

# Exploratory works

## Borumba Pumped Hydro Project



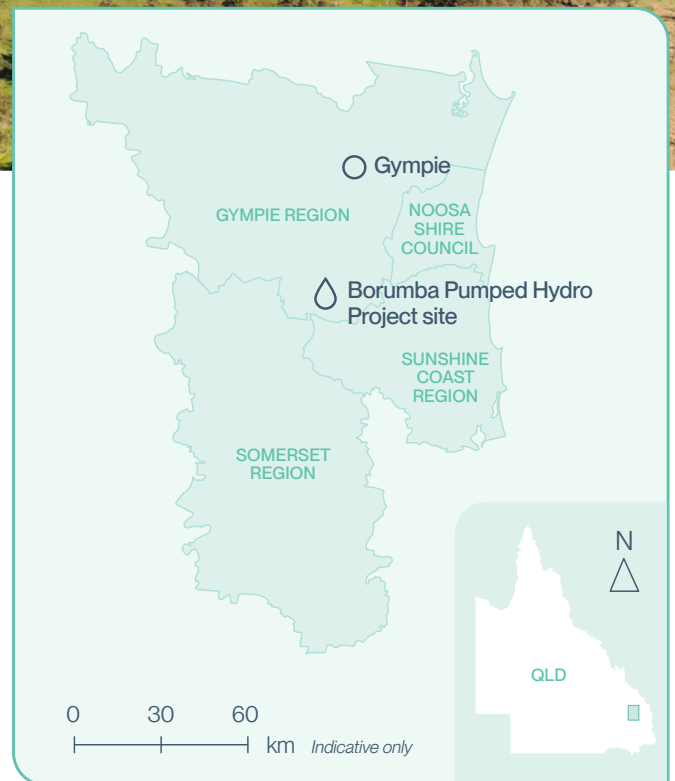
### About exploratory works

Exploratory works are critical activities that will confirm geotechnical conditions and characteristics of the Borumba Project site, which will inform detailed design.

The works are focused on geotechnical investigations including drilling, test-pitting and tunnelling. There are also a range of other activities to support the safe delivery of exploratory works.

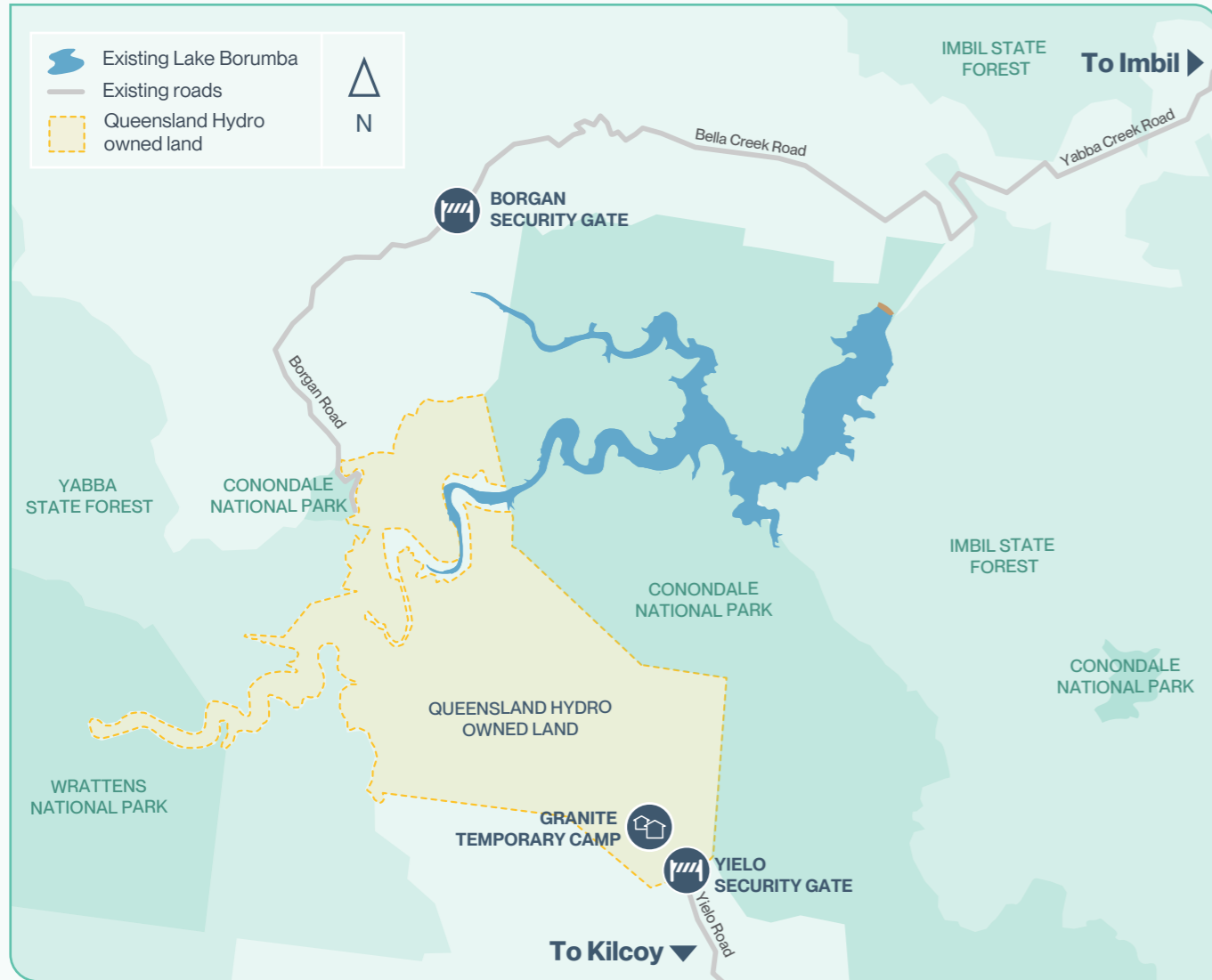
#### Planned exploratory works include:

