

16 September 2025

Significant piling works begin on Palmerston Highway

- Piling works to stabilise a cyclone-damaged downslope landslip on Palmerston Highway have started
- A 100-tonne piling rig has mobilised to site to install the piles
- Piling is part of the reconstruction of the slip

Reconstruction works are continuing on a key freight route in Far North Queensland with a 100-tonne piling rig installing concrete piles.

The rig is positioned on a specially formed platform, at a damaged site on the Palmerston Highway, 2.5 kilometres west of Crawfords Lookout.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) will use the rig to install more than 80 concrete piles, measuring up to 24 metres in length.

The piling is part of essential geotechnical work which, together with soil nails, will stabilise a downslope section where the road sunk two metres and shifted two metres sideways, because of heavy rainfall following Ex-Tropical Cyclone Jasper in late 2023.

TMR began reconstructing two sites on the road in late 2024.

Traffic holds up to 10 minutes may be required during the delivery and unloading of the piles which will continue weekly until the works are completed in early 2026, weather and site conditions permitting.

TMR will provide advance notice of any significant traffic impacts.

The reconstruction works will continue until mid-2026, pending weather and site conditions, and construction constraints.

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

For more information [Far North Queensland cyclone reconstruction works | Department of Transport and Main Roads](#)

ENDS

Media contacts: TMR Media

Images on the piling works are available here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/9t75xbjnwei1piow80iaf/ABBXpnNN0mBg25NzS9DzUrE?rlkey=kh4d2gi24g9ouz80e60zdanlo&st=vmhg0xmk&dl=0>