

DAINTREE COAST

# UPDATE

DOUGLAS  
SHIRE COUNCIL

FRIDAY 8 MAY 2026

- ROAD REPAIRS
- BRIDGE REPLACEMENTS
- NEW DAINTREE RIVER FERRY
- FERRY LANDSIDE INFRASTRUCTURE

## ROAD UPDATES

### DAINTREE FERRY EARLY CLOSING

The Daintree Ferry will close at  
**9pm, Thursday 14 May, to allow hydraulic works  
to be completed.**

**Service will resume at 5am Friday 15 May.**

### China Camp Road

- Weed spraying is scheduled for 11-15 May 2026.
- Repairs to concrete section anticipated to start late June, early July.

### Cape Tribulation Bloomfield Road

- Debris has been cleaned out of Panican Creek improving water flows.
- Two causeway crossings across Woobadda Creek will be repaired next week - 11 May.
- Tenders for repair of Woobadda Bridge to be released in July 2026
- Tenders for repair of Rykers Road to be released in July 2026
- Repairs of all landslips will be completed no later than 30 June 2026.

## ROAD CONDITIONS

**Cape Tribulation Road** is open to all vehicles through to just past Cape Trib Beach House. There are some weight restrictions.

- **Alexandra Range** - Maximum weight of vehicles 25 tonnes.
- **Noah Creek Bridge** has a 16 tonne load limit.
- **Noah Creek Heavy Vehicle Causeway**  
Access on Mondays only - 7am to 12:00pm. Operators need to book an appointment with Gaye Scott 0418 793 009.
- **Noah Range** - Open 24/7 under traffic control.

**Cape Trib Bloomfield Road** - 4WD Only. There are no weight or time restrictions, but the road is unsuitable for towing trailers, campervans or caravans.

**China Camp Road** open to 4WD vehicles only. There is a detour in place for all vehicles to avoid the damaged concrete paved section.

**Ten Mile Road** is open to 4WD vehicles only.

**CREB Track** - Closed. Check local weather conditions.

**Zig Zag Road** open to 4WD vehicles no weight limit.

## Noah Range Landslip

- Most of the slip face has now been soiled nailed and covered in heavy-duty matting
- This has stabilised the site, allowing the removal of the shipping containers.
- The last two will be taken away on the weekend.
- Work has commenced to dig out the landslide material which fell onto the road.
- As the material is removed, the lower portion of the landslide will be soiled nailed and covered in matting.
- Contractors will work on repairing one lane and then switch traffic over to repair the second lane.
- Still working toward September 2026 completion.



## ALEXANDRA RANGE

- Tenders for the two remaining landslip sites are anticipated to go out within the next few months.
- Both are small jobs with minimal disruption to traffic expected.

### Small Business Recovery Assistance Grants

The State and Federal Governments have released additional support for small businesses impacted by recent disruptions. This grant funding recognises the significant indirect impacts experienced, including the ferry outage.

To apply or find out more information, visit

<https://www.business.qld.gov.au/running-business/support-services/financial/grants/qld-monsoon-trough>.

## DAINTREE FERRY REPLACEMENT PROJECT

### LANDSIDE INFRASTRUCTURE

#### May 2026

- Surveyors have been on site this week marking out areas for vegetation removal.
- Next week Durack Civil will establish site offices and laydown areas.
- On Tuesday 12 May, Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremonies will be done on both sides of the Daintree River, by Cape York Land Council #1 Claimants and Eastern Kuku Yalanji #2 Claimants.

#### June 2026

- Early works commence.
- Traffic Management Set Up
- It will be tight on the northern side particularly for coach tour operators picking up and dropping off on the northern side.
- The project team will work closely with operators to minimise disruptions, but given the limited space available it won't be easy.

#### July / August 2026

- Subgrade excavations
- Installation of larger culverts
- Embankment fill and ground treatments

#### September - October 2026

- Electrical conduits and underground services
- Road primer and sealing works
- Reseal of existing road
- Line marking, speed humps and signage
- Installation of boom gates and curtain gates

#### Mid October 2026 to June 2027

- Demobilisation
- Works pause until maritime civil works start

### FERRY BUILD

- Douglas Shire Council has approved the level one concept drawings of the new ferry.
- Birdon has committed to having the new ferry on site first week of December 2027.
- Because the ferry is wider, to enable dual lane loading and unloading, new ramps are required.
- The existing ramps will need to be broken down and concrete removed.
- New larger, prefabricated ramps will be installed.
- While using prefabricated ramps saves significant time, swapping out the old ferry with the new one will take at least two weeks.
- The project team is keenly aware the lead up to Christmas through to early January is a busy time for operators.
- Should there be any delays, the changeover may be deferred until 2028 to avoid having no ferry services over the Christmas / New Year period.

#### 1 July 2026

- Birdon will take over operations of the existing ferry.
- No interruption to ferry services is anticipated with the transition to the new operator.

### FERRY STATISTICS

- Douglas Shire Council publishes ferry statistics monthly.

[Click here for the latest statistics](#)