



DOUGLAS
SHIRE COUNCIL



Harnessing Community Strengths in Local Resilience Planning

Douglas Shire Council Local Scorecard Project

Presentation to the ADR conference 24 August 2023

Acknowledgement of Country

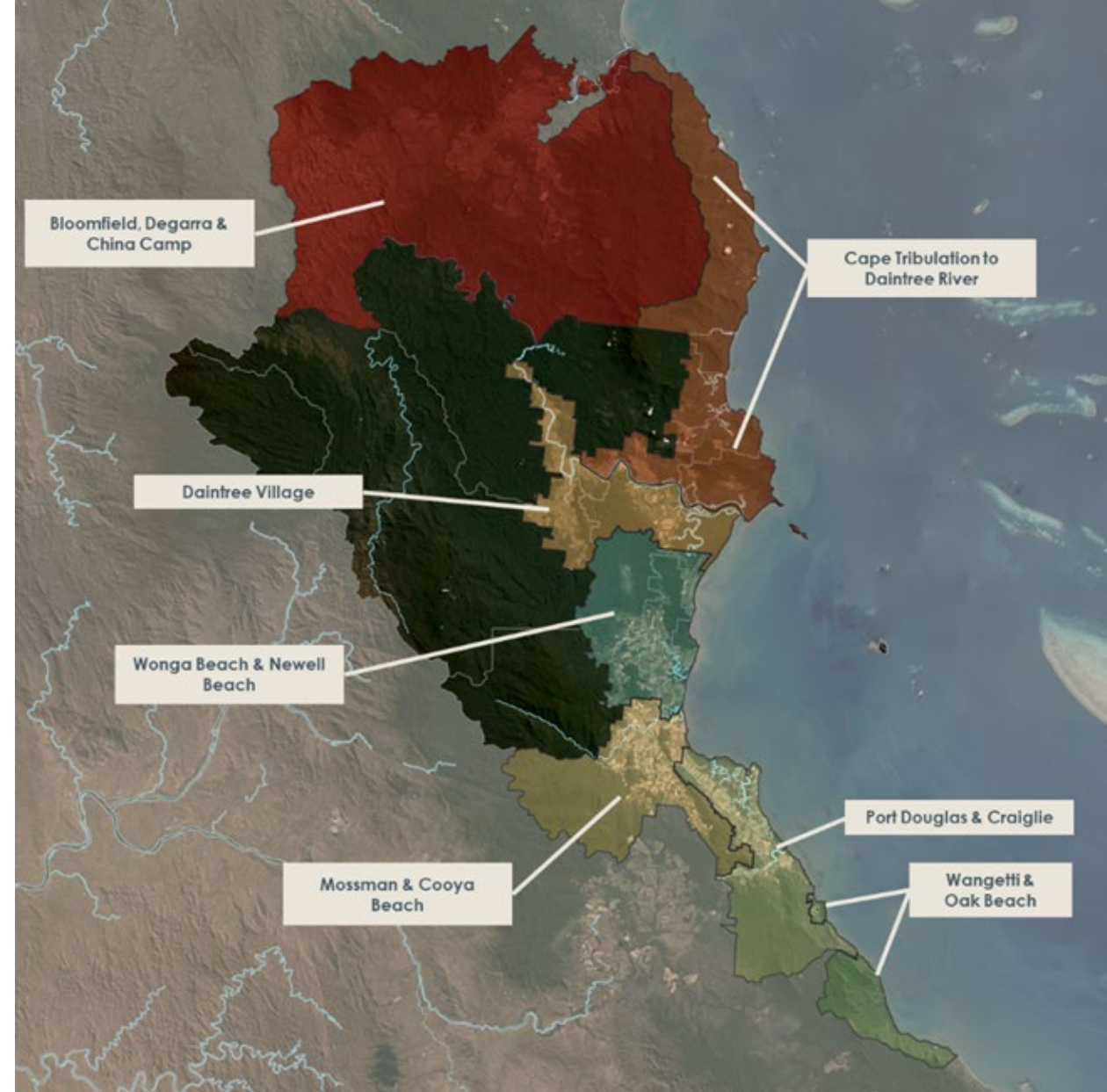
For thousands of years, clans of the Eastern Kuku Yalanji rainforest people and Yirrganydji saltwater people have thrived on the Country we will talk about today.

