

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RECOVERY SUBGROUP OUTCOMES



ROSS RIVER ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

The condition of **21km² of Ross River environment** below Aplin's Weir has been assessed for response to flood waters, including river bank erosion, native tree retention, weed infestation, water quality and rubbish contamination, instream impact and change in the river system.

900,000 square meters of instream marine plant habitat of Ross River below Aplin's Weir to Rooney's Bridge was heavily impacted by the floods with 95 to 100% of mangroves dying off (killed) in this area (including Annandale wetlands).

PORT, LAKES AND WATERWAYS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS

An area equivalent to **65 football fields (450500m²) of Ross River and Ross Creek Waterways** and Lakes have been assessed, monitored and improved from flood. Council successfully reduced the number of fish kills and toxic algal blooms utilising a variety of methods including Beneficial Microbe Inoculation.

Breakdown as follows:

- Fish Kill Response, Odour Suppression and Water Quality Improvement – **135900m²**
- Odour Suppression and Fish Kill Avoidance – **127350m²**
- Remediating dam wall fish kill – **35000m²**
- Hard Waste Odour Suppression – **151000m²**
- Beneficial Reuse of Sediment Stockpiles – **1250m²**

Port of Townsville at Ross Haven Marine removed **220m³ of river weed** that had accumulated in Ross Haven Marine precinct blocking **commercial boating activities**. This equates to removing **c.30 tonne** of river weeds and rubbish from the marina.

COASTAL ESPLANADES AND PUBLIC ACCESS POINTS ASSESSED

Council staff assessed **93** coastal access paths across **31 km** and **14 beach locations** for public safety and environmental recovery and future resilience opportunities. Environmental recovery works identified and scheduled.

WALKING TRAILS ASSESSED

TCC has assessed a total of **7 walking tracks on Castle Hill** for public safety.

WILDLIFE SUPPORTED

The community of wildlife carers and snake catchers has relocated approximately **500 snakes**, and **600 wallabies, possums and birds**.

ORGANIC SANITISER DISTRIBUTED

Approximately **200,000L** of sanitiser product distributed to the public at temporary Lou Lister Hard Waste Site and across Townsville from Magnetic Island to Bluewater.

RUBBISH IDENTIFICATION AND CLEAN-UPS ACTIONED

10 major litter hotspots have been identified.

30 public clean-up sites across the city were registered for Clean-up Australia Day (CUAD) and the event held on Sunday 3 March. **10** locations had waste bags collected.

2 km of Louisa Creek were cleaned of rubbish by Team Rubicon and local volunteers.

#WHATEVERIT TAKES
TEAM TOWNSVILLE

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