



Location of the new 60km/hr speed zone

# Waterfall Way Community Update

December 2015

Waterfall Way is the main route between the Pacific Highway and Armidale. It is also an important tourist route. The NSW Government is funding the delivery of vital road improvements along Waterfall Way. This community update provides information on current activities from Raleigh to Armidale.

---

## IN THIS ISSUE

- Road safety review update
  - New speed limits
  - Monitoring heavy vehicles
  - Sweedmans Lane
  - Road surface resealing
  - Work on Dorrigo Mountain
  - Ebor village upgrade
  - St Helena to Four Mile Creek upgrade
- 

## Road safety review update

Last year Roads and Maritime released a road safety report in response to community concern about the increase in truck movements from local quarries. The safety review examined 40 kilometres of Waterfall Way, stretching from the Pacific Highway to Dorrigo. The review investigated areas of concern and identified potential improvements or actions that could be progressed should funding become available.

Roads and Maritime has achieved 23 of the recommendations, including:

- A speed zone review between Thora and Dorrigo
- Improvements to safety at Myers Bluff and Gordonville Cutting
- Ongoing monitoring of heavy vehicles and working with NSW Police
- Finalisation of the Pacific Highway, Nambucca Heads and Urunga Action Plan, showing how project truck movements are managed
- New signage at Fernmount and Maynards Plain Road
- Two new vehicle activated signs

- Additional give-way signage on Dorrigo Mountain.

We are continuing to investigate the remaining recommendations, focusing on:

- A strategy to address guide signs, including street name signs and advance intersection signs
- A speed zone review from the Pacific Highway to Fernmount to be carried out once road works have been completed
- Formal 'pull over' areas on Dorrigo mountain when restoration work is planned to enable slow moving vehicles to pull over and allow other vehicles to pass.



Newell Falls

## New speed limits on Dorrigo mountain

New speed limits have been introduced between Thora and Maynards Plains Road, as a result of a speed zone review.

The review was carried out following recommendations in the safety report last year, and in consultation with Bellingen Shire Council.

The speed zone review assessed a number of factors including development, topography, traffic and crashes. Following the review it was determined that the existing speed limit of 100km/hr will be reduced between:

- Darkwood Road to 4.8km north of Little North Arm Road to a speed of 80km/hr
- North of Little North Arm Road to 300m west of Maynards Plains Road to a speed of 80km/hr
- 4.8km north of Little North Arm Road to 7.4km north of North Arm Road to a speed of 60km/hr. This section includes three 'give way' zones on the mountain.

### Sweedmans Lane (Stage 1)

Work is continuing near Sweedmans Lane at Fernmount to improve the road surface. Completion of this work was delayed earlier this year when soft soils were found on the project. To address ground conditions further investigations were carried out enabling work to progress.

Work on stage one is due to be complete by mid-2016, weather permitting.

### Sweedmans Lane (Stage 2)

Detailed design and environmental studies for the next stage of road surface improvements, west of Sweedmans Lane, is progressing.

Work on this section will start when the environmental studies and road design is finalised and funding confirmed.

### Road surface resealing

Roads and Maritime has prioritised sections of the Waterfall Way for resealing and heavy patching between the Pacific Highway and Armidale. This work is planned to start early next year.

The community will be kept informed of possible impacts to travel times.

## Work on Dorrigo Mountain

### Newell Falls rest area

In November 2015 Bellingen Shire Council started kerb and gutter work near Newell Falls including the rest area. The rest area will reopen in mid-December, weather permitting.

The old shelter has been removed and will be reused at another site.

### Rock scaling along the escarpment

Last month we completed scaling work to reduce the risk of rock fall along Dorrigo Mountain near the intersection of Maynards Plains Road, east of Dorrigo.

The work involved vegetation removal and targeted scaling of loose blocks and boulders at the slope.

### Ebor village upgrade

Roads and Maritime engaged Council to improve the road surface work through Ebor village. This work has now been completed.

### St Helena to Four Mile Bridge upgrade

Work started last month to improve the road surface between St Helena and Four Mile bridges, about 29 km east of Armidale. The work includes road widening, resealing and line marking.

Work is expected to be complete by the end of March 2016, weather permitting.