We would like to acknowledge them as the Traditional Custodians and recognise and honour their cultures and connections to the lands, skies, and waters.



About Douglas

- 12,500 people
- 2,428km²
- Divided by the Daintree River and ferry
- Surrounded by Wet Tropics World Heritage Area
- On the international map but significantly isolated
- 2.7m average annual rainfall
- 7 Communities

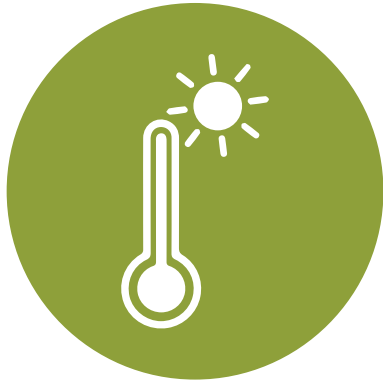


The Continuous Learning Cycle



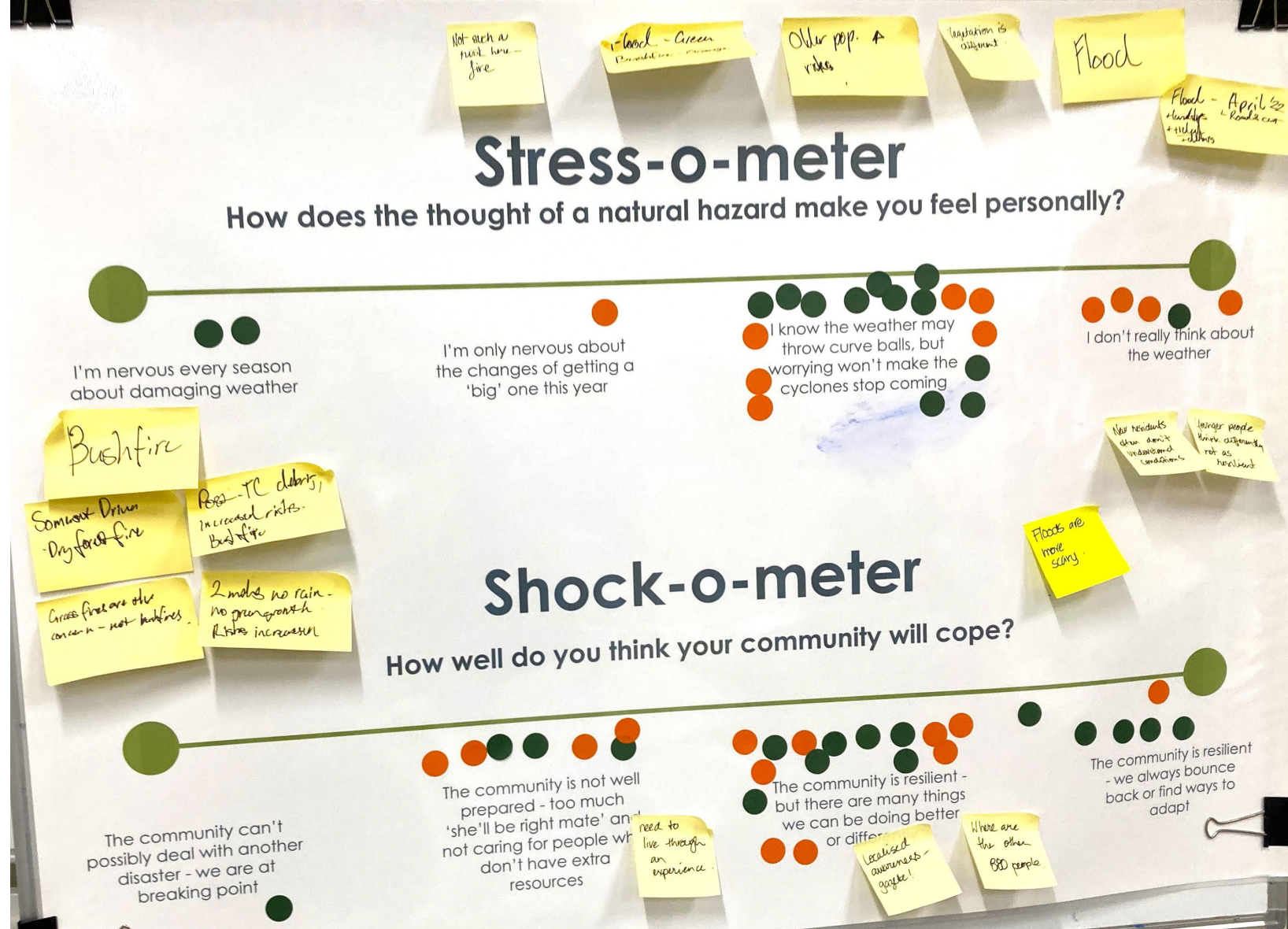
-  **Community Awareness**
Scorecards to enhance understanding, empower locals and bolster the hyper local role in resilience
-  **Community-led Action**
Community-led identification of community need
Collaborative approaches to address resilience actions
-  **Local Disaster Management Action**
Community need is transferred to local disaster management plans and LDMG facilitated or coordinated actions
-  **Greater Resilience**
During disaster events, tangible improvements in resilience are measured and community outcomes improved
-  **Learning**
All stakeholders reflect and learn to enhance understanding and identify collaborative resilience improvements

