



Bowen and Abbot Point CRG

5 March 2026

Chair: NQBP CEO Brendan Webb



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

North Queensland Bulk Ports Corporation acknowledges the Juru People as the Traditional Owners of the Bowen and Abbot Point region. We also acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia. Acknowledging their continuing cultural and spiritual connection to land and water. We pay respects to their Elders, past, and present.

Agenda

1. Meeting open
 - Acknowledgement of Country
 - Agenda and housekeeping
2. Welcome and introductions
 - Guests and Apologies
3. Conflict of interest
4. Actions register
5. CEO update
6. Infrastructure
7. Maintenance and Operations update
8. Environment update
9. Indigenous Program update
10. Community update
11. General business
12. Next meeting
13. Meeting close



About North Queensland Bulk Ports

NQBP is a government owned corporation, responsible for the four trading ports of Hay Point, Mackay, Abbot Point and Weipa.

Our shareholding Ministers are:

- Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training
- Minister for Transport and Main Roads



PORT OF WEIPA



PORT OF ABBOT POINT



PORT OF MACKAY

PORT OF HAY POINT



CRG Purpose



The Community Reference Group exists to:

- Provide an advisory and consultative forum to inform NQBP decision-making.
- Enable two-way information sharing between NQBP and the community.
- Gather community insight and feedback on port operations, planning and development.
- Support constructive discussion on matters relevant to Bowen and Abbot Point.
- Strengthen relationships and regional collaboration.
- Operates in accordance with the CRG Code of Conduct and Terms of Reference.

Conflict of Interest

CRG members should disclose if they:

- Are a member, partner, or an employee of NQBP
- Have some other specified interest relating to NQBP or their operations
- Have a financial or vested interest in a matter being considered by the CRG
- Have had a change in circumstance

Conflict of Interest Register



Name	Position	Form received (Yes/No)	Nature and Extent of Interest	Date
Matt Bowkett (Proxy)	Port Industry representative – Engage Marine	Yes	Employed as NQ Regional Manger for Engage Marine in Bowen. Engage Marine holds the towage license for Abbot Point which is issued by NQBP. Member of Bowen Chamber of Commerce.	05/09/2024
Clint Mason	Port Industry representative – Engage Marine	Yes	Port Manager Engage Marine. Engage Marine hold the towage license for the port of Abbot Point. This towage license is issued by NQBP.	18/01/2025
James Gilmour	Port Advisory Group representative – Gilmour Space	Yes	As owner of a number of Gilmour Space Companies, may have conflicts from time to time between the running of Gilmour businesses and membership in the CRG depending on agenda items.	11/09/2024
Alex Cramb	Maritime Safety Queensland representative	Yes	Represent the Department of Transport and Main Roads – Maritime Safety Queensland with a specific interest on matters impacting Bowen Boat Harbour (state managed boat harbour)	19/09/2024
Max Haste	Maritime Safety Queensland representative	Yes	An employee and representative of Maritime Safety Queensland (Dept Transport and Main Roads).	09/09/2024
Bradley Stout	Juru Enterprise Representative	Yes	Chairperson of Juru Enterprise Limited	09/09/2024
Donna Turner	Environmental representative – Dry Tropics	Yes	No conflict declared.	23/09/2024
Mark Smith	NQXT Industry representative	Yes	General Manager of NQXT: NQXT is the long-term lease holder of the North Queensland Export Terminal at the Port of Abbot Point	19/09/2024

Conflict of Interest Register



Name	Position	Form received (Yes/No)	Nature and Extent of Interest	Date
David Paddon	Local Business representative	Yes	No conflict declared.	21/09/2024
Vacant	Youth Community representative			
Cheryl Bullemor	Recreational representative – NQ Cruising Yacht Club	Yes	No conflict declared.	30/01/2025
Stephanie Cora	Community representative	Yes	No conflict declared.	31/01/2025
Lorraine Maltby	Community representative – Probus Club	Yes	No conflict declared.	11/09/2024
Richard Roberts	Community representative	Yes	No conflict declared.	11/02/2025
Glenda Robertson	Community representative	Yes	No conflict declared.	25/09/2024
Barney Menzies	Bowen Chamber of Commerce			
Damien Dederer	APO Industry representative	Yes	No conflict declared.	30/06/2025
Mayor Ry Collins	Whitsunday Regional Council	Yes	No conflict declared.	25/03/2024
Johnathan Cutting (Proxy)	Whitsunday Regional Council representative	Yes	No conflict declared.	16/09/2024



