

Cloncurry Shire Council Local Monsoon Trough Recovery Plan

North & Far North Queensland Monsoon Trough, 25 January - 14 February 2019

Endorsed by: David Bezuidenhout, CEO on 1 May 2019



Mayor
Gregory Campbell



CEO
David Bezuidenhout

Recovery narrative

Recovery narrative

Council vision statement

Cloncurry Shire Council aims to ensure the viability and future of our growing community and to provide an inviting place for people to raise their families in our rural setting and prosper in the friendliest shire in North West Queensland.

Cloncurry Shire Council is committed to ensuring our communities are famous throughout Australia for being the friendliest in North West Queensland. Our towns are well serviced, our natural resources are used wisely, our local economy is diverse and strong, and the local government administration works collaboratively with us to achieve our aspirations.

Council values

- Prudent Financial Management
- Leadership and fair representation for all
- Maintain the viability of our rural lifestyle
- Honesty, integrity and accountability

Local Recovery Group

Established:	11 February 2019
Chaired by:	David Bezuidenhout, CEO, Cloncurry Shire Council
Local Recovery Coordinator:	Leanne Tu'ipulotu, Director Community Development
Economic Recovery Group:	Kristyn Akacich, Manager, Tourism and Economic Development
Human and Social Recovery Group:	Leanne Tu'ipulotu, Director Community Development
Environmental Recovery Group:	Megan Anderson, Manager Planning and Environment
Infrastructure Recovery Group:	Brendan Pearce, Director Works and Environmental Services

Key stakeholders

Lead state government agencies, community groups, non-government organisations/non-government associations, local businesses and trader associations, service providers and other invested parties.

Recovery themes

1. Response: ensure community safety
2. Rebuilding: bring the community forward to a new normal
3. Restoration: working together to repair and re-establish community linkages across the lines of recovery
4. Resilience: embed the principle in all activities to mitigate, improve and build betterment for the community

Recovery objectives

1. Essential services – Power, water, waste, telecommunications – repaired and restored
2. Implementation of Carcass Disposal Plan for deceased livestock and wildlife
3. Supporting and assisting people to access emergency hardship grants and funding approvals
4. Support primary producers with the disposal of deceased wildlife and livestock
5. Fencing requirements identified, graziers supported to utilise available assistance to restore fencing
6. Consult and engage with the local leaders, community members and service providers on long term community-led recovery outcomes
7. Community support opportunities including outreach, adopting a community led approach when planning for long term support with a focus on mental health, community wellbeing, connectedness and leveraging off ongoing community events
8. Road transport network – Completed damage assessment, developed coordinated restoration and betterment planning for the extensive road transport network for state and local controlled roads
9. Impact assessments – to be completed and understood by Council
10. Road transport network – Completed damage assessment, developed coordinated restoration and betterment planning for the extensive road transport network for state and local controlled roads
11. Key transport routes – priority restoration and improved resilience to the key transport routes for Primary producers and resource sectors – completed surveys of primary producers and Cloncurry Shire mining
12. Flood resilience – develop and implement strategies for greater flood resilience – Cloncurry River and catchment areas
13. Work closely with local businesses to assist with rebuilding, including developing their resilience to future disasters
14. Restore confidence in the tourism market
15. Regional collaboration plan completed with neighbouring Councils which were also impacted by the event

Recovery objectives

Damage and impacts

Damage and impacts

Human and Social

- Extreme financial hardship for primary producers due to extensive loss of livestock after the flooding, following years of drought and the prolonged financial burden.
- Uncertainty on the economic future for primary producers and employees due to the timeframes to re-establish business which will provide an income.
- Mental health concerns for primary producers due to previous prolonged drought conditions.
- Mental health concerns for young people, particularly children of primary producers due to separation during the event.
- Health concerns around clean up, carcass management, mould, and fatigue.
- Properties were inundated and properties are inhabitable.
- Primary producer fencing was destroyed.

Economic

- Mining resource industry impacts due to isolation of staff, damage to assets including railway and roads.
- Mining and resource industry impacts – Phosphate Hill ceased operations.
- Agriculture industry: extensive stock loss by graziers in the region, as well as damage to fencing, machinery and sheds.
- Extended disruptions to transport routes for product freight into and from Cloncurry, particularly the cattle producers facing long term delays in repairs to roads to allow heavy vehicle access.
- Loss of local services and supplies, particularly food and fuel.
- Loss of income/profits to small businesses – staff isolation and lack of stock due to road closures.

