



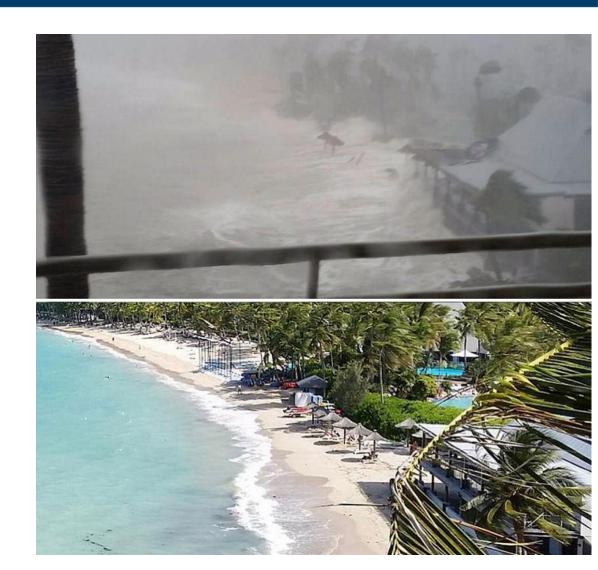
Tropical Forest Recovery







- Category 4 TC Debbie crossed the Queensland coast in the proximity of Airlie Beach on Tuesday 28 March 2017.
- Very destructive winds were experienced on 88,500 hectare of QPWS estate including the iconic Whitsunday Islands National Park.
- Destructive winds extended south to the Mackay Highlands impacting on a further 145,000 hectares of QPWS estate.







Severe to catastrophic damage to bloodwood woodland, Mt Rooper, towards Shute Harbour.

Bridging fuels across otherwise wet gullies and sheltered thickets. Suspended and elevated finer fuels such as vines and cured leaf matter on fallen trees poses a risk of fire moving laterally across these otherwise natural firebreak features.

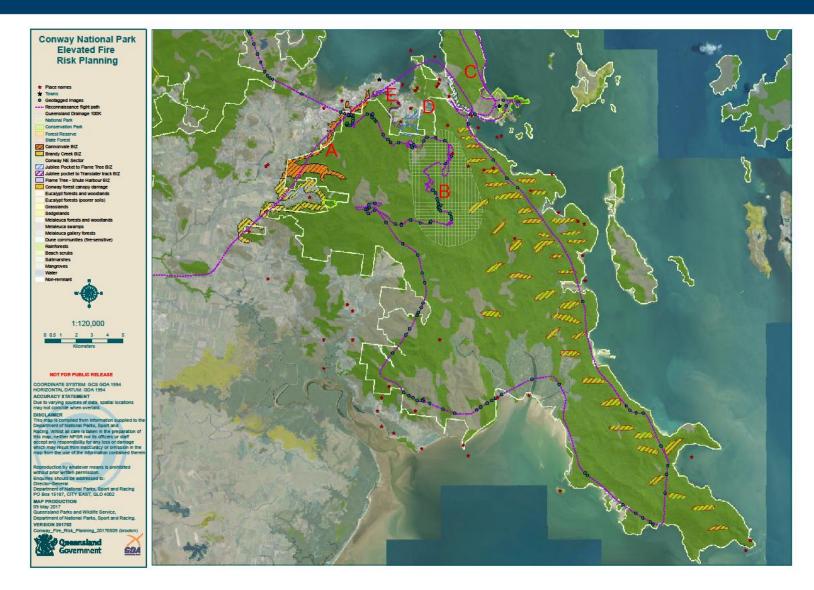


The Response











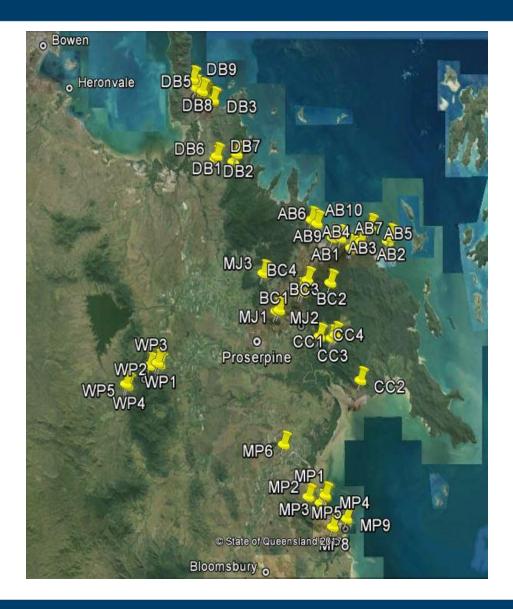




On ground fuel assessment

Varying degrees of damage across different vegetation types





Sample plot Locations

50 Plots from Midge Point in the South to Cape Gloucester in the North (approx. 75km), and 50km from the coast to the West of the Clarke Ranges south of Proserpine Dam.



Findings:

- •Fuel 1: Mesophyll to Notophyll vine forest sparse (Trees closed to mid dense)
- •Fine Fuel 11-21 t/ha
- Average 38 t/ha new CWD
- •Fuel 5: Moist to dry eucalypt open forests on coastal lowlands and ranges (Trees closed to mid dense)
- •Fine Fuel 10-24 t/ha
- Average 21 t/ha new CWD
- •Fuel 6: Moist to dry eucalypt woodland on coastal lowlands and ranges (Trees sparse to very sparse)
- •Fine Fuel 8-22 t/ha
- Average 16 t/ha new CWD
- •Fuel 11: Dry to moist eucalypt open forests/woodlands on undulating metamorphics and granite (Trees sparse to very sparse)
- •Fine Fuel 7-24 t/ha
- Average 11 t/ha new CWD
- •Fuel 27: Melaleuca dry woodlands on sandplains or depositional plains (Trees sparse to very sparse)
- •Fine Fuel 8-17 t/ha
- Average 8 t/ha new CWD

