

# The Washpool Flood Mitigation



The Washpool project site April 2022

## Project background

Washpool is located about 17km east of Moree on the Gwydir Highway. The Gwydir Highway is a critical east west link for northern NSW, connecting the inland plains to New England.

The project will raise and rebuild a section of the highway at Washpool to ensure the road is better able to cope during and after flood events; a welcome improvement for local residents, tourists and freight operators who are often cut off after heavy rainfall.

## Project scope

Works will include replacing an existing three cell box culvert with a 20 cell culvert structure which will reduce the duration of road closures during wet weather events. The highway will also be raised and widened with the addition of 1.5m wide sealed shoulders as well as upgrading roadside drainage, improving safety for motorists and reducing ongoing maintenance costs.



Pictured above: Moree Plains Shire Councillor Mike Montgomery AM, Member for Northern Tablelands Adam Marshall MP and Transport's Regional Director West, Alistair Lunn inspecting plans for the site

## The Washpool Flood Mitigation

### Project impacts

Work started in October 2020 and due to a significant amount of rainfall experienced in early to mid-2021 as well as Covid-19 restrictions, the project schedule was heavily impacted. (The picture to the right shows floodwaters impacting works).

Work recommenced in January 2022 and is expected to be finished by the end of 2022.

### Project status

A two-way sealed side-track is in operation on the southern side of the highway to maintain traffic flow around the project site while construction works are being carried out.

Main construction work on the Gwydir Highway at the Washpool includes:

- replacing the existing culverts with a larger structure and raising the existing road level on both sides
- providing a wider and more durable road formation above the new culverts
- improving drainage at the site by reshaping the table drains
- providing protection from erosion in the floodway both upstream and downstream of the new culvert structure
- maintaining the existing clear zone and carrying out localised vegetation control including trimming or weed removal.

### Next steps

Crews are back on site and work includes:

- constructing a temporary drainage diversion channel along the Gwydir Highway
- construction of the concrete base slab
- placing of the precast concrete culvert units
- construction of the concrete cover slab, which forms the road, and construction of wingwalls located on each bank to stop soil erosion.