Hazards



Attitudes to Hazards and Risk

Understanding community awareness and concerns



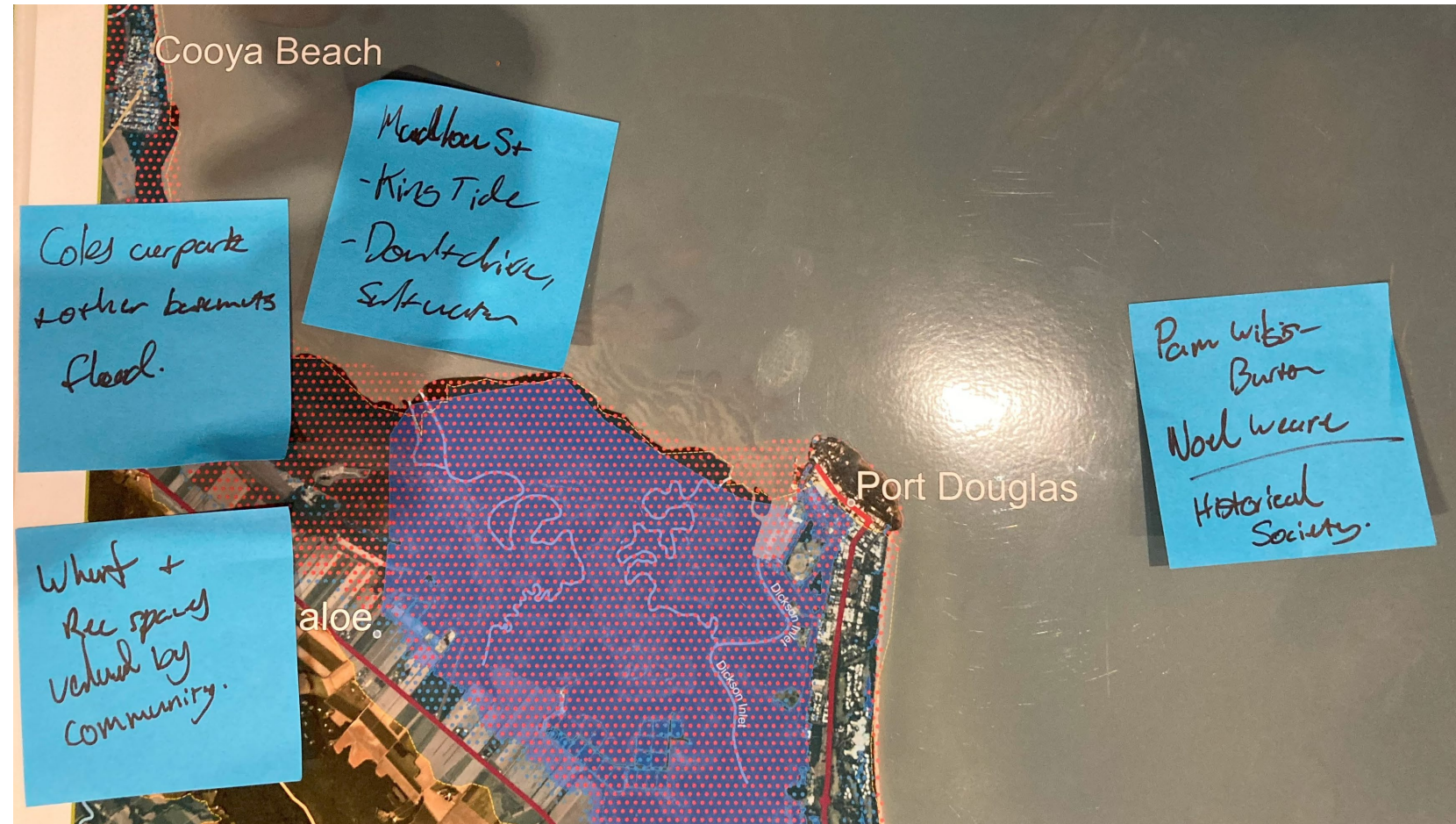
Understanding Risk

Listening to lived experience and local knowledge



