



WILD DUCK ISLAND

APR - SEP 2023

QBUILD

\$1.3 M

Wild Duck Island is a remote 338 hectare island located approximately 23 kilometres northwest of Stanage, off the Central Queensland Coast. It was recognised as part of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area in 1981, under the UNESCO World Heritage Convention. The island is also located within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. In 1979, construction commenced to develop resort accommodation and an airstrip, however, development works were abandoned prior to completion.

DEMEX was engaged as principal contractor by QBuild, the Queensland State Government's builder, working in conjunction with Queensland Parks and Wildlife. The scope of work involved demolition and removal of all infrastructure, plant, equipment and material associated with the abandoned resort construction, as well as rehabilitation to support natural regeneration.

CHALLENGES

The DEMEX team undertook several months of detailed logistics planning which

encompassed all elements for the works to be completed in an unserviced and remote protected island and marine environment. In addition to the usual demolition and asbestos removal planning there were other major considerations that impacted logistics, including:

- Extreme tidal patterns and weather.
- Vehicle and barge transport of all plant, equipment and supply.
- Procurement and fabrication of custom engineered specialty equipment.

The overall project encompassed demolition of 20 two bedroom resort units, the majority of which were completely derelict, as well as the removal of all above ground services; a concrete batching plant, vehicles, heavy plant, trailers, plant attachments, equipment from the construction; and bulk fuel tank. As with mobilisation to site, waste load out and demobilisation from the island was dependent on tides and weather.