

### **Australian Government**

## The Hon Kristy McBain MP

Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories

Minister For Emergency Management



## The Hon Janelle Saffin MP

Minister for Recovery

## **JOINT MEDIA RELEASE**

Monday, 3 November 2025

# WILSONS CREEK ROAD UPGRADE TO DELIVER IMPROVED FLOOD RESILIENCE

Editor's Note: Images available here: <a href="https://shorturl.at/KAmfc">https://shorturl.at/KAmfc</a>

A key stretch of Wilsons Creek Road between Upper Wilsons Creek Road and Alidenes Road in the Northern Rivers will become more resilient to future weather events thanks to almost \$10.7 million in combined disaster recovery funding.

Devastated in the 2022 floods, Wilsons Creek Road is the only evacuation route for the hinterland communities in Wilsons Creek and the adjoining valley areas of Upper Wilsons Creek and Huonbrook/Wanganui.

Provided by the Australian and NSW Governments as part of the Regional Roads and Transport Recovery Package and Essential Public Asset Restoration works under the jointly funded Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA), the funding will help to reduce maintenance and repair costs associated with future natural disasters and also ensure the road will better withstand future extreme weather events.

Road functionality is vital to ensure efficient and timely evacuations and support of emergency responders during a natural disaster or crisis.

The project covers work at several locations and includes upgrades to culverts, landslip repairs, shoulder widening, drainage improvements and strengthening the road pavement through pavement stabilisation and resurfacing.

Work is being carried out by contractors with road stabilisation activities including resealing expected to start mid November 2025 and be completed by March 2026, weather permitting.

## **Quotes attributed to Minister for Emergency Management Kristy McBain:**

"Accessibility is a key issue for people in regional areas, especially in situations where there is only one way in and out, as is the case for the hinterland communities in Wilsons Creek and the adjoining valley areas of Upper Wilsons Creek and Huonbrook/Wanganui.

#### **OFFICIAL**

"That is absolutely vital in emergencies, when people need to evacuate and then return to their homes when it's safe to do so.

"This project, funded through the Australian and NSW Governments, will assist access, helping our rural and regional communities remain connected throughout natural disasters and bounce back quicker."

## **Quotes attributed to NSW Minister for Recovery Janelle Saffin:**

"Wilsons Creek Road is a critical local artery, connecting communities and providing access to essential services in Mullumbimby.

"That's why it's great to see these roads being built back better and more resilient to future disasters.

"Northern Rivers roads and bridges have really copped it from mega floods over the past few years."

## **Quotes attributable to Byron Shire Mayor Sarah Ndiaye:**

"Flood recovery works at Wilsons Creek have been progressing well and works to improve about eight kilometres of Wilsons Creek Road surface will be underway shortly.

"We thank residents for their patience, while we get this important work done and are grateful for the funding to improve Wilsons Creek Road."

#### **ENDS**

#### **MEDIA CONTACTS**

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