Localised Exposure

Local values
dictate
exposure



Talking Vulnerability

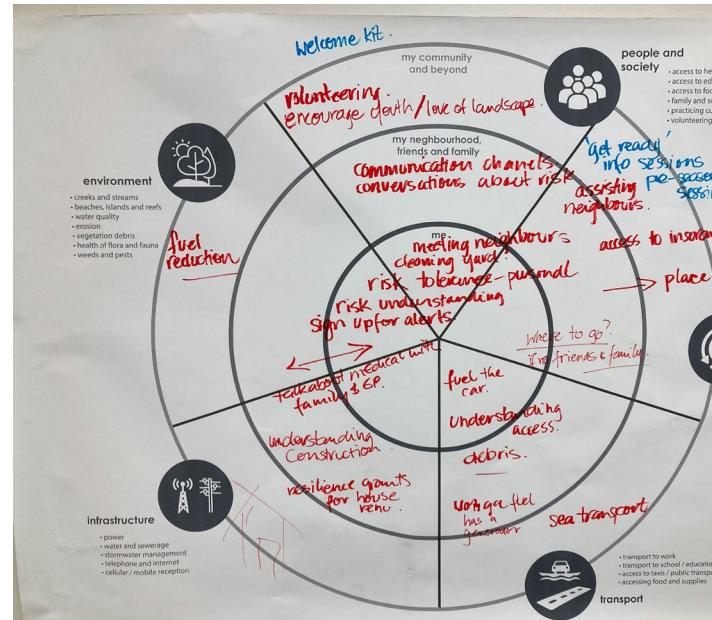
'Ready for
the week''

Pets.

Older
people are
set in their
ways.

