



# HAUGHTON RIVER FLOODPLAIN PROJECT

SEP - DEC 2021

THE INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP (TIG)

\$1.9 M

The Haughton River Floodplain Project was part of the Queensland State Government's infrastructure upgrade of the Bruce Highway.

DEMEX was engaged as a subcontractor for demolition works by The Infrastructure Group (TIG), a joint venture between Beilby, BMD Constructions, JF Hull Holdings and Albem Operations. The works included demolition of a vehicle bridge over the Haughton River, Horseshoe Lagoon and Pink Lilly, in addition to two asbestos containing houses and batt house shacks.

## CHALLENGES

Project challenges included working over a river course and in proximity to a main highway. The project's timing, which occurred in the lead up to the wet season, was also a challenge, as was the movement of heavy vehicle traffic and equipment required for the sugarcane harvest season.

The methodology involved use of two excavators; one each positioned at the northern and southern bridge spans. The excavators hammered the concrete bridge deck onto a barge catchment deck, and then unloaded the spans at the river's edge. Bridge steel supporting beams were oxy cut out of the boom lift and placed on a second barge. The beams were then lifted out by a Franna crane until all segments were completed.

Abutments were removed on land, while headstocks and piers were pulverised with a 30 tonne excavator positioned on a barge into a catch deck at riverbed level. Macalroy bars were saw cut and bridge decks removed by grabs on Horseshoe Lagoon Bridge and Pink Lilly Bridge. Headstocks and piers were pulverised from the next span to be removed. Bonded and friable asbestos was removed, followed by demolition of the houses.