

MEDIA RELEASE

WEDNESDAY 27 JANUARY 2016

Hawkesbury River bridge maintenance on track

Maintenance work on the Hawkesbury River rail bridge has started on schedule and is set to be complete by the end of April.

Sydney Trains Chief Executive Howard Collins said work started last week, with specialist contractors working closely with Sydney Trains engineers.

“The crane we’ll use for the work was loaded onto a barge last week,” Mr Collins said.

“The barge was prepared at Glebe Island in Sydney and towed to the Hawkesbury. It is due to be positioned under the bridge tomorrow.

“We’ve also had divers in the water examining the current state of the riverbed.”

Mr Collins said the work will involve renewing the outer layer of concrete surrounding the core of the second pier from the southern end of the bridge. No work is required on any other pier.

“A dam will be established around the pier that will allow the water to be pumped out so the concrete can be renewed,” he said.

“It’s absolutely safe for trains to run on the bridge and this has been confirmed by two independent reports.”

The maintenance work will not disrupt train services, which will operate as per the timetable.

To help ensure the safety of boats and other marine traffic during the work, Roads and Maritime Services has authorised an exclusion zone until 30 April. The zone is 200 metres upstream and downstream between piers one and three of the bridge and is marked by signs and lit yellow buoys.

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