Actions Register



Actions Register



Bowen and Abbot Community Reference Group Actions Register

As of 16 February 2026

Action No	Description	Raised by	Date	Responsible	Due by (CRG meeting)	Actions & Progress Notes	Status	Date Resolved
1	NQBP to distribute draft minutes of meeting for review.	CRG	13/11/25	Communications	March 2026	Email sent to CRG members	Closed	
2	NQBP to publish minutes on website and notify CRG members so they can share through their networks.	CRG	13/11/25	Communications	March 2026	Email sent to CRG members	Closed	
3	Request for additional agenda items to be sent four weeks prior to next meeting.	CRG	13/11/25	Communications	March 2026	Email sent to CRG members	Closed	
4	Present on how NQBP tenders are awarded including criteria and targets to March 2026 presentation.	CRG	13/11/25	Communications	March 2026	To be presented at this meeting		





CEO Update



Container Depot – Coming Soon



BENEFITS

- More freight options for regional exporters and importers
- Designed for both full and empty containers
- Future-ready infrastructure supporting growth

FEATURES

- 1.3 hectare purpose-built depot
- Heavy-duty pavement
- Reefer capability

TIMING

Construction commenced Jan
Completion late 2026 subject to regulatory approvals



Regional and Rural Forum - Bowen



- Building resilient regions – strengthening agriculture, industry and communities to adapt and thrive for the future.
- Port of Abbot Point: nearly \$10B annually, 8,000+ jobs
- Investing in Bowen's future with government

Apprentices farewelled & thank you mentors



Riley

Apprentice Electrician
mentored by Heath Kennedy



Amber, Seumus & Zoey

Horticulture apprentices, mentored by Leigh
Thayer and Greg Steward



Andy

Apprentice Plumber mentored
by Mark Berts and Nick Watts

Welcome to our 2026 apprentices



Ethan Little
Apprentice Electrician
Mentor Heath Kennedy



Alicia Bryant & Jasmine Bourke
Horticulture apprentices,
Mentors Leigh Thayer and Greg Steward



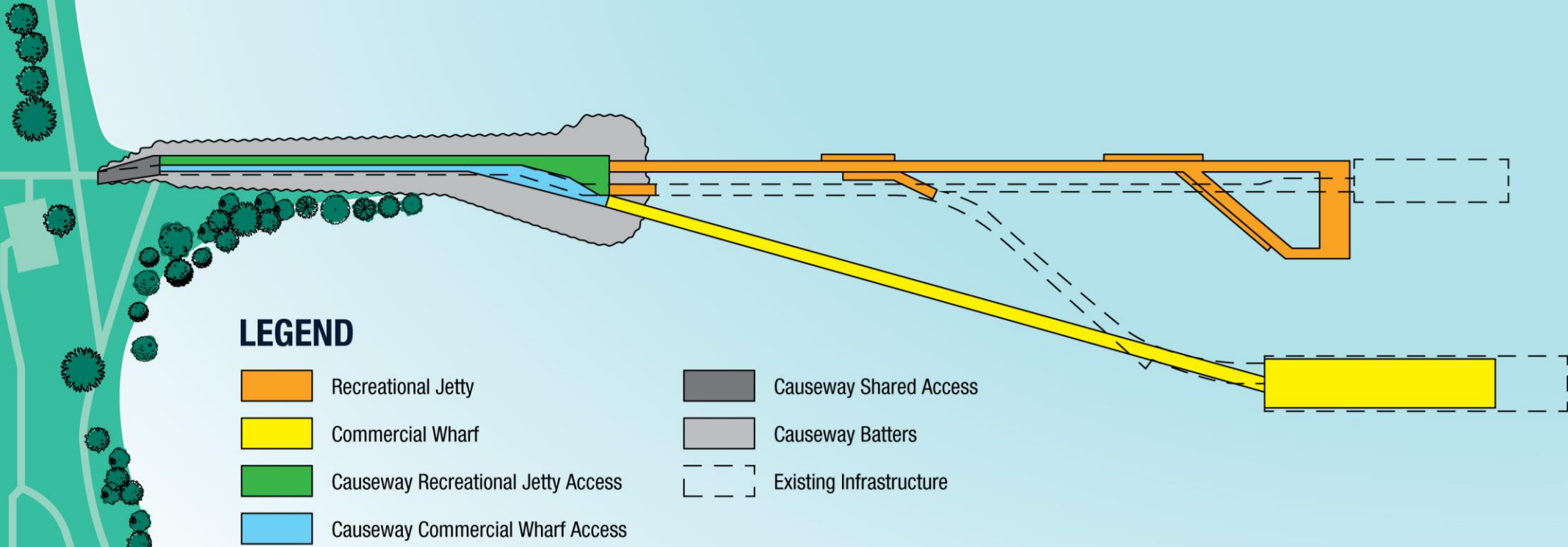
Luke Reeves
Apprentice Plumber
Mentor Mark Berts