Concrete pour, April 2022

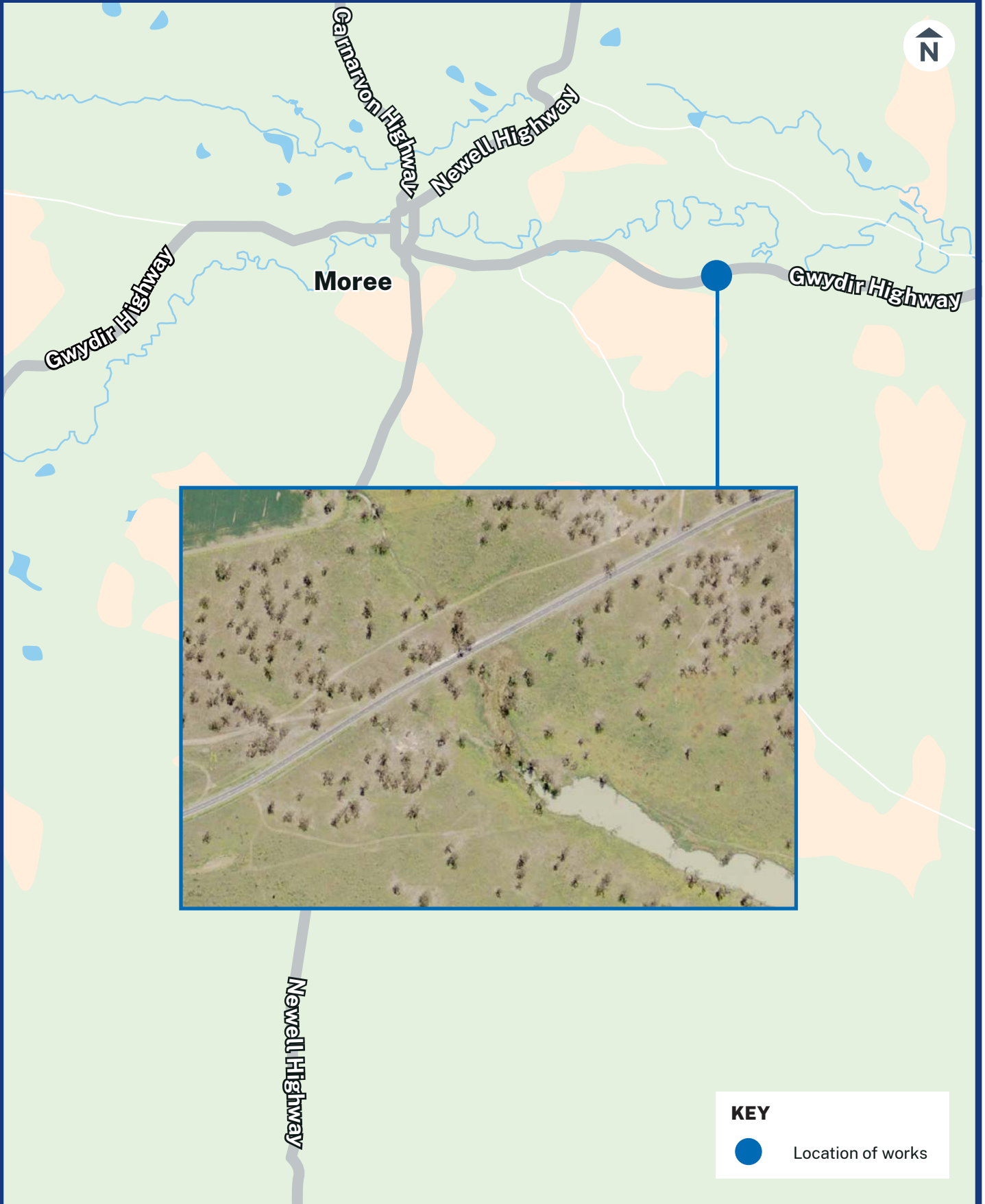


Pictured above: Flood water flowing onto job site in August 2021



Pictured above: Works during 2021

# The Washpool



## The Washpool Flood Mitigation

### Work Hours

Locals should expect to see ongoing works over the coming months.

Work will take place between the hours of **7am** and **6pm Monday to Friday**. The works will be carried out throughout 2022, weather permitting.

### Traffic Changes

There may be some temporary traffic changes to ensure the work zone is safe, including speed reductions and lane closures during work hours.

Please keep to speed limits and follow the direction of traffic controllers and signs. For the latest traffic updates, you can call **132 701**, visit [livetraffic.com](http://livetraffic.com) or download the **Live Traffic NSW App**.

### Covidsafe planning

Work crews will be adhering to strict Covid-19 protocols with approved Covid-19 safety plans in place.

The program of work is subject to change in response to any further government restrictions that may be put in place to manage Covid-19.

### Keeping you informed

Transport for NSW is committed to keeping the local communities well informed and up to date with project progress.

Project information and updates will be made available via the project website as well as direct communications to stakeholders



Concrete pour, April 2022

May 2022  
22.098

**Privacy Transport for NSW ("TfNSW")** is subject to the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 ("PIIP Act") which requires that we comply with the Information Privacy Principles set out in the PIIP Act. All information in correspondence is collected for the sole purpose of assisting in the delivery of this project. The information received, including names and addresses of respondents, may be published in subsequent documents unless a clear indication is given in the correspondence that all or part of that information is not to be published. Otherwise Transport for NSW will only disclose your personal information, without your consent, if authorised by the law. Your personal information will be held by Transport for NSW at Level 1, 51-55 Currajong Street, Parkes NSW 2870. You have the right to access and correct the information if you believe that it is incorrect.



Concrete pour at the project site in April 2022

 **263 cubic metres**  
of concrete poured to improve  
flood immunity

### Contact us

If you have any questions or would like more on the Washpool Flood Mitigation Project please contact our project team:



**1800 167 499**



**[western.projects@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:western.projects@transport.nsw.gov.au)**



**[nswroads.work/washpool](http://nswroads.work/washpool)**



**Western Region Office 51-55 Currajong Street, Parkes NSW 2870**



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 167 499.