

**MEDIA STATEMENT**

18 April 2024

**Wet weather impacts Kuranda Range works**

- The unexpected severe wet weather on Monday 15 April 2024 has impacted the schedule for the night works on Kuranda Range Road.
- It is expected three nights of full closures on Kuranda Range Road are required to complete the emergency repair works. These nights will likely be in late April or early May 2024, weather and materials dependent.
- The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is continuing planning for long-term solutions.

The unexpected severe wet weather on Monday night 15 April 2024 has impacted the schedule for the night works on Kuranda Range Road.

Ongoing undermining of the road was occurring due to wet season impacts at several locations on Kuranda Range Road.

These works need to be carried out to ensure the road remains safe for single lane traffic and avoid a full closure, which would result in long-term significant disruptions.

The emergency works are taking longer than expected due to the recent wet weather, specialist supply issues and challenging site conditions.

These unforeseen circumstances resulted in changes to the design due to the emergent nature of the works and subsequent extensions in the work schedule.

At this stage, it is expected three more nights are required to complete the works.

These nights will likely be in late April or early May 2024; the exact dates depend on the weather and supply of materials. TMR will inform road users about the new date when it is known.

No works are scheduled on Kuranda Range Road until then, and the road will be open, road conditions permitting, with single lane sections in place.

TMR is planning long-term solutions for repair and recovery works to the damaged road network, including Kuranda Range Road.

TMR is prioritising the design, relevant approvals and preparation of suitable construction methodologies for these recovery works.

Once a program of works is finalised, TMR will advise the community of the expected construction timeframes and traffic arrangements for the works.

The current works have also been designed to assist in the constructability of the long-term works. The start date of the long-term works is likely to be several months away.

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

For up-to-date information about the state-controlled road network, check the QLDTraffic website or call 13 19 40.

**Quotes attributable to Darryl Jones, Acting District Director (Far North):**

“Safety is our number one priority.

“The crew needs dry weather conditions to complete the works.

“When the dates for the three remaining nights are known, we will advise road users.

“I’d like to thank road users for their patience while we carry out these important works.”

**ENDS**