Putting it all together

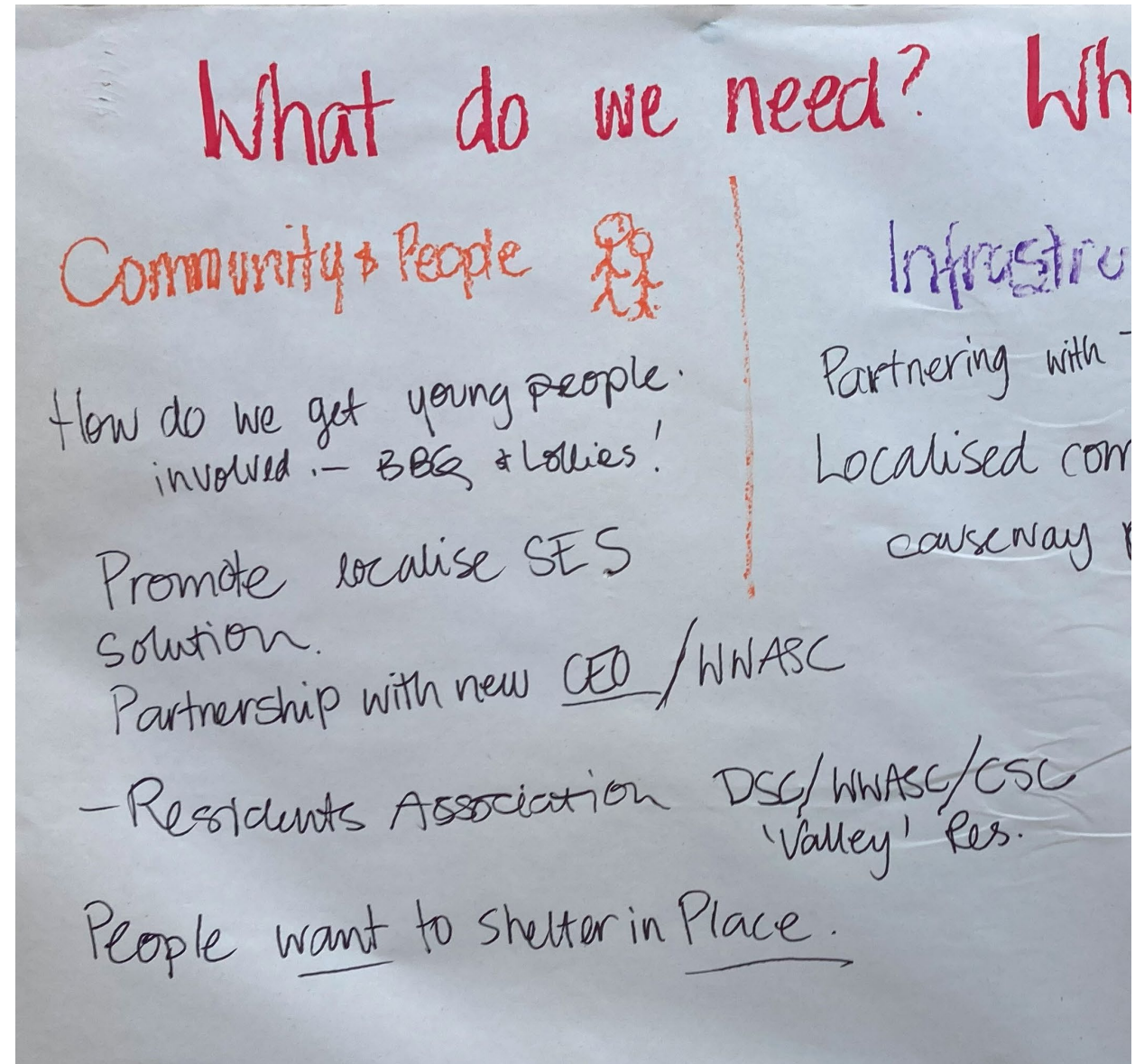
Using story maps to highlight roles and responsibilities - what's in your sphere of influence?



