



Australian Government

**BUILDING OUR FUTURE**



September 2017

## **Start of work – piling for the new bridge over the Richmond River at Broadwater on Wednesday 4 October**

**The Australian and NSW governments are jointly funding the \$4.36 billion Woolgoolga to Ballina Pacific Highway upgrade. Roads and Maritime Services Pacific Highway Project Office and Pacific Complete are working together to deliver the project.**

The Woolgoolga to Ballina project team will be building 170 bridges including 57 twin bridges for the 155 kilometre upgrade. This includes a new bridge over the Richmond River about one kilometre north of Broadwater.

The project team has been carrying out geotechnical investigation work both on land and within the river, building temporary jetties and setting up a site compound.

### **How the bridge will be built**

The new bridge over the Richmond River will be built from the land and river using piling rigs, cranes, barges and several smaller work boats. Temporary jetties on each side of the river will be used to service marine operations as we build the new bridge.

Building the new bridge will involve:

- Setting up heavy plant including piling rigs, cranes and barges
- Delivering and storing large precast concrete components for building the bridge
- Operating the southern temporary jetty and building and operating the northern temporary jetty
- Carrying out driven and bored piling on land and in the river
- Pouring concrete for the piles
- Lifting bridge building components into place
- Asphaltting and bridge finishing work including installing guard rails.

### **Piling for the new bridge**

Piling is the first stage in building the new bridge and will start on Wednesday 4 October. To create a solid foundation, a combination of driven and bored piling will be used to install more than 50 piles, which are required for the 25 bridge piers.

Work will begin with the arrival and setting up of equipment including piling rigs and mobile cranes. More than 200 large precast concrete components will also be delivered and stored on site before they are lifted into place on the bridge.

Piling activity is anticipated to take about six months to complete, weather permitting.

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## What is involved with piling?

**Driven piling** involves vibrating and/or hammering steel tubes into the ground.



**Bored piling** involves boring a circular hole in the ground, installing steel reinforcement and filling the bore hole with concrete to form a pile.



## How will work affect you?

Piling can create increased noise and vibration levels. It is likely you will be able to hear piling activities if they are near your property. We will carry out noise and vibration monitoring throughout this work.

To manage the impact of the piling on the community we will ensure there are respite periods. Additionally, the program means a significant amount of the piling has been scheduled to be carried out during school holidays.

## Changes to traffic

For the safety of road users there will be changes in the speed zone to the north of Broadwater. There will be construction vehicles – including heavy and oversize vehicles delivering the concrete beams – on local roads, including Back Channel Road.

For the oversize vehicle movements, pilot vehicles and police escorts will be used because of the length of the beams. About 18 of these concrete beams will be delivered via Back Channel Road to complete the northern section of the new bridge.

Minor delays are expected when these beams are being delivered, but we will keep you informed of when this is happening. Motorists are asked to keep to speed limits and follow the direction of traffic controllers and signs. For the latest traffic updates call 132 701, visit [livetraffic.com](http://livetraffic.com) or download the Live Traffic NSW App.

## Impact on river users

During the bridge building, for the safety of river users and our team restrictions will apply including:

- Speed limits of four knots near the work area and partial closure of the river with a navigable channel maintained at all times
- Exclusion zones for the temporary wharves, barges and constructed piers at various times throughout the project.

Marine operators are advised to use care and reduce speed to four knots when within 100m of the work area.

## Work hours

Typically work will be carried out during the project's approved construction hours, which are **from Monday to Friday between 7am and 6pm** and on **Saturday between 8am and 5pm**.

In areas where residents live more than 200m from the work area, extended work hours are allowed from Monday to Friday between 6am and 7pm. Nearby residents will be notified at least five working days in advance of any activities scheduled outside of these working hours.

## For more information

If you have any questions, please contact the Woolgoolga to Ballina project toll free line on 1800 778 900 dial 1, [W2B@pacificcomplete.com.au](mailto:W2B@pacificcomplete.com.au) or visit the project website [rms.nsw.gov.au/W2B](https://rms.nsw.gov.au/W2B).

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

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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.