Infrastructure

- Bowen Jetty project
- Towage solution for Abbot Point
- Procurement and tender process
- Port land use plans
- Planning for climate resilience



New Bowen Jetty and Commercial Wharf



Shared access causeway with segregated lane for commercial wharf on right hand side and service vehicle and pedestrian access on left.

From investigation to construction: what it takes to build major marine infrastructure



2024 – early 2026

Before anything can be built, a huge amount of groundwork is required:

- Community and stakeholder consultation
- Indigenous engagement and heritage interpretation
- Concept development
- Environmental studies including seagrass, coral, megafauna, noise, water quality and marine sediment
- Sustainability and climate risk assessments
- Extensive geotechnical investigations (land and seabed)
- Constructability and safety planning
- Obtaining planning approvals
- Marine and structural engineering reference designs that provide the basis for construction tendering and subsequent construction

This phase reduces risk, ensures compliance and ensures the final infrastructure is safe, durable and fit for Bowen's conditions.



Design & Engineering Progress

Work has progressed well:

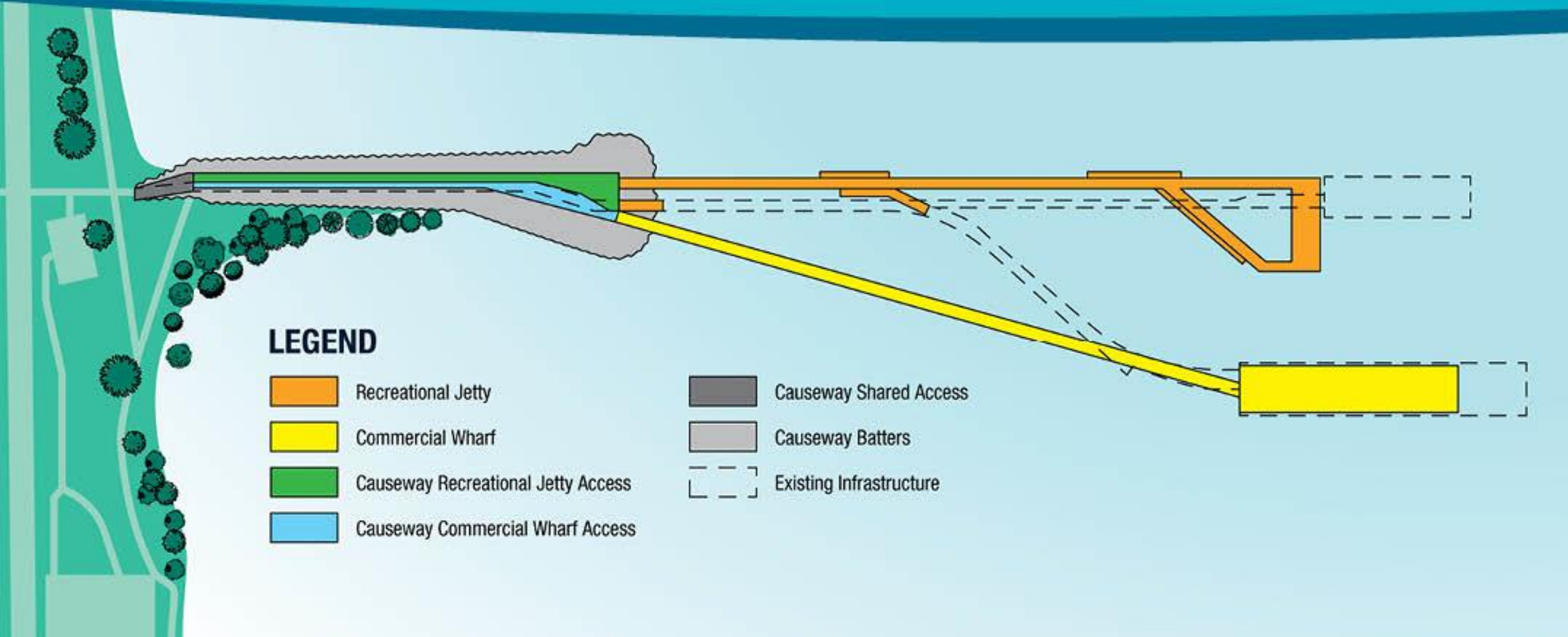
- Geotechnical inspection has been completed and this information has been incorporated into environmental studies and structural engineering.
- Layouts have been completed to address the inclusion of the commercial wharf.
- Services & Amenities design (water, power, amenities) is being finalised.
- Wayfinding concepts have developed around overall project.
- Architectural design developed from concept to ensure code compliance.



