



# New dual-polarised Doppler radars for Queensland



In the 2019–20 Budget, the Australian Government committed \$77.2 million to install and operate four new dual-polarised Doppler radars to fill significant coverage gaps in Queensland. The new radars are expected to become operational between 2021 and 2023.

## Which regions will the radars cover?

The radars will cover the regions of the Darling Downs (near Oakey), southern Queensland (near Taroom), Upper Burdekin (between Charters Towers and Hughenden) and the Flinders catchment (near Maxwelton). These regions have important agricultural and mining industries and are subject to highly variable and extreme weather, particularly heavy tropical rainfall and severe thunderstorms.

## When will the new radars be ready?

The expected completion dates for the radars are:

- Upper Burdekin region: early 2021
- Taroom region: late 2021
- Flinders catchment: early 2022
- Darling Downs: early 2023

## What other changes will be funded?

The Darling Downs radar will replace the existing radar at Marburg.

The existing radar at Moree will be relocated to the vicinity of Boggabilla in northern New South Wales and is expected to be completed by 2023–24. Combined with the new radars in the Darling Downs and Taroom regions, the relocation will further improve coverage in southern Queensland.

## Are there other changes planned?

A new radar in the Brewarrina region, funded by the NSW Government, to be installed in 2020–21, will also give additional coverage of the Queensland border region.

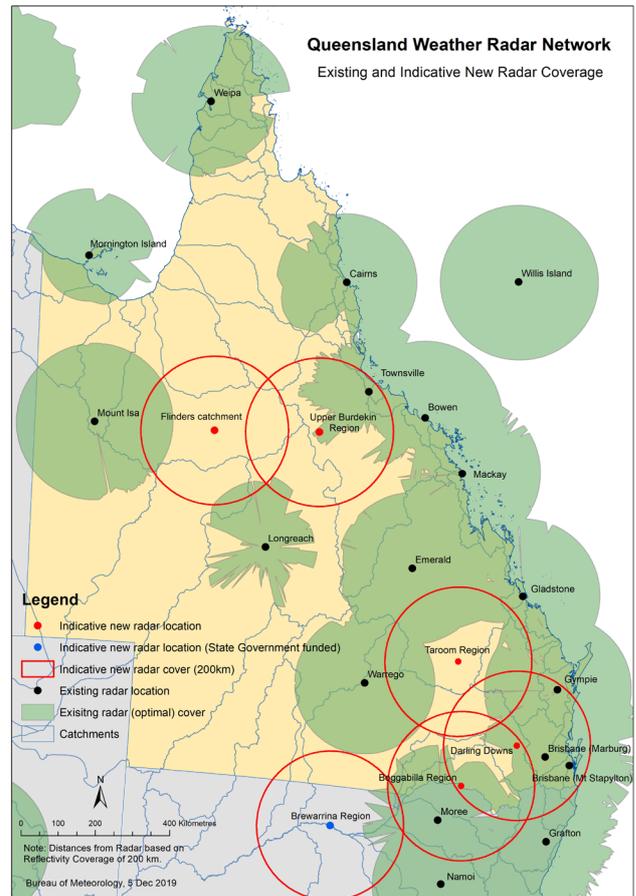
## Benefits of dual-polarised Doppler radars

The new radars will allow people in more areas of Queensland to monitor weather in real time via the Bureau’s website and the BOM Weather app. Dual-polarised Doppler radars offer significant benefits.

They provide:

- much improved rainfall rate measurement for use in flood warning operations;
- more accurate calculation of accumulated rainfall and stored soil moisture;
- better short-term forecasting of rainfall and severe weather, and identification of hail; and
- enhanced tracking of the location and strength of wind changes, benefitting aviation as well as firefighting and other emergency services.

For more information visit [bom.gov.au/australia/radar](http://bom.gov.au/australia/radar)



Indicative coverage area of the existing and planned weather radar network.