



### Dowling Property, Airport Drive MONTO Three Moon Creek

Earthworks were implemented to remove two point bars which caused Three Moon Creek to break its banks and severely impact adjacent production land during flooding caused by Ex Tropical Cyclone Oswald in January 2013

## Background

During the 2013 Floods, the Three Moon Creek broke its banks and caused extreme damage to the Dowling's cultivation paddocks. There were concerns that the floods may be causing the creek to change its natural flow path. Following air photo assessment and site inspections with DNRM staff, minor works to Three Moon Creek were authorised. The works aimed to assist in ensuring that the natural flow path is maintained and not encouraged to follow a different path through the productive paddocks.

## The Project

The objective of this project was to remove two point bars of the Three Moon Creek and raise the level of a lagoon crossing to encourage the creek to follow its original flow paths during low flow events—encouraging the natural flow path of the Three Moon Creek. The removal of the two point bars was subject to a Riverine Protection Permit which was submitted and subsequently received DNRM approval.

An earthmoving contractor was employed to undertake the rehabilitation works. Sand deposits which make up the point bars was excavated out of the creek.

This removed material was used to raise the level of the crossing along with other nearby materials, where required. Raising the crossing by approximately 300mm will be required, while ensuring the existing crossings structure is still maintained.

Undertaking these works was to encourage the creek to follow its original flow path. In turn this will potentially assist in alleviating the risk that the creek will change its path in this location in future flooding events. The paddocks at risk are highly productive and reducing any risk of flooding will be a significant improvement.



Severe scouring and loss of topsoil from production land adjacent to Three Moon Creek following the flooding caused by Ex-Tropical Cyclone Oswald in January 2013

## Results

Following the 2015 TC Marcia flooding event, the landholder has advised that this project was particularly successful. Having the point bars removed avoided the two stream effect— where streams meet, with swirling causing considerable damage as occurred in 2013. The 2015 flooding caused by TC Marcia was as extensive as 2013, however, damage in this area on the property was significantly less—the Three Moon predominately followed its original flow path with limited flow into the area which caused the damage in 2013.



Same paddock one month following flooding caused by TC Marcia in 2015 - plowed and ready for planting. Removal of the two point bars reinstated the natural flow of Three Moon Creek



Australian Government



Queensland Government

This project is part of the On-farm Productivity and Riparian Recovery Program supporting primary producing areas severely impacted by flooding following Ex-Tropical Cyclone Oswald in 2013 and is funded by the Queensland and Commonwealth Governments through natural disaster relief and recovery arrangements

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