

Alex W Andrews

From: Sally Z Stannard
Sent: Wednesday, 12 November 2025 11:32 AM
To: Ann-Maree Knox; Julie Mitchell; Anne E Moffat
Cc: Anthony W Neary; Ross V Hodgman; Kylee M Petersen
Subject: RE: DG Mount Spec FREW Drill and Blast update

Many thanks for the update. So pleased this was able to go ahead and seems very controlled and closely managed – well done.

Kind regards

Sally Stannard

Director-General

Department of Transport and Main Roads

P 07 3066 7316

Floor 34, 1 William St, Brisbane Qld 4000

GPO Box 1549, Brisbane Qld 4001



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From: Ann-Maree Knox
Sent: Wednesday, 12 November 2025 9:56 AM
To: Sally Z Stannard ; Julie Mitchell ; Anne E Moffat
Cc: Anthony W Neary ; Ross V Hodgman ; Kylee M Petersen
Subject: DG Mount Spec FREW Drill and Blast update

Sally,

As you know, Mt Spec boulder was blasted over the weekend – footage attached if you don't want to follow the link (skip to 40 second mark).

A social media post is being prepared. Summary of journey below.

CN-25253 – FREW Drill and Blast. (Ch 10.88)

- Contractor on site – 01/10/2025
- Temp Works for drilling access completed by 15/10/25
- Explosive material arrived in Townsville 03/11/25
- Drilling and charging of boulder completed on 07/11/2025
- Boulder blast successfully completed at 11am on 08/11/2025
- Escorts booked for Sunday 9th during road closures were able to be honoured.
- Road access granted to those with permit as planned 6am 10/11/2025
- Licenced drone operator provided a combination of Drone and GoPro images and videos by USB – 10/11/2025
- TMR Chief Pilot Operator reviewed Drone images only, with minimal CASA Compliance issues – 10.11.2025

- Approved images are accessible at location of : [T:\CN-25253 - Mt Spec Rd - H5 Boulder Blast - 08.11.25 Footage](#)
- Remaining boulder fragments relocated to a stockpile location on Mount Spec Road ('the Saddle') to be completed by **15/11/2025**
- Fragmented rock will be repurposed for continuing reconstruction works on Mount Spec Road. (Used for any dry-stone walling or veneer works)
- Contractor completed on site – **16/11/2025**

Kind Regards,

Ann-Maree Knox

General Manager (Program Delivery and Operations)

Infrastructure Management and Delivery

Department of Transport and Main Roads

P 07 3066 2301 M

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From: Ann-Maree Knox

Sent: Wednesday, 5 November 2025 11:36 AM

To: Sally Z Stannard <Sally.Stannard@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Julie Mitchell <Julie.Mitchell@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Anne E Moffat <Anne.E.Moffat@tmr.qld.gov.au>

Cc: Anthony W Neary <Anthony.W.Neary@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Ross V Hodgman <Ross.V.Hodgman@tmr.qld.gov.au>

Subject: DG Mount Spec update - 05 November 2025

Sally,

As previously flagged, explosives arrived on Monday and planned blast will occur this weekend.

Please let me know if you have any questions or require further information.

1. Status of Permits Issued and Potential Lifting of Scheme (as of 05/11/2025)

- 389 Single round trip permits issued to date (General Public)
- 117 Trade permits issued to date
- 110 School camp and business permits issued to date
- 79 Full time resident permits issued to date
- 86 Part time resident permits issued to date
- 9 Special allowance permits issued to date (Carers of permanent residents)
- Removal of permit system tied to holding works at Ch. 10.88 and 14.3.
- Notification for renewing permits till early 26, for permanent and part time residents, drafted and approved, waiting issue based on progress.

Summary / Key Messages

- Holding works plan to be completed prior to end of **November 2025**.

- Removal of permit system still subject to further Geotech assessment to see if holding works mitigated the risk sufficiently.

2. **Status of Repairs Program**

CN-25240 – Mount Spec Reconstruction Contract (Main contract)

- Possession of Site – 6pm 22/10/25
- Date for Practical Completion – 30/11/2026

Summary / Key Messages

- Monitoring system installed at H7 (2nd high risk site) – to provide early advice of remobilisation of slip
- Planning for holding works at H7 continuing. Holding works are more significant than anticipated, **November completion at risk.**
- Early activities such as ESCP installation continuing
- Watering of landscape sites (by others) continuing
- WTMA induction booked for this week.

