

Big Rivers is the Territory's second largest region and extends from the Ord Bonaparte area in the west to the Gulf of Carpentaria in the east.

The town of Katherine is the main centre and the gateway to the north, south, east and west as well as the world-renowned Nitmiluk National Park.

Its economic strength comes from the tourism, pastoral and horticultural sectors, augmented by mining and defence.

Katherine Logistics and Agribusiness Hub

The NT Government is progressing the development of a multi-disciplined logistics and agribusiness hub to meet the current and future growth needs of Katherine, the Top End region and northern Australia. The hub will drive economic development, create jobs and increase prosperity in the Big Rivers region.

Detailed design for the subdivision is well advanced. Construction of external power servicing works commenced in September 2020 and is expected to be completed early 2021. External roadworks and intersection construction is anticipated to commence mid 2021.

Katherine Flood Mitigation

The Katherine Flood Mitigation Program includes delivery of structural mitigation measures (levees), flood resilience for the town and planning measures to provide commercial land outside of the flood zone within Katherine East (Katherine East Neighbourhood Centre). The program will increase Katherine's flood resilience and improve flood protection of Katherine residential areas.

The Katherine East Neighbourhood Centre is a subdivision development project which will allow for the future construction of residential and commercial facilities. The future development includes a diverse mix of medium density housing with commercial, retail and public open space that supports economic and social activity, outside of a Q100 flood zone.

Internal headworks and subdivision works detailed design is anticipated to commence late 2020.

Borroloola Sports Courts Cyclone Shelter upgrade

The project will upgrade the existing sports courts on Lot 644, Town of Borroloola to a Level 4 Cyclone Shelter that will provide the Borroloola community with an evacuation and recovery centre for up to 600 people.

Central Arnhem Road upgrade

Upgrades will be carried out to the Central Arnhem Road - a key link between Nhulunbuy and the National Network. This road services a large number of Indigenous communities and is a key tourism drive and freight route for the mining and pastoral industries. A corridor investment strategy is being developed to determine priorities for this expenditure.

Arts Trail

The NT Government's Arts Trail investment includes \$10M for art gallery extensions and/or upgrades in Katherine. The Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Art and Culture Centre upgrades will utilise funding of \$4.5M to enable the centre to activate several spaces at once to increase utilisation, visitation capacity and revenue opportunities and is expected to commence in early 2021.

Rocky Creek Bridge upgrade, Borroloola

Upgrades to the Rocky Creek Bridge will ensure the new structure is 1m higher than the existing culvert crossing, greatly increasing flood immunity to the community. Construction has commenced on the bridge and is expected to be completed by December 2020.

Katherine CBD Revitalisation

This year the Katherine CBD town square upgrade will be completed with further grant funding available for activities to activate the space. These projects aim to build a vibrant community and create local jobs while additional plans will see upgrades to safety and security designed to create a functional and engaging CBD.

