



Transport for NSW

# Nowra Bridge project Project update



Casting yard and piling on the southern side of the Shoalhaven River

#### What we've been doing

Work since November has included:

- Piling in the casting yard and on the rock platform
- Removing material including rock at Illaroo Road, which is then processed at the Bolong Road storage area and reused on the project
- Continuing earthworks for the new local road connecting the highway with Lyrebird Drive
- Removing median islands, installing barriers and moving traffic to allow work to progress
- Utility relocation including power, water, gas and telecommunications services

- Adjustment to the traffic lights at the intersection of the Princes Highway and Bolong Road
- Putting pedestrian and cycle detours in place.

Check out our website to view photographs and videos of the project's progress

nswroads.work/NowraBridge









### Building the new bridge

Temporary rock platform

**Piles** 

Pile cap tubs are built onsite and lifted into position by a crane. Once these tubs are in place they are filled with around 65 cubic

Once the **piles** are built, a pile cap is placed on top. Pile caps create a connection between the group of piles below to the singular pier

Once these tubs are in place they are filled with around 65 cubic meters of reinforced concrete to create a solid block.

above the water level.

**Piers** 

Launch nose

Span segments

Finishing work

Road surface

**Abutments** 

We will start building the **piers** once the pile caps are in place. The piers provide structural support between the foundation in the river and the bridge deck above.

The new bridge will have nine piers across the river to match the existing northbound bridge. The shape of the piers will also be a similar 'V' shape with a wider base.

To build the piers, steel reinforcement is placed within formwork and then filled with concrete. Due to the size of the piers, some concrete pours will occur overnight or in the early morning when the temperature is suitable. The formwork is removed once the concrete has set.

The new bridge will be built using a specialised technique known as incremental launching. The double-T bridge deck segments are built in the casting yard on the southern foreshore and pushed across the Shoalhaven River with hydraulic jacks.

A **launch nose** is a temporary steel structure that is connected to the front of the first bridge segment. The launch nose will help support the bridge structure during the launching process and guide the segments into the correct position. The launch nose is removed once the bridge is in its final position.

**Did you know?** This is the same launch nose that was used for the Omega Bridge on the Gerringong upgrade



Double-T bridge deck segment formwork



Steel reinforcement for the pile cap tubs



Material being removed from Illaroo Road

#### **Upcoming work**

Work over the coming months will include:

- Continuing utility relocations, work on the new local road connecting to Lyrebird Drive and removal of material at Illaroo Road
- Continuing with piling on the rock platform and moving into the Shoalhaven River for the new bridge piers
- Installing the pile caps and building the piers
- Installing the launch nose
- Implementing new and innovative traffic control devices to improve the safety of workers near traffic
- Building the piling platform for Bomaderry Creek bridge work.

#### **Out of hours work**

Out of hours work occurs on a regular basis, between Sunday to Thursday evenings. Regular notifications about these impacts are on the project website or you can register for email updates.

Work occurs outside of standard construction hours for a number of reasons, including:

- Safety out of hours work helps us improve safety by minimising the interactions between motorists, pedestrians and workers
- Traffic to safely carry out activities, traffic may be stopped, detoured or reduced to one lane.
   By working at night, delays are minimised and journey times for motorists and businesses are less affected
- **Utilities** work may be required at night to minimise impacts on utility services and networks
- **Quality** the quality of concrete and asphalt can be impacted if activities are not continuous.

## Community information session

You are invited to a community information session where you will be able to find out more about the project, ask questions and meet members of the project team.

When: Wednesday 21 April 2021

5pm to 8pm

Where: 14 Moss Street, Nowra

This will be a COVID-safe event and we will follow social distancing and capacity limits, hygiene, cleaning and record keeping guidelines from the NSW Government.

The information sessions will run for 30 minutes each. Please register your attendance to secure a spot in one of these sessions by **Friday 16 April 2021**.

You can register on the project website or by contacting us on **1800 331 713**.



Pile casing being lifted into place

## **Supporting community projects**

Last year the team on the Nowra Bridge project donated sandstone rock to the Bomaderry Community Centre to build a yarning circle. The stone will be used in a community driven project to make the outdoor space of the Bomaderry Community Centre more functional and inviting. As the stone utilised has been recovered from the northern bank of the Shoalhaven River, the yarning circle will enable a deeper connection to Country for the local mob.

A yarning circle is an Aboriginal cultural space where people can sit down together and share stories, learn as a collective group, build respectful relationships and preserve and pass on cultural knowledge.



Project team delivering rocks to Bomaderry Community Centre

#### **Pre-employment programs**



Participants of the second pre-employment program

In 2020, 11 local Aboriginal participants took part in the first pre-employment program on the Nowra Bridge project. Five graduates were selected for Civil Construction Traineeships and are working on the Nowra Bridge project.

Following the success of the first program, we developed a second program with Fusion Training Solutions which aims to upskill and train people in the Shoalhaven.

Participants learnt foundational skills in basic tool use, safety awareness, communication and drug and alcohol impact awareness. The six week program was held at the Nowra Bridge project Training Hub and will link job ready workers with Shoalhaven based employers that have vacant employment opportunities.

#### **Contact us**

If you have any questions or would like to know more about the Nowra Bridge project please contact our project team:



1800 331 713 (toll free)



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nswroads.work/NowraBridge



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