Regional Queensland Roundtable in Charleville on 11-12 September 2025, and subsequent workshops, QRA convened another Roundtable in St George in April this year, bringing together representatives from South West Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils (SWROC), the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), the Insurance Council of Australia, and major insurers. Following these roundtables we have seen new flood data transferred into the National Flood Information Database (NFID), and a greater spotlight put on the flood mitigation and risk reduction work underway.

Acknowledging that more work needs to be done to better understand the interplay between flood mitigation infrastructure and insurance premiums, councils and the insurance sector have been asked to consider:

- opportunities for innovation on data sharing
- collaboration across government and sectors
- risk identification and mitigation
- options for other innovative insurance products and solutions.

Flood Risk Management

The \$49 million DRFA Flood Risk Management Program is undertaking key activities to support evidence-based response, mitigation and resilience strategies to manage river, creek and overland flood risk. The FRM consists of three work packages:

WP1: Community engagement and education material

targeted Get Ready campaign focused on flood risk is now live along with resources for councils and community groups to increase community engagement and awareness of flood risks and available flood warning information.

WP2: LiDAR Capture

project to capture over 110,000 square kilometres of Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) data and the creation of a floor level database was completed in the June 2026 quarter.

WP3: Flood studies, risk assessment and management strategies and intelligence systems

Over 200 projects worth \$34.25 million are being delivered across 39 Queensland Local Government areas impacted by the 2021-22 flood events. These projects are designed for councils to manage their local river, creek and overland flood risks. Of the \$34.2 million, \$20 million has already been expended with the project due for completion in late 2026.

Flood Warning Infrastructure Network (FWIN)

\$7 million funded from the Commonwealth's Emergency Response Fund to improve Queensland's Flood Warning Infrastructure across 23 councils impacted by the 2022 South East Queensland flooding event.

Nine councils have received additional funding to deliver rain and river gauges identified by the Bureau of Meteorology through the National FWIN Program. Those gauges will become Bureau assets once commissioned.

All 180 assets have been delivered and commissioned, other than Gladstone Regional Council's final asset, Electronic Road closure signage.

We need to start thinking about insurance models differently to ensure there is meaningful and incremental change over time to support communities in high disaster-prone areas where insurance is no longer affordable.

QRA will convene a third insurance roundtable in late 2026 to ensure there is continued momentum in addressing this important issue.

Resilient Homes Fund Evaluation Report

The Resilient Homes Fund (RHF) Evaluation Report has now been released, offering valuable insights into the program design and delivery of the \$741 million Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements program.

The RHF was the first program of its kind, aimed at supporting homeowners impacted by the 2021-22 Southern Queensland Floods through resilient housing interventions of Home Raising, Resilient Retrofit or Voluntary Home Buy-Back (VHBB). QRA played a key role in delivery of the VHBB intervention of the RHF, with 685 contracts settled.

The evaluation was co-funded by QRA and Natural Hazards Research Australia (NHRA) and delivered by the University of Queensland (UQ), in collaboration with key contributors.

QRA attends the Gender and Disaster Australia Learning and Collaboration Forum

Recovery Planning Manager, Dejan Greenhalgh-Tomasovic was invited to attend the Gender and Disaster Australia Learning and Collaboration Forum in Melbourne this May. The forum involved several workshops to help shape a national research agenda for gender and disaster resilience in Australia. A national research agenda will help identify ongoing gaps in how gender is understood and addressed in disaster research, policy, and practice.

In addition to the forum, members of the Resilience and Recovery Division attended the Gender and Disaster Australia Lessons in Disasters training in June. The training was co-facilitated by Recovery Planning Manager Dejan and focused on the importance of applying a gendered lens to disaster policy, practice, and procedures and how gender considerations can influence disaster preparedness, response, and recovery efforts, ensuring more inclusive and equitable outcomes for all community members.