Pre Season
 Understand school pick up.
 Sign up for alerts!
 Sandbagging - 3 locations.
 doors & drains & toilets.
 advertising.
 Food for pets. Talking to neighbours.
 Conversation on Evac.
 Food, water, pet food.
 Debris, lifting items
 torch, batteries.
 Clean up outdoors.
 Radio
 Reliance on Solar (live).
 Medication & Prescriptions

Putting it all together

Listening to hyper local needs



Putting it all together

What is a local resilience Scorecard?

Community Resilience Scorecard
Wonga (Wungkabadi) to Newell (Nulu)

LOCAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT GROUP

There is a history of landslides on Flagstaff Hill.

Low lying areas of Cooya Beach are exposed to flood and coastal hazards.

Daintree River boat ramps.

The Foxton Bridge over the Mossman River can be inundated during flooding. It is the only crossing over the Mossman River.

Flood-prone areas of Foxton Bridges.

Mossman has some of the oldest building stock in the region, making it vulnerable to cyclone damage.

Boonville Doon flood-prone spot, prone to inundation.

Mossman Fire Station.

Green is occurring in sections of the Mossman River.

Roads of localities and traffic lights at the Casowary Range.

During the wet season, swimming in Mossman Gorge can be dangerous. People have lost their lives in dangerous conditions.

Thornswode flood-prone spot, near the casowary.

Mossman Multi-purpose Health Service.

Council Chambers and Mossman SES are co-located on Front St. Chambers operates as the local Disaster Coordinator Centre during a disaster. Sandbags are available from the SES Depot.

Minor
The risk is limited. Community assets are at risk and able to be dealt with locally.

Moderate
The risk is apparent. Consideration is needed to protect community assets, environmental and economic cycles, but this needs local recovery assistance.

Significant
The risk is present. Community assets are beyond recovery cycles.

of our buildings are relatively new and able to stand severe storms, but flooding from the River floodplain is a major risk and if this all the same time as a king tide the impacts are significant. Floods can also separate our families from Mossman and cut access.

der have occurred at Rocky Point and impact close to Mossman. Residents are vulnerable here, especially when there is no coastal

Wangell has a history of landslides on Flagstaff Hill.

More residents are taking awareness of exposure to gateway to impacts to

are the entrance to the area exposed to all unique vulnerabilities. In the form of Port Douglas if cyclone and coastal erosion, storm tide and for this are evident beach and the Dickson south of Wangell and

of Port Douglas and able to withstand severe contrast, older homes are further risk. It serves most of Wangell and numbers of visitors and in the summer present take information, and presence with severe

occurred on Flagstaff occur on the Captain can significantly disrupt and all communities. Any damage to the in the tourism industry can hinder enterprise in the Bay and the Great

urban areas where the flood can stop people

Windows of their home were broken and most 40 cm deep filled rooms' Cairns Post 1979

More parts of Port Douglas are low-lying and at risk of inundation during a storm surge event.

Cairns Post Douglas Aged Care Facility is within the storm surge zone.

Port Douglas Cyclone Storm tide inundation shelter is at the Port Douglas State School.

The shelter is for residents who are vulnerable and are unable to evacuate in place of their home.

Casowary viewing spot, of the Mossman River bridge.

Community Resilience Scorecard
Port Douglas, Craiglie, Oak Beach and Wangell

LOCAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT GROUP

DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL

LOCAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT GROUP
Disaster Management is everybody's business

Meridian Urban

Lessons Learned

- Localised understanding informs the Local disaster management plan
- Local knowledge is the best knowledge
- Heightened awareness of pinch points for the Local disaster management group
- Increased awareness and understanding for the community who attended
- Plenty of new threads to build upon for local Disaster management officers
- A monitoring framework would support further LRPs
- There is no rest

Thank you, and the people and staff of Douglas Shire