Bowen Jetty and Commercial Wharf



NEW PUBLIC JETTY AND COMMERCIAL WHARF



Procurement & Tender Process



Queensland Procurement Policy (QPP) 2026:

The Five Pillars

- **Value for Queensland** – achieving best value and fair competition
- **Local opportunities** – supporting local, small and regional businesses where practical
- **Easy to do business** – simpler processes for suppliers
- **Open to new ideas** – encouraging innovation and new approaches
- **Positive impact** – supporting economic, environmental and social outcomes, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses

How NQBP applies the QPP

- We must comply with the Queensland Procurement Policy
- We follow strict probity to ensure a fair tender process that achieves value for money for Queensland
- Consideration of local suppliers and Indigenous employment or business pathways is included when relevant to the project
- Tender criteria and weightings are specific to each project (no one-size-fits-all)

A detailed procurement plan will guide the Bowen Wharf project under the QPP

Port Land Use Plans



Future planning for climate resilience



What we've done:

- Completed a detailed climate resilience risk assessment across all NQBP ports
- Assessed flooding, storm tide, sea level rise and coastal erosion
- Considered short, medium and long-term timeframes (2030 – 2100)

What we've found:

- Most climate impacts are expected in the medium to long term
- NQBP infrastructure has a strong baseline resilience today
- No urgent risks requiring immediate major upgrades were identified

Today

2030

2050

2100

Climate risks assessed across short, medium and long-term timeframes

What this means for our Ports & Communities



What we're doing:

- Embedding climate resilience in future port planning and asset renewals
- Designing upgrades using flood-resilient standards and materials
- Retaining some low-lying land as flood storage to reduce future risk
- Working with government and asset owners on shared infrastructure risks

Why this matters:

- Ports planned to remain safe, operational and reliable long-term
- Climate risks considered early, not in response to impacts
- Protects the long-term economic role of our ports and regions

Bowen-Abbot Point: Future development planned with flooding and sea level rise built in



Maintenance and Operations



Maintenance and operations

General updates

- Wild dog trapping from 16-25 April at Abbot Point.
- Please continue to report any maintenance issues to NQBP.
- Regular ongoing maintenance will continue to be conducted on the Bowen Jetty with no temporary closures relating to these works scheduled.



Environment

- Feral animal management
- Beach clean up
- Turtle monitoring program



Feral animal program

- Aerial management program
 - WRC-led with NQBP support
 - Abbot Point (Don River to Cape Upstart)
Two programs in July and November 2025
 - 50,470ha
 - 301 feral pigs
 - 6 wild dogs
 - 1 feral cat
 - 5 feral deer
- Wild dog trapping program
 - NQBP program on port lands
 - June 2025, 8 day trapping program with 6 dogs caught
 - Proposed next program April 2026