CN-25252 – FREW Landscape - Completed

CN-25253 – FREW Drill and Blast. (Ch 10.88)

- Contractor on site – 01/10/2025
- Contractor completed on site – 16/11/2025

Summary / Key Messages

- Explosive material arrived in Townsville 03/11/25
- Drilling of boulder complete
- Controlled blast planned for this weekend 08/11/25

Kind Regards,

Ann-Maree Knox

General Manager (Program Delivery and Operations)

Infrastructure Management and Delivery

Department of Transport and Main Roads

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Alex W Andrews

From: TMR Media
Sent: Thursday, 31 July 2025 10:37 AM
To: Sally Z Stannard
Cc: Anne E Moffat; Media; Cameron Y Leslie; James X Murphy; Media; Madeline R Cooper Quinn
Subject: Social media post accompanying MS for approval by 2pm please - LAARMA system trial results
Attachments: MS_LAARMA trial.docx

Hi Sally

Please see the below social media post for approval to accompany the media release regarding the LAARMA trial that was distributed to ABC last night (attached).

Thanks very much.

Approved by: DD, RD, IMD DDG,

Visuals - <https://owncloud.tmr.qld.gov.au/index.php/s/8FD56tFJL2PQrv3>

Password – LAARMA

File name – Cassowaries CCTV Footage Success

[[Facebook]]

A win for road safety AND cassowaries! 🚗 🦘

An AI-powered trial in Far North Queensland has delivered amazing results! The *Large Animal Activated Roadside Monitoring and Alert system* (LAARMA) detected cassowaries with 97% accuracy and alerted drivers in real-time, reducing crash risks by 31%! 📉

Drivers slowed down by an average of 6.3km/h when the system displayed a “cassowary detected” warning

With such promising results, TMR are exploring how this technology could be rolled out permanently and even adapted to detect other animals, or people.

This innovation is a big step forward for conservation and road safety! ☀️ 🦘

Shoutout to @iMOVE and all the partners who made this happen.

Together, we're keeping Queensland's roads safe for everyone ❤️

#LAARMA #RoadSafety #CassowaryCare

[[LinkedIn]]

🚗 Innovation in action: Protecting cassowaries and improving road safety in Far North Queensland

An AI-powered trial using the *Large Animal Activated Roadside Monitoring and Alert system* (LAARMA) has delivered outstanding results, combining cutting-edge technology with real-world impact.

The system achieved 97% accuracy in detecting endangered Southern Cassowaries and alerted drivers in real-time, reducing crash risks by 31%. Drivers also slowed down by an average of 6.3km/h when the “cassowary detected” warning was displayed—showing how targeted, dynamic messaging can influence safer driving behaviour.

This trial is a significant step forward for both conservation and road safety. Cassowaries are a keystone species in Far North Queensland, and reducing vehicle collisions is critical to their survival.

With such promising results, the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is exploring how this technology could be rolled out permanently and even adapted to detect other animals, or people.

A big thank you to @iMOVE Cooperative Research Centre and all the partners who made this project possible.

Together, we’re keeping Queensland’s roads safe for everyone ❤️

#LAARMA #RoadSafety #CassowaryCare

[[Instagram]]

A win for road safety AND cassowaries! 🚗 🌿

An AI-powered trial in Far North Queensland has delivered amazing results! The *Large Animal Activated Roadside Monitoring and Alert system* (LAARMA) detected cassowaries with 97% accuracy and alerted drivers in real-time, reducing crash risks by 31%! 📊

Drivers slowed down by an average of 6.3km/h when the “cassowary detected” warning flashed, proving this tech is a game-changer for road safety and conservation.

With such promising results, TMR is exploring how this technology could be rolled out permanently and even adapted to detect other animals, or people.

Big thanks to @iMOVE and all the partners who made this happen.

