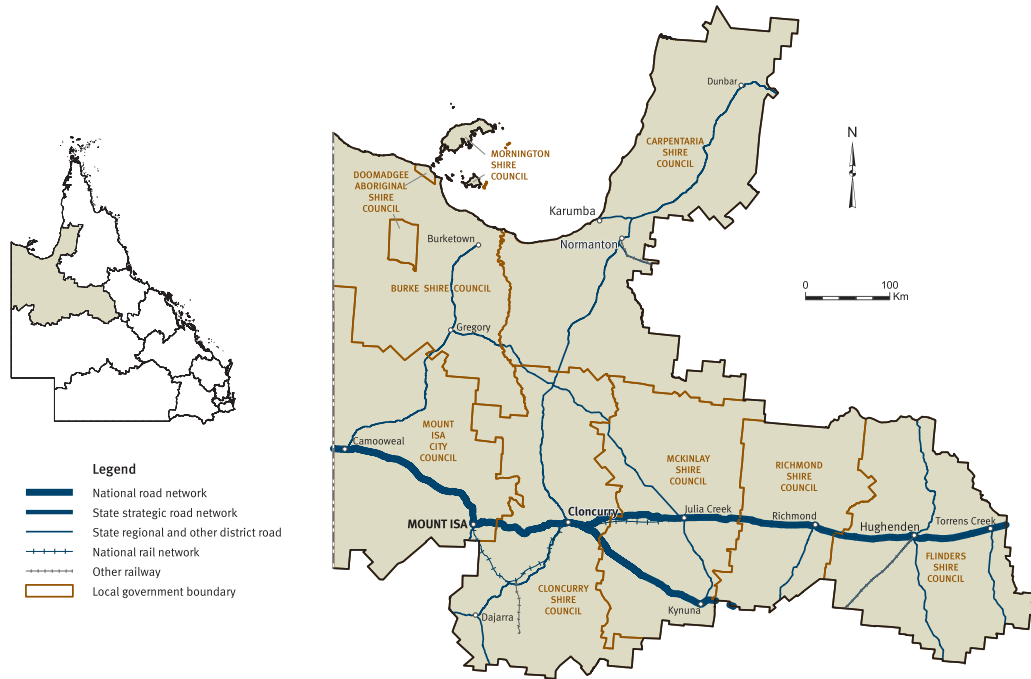


# North West Road Facts

2010-11



## Area profile

- Area:** 308 044km<sup>2</sup>, extending from the Gulf of Carpentaria in the north to Kynuna in the south, and from Torrens Creek in the east to the Northern Territory border in the west.
- Population:** Around 33 746.
- Industries:** Mining, tourism, freight, agriculture, construction.

## Connecting North West

Transport and Main Roads services the state-controlled road network in Queensland. The department's Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program 2010-11 to 2013-14, outlines what the department is doing in the North West Region of Queensland, now and in the future. The department's Cloncurry Office is the main point of contact for residents, industry and business to connect with Transport and Main Roads and learn more about what is happening in the area. State road projects in and around the North West Region are funded by the Queensland Government and the Federal Government. In the current roads program, the Queensland Government is investing over \$292.6 million in the region (including over \$26.1 million in Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme projects), and the Federal Government is contributing around \$1 million. Developers also contribute to the roads program.



### Road network

- Landsborough Highway (Winton - Cloncurry)
- Flinders Highway (Charters Towers - Cloncurry)
- Barkly Highway (Cloncurry - NT Border)
- Wills Developmental Road (Julia Creek - Burketown)
- Karumba Developmental Road (Normanton - Karumba)
- Burke Developmental Road (Cloncurry - Dimbulah)
- Gulf Developmental Road (Normanton - Croydon)
- Hughenden-Muttaburra Road
- Diamantina Developmental Road (Boulia - Mount Isa)
- Kennedy Developmental Road (The Lynd - Winton)
- Aramac-Torrens Creek Road
- Richmond-Winton Road
- Julia Creek-Kynuna Road
- Gregory Downs-Camooweal Road
- Cloncurry-Dajarra Road
- Mount Isa-Duchess Road



## North West road activities

### Significant achievements in 2009-10

#### Effective, efficient and sustainable transport system

- Completed the reconstruction and widening of a 12km section of the Flinders Highway at Jardine Valley. The Flinders Highway is a major traffic route in North Queensland carrying significant volumes of heavy vehicle transport and passenger vehicles between Townsville and Cloncurry, and is also the major freight route connecting the sea ports of Darwin and Townsville.
- Commenced improvements to flood immunity on the Flinders Highway between Julia Creek and Cloncurry. Works include widening the highway and upgrading culverts at Holy Joe and Box Creeks to improve drainage flow. Upgrading the floodways will reduce the amount of water lying on the road during wet weather events and allow water to recede more quickly.
- Completed widening and sealing 7.5km of Wills Developmental Road between Julia Creek and Burketown.
- Commenced flood damage and restoration works on two sections of the Barkly Highway between Cloncurry and Mount Isa. Works include stabilising, constructing subsoil drains and asphalt profiling, creating a stronger, smoother and more resilient road surface.