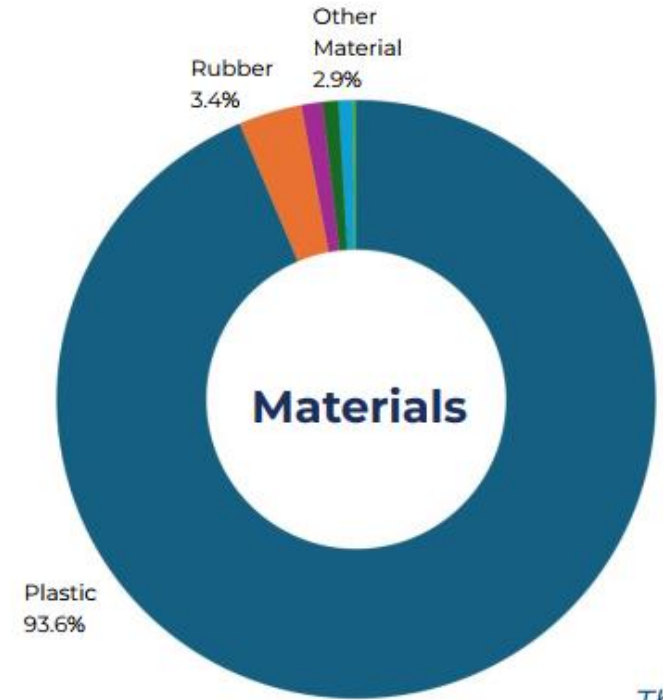


Beach clean up

During the December 2025 monitoring period, three sections of Abbot Point - North, Middle, and South - were surveyed in collaboration with the Juru Land and Sea Rangers. A total of **2,102** items were removed across the three sites, with **762** items recorded within the transects. All items of interest, with the exception of light tubes, were found in the Middle section of Abbot Point

Items of interest include:

- Metal ammunition box
- Ecobrick
- Satlink echosounder buoy
- 4 Fluorescent light tubes