-  exploratory tunnel drilling
-  geotechnical investigations
-  minor road improvements
-  constructing new access tracks
-  constructing supporting infrastructure
-  establishing spoil stockpile areas.



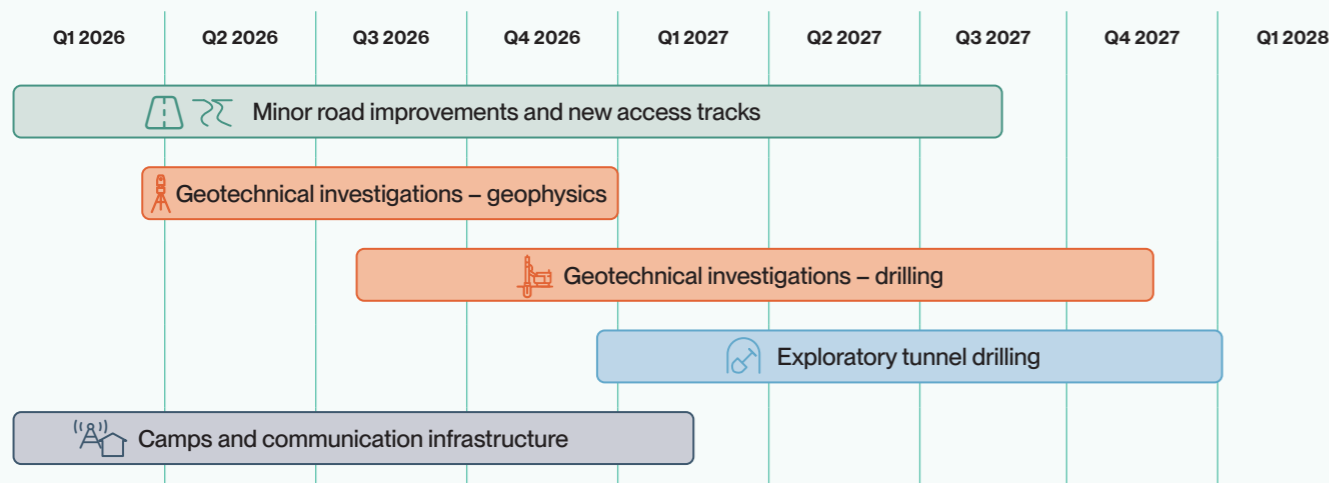
The Borumba Pumped Hydro Project is a pumped hydro energy storage project proposed at Lake Borumba, and surrounding areas located between Imbil, west of the Sunshine Coast, and Jimna in the Somerset region.