Recovery Planning Manager Dejan Greenhalgh-Tomasovic, Senior Project Officer Simone Gelfius, Principal Program Officer Joanne Miles, Principal Policy Officers Jyotishma Rajan and Rose Dagg at the Gender and Disaster Australia Lessons in Disaster Training

Reconstruction Monitoring – Operation Immanis Phase II

In May 2026 QRA Reconstruction Monitoring teams carried out the final Reconstruction Monitoring operation in response to last year's north Queensland flood disaster, doorknocking more than 600 homes across the region still identified as damaged from the floods.

QRA officers conducted property damage assessments in the local government areas of Cairns, Cassowary Coast, Hinchinbrook and Townsville, with support from councils, Queensland Community Recovery, and local Neighbourhood Centres.

During the operation, QRA collected data on structural damage to properties, the progress of repairs and insurance claims, and spoke with residents about their wellbeing post-disaster.

These assessments have tracked recovery from the North and Far North Tropical Low event of January and February 2025 and follow QRA's initial Reconstruction Monitoring in the region in June 2025 that saw almost 1,100 properties visited.

Of the 619 properties recently assessed, 369 properties are now repaired.

Of the 250 properties marked as still damaged, 154 have minor damage, 73 have moderate damage, and 23 are severely damaged.

While community spirit was high, access to trades was a continuous theme flagged by residents throughout the operation. The challenge with organising repairs in a timely manner has re-impacted some residents as water damage that has not been rectified has resulted in subsequent damage in other areas. Several councils also noted challenges due to historic land use planning decisions, especially access to appropriate drainage.

GET READY QUEENSLAND

Get Ready Queensland (GRQ) is a year-round, community resilience program that helps Queenslanders prepare for disasters. The comprehensive GRQ program includes crisis communications, campaigns, capability-building and community engagement, research, partnerships and funding for locally-led initiatives across Queensland's 77 councils and the Weipa Town Authority.

Project completed: Natural Hazard Preparedness Resources for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities

The project was established to address the unique barriers many culturally and linguistically diverse communities experience before and during natural disasters.

To help improve preparedness and accessibility, resources have been developed in 10 priority languages: Thai, Korean, Cantonese, Arabic, Dari, Mandarin, Vietnamese, Nepali, Spanish and Punjabi. While the original project scope proposed resources in six languages, the project team successfully expanded delivery to include four additional languages, increasing the reach and impact of the resources for Australian communities.

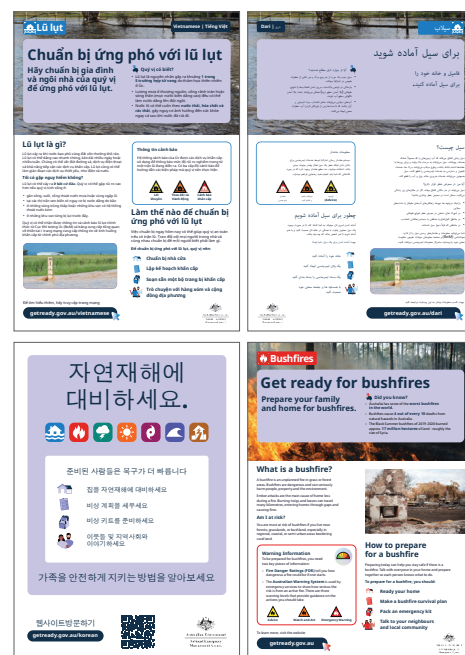
The project has delivered a comprehensive suite of multilingual preparedness resources, including:

- Seven hazard-specific factsheets (available in each project language)
- Seven hazard-specific preparedness videos and accompanying short-form video edits

- One all-hazards preparedness video
- Seven sets of social media tiles and supporting captions
- One all-hazards preparedness poster
- One all-hazards preparedness magnet
- Dedicated multilingual website content covering each natural hazard.

Together, these resources will help improve access to trusted preparedness information, enabling more Queenslanders to better understand local disaster risks and take practical steps to prepare before severe weather events occur.

The successful delivery of this project is a testament to the strong collaboration between QRA, project partners and community representatives, ensuring the resources are culturally appropriate, accessible and tailored to community needs.