#### Safe transport systems promoting health and well-being

- Commenced construction of a heavy vehicle turning facility at Critter's Camp on the Gulf Developmental Road. The facility will prevent road train operators, who carry crucial supplies to flood-affected communities, from having to reverse when access is closed at the Norman River Bridge due to flooding. The facility is being constructed 3.6km east of the Norman River Bridge.
- Completed construction of two heavy vehicle rest areas on the Flinders Highway at Hughenden and the Landsborough Highway at Fullarton River in an effort to reduce fatigue-related road crashes. Construction commenced on a third heavy vehicle rest area on the Landsborough Highway within the township of McKinlay. All three projects form part of the Federal Government's Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program.
- Commenced safety improvements along a 90km section of the Cloncurry-Dajarra Road, as part of the Safer Roads Sooner program.

## North West Road Facts

- Completed upgrade to the Flinders Highway as part of the Higher Mass Limits Program. The program aims to better facilitate access to the road network for excess mass and dimension vehicles, pilot and escort vehicles.

### Cost-effective transport system delivery

- Commenced vital upgrade works on a key section of Kennedy Developmental Road between Hughenden and Winton. This project was fast-tracked from a 10-year to a 5-year project to achieve a more efficient and cost-effective delivery. It involves reconstructing a 40km section of the road between Hughenden and Winton, 20km either side of Stamford. The Kennedy Developmental Road is a major regional link used by freight and mining industries to access the Flinders, Herbert and Burdekin districts. The project is being delivered through an alliance between the department and RoadTek and involvement with Flinders and Winton Shire councils.



*Acacia ramiflora*

### A transport system providing access to employment, education and services

- Commenced concept planning to improve floodway access and rehabilitate the pavement on the Burke Developmental Road at Corduroy Creek, 3km north of Normanton.
- Continued to involve local government, industry, community organisations and the public in defining transport issues and potential solutions.
- Continued to help local government to upgrade and maintain access roads through Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme funding. Works included drainage and pavement upgrades.

### Transport-related impacts on natural, cultural and built environments managed

- Planted 200 *Acacia ramiflora* tree saplings as part of a site revegetation project at the Burra Range rest area, 135km west of Charters Towers on the Flinders Highway. The project was a joint effort between the department, James Cook University in Townsville and Flinders Shire Council.
- Under the department's Cultural Heritage Stewardship, the region has signed off five Road Corridor Cultural Heritage Agreements and is currently in the process of finalising another two.



Crew on stabiliser



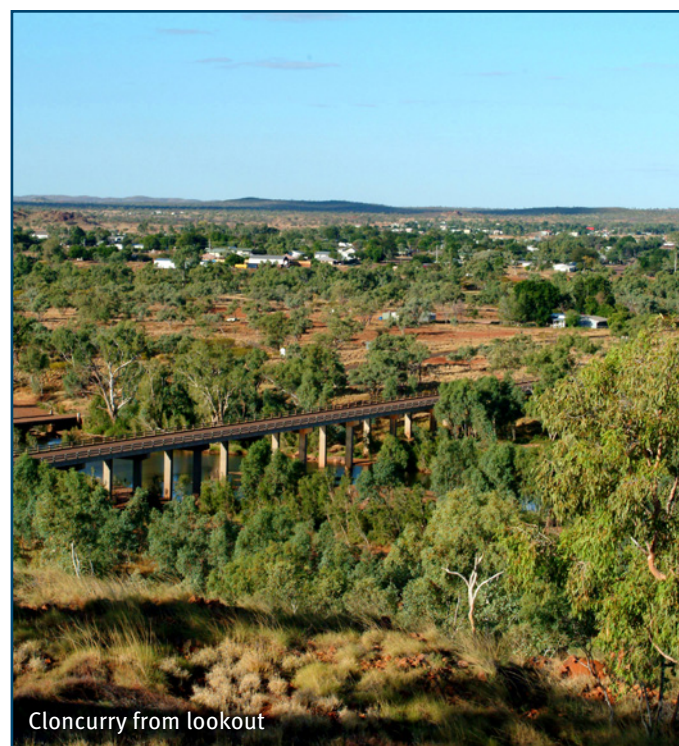
Cultural heritage signing agreement

### Transport systems leadership

- The Burke Alliance Project team took top honours at the Australian Institute of Project Management Awards in September 2009 for the Burke Developmental Road project between Cloncurry and Burke and Wills Junction. The awards recognised both the complexity of the upgrade and the positive outcomes for the community. The project involved widening 130km of narrow single-lane road and was completed 12 months ahead of schedule.

