

MEDIA STATEMENT

Contract awarded for Gillies Range Road reconstruction

- The Queensland Government has awarded the contract for the long-term reconstruction of 14 upslope and downslope landslips on the Gillies Range Road, extensively damaged following Tropical Cyclone Jasper and associated flooding.
- Temporary emergency works were initially carried out to stabilise landslips on various roads to enable key routes to remain open while further works were planned.
- Works are now complete on two downslope slips on Gillies Range Road near Lake Barrine.

The Queensland Government has awarded the contract for the next phase of reconstruction works on the Gillies Range Road to Koppen Development Pty Ltd.

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

This milestone paves the way for critical works to address 14 landslips caused by the severe rainfall and flooding associated with Ex-Tropical Cyclone Jasper.

Works are due to commence in late 2025 and will be completed by mid-2026, weather and site conditions permitting. The works will involve major and minor slope rectification across various sections of the 56-kilometre road.

Permanent geotechnical and erosion control treatments will be used to reinstate the road to its pre-disaster function.

The Gillies Range Road is one of four range roads between Cairns and the Tablelands that sustained significant damage during the cyclone. Reconstruction works have been carefully coordinated with repairs on other key routes to minimise traffic disruptions and ensure safe, reliable access for road users across the region.

The recently completed priority works near Lake Barrine commenced in July 2025 and were completed in late October 2025. These works included soil nailing and shotcreting to stabilise the slopes and prevent further damage. These works were essential to ensuring the safety of road users and maintaining access.

Department of Transport and Main Roads Regional Director (North Queensland) Ross Hodgman said the contract award to restore the Gillies Range Road is a major milestone in restoring a critical link for freight and travellers.

“The Gillies Range Road is a critical transport link for Far North Queensland communities, freight operators and visitors to the region,” Mr Hodgman said.



“While the steep terrain provides picturesque lookouts for tourists and other travellers, it also means the road is susceptible to slope damage from heavy rainfall events.

"Awarding this contract marks a major milestone in delivering essential disaster recovery work to restore this important road.”

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