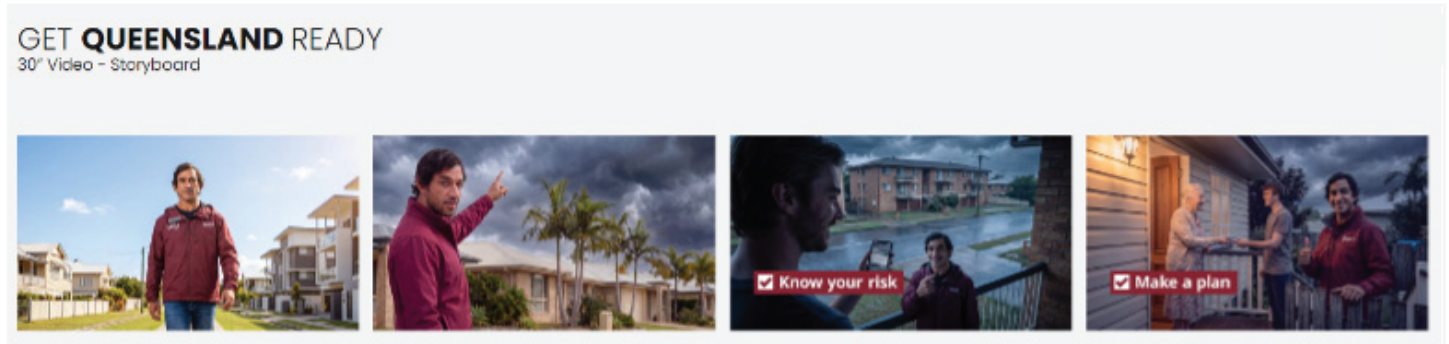
Get Ready Queensland Campaign 2026

Development of the Get Ready Queensland 2026 campaign has progressed to production, with concept development and audience testing now complete. The preferred concept, "Don't just get ready, Get Queensland Ready", has been submitted to the Advertising Advisory Group Sub-committee for noting.

The campaign has been informed by longitudinal preparedness data, the 2026 State of Preparedness Survey, last year's post-campaign survey and QRA's established behaviour change methodology. GRQ worked with creative agency VML to develop and refine campaign concepts, with the two strongest creative directions tested through five consumer research sessions across South East, North, Central and Western Queensland.

The 2026 campaign focuses on normalising preparedness and encouraging Queenslanders to take simple, practical actions that feel achievable and worthwhile. It aims to shift preparedness from something done only when disaster is imminent to a normal part of everyday life in Queensland.

The campaign is scheduled to launch on 6 October 2026, coinciding with the commencement of Get Ready Queensland Week 2026.



GRQ Delivering 10 'Lived Experience' case study stories!

The Get Ready Queensland team has successfully delivered the Gulf Lived Experience Content Package Project. The project captured the stories of Queenslanders from across the Gulf region following recent North West Queensland flood events, which resulted in one of the longest periods of community isolation experienced in the region in recent times.

Over a seven-day field trip across Normanton, Karumba, Burketown and Doomadgee, the team captured 10 lived experience case studies representing a diverse cross-section of the community.

The presence of QRA in the Gulf country was highly valued by local communities and stakeholders. Mayors, CEOs, councillors and residents welcomed the opportunity to engage directly with the travelling QRA team, strengthening local relationships and discussion about community resilience and preparedness initiatives.

Interview participants included Traditional Owners, primary producers, small business owners, tourism operators, community leaders and long-term residents, each sharing their unique experiences of disaster, recovery and preparedness.

The project was designed to move beyond traditional preparedness messaging and instead showcase real Queenslanders sharing authentic stories about what happened, what they learned and what they now do differently to prepare for future events.



Highlights from the stories

- Traditional knowledge and preparedness, with Doomadgee Traditional Owners sharing how environmental indicators such as crocodile nesting behaviour, ant activity and Morning Glory clouds have been used for generations to understand changing weather conditions and flood risk.
- Primary producer resilience, including stories from station owners who experienced both bushfire and flooding within weeks of each other and the lessons learned from preparing livestock, infrastructure by building flood levees and supplies for extreme events.
- Small business resilience, highlighting how tourism operators and accommodation providers survived months of isolation, managed disrupted supply chains and rebuilt stronger following significant flood impacts.
- Community support and recovery, with many interviewees describing neighbours, volunteers, emergency services and local businesses coming together to support one another during and after the floods.
- Remote community preparedness, demonstrating the importance of planning ahead, maintaining essential supplies and preparing for extended periods of isolation.

