

12 February 2025

## The numbers behind the mammoth effort to re-open Ollera Creek Bridge

- With the Ollera Creek Bridge now allowing general traffic north from Townsville to Ingham, the Department of Transport and Main Roads can give insight into what it's taken to get the bridge re-opened.
- Since closing at 4pm on Tuesday 4 February, the repairs to the bridge involved thousands of tonnes of materials, but more crucially hundreds of hours of TMR's RoadTek crew power.
- TMR continues to monitor the road network to ensure communities remain connected as Northern Queensland starts the long road of recovery.

With the Ollera Creek Bridge now allowing general traffic north from Townsville to Ingham on the Bruce Highway, the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) can give insight into what it's taken to get the bridge re-opened.

Since closing at 4pm on Tuesday 4 February, TMR's RoadTek crews crucially worked over a collective 1200 hours on the Ollera Creek repairs. Additionally, a 'day' shift and 'night' shift was established with the day shift consisting of 12 workers, managing site operations and logistics, while night shift consisted of 10 workers and focused on preparing materials and equipment to ensure continuous progress.

The crews worked in adverse conditions throughout the days and nights, with Ollera Creek receiving in excess of 1700mm of rain from the start of February to end of Tuesday 11 February.

From a materials perspective, to date, the repairs to the bridge involved:

- a combination of 500mm rock base and 300mm road embankment. In total, the repair involved:
- over 13m<sup>3</sup> of concrete under relieving slab
- 960t of Nominal 500mm foundation rock
- 650t of 300mm-60mm nominal rock embankment
- 90t sand for bridge deck protection and backfilling of piles
- 400t of recycled crushed concrete for a stockpile pad
- 88t asphalt to open the road up to general traffic.

Currently the bridge is open to traffic in both directions with a speed restriction in place of 60km/ph. Further updates and advice on travel and road conditions will continue to be communicated by the relevant authorities. TMR remains committed to the public's safety and ensuring the reliability of our road network.

Motorists are urged to visit QLDTraffic for all traffic alerts, road closures and condition updates for major roads in Queensland. Motorists can also download the QLDTraffic app or call 13 19 40.

TMR Media Unit – [media@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:media@tmr.qld.gov.au) or phone (07) 3066 7060.

**Quotes attributable to the Department of Transport and Main Roads Director-General Sally Stannard:**

“I’d like to thank the unwavering commitment of our RoadTek crews, who worked around the clock through terrible weather to get this key route re-opened.

“While the full extent of the natural disaster damage remains unquantifiable at this stage, the dedication of TMR staff – including RoadTek and other specialists – has been exceptional. Their efforts have gone above and beyond to restore this critical connection between Townsville and the Hinchinbrook community.

“While the Ollera Creek Bridge is now open, the dangers of rising flood waters are still very much present, as seen overnight with the Seymour River.

“TMR remains committed to the public’s safety and ensuring the reliability of our road network. We will continue to monitor the road network, as it’s vitally important we continue working toward keeping these communities connected.”

**ENDS**

Visuals LINK: <https://owncloud.tmr.qld.gov.au/index.php/s/w1wnLYII9JChZ59>

**Password:** Ollera

**Media Contact:** TMR Media - (07) 3066 7060