Together, we’re making Queensland’s roads safer for everyone! ❤️

#RoadSafety #CassowaryCare #AllInnovation #FarNorthQLD #LAARMA

📷 : Keeping an eye out for our rainforest icons 🦘 🌴

Matt Tewhatu

A/Principal Advisor (Social Media), External Affairs, Strategic Communication Unit

Governance Branch | Corporate Division

Department of Transport and Main Roads

M

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Released under RTI - DTMR

MEDIA STATEMENT

Subject	Large Animal Activated Roadside Monitoring and Alert system trial outcome		
Due date (expiry date for release or embargo date)	Tuesday 29 July		
Written by	Name Michelle Walkden Position Communication Advisor Division/Region PDO Far North Date 07/07/2025	Approved by	Name Ross Hodgman Position Regional Director Division/Region PDO North Queensland Date XXX
For release by	<input type="checkbox"/> Transport and Main Roads Minister <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department	Media and Issues contact	
Background			
Other related comms being released as part of this project /announcement.	Coincides with iMove release of research report (third party release approved), iMove media (in approvals) and industry webinar scheduled for 29 July (approved).		
Funding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Government <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Government - Has federal approval been received for release of media statement? Yes/No <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Council QTRIP ID: Details: (Please include project value and relevant breakdown if jointly funded)		
Impacted stakeholders	iMove:		
Electorate/s	Barron River		

VISUAL ASSETS – Required for all media opportunities

Have visual assets been provided with statement?

- Photos (If not, please contact TMR Graphic Design to arrange photography)
- Concept images
- Project designs
- Video/VNR/Drone (If not, please contact TMR Graphic Design to arrange)
- Fly-through animations

SOCIAL MEDIA PITCH (also send to social.media@tmr.qld.gov.au)

- Facebook
- Twitter
- LinkedIn

Social Media proposed copy content:

Body of text here

Social Media tags



Body of text here

XX July 2025

Success in AI trial in busy cassowary corridors

- A trial using AI to detect cassowaries and immediately alerting oncoming traffic has been hailed a success with the system reaching 97 per cent accuracy by the end of the three-month period.
- The trial was the latest collaboration between the Department of Transport and Main Roads and iMOVE Cooperative Research Centre.
- TMR is considering how the technology can be incorporated into permanent road safety initiatives in the region, and possibly expanded to identify other species—including humans—in a variety of settings.

A trial using AI to detect cassowaries in busy traffic corridors and immediately alerting oncoming traffic has been hailed a success with the system achieving 97 per cent accuracy by the end of the three-month period.

The trial was the latest collaboration between the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) and iMOVE Cooperation Research Centre, which developed and tested roadside technology to prevent animal-vehicle collisions in early 2024.

The Large Animal Activated Roadside Monitoring and Alert system (LAARMA) used a sensor array powered with artificial intelligence to identify endangered Southern Cassowaries on or near a known crossing point on the Kennedy Highway at Kuranda.

Results, released today, show LAARMA was effective in identifying when the species was present and triggering a warning to drivers, displayed on dynamic roadside signage.

Throughout the trial, machine learning was used to teach LAARMA to recognise the birds with the accuracy continually improving over the trial period.

Pre-trial work to test the impact of roadside messaging was also validated, with drivers dropping their speed by an average 6.3kmh when shown the flashing 'cassowary detected' warning.

Hitting, or swerving to miss a cassowary at speed, can result in serious injury to both bird and driver, with TMR analysis suggesting the trial reduced the risk of a fatal crash by 31 per cent.

TMR is considering how the technology can be incorporated into permanent road safety initiatives in the region, and possibly expanded to identify other species—including humans—in a variety of settings.

The LAARMA research, conducted by the Australian Centre for Robotics (University of Sydney) and the Centre for Accident Research and Road Safety Queensland, was funded by iMOVE CRC and supported by the Cooperative Research Centres program, an Australian Government initiative.

Quotes attributable to Transport and Main Roads North Queensland Regional Director Ross Hodgman

“Southern Cassowaries are an important part of the Far North Queensland ecosystem and need to be protected.

“Unfortunately, vehicle collisions is the leading cause of death of this endangered species.

“By presenting a warning messaging only when a cassowary is detected, LAARMA overcomes messaging fatigue associated with permanent signage, resulting in significant drops in speed.

“This research, which shows tangible results with a relatively low cost, is very promising from both a conservation and road safety perspective.”

Third party quote: (eg council if joint project, relevant stakeholder/advocate)

“XXXXXX.”

ENDS

Media contact – TMR Media