Several participants, including the Burke Shire Mayor, also reflected on the mental health and emotional impacts of disasters and the importance of connection, culture and community in supporting response and recovery.

Project outcomes

- 10 professionally produced video case studies.
- 10 accompanying written articles.
- A library of high-quality photography and b-roll footage. Additional vox-pop content from local residents at the Normanton Rodeo.
- Content assets to support Get Ready Queensland Week 2026 and future preparedness campaigns.

Draft Video Previews

- [Jil from Tirranna Springs](#)
- [Dan \(Helico\) Karumba](#)
- [Scott & Kaylene Broadwater Station, Normanton](#)

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

BUILDING BACK SMARTER: QUEENSLAND'S NEW BLUEPRINT FOR FLOOD RESILIENT HOMES

When floodwaters tore through Queensland communities in the summer of 2021-22, they left behind more than damaged homes, destroyed infrastructure and shattered livelihoods.

They also revealed a hard-won understanding of what works and what doesn't when it comes to rebuilding in the wake of severe weather, so future disasters won't have the same impact as those past.

Later in 2022 that knowledge was distilled into the practical and accessible Design Guidance for Flood Resilient Homes.

This document was available to all Queenslanders but was specifically developed to help homeowners undertaking resilient retrofitting and home raising works through the Resilient Homes Fund (RHF).

The RHF is a \$741 million program jointly funded by the Queensland and Australian Governments through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA), developed in response to the major flood disasters of 2021-22.

Over the past four years families have leveraged the Design Guidance for Flood Resilient Homes when raising their house, rebuilding, or improving a home's flood resilience.

Now, the guidance has been enhanced, informed by the experiences of homeowners supported through the RHF.

This includes a range of case studies that showcase resilient building strategies and design features and use before and after imagery and detailed illustrations and plans.

Queensland's Department of Housing and Public Works' Industry and Community Education team has led the delivery of this amended guidance, working closely with the Queensland Government Architect, the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA), and nation-leading Brisbane architecture firm JDA Co.

This collaboration brought together technical expertise, industry rigour, and the recovery-focused, on-ground know-how QRA has built through 15 years of disaster recovery work.

The result is guidance that isn't merely academic, it's deeply practical, and includes general design principles alongside flood-specific approaches, recognising that resilience isn't one-size-fits-all.

A Queensland home faces different risks depending on its location, and the guidance helps to increase this understanding and identify what resilient-building solutions are needed where and why.

Outside of this, perhaps the document's greatest strength is its accessibility.

The updated Design Guidance for Flood Resilient Homes has been written and designed with all Queenslanders in mind.

You don't need a building licence to understand the content, and by outlining priority flood-resilience actions it's made clear where to start, whatever the style of home or the flood risks faced.

It makes greater property resilience feel within reach for any Queensland homeowner, outcomes that will reduce disaster impacts, lower repair costs, and speed up recovery.

Supporting the launch of the revised guidance are various community engagement activities planned throughout the second half of 2026.

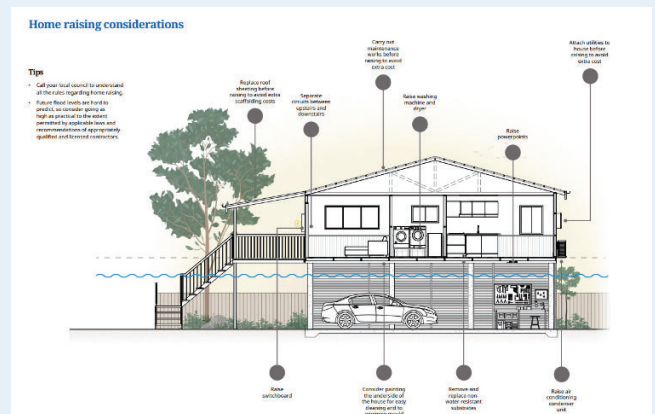
A public display will feature at the State Library of Queensland, 7-9 August 2026, aimed at equipping individuals and communities with the knowledge they need to prepare for and recover from flood events.