### Contemporary and progressive people, processes and systems

- Continued to improve project delivery performance through the application of project management philosophy and improved processes, and by raising the skills of staff through training.
- Continued strong relationships with maintenance contractors (RoadTek and local government).
- Continued to deliver improved road infrastructure through open tender and alliance contracts.



### Key deliverables in 2010-11 and 2011-12

#### Effective, efficient and sustainable transport system

- Complete paving 5km and sealing 7km of Cloncurry-Dajarra Road as part of the Sustainable Resource Communities initiative.
- Commence widening and sealing 10km of the Flinders Highway between Julia Creek and Cloncurry, about 40km west of Julia Creek, to improve effective and efficient transport on this major arterial link.

#### Safe transport systems promoting health and well-being

- Complete widening the pavement rehabilitation along 5.15km of the Burke Developmental Road between Cloncurry and Normanton, 10km south of Normanton.
- Complete construction of a heavy vehicle rest area on the Landsborough Highway in the township of McKinlay in an effort to reduce fatigue-related road crashes.
- Complete safety improvements along 90km of the Cloncurry-Dajarra Road, as part of the Safer Roads Sooner program.

# North West Road Facts

## Cost-effective transport system delivery

- Continue vital upgrade works on a key section of the Kennedy Developmental Road between Hughenden and Winton to reconstruct the existing road to a two-lane standard.

## A transport system providing access to employment, education and services

- Commence construction on a project to improve access at a floodway on the Burke Developmental Road, 3km north of Normanton.
- Continue to help local government to upgrade and maintain roads in their areas through Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme funding.
- Continue initiatives to support Indigenous training and employment on road projects.

## Transport-related impacts on the natural, cultural and built environments managed

- Continue to maintain North West Region's commitment to managing its road network in a manner that optimises environmental outcomes for natural, human and built environments.
- Continue to ensure all road projects involve working with other appropriate departments and traditional landowners.
- Continue to upgrade various sections of Gregory-Camooweal Road to a new unsealed standard as part of the Sustainable Resource Communities initiative. This project is being delivered through an alliance between the department, RoadTek and Myuma, a Camooweal-based Indigenous training organisation.
- Commence implementation of the region's fire management strategy to outline high-risk areas while considering burn regimes against fire-sensitive ecological communities.



- Use data collected in 2009-10 as part of the Regional Weed Spraying Program to focus on community-based pest management initiatives, state-declared weeds and weeds of national significance. Collaborative weed spraying projects will be implemented to maximise the attack on weeds and minimise the cost to the department.
- Continue to complete reviews of environmental factors for all projects and help contractors to prepare site specifics in environmental management plans.
- Continue to provide advice and training to contractors and local governments, through the environmental unit, on-site environmental management practices, legislative requirements, and licences and permits.

#### **Transport system leadership**

- Continue to use creative, innovative and collaborative methods to deliver successful infrastructure projects.
- Continue to look at ways to deliver necessary road infrastructure through designing and constructing roads at a lower cost per kilometre.

#### **Contemporary and progressive people, processes and systems**

- Continue to improve project delivery performance through the application of project management philosophy and improved processes, and by raising the skills of staff through training.
- Continue strong relationships with maintenance contractors (RoadTek and local government).
- Continue to deliver improved road infrastructure through open tender and alliance contracts.



## Major challenges for North West

- Developing a long-term road network which supports the North West Regional Plan.
- Supporting regional development by upgrading key freight and passenger routes to meet the transport needs of the mining companies.
- Optimising capacity and safety on roads.
- Improving quality of life for remote and rural communities through projects that improve travelling conditions, access and Indigenous training, employment and development.
- Continuing to work in partnership with local government to develop and deliver the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme.
- Targeting the reduction of accident-prone areas through the Safer Roads Sooner program.

### How to find out more

To find out more, the department's website has up-to-date information on current and future projects, roadworks and road closures, web cameras and how communities and interested citizens can be involved in community engagement activities.

Please visit [www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au) or contact a local Transport and Main Roads office.

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