

WONGA AND NEWELL BEACH

Community Resilience Scorecard November 2022 Update

Resilience Tour

During October and November 2022, we held workshops with community members across the Shire. The purpose of the Community Resilience Scorecard Project is to support people, communities, organisations and businesses to understand their risks and role, and encourage resilience actions to improve community outcomes after natural hazards.



What did we learn?

Some of the insights we heard were:

- there has been an influx of new residents over the past few years not all are aware of the hazard risks
- there is an older population, many of whom do not use air conditioning when it is hot because of the high energy costs
- can be cut off from work and resupply if the Foxton Bridge goes under in Mossman
- landslides at Rocky Point can close Mossman Daintree Road
- many houses have biocycle septic tanks, which can malfunction if power is lost
- stormwater management during downpours is challenging because Wonga is a low-lying beachside suburb, especially if there is a corresponding very high tide

The workshop was held in conjunction with the Wonga Beach Rural Fire Service training and the volunteers offered considerable information on the challenges at Wonga Beach during a natural hazard event.

During the workshop we learned that that not all community members feel the same about natural hazards. For most, the weather and natural hazards were not a large concern. But some were nervous every season. At a community level, Wonga Beach believed their communities were not prepared, with too much of a 'they'll be right mate' attitude and not enough lived experience. Others expressed that the community is resilient, but there are things they could be doing differently as individuals, households and neighbours.

Next steps

The scorecards are being drafted and will include the stories shared at the workshops. The scorecards will inform updates to the Douglas Local Disaster Management Plan.

What if I missed the first round of workshops?

If you were unable to attend our 2022 workshops and can add to what we learned, please email disaster@douglas.qld.gov.au.

A second round of engagement to present the draft scorecards is planned for April/May 2023. Please register contact details disaster@douglas.qld.gov.au if you would like to be informed about the dates.

For more information, please visit Council's website (scan the QR code or douglas.qld.gov.au/douglas-community-disaster-resilience-strategy) to learn more about the Community Resilience Scorecards project or call 1800 026 318