Environment

- Cloncurry Basin and river catchment erosion.
- Biosecurity concerns within agriculture industry.
- Public health concerns, including mosquitos, water quality.
- Loss and disposal of wildlife and livestock plans.
- Weed growth throughout the environment.

Building

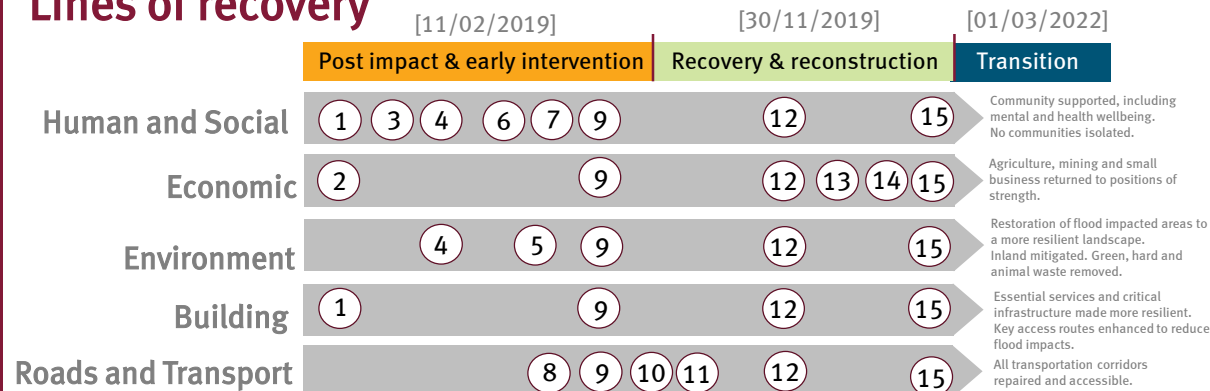
- River height monitoring stations damaged.
- Council's Wide Area Network (WAN) directly impacted, impeding response and business continuity.
- Damaged shade sail at community playground and community pool.

Roads and Transport

- All townships, outlying areas and key transport routes were isolated for varying lengths of time due to flooding, bridge floodway damage including, but not limited to:
- Six roads remain at limited access to local 4WD traffic only.
 - Flinders Highway closed for 27 days.
 - Landsborough Highway to Winton closed for 26 days.
 - Clonagh Road remains closed to all traffic.
 - Mount Isa to Townsville train line damaged at Nelia (McKinlay Shire). Impacts to local mining exports. Closed until end of April 2019.