2102
Items Removed



1
Round of Monitoring



6
Participants



3
Total Hours



103.635
Total Kilograms Removed



3.706 km
Total Distance Covered



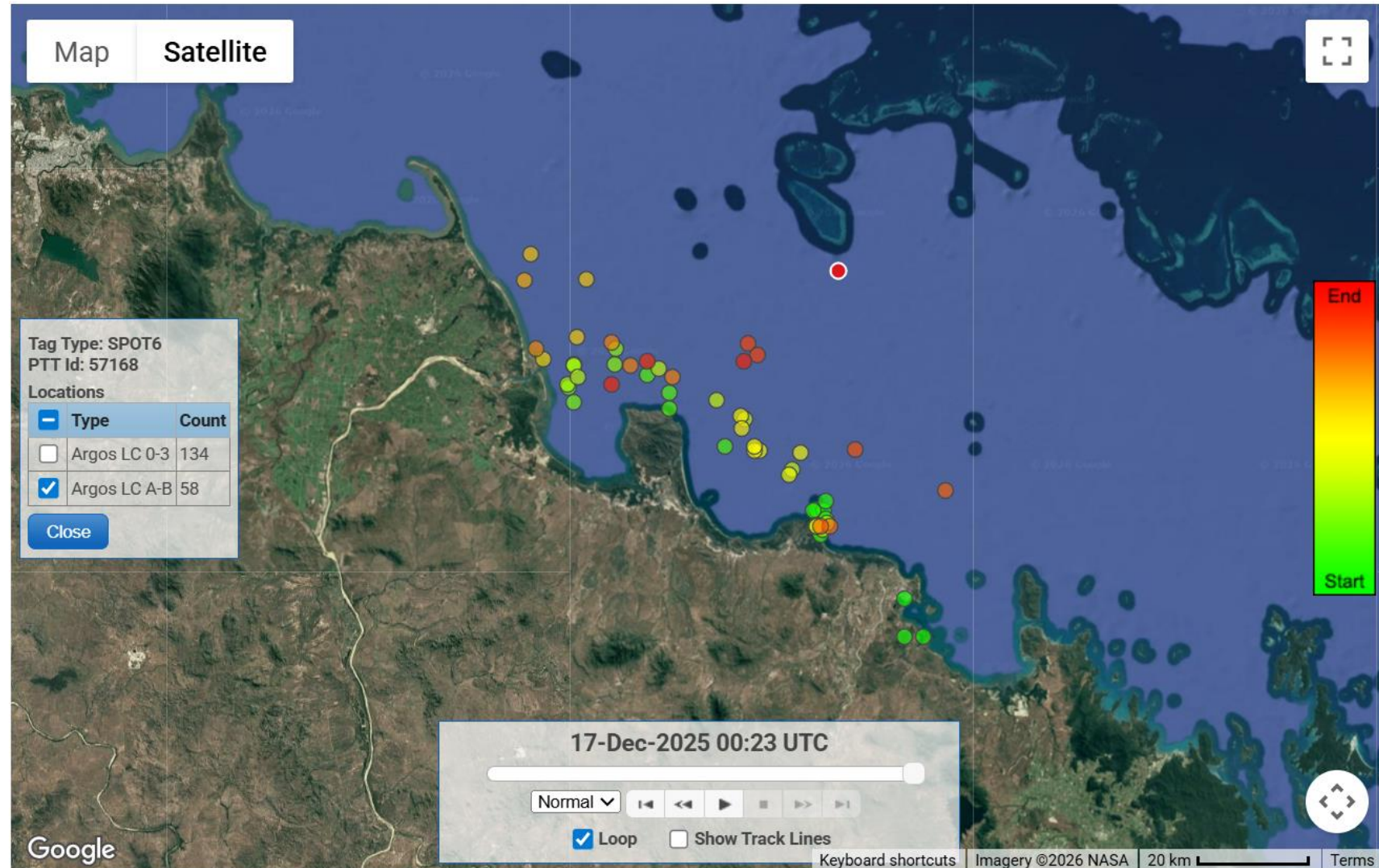
1146.8 L
Volume of Debris Removed



Turtle monitoring program



- Monitoring from Oct – Dec 2025
- Satellite tag placed on adult female “Myrtle”





Indigenous Program



Indigenous Program update

- JEL contract renewal: 5-year land and sea management contract
- Juru Enterprises Limited and NQBP storage infrastructure
- Central Queensland University and TAFE Scholarships
- James Cook University Scholarship

CQUNICARES NQBP VET SCHOLARSHIPS



Two \$7,500 Scholarship for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students



For students in **Mackay/Sarina, Bowen, or Weipa regions** enrolled in Certificate III, IV, or Diploma VET courses



Apply by **27 January 2026**



CQUNICARES NQBP BURSARIES



Five \$1,000 Bursaries for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander SUN or STN students



For students in **Mackay/Sarina, Bowen, or Weipa regions**



Apply by **27 January 2026**



Community

- Community Fund update
- Annual CRG sponsorship
- CRG feedback survey



Community Fund update



- Recipients announced at NQBP's End of Year Stakeholder event in November 2025.
- 13 community organisations across Mackay, Hay Point, Bowen and Weipa sharing in \$100,000.
- Funding will support initiatives that strengthen women's health, youth wellbeing, disability inclusion and mental health awareness across our port communities.
- The fund continues to support projects, initiatives, and events that align with NQBP's strategic themes and values.
- 2026-27 Community Fund opens later this month.



NQBP's 2025-26 Community Fund recipients.

Annual CRG sponsorship



The CRG has an annual **\$5,000** sponsorship budget to support community initiatives.

2024-25 successful applicant

- Bowen State High School
- Mindfulness Market (Qld Mental Health Week)
- Held on 15 – 30 October 2025
- Brought targeted school and professional services together for students and staff to invest in their life through wellbeing activities and mental health resources.



4-12 October 2025

Connect for mental health



SELF



COMMUNITY



OTHERS



NATURE

Annual CRG sponsorship



Nominations to date:

- **Bowen Community Centre events**
 - Bowen Volunteer Expo
 - Bowen Homelessness and Community Services Expo
 - Community Centre Open Day and Program Showcase.

Nomination period extended: Closes on Friday 13 March 2026.

Next steps:

- CRG to vote via online poll (if required) by Friday 20 March 2026.
- Awardees announced and notified week of 23 March 2026.

2025 CRG feedback survey results



Background and objective

Gauge effectiveness of CRG following one-year term and identify opportunities for improvement

4.14 average (out of 5)
for operation of CRG

Feedback

- *Direct updates from NQBP and key stakeholders are valued.*
- *Useful forum bringing stakeholders together.*
- *Clearer purpose and differentiation from other Bowen groups is needed.*
- *Suggestion - guest speakers highlighting growth and development across industry, and from local and state government, would be valuable.*
- *Volunteers need defined tasks for the CRG to be effective.*
- *Clarify what is informational vs. actionable (e.g., Bowen Wharf) and explore collaboration with WRC and others.*



General Business

- Abbot Point Operations
- Gilmour Space
- Whitsunday Regional Council
- Maritime Safety Queensland
- CRG community member updates



Next meeting

- Thursday 16 July 2026
- Please provide suggested agenda items to Ange





Thank you