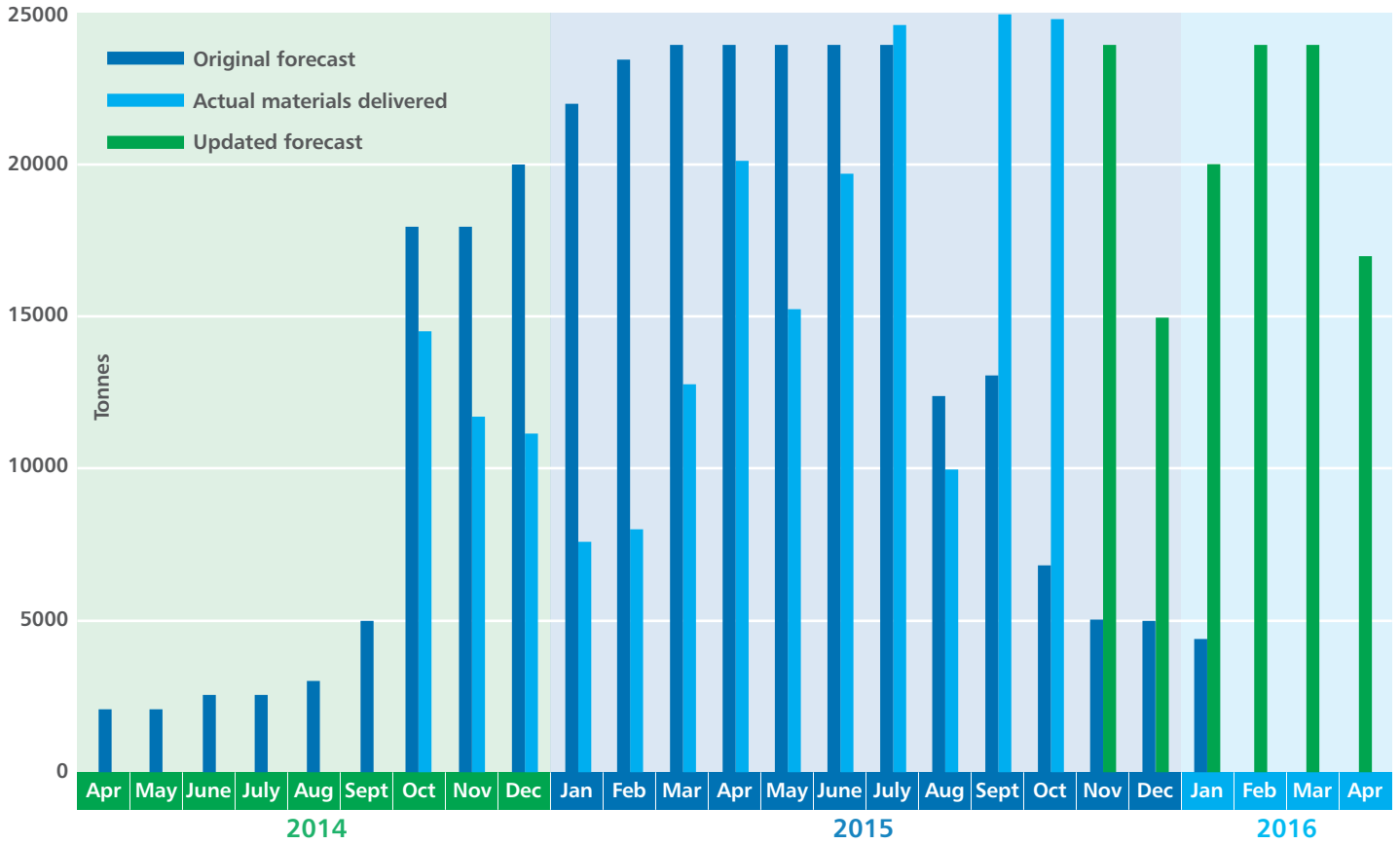
### Heavy vehicle action plan

As part of the Nambucca Heads to Urunga Pacific Highway upgrade, we are continuing to monitor the movement of trucks with our building partners.

In October 2015, trucks transported 24,832 tonnes of material to the project work site. This required about 28 truck movements along Waterfall Way each day (Monday to Friday).

- Forecasts show that of the total number of heavy vehicles that use the Waterfall Way on a week day during peak movements about 24 per cent will be Nambucca Heads to Urunga project related trucks.
- Of the total quarry materials required for the project only 20 per cent comes from Dorrigo and therefore travels along Waterfall Way. The remaining 80 per cent is sourced either onsite or from other quarries (north and south of the project).

The graph below shows the forecast supply of quarry material on Waterfall Way and actual material supplied as of October 2015. Please contact the community relations team for more information on 1800 800 612 or email [nh2u@lendlease.com](mailto:nh2u@lendlease.com)



### For more information

For more information about the Waterfall Way please contact the project team by:

☎ 02 6640 1300

@ [grafton.regional.office@rms.nsw.gov.au](mailto:grafton.regional.office@rms.nsw.gov.au)

🖥 More information is also available at [rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects](http://rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects) (Waterfall Way)

### Privacy

Roads and Maritime Services (“RMS”) 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 PPIP Act.

All information in correspondence is collected for the sole purpose of assisting in the assessment of this proposal/ delivering 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 RMS will only disclose your personal information, without your consent, if authorised by the law. Your personal information will be held by RMS at 76 Victoria St, Grafton NSW. You have the right to access and correct the information if you believe that it is incorrect.

