Installation of fauna crossing on Wardell Road, Wardell

Roads and Maritime Services, Pacific Complete and its contractor partners are working together to deliver the Woolgoolga to Ballina Pacific Highway upgrade.

As part of the Koala Management Plan and Connectivity Strategy for the upgrade, the project team will install a fauna crossing (pipe culverts) at Wardell Road, Wardell. The culverts will connect into fauna fencing to control the movement of koalas and other wildlife near the highway.

To carry out this work, one way traffic will be in place on Wardell Road and managed under traffic control. The work will start in mid-June and is expected to take about four weeks to complete, weather permitting.

This work will involve:

- pre-clearing survey and minor roadside vegetation removal under the supervision of ecologists
- implementing traffic control, including temporary traffic lights
- installing concrete components of the crossing using an 80-tonne crane
- installing new fauna fencing and roadside guardrail
- reinstating the pavement over the crossing.
Work hours
Typically, work will be carried out during the project’s approved construction hours, which are:

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<th>Approved construction hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday to Friday 7am–6pm</td>
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<td>Saturday 8am–5pm</td>
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In areas where residents live more than 200 metres from the work, extended work hours are allowed between 6am and 7am and 6pm and 7pm from Monday to Friday. No work will be carried on Sunday or a public holiday.

How we manage our work
The project team will use machinery that generates noise, light and vibration. To manage this work we will:

- direct temporary lighting down and away from homes
- locate equipment such as generators as far as possible from residences
- turn off machinery when not in use
- plan activities to minimise noise from reversing vehicles
- monitor noise and implement further mitigation measures, if required.

All work will be carried out in line with the project’s Conditions of Approval and Construction Environmental Management Plan.

Traffic changes
To manage queuing and safety, there will be some temporary traffic changes and lane closures that may affect travel times. Please keep to speed limits and follow the direction of traffic controllers and signs. Motorists are encouraged to remember PAC – Plan, Awareness, Caution. For the latest traffic updates, you can call 132 701, visit livetraffic.com or download the Live Traffic NSW app.

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