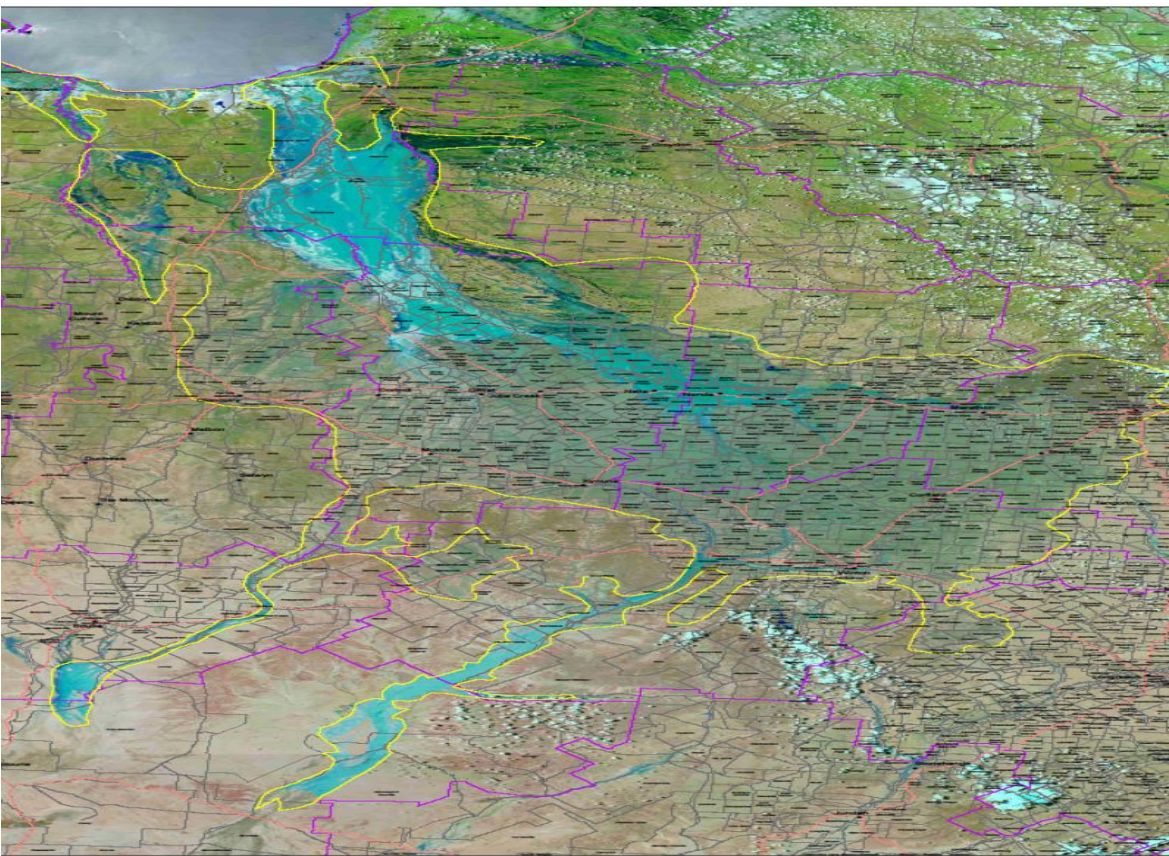
Lines of recovery

Lines of recovery



Damage – locations

The below map is indicative of potential impacts across the Shire.



Activations for Disaster Recovery Funding Assistance

For details of activations and assistance measures visit www.qra.qld.gov.au/activations

Grant Assistance Activations

Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)

Category	A	A/B	B	B	B	B			B			C/D	C	
LGA	PHAS	CDO	ESSR	REPA	Freight subsidies	Essential Working Capital Loans			Disaster Assistance Loans			Clean-up and Recovery Grants		
						PP	NFP	SB	PP	NFP	SB	PP	NFP	SB

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Cloncurry

Activations Key:

LGA - Local Government Area	PP - Primary Producers
PHAS - Personal Hardship Assistance Scheme	NFP - Not-for-Profit organisations
CDO - Counter Disaster Operations	SB - Small Business
ESSR - Essential Services Safety & Reconnection	REPA - Reconstruction of Essential Public Assets

Recovery tasks

- Opening of key roads used for transport.
- To minimise public risk and make roads and public land areas safe for emergency services, utilities agencies and residents to enter the disaster affected areas.
- Work with vulnerable groups such as young people to coordinate recovery activities.
- To reduce risks to public health following the disaster by implementing the animal carcass disposal plan.
- To assist with the coordination and distribution of material relief to those affected by the disaster.
- Introduce a governance and reporting strategy for the recovery identifying key milestones and reporting requirements.
- To build trust in council in the affected communities.
- To support the wellbeing of Primary Producers through community engagement activities.
- Ensure that Council can continue with business as usual projects whilst in recovery.
- To provide access to timely information about post-disaster circumstances and recovery activities.
- Support local businesses to re-establish themselves after the disaster, especially those critical to community re-establishment – completing an impact assessment survey to understand their needs.
- Increase to the number of trucks on roads causing damage. Council to monitor the conditions of roads through this period.
- To address the animal welfare needs of livestock, pets and wildlife in the affected areas (memorial planning).
- To retain and improve the local employment opportunities.
- To attract customers back to local communities and leverage off tourism campaign/s.
- To identify economic and environmental issues for incorporation into medium and long term recovery plans.
- To identify emerging agricultural issues for incorporation into medium and long term recovery plans.
- To identify emerging natural environment issues for incorporation into medium and long term recovery planning.

Recovery reporting

Council Recovery Reporting Arrangements

- Weekly situation reports (sitrep) on recovery progress is to be prepared for Recovery leads by the Local Recovery Coordinator.

Timelines:

- Sitreps to be completed on Friday afternoons for dissemination on Monday mornings.

Meetings:

- The Local Recovery Group will meet weekly in the early stages of the recovery and will transition to regular meetings to address any issue that may arise that could hinder the recovery objectives and their completion progress.
- Community meetings will be arranged if this is an identified need to keep the community informed and updated.