



Transport for NSW

# Newell Highway Flood Immunity, West Wyalong to Forbes

The NSW Government has committed \$200 million to provide flood immunity on various sections of the Newell Highway between West Wyalong and Forbes

## Project background

The Newell Highway between West Wyalong and Forbes has a history of road closures during periods of heavy rain and flooding in the Lachlan Catchment.

In September 2016 the West Wyalong to Forbes section was closed for 43 days and multiple sections of the highway, totalling 20 kilometres, were flooded.

Transport for NSW is investigating potential flood immunity solutions between Compton Road, West Wyalong and Hereford Street, Forbes.

The primary objective of the project is to provide increased flood immunity (defined as one lane - each way dry and trafficable for all vehicles) and improving up to 20 kilometres of the 110 kilometre length between the two towns.

## Project objectives:

- Achieving a minimum flood passable level of service (one lane open under traffic control) for an equivalent 2016 flood event
- Achieving a minimum flood immunity (one lane - each way dry and trafficable for all vehicles) for a 1 in 20 year flood event
- Assessing options for flood immunity and flood passable for up to a 1 in 50 year flood event

## Key features being considered include:

- Increasing the height of the highway to meet the flood immunity objectives
- Pavement and drainage improvements to allow water to pass freely under the highway
- Ancillary works including safety barriers, signage, line marking, landscaping and environmental protection works as required.

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## Where are we now?

The preliminary environmental investigation is complete and the project has now reached strategic and concept design stage. During the environmental investigations, work included reviewing existing flood studies and preliminary identification of flora and fauna species along the length of the project.


The strategic and concept design stage includes field and data collection, flood modelling and analysis, option selection, road design estimating, further environmental assessment and extensive consultation with nearby residents and key stakeholders.

## Next steps

We thank the community and land owners for their feedback so far and we will continue to consult with you as the project progresses, especially during the development of the flood model to collect flood data, over the next three months.

When options and locations for each section are chosen, we will continue to provide information to community members. When the Review of Environmental Factors and Concept Design is finalised the community will be invited to have their say and provide feedback. We will continue to keep the community informed as the project progresses.

## Contact us

 1800 741 636 (option 5)

 [newell.upgrade@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:newell.upgrade@transport.nsw.gov.au)

 [nswroads.work/ww2f](http://nswroads.work/ww2f)

