



Australian Government

BUILDING OUR FUTURE



August 2016

Start of investigation work for the new Harwood Bridge

The Australian and NSW governments are jointly funding the \$4.36 billion Woolgoolga to Ballina Pacific Highway upgrade. Roads and Maritime Services Pacific Highway Office and Pacific Complete are working together to deliver the project. As part of the upgrade, a new bridge will be built over the Clarence River at Harwood.

The Woolgoolga to Ballina project team has engaged Pacifico Harwood, an Acciona and Ferrovial joint venture, to design and build the new 1.5 kilometre bridge. To prepare to build the new bridge, investigations and early work will start in August 2016.

Upcoming work for the new bridge

The new bridge will be built about 20 metres east of the existing Harwood Bridge. Work to be carried out in the next three to six months includes:

- Survey and geotechnical investigations
- Vegetation clearing
- Removal of residences and buildings on the project alignment
- Services and utility relocation
- Changes to local traffic conditions – we will consult with the community ahead of any major changes being implemented
- Closing the informal carpark below the southern side of the existing bridge
- Building a new jetty.

Survey and geotechnical investigations

Survey work will be carried out to identify and locate services and utilities like telecommunications and water and confirm the project boundary.

Geotechnical investigations will analyse rock and soil samples from areas in and around the project area. This will help inform the detailed design for the new bridge.



A maximum of 72 boreholes will be drilled as part of this work. Of the 72 boreholes, 26 are proposed to be drilled from barges on the Clarence River. All geotechnical investigations will be carried out within the approved project boundary.

Vegetation clearing

Some land will need to be cleared in order for work to be carried out, including some slashing and trimming branches.

Clearing of mature trees may be required on the southern bank of the Clarence River and on the convent property at Harwood.

Clearing will only be carried out within the approved project boundary.

We will work to minimise the amount of clearing where possible and all activities will be carried out under the supervision of an ecologist.

Services and utility relocation

The Woolgoolga to Ballina project team will continue to carry out service and utility relocation including power, telecommunications and water.

On the south side of the Clarence River, overhead power relocation has already started. On the north side of the Clarence River, overhead power on River Street will be relocated underground to make way for the new bridge.

Underground services including water and telecommunications on the north side of the Clarence River will be temporarily relocated from their existing location adjacent to Mill Road, to the road reserve parallel to Watts Lane.

Building a new jetty

A new temporary jetty will be built on the north eastern side of the Harwood Bridge, off River Street into the Clarence River. The jetty will be built inside the approved project boundary and will not be open for public use.

The jetty will be used for all marine-based building activities. Access to River Street will remain open while we build the new jetty.

Traffic control will be in place to manage vehicle and pedestrian traffic to ensure the safety of local residents and road users.

Site compounds

To build the new bridge, work sites will need to be established on both sides of the Clarence River.

The main site compound is currently proposed to be located on the north side of the Clarence River at Harwood.

An additional smaller site compound is proposed on the southern side of the Clarence River, next to the northbound on/off ramp.

These sites are still being assessed and further consultation with the community will be held in the coming months to seek feedback.

The project team is committed to ongoing consultation with the community and will keep you informed as the process progresses.

Closure of informal carpark underneath the existing Harwood Bridge

The informal car park on the southern side of the existing bridge, next to Yamba Road, will remain closed while we build the project.

This area will be an active building site for the Woolgoolga to Ballina project and will be closed to ensure safe separation between local traffic, work vehicles and heavy machinery.

How will this work affect you?

It is not expected there will be major noise or dust impacts caused by activities being carried out in the next few months.

Some temporary traffic changes will be implemented to ensure the work area is safe, including on:

- River Street, Harwood, east of the project boundary
- Yamba Road.

Reduced speed limits and lane closures may be in place. Please keep to speed limits and follow the direction of traffic controllers and signs.

We encourage motorists to plan their journeys and allow extra travel time.

Machinery and equipment will be used in the project site and in the Clarence River. This machinery will include trucks, barges and project vehicles.

There will be some changes around local areas during the work including increased vehicle and truck traffic as well as project team members on site.

We will keep you informed of any traffic changes before they are implemented.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused and thank you for your patience during this important work.

Harwood convent removal

Notifications about the public tender for the removal and relocation of the Harwood convent were displayed in June 2016.

Unfortunately no compliant tenders for the removal and relocation of the convent were received during this period.

As a result, the Woolgoolga to Ballina project team will remove the building in line with the conditions of approval, to allow for the new bridge to be built. We will keep you informed of when this is planned to be carried out.

Ongoing work between Maclean and Devils Pulpit

It is expected soft soil settlement in this section will be finished in late 2016, weather permitting. Once complete, major building will start on the main alignment.

Work to be carried out between August and October 2016, weather permitting, includes:

- Continuing water and sewer relocations between Maclean Channel and Iluka Road
- Continuing earthwork at Green Hill, Gulmarrad and at Mororo on the eastern side of the Pacific Highway, including transporting rock and material to the project sites
- Removal and temporary stockpiling of topsoil and mulch
- Placing materials at various locations north of the Clarence River and near the Yamba ramps
- Installing monitoring equipment to confirm soft soil settlement
- Environmental monitoring of dust, noise and water quality.



Earthwork at Green Hill looking south

How will this work affect you?

There may be some noise, dust and disruption associated with this work. You may also notice some changes around local areas during the work including increased vehicle and truck movements as well as project team members on site.

Reduced speed limits and lane closures may be in place. Please keep to speed limits and follow the direction of traffic controllers and signs.

All work for the upgrade is regulated by a construction environmental management plan (CEMP) which is approved by the Department of Planning and Environment.

The CEMP has strict conditions about managing the project's impact on the environment. We will try to minimise impacts to residents during this work. Access to residents' properties will be maintained and traffic control will be in place where required.



Environmental controls at Serpentine Chanel

Work hours



7am – 6pm Monday – Friday
8am – 5pm Saturdays

In areas where residents live more than 200 metres from the project boundary, extended work hours from 6am to 7pm weekdays are allowed. Some activities are required outside these hours. When these activities are required, we will notify nearby residents at least five working days in advance.

Contact us

For more information about the work please contact the project team on 1800 778 900, email W2B@pacificcomplete.com.au or visit the project website at www.rms.nsw.gov.au/W2B.



If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call us on 1800 778 900.