Delivering major infrastructure projects requires meticulous planning to avoid unforeseen risks. One of the most effective strategies for minimising risk is undertaking comprehensive exploratory works before finalising designs and commencing future construction activities.



## Exploratory works program

Project timeline for 2026 – 2027



### Minor road improvements

Minor road works on Bella Creek, Yielo and Borgan roads are planned to allow safe access to the proposed upper reservoir site as well as surface upgrades to existing gravel tracks. There will be increased light and heavy vehicle movements along public roads, particularly towards the end of 2026.

### New access tracks

Constructing new gravel tracks within the project area.

### Geotechnical investigations

Geotechnical investigations include drilling boreholes to identify soil and rock types and subsurface conditions in and around the project area.

Water monitoring bores will also be installed during geotechnical investigations to monitor ground water levels. A team of workers will spend about one week working at each borehole site.

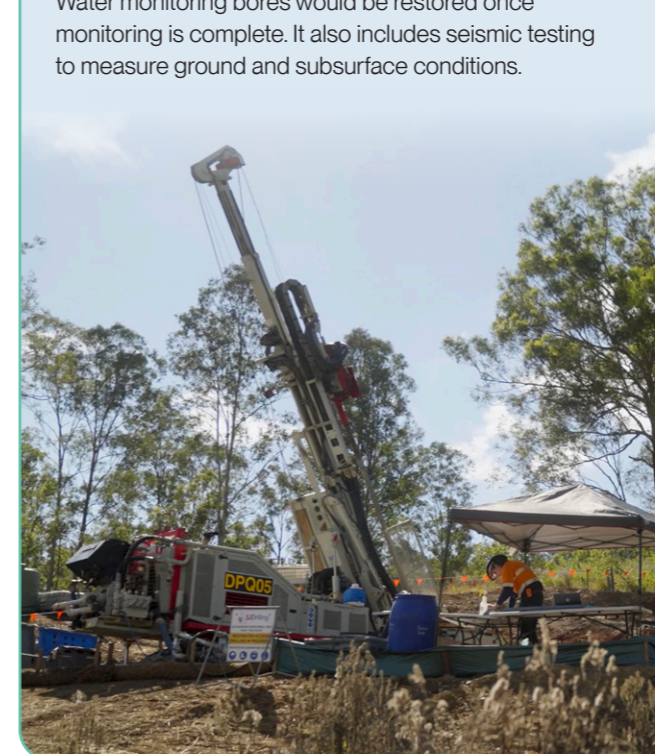
Upon completion of drilling, each borehole site will be restored as close to the original condition as possible. Water monitoring bores would be restored once monitoring is complete. It also includes seismic testing to measure ground and subsurface conditions.

### Exploratory tunnel drilling

This work will involve excavating soil and rock to allow drilling equipment to access the location of the proposed underground powerhouse cavern.

Exploratory geotechnical tunnel drilling will complement surface geotechnical investigations to increase our understanding of ground conditions and inform the project design.

Drilling and blast methods would be used to remove the excavated material (spoil). This method is more efficient than using a tunnel boring machine due to the short length of the tunnel and availability of local expertise.



### Camps and communication infrastructure

In October 2025, Queensland Hydro completed the temporary accommodation 'Granite Camp' in the upper reservoir area.

The camp will provide on-site accommodation for the exploratory workforce, avoiding pressure on local housing, with the workforce expected to peak at around 200 personnel at the start of 2027.

Small temporary communication towers will be installed to ensure communication across the project area is accessible.



## What to expect

Potential impacts to nearby residents may include some truck movements along public roads. The project team will seek to minimise any impacts on the community and residents during this time.

## Stay up to date



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Stay up to date with Queensland Hydro and the Borumba Pumped Hydro Project by signing up to our mailing list.

## More information

Stay up to date with Queensland Hydro and the Borumba Pumped Hydro Project.

1800 433 939  
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## Opportunity to get involved

We know that the proposed Borumba Project is ultimately better off when we have involvement from our neighbours and local communities.

Queensland Hydro is committed to engaging early and often to achieve the best outcomes for both Queensland and local communities.

Throughout exploratory works, you will have opportunities to learn more about the Borumba Project and provide feedback on relevant studies. Queensland Hydro is engaging through targeted stakeholder meetings and broader community drop-in sessions.

We encourage landholders, community and other stakeholders to provide local insights and feedback through our communication channels.