The Design Guidance for Flood Resilient Homes stands as a tangible link between recovery and readiness, turning the tough lessons of past floods into a roadmap for safer homes in the future.

The guidance is free for anyone to read and download via QRA's [Get Ready Queensland website](#).



The Design Guidance for Flood Resilient Homes document is available to all Queenslanders to help homeowners undertaking resilient retrofitting and home raising works.



The Guidance is a result of a hard-won understanding of what works and what doesn't when it comes to rebuilding in the wake of severe weather, so future disasters won't have the same impact as those past.



A home in Tingalpa being raised as part of the \$741 million Resilient Homes Fund, which informed the Design Guidance for Flood Resilient Homes.



With works completed, this Tingalpa home is now better able to withstand future floods.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

RECONSTRUCTION WORKS COMPLETED ON KEY NORTH QUEENSLAND FREIGHT ROUTE

A major milestone has been reached in Far North Queensland's recovery from Tropical Cyclone Jasper, with reconstruction works now complete on a key regional freight link.

The Palmerston Highway—the only designated route for B-doubles and Type 1 road trains between the Atherton Tablelands and the coast—intersects with the Bruce Highway north-west of Innisfail and runs through the heavily forested Wet Tropics World Heritage Area of Wooroonooran National Park to the township of Millaa Millaa.

After TC Jasper crossed the coast in mid-December 2023, record rainfall was reported across the region, including 986 millimetres in six days—of which 682mm fell in just two days—at nearby Crawford's Lookout. As a result, a 19-kilometre section of the Palmerston Highway was closed on 16 December 2023 due to major landslips and full-width pavement failures.

At the most severely damaged section between Crawford's Lookout and Junction Road (site 1), the entire slope with the road on it had sunk two metres and shifted two metres sideways. Another upslope landslip (site 2) measured 20 metres high and 75 metres at its widest point.

Despite ongoing heavy rainfall—a further 2644 mm was recorded in the area from January to April 2024—a temporary single-lane section was constructed at site 1 near Crawford's Lookout and the highway reopened on 10 February 2024. This site remained under single-lane access for safety during further works; however, the highway was able to be fully reopened under a reduced speed near site 2 from 5 June 2024.

Given the severity of the damage, extensive geotechnical investigations were undertaken to inform detailed design prior to construction tendering. After completion of these necessary preconstruction activities, reconstruction works were able to commence after the wet season, in March 2025.

Subsequent monsoonal rainfall events added to the challenges of working in a complex environment, with 3026mm recorded at Crawford's Lookout during the 2025 higher-risk weather season and 2516mm during the 2026 season. To keep works progressing, all-weather access methods such as piling pads were used where possible, enabling quicker resumption of work when conditions allowed and safety checks had been completed. Crews had to use makeshift rain protection canopies to facilitate steel fixing and concrete pours in wet conditions. Soil nailing proceeded despite rain, with protective measures including canopies for workers operating outside drilling machines.

At the downslope landslip at site 1, 83 concrete piles measuring up to 19 metres were installed over 160 metres. Works also involved installing 1100 linear metres of ground anchors, some up to 33 metres long. A capping beam was constructed to integrate the concrete piles and ground anchors and act as a retaining wall for the road embankment, ensuring structural integrity. The piles and capping beam used more than 1450 cubic metres of concrete, which is enough to fill half an Olympic-size swimming pool.

Upslope sites including site 2 were stabilised with more than 6500 linear metres of soil nails—the length of about 60 rugby league fields—along with high tensile mesh and coir netting. Damaged sections of rainforest in the road corridor have also been rehabilitated.

Reconstruction works were completed in May 2026.

The recovery works are jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland Governments through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).



Palmerston Highway – major damage from TC Jasper at site 1 (December 2023)



Palmerston Highway – completed works at site 1 (May 2026)



Palmerston Highway – major landslip site 2 (February 2024)



Palmerston Highway – completed works at site 2 (January 2026)