



The North Johnstone Bridge on the Bruce Highway

NEWS

## Rivers over the road as rain arrives in Far North Queensland causing flooding chaos in Innisfail, Ingham and Cairns

Jack Lawrie, The Cairns Post  
March 8, 2018 2:00pm



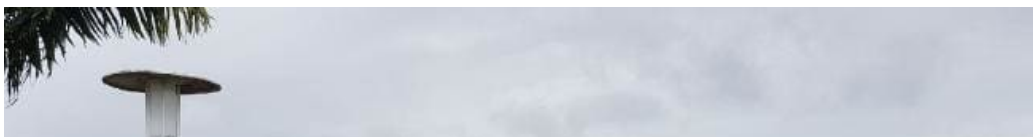
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CAIRNS may see its last bout of heavy rainfall today, leaving things to subside over the weekend.

While showers are predicted to carry on over the next few days and into next week, forecasts predict the heaviest of the rain has run its course for now.

The trough situated over the far north area will head further north toward the cape, taking most of the heaviest falls with it.

This leaves the matter of recovery still to deal with.



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Fitzgerald Esplanade, Innisfail, during heavy rains on Thursday, March 8.

Emergency Services Minister Craig Crawford said it was normal during the wet season for road closures to last as the water takes it's time to flow down.

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“This is probably going to run for another week, depending on whether we get more rainfall, as the area is already flat and going to compound it,” he said.

“We advise everyone to adhere to road blocks, even if a road is partially blocked, it's blocked for a very good reason.”

weatherzone<sup>o</sup>

“But make no mistake, this is very welcome rain for the farmers in the area, we're anticipating that the water will be hopefully cleared within seven days.”

Many roads throughout the Far North region were closed over the flooding period.

Between Tully and Innisfail along Cassowary Coast, police urged motorists to exercise extreme caution.



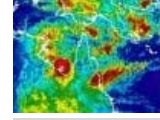
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 Flooded waters at Ryan Weare Park, Brinsmead Kamerunga Rd, Freshwater. PICTURE: JUSTIN BRIERTY

Layne Threlfall, who works at the Mt Tyson Hotel on Butler St in Tully, said she would be staying at her grandparents' house overnight.

“I have to stay here in Tully tonight because I live in Feluga and I can't get home as the road is cut off at the Banyan,” she said.

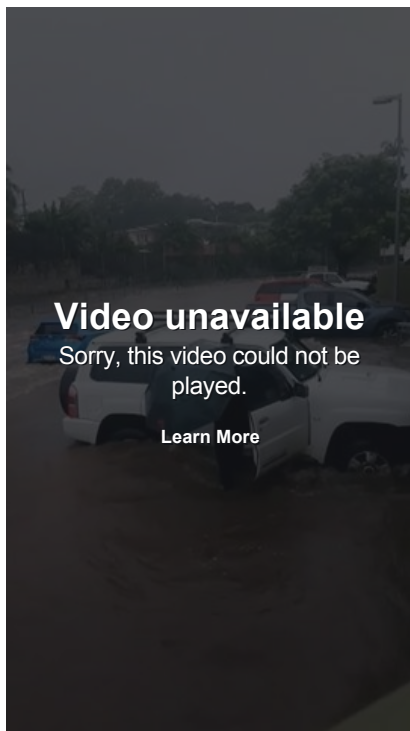
She said the pub had been busy with many workers off for the day due to heavy rain and flooding.

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“All the bananas workers are off, because the farms are out of town ... a lot of the schools are closed as well and most of the shops in town.”

Swelling in the Johnstone River cut off the Bruce Highway and put properties at the lower end of Innisfail at flood risk.

The Bruce was also cut off further north at the Banyan River and at Dean Road.



In the Cairns suburbs, Earlville went under in the afternoon, with shoppers at Stocklands' rear carpark scrambling to move their cars in time.

Even after the rain has stopped, residents are advised to heed all flood alerts.

A boil water alert was also issued yesterday afternoon for users of the Tablelands Regional Council water supply at Millaa Millaa and the Cassowary

Coast Regional Council supply at Tully and surrounding rural areas.

Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service issued an alert yesterday afternoon advising some non-critical services had been reduced and affected patients would be contacted accordingly.



📷 Road flooded between Gordonvale and Edmonton. Photo: Sharnie Hansen



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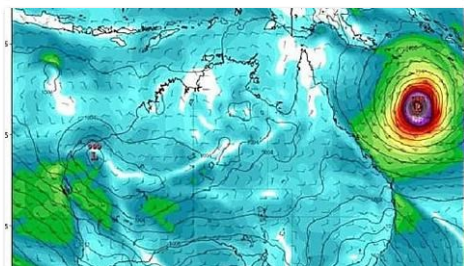
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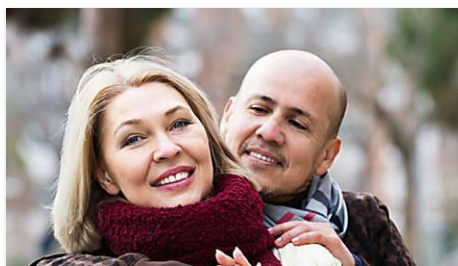
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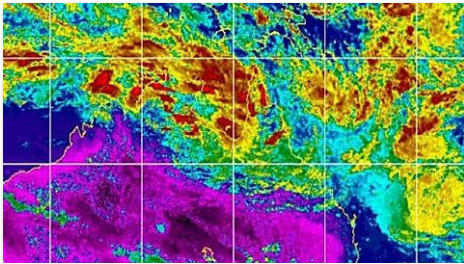
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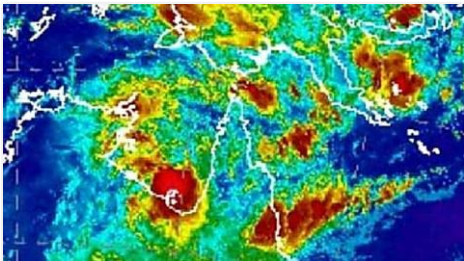
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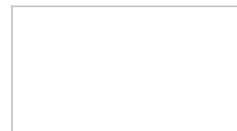
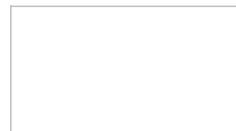
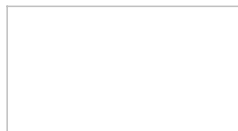
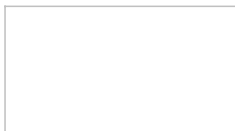
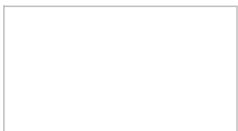


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