

APRIL 2013



## Waterfall Way

### Pacific Highway to Connells Creek

Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) is investigating upgrading the Waterfall Way between the Pacific Highway and Connells Creek. RMS has developed two route options and is seeking to determine a preferred route for the upgrade. These investigations are part of RMS' commitment to deliver road improvements along the Waterfall Way.

The Pacific Highway to Connells Creek section of the Waterfall Way is the beginning of this important route which connects the Coffs Harbour district with the coastal hinterland of the Bellingen area and the tablelands of Dorrigo, Armidale and beyond.

This project is one of a number of projects that have been identified by RMS on the Waterfall Way. The aim of the project is to rehabilitate the pavement whilst catering for future traffic growth in accordance with our strategic approach for this route and in line with current design guides and practices.

#### Display of route options development report

RMS has announced two route options for the Waterfall Way between the Pacific Highway and Connells Creek. The route options development report outlines the planning processes undertaken to develop each route option.

This report is available to view on the RMS website at [www.rms.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au) and will also be available to view from **22 April 2013** at the following locations:

- Bellingen Shire Council  
Hyde Street, Bellingen
- Dorrigo Library  
Pine Street, Dorrigo
- Urunga Library  
Bonville Street, Urunga

Your input is invited to assist RMS in its determination of a preferred route for the upgrade of this section of the Waterfall Way. Feedback on both route options is welcome and will be accepted until **20 May 2013**.

## Public submission report

A public submissions report has been prepared that documents the results of all phases of community consultation undertaken for the project to date. This includes the public exhibition of the concept route options during 2011 as well as individual meetings with property owners within the project study area. This report analyses, summarises and discusses the submissions received by RMS both during the exhibition period and after additional individual meetings with property owners. It also documents how each of the issues raised in the submissions were considered by RMS.

The public submissions report is available at the following link: [www.rta.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects/projects/north\\_eastern\\_region/waterfall\\_way/project\\_documents.html](http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects/projects/north_eastern_region/waterfall_way/project_documents.html)

## Project objectives

The objectives are to:

- Upgrade the section to a safer 80km/hr standard and provide consistency of travel speed and level of service along the Waterfall Way.
- Provide 3.5 metre wide travel lanes and two metre wide shoulders.
- Upgrade Short Cut Road intersection.
- Minimise impact on the environment including avoiding construction through the wetland at Camerons Corner.
- Upgrade the road pavement and improve surface conditions.
- Improve flood immunity.

## How were the route options identified?

Both route options were identified through a strategy that involved the following inputs;

- **Stakeholder consultation** with Bellingen Shire Council, community groups, the community and landowners advising of the revised approach to the project and increased scope as well as to obtain feedback.
- **Preparation of preliminary environmental investigations** assisting RMS in developing preliminary route options.
- **Project team workshops and site investigations.**
- **Preparation and public exhibition of concept route options** including stakeholder consultation.
- **Preparation of specialist environmental assessment reports** to assist RMS in refining both route options.
- **Further development of route options** as a result of community and stakeholder consultation and specialist environmental investigations.

## How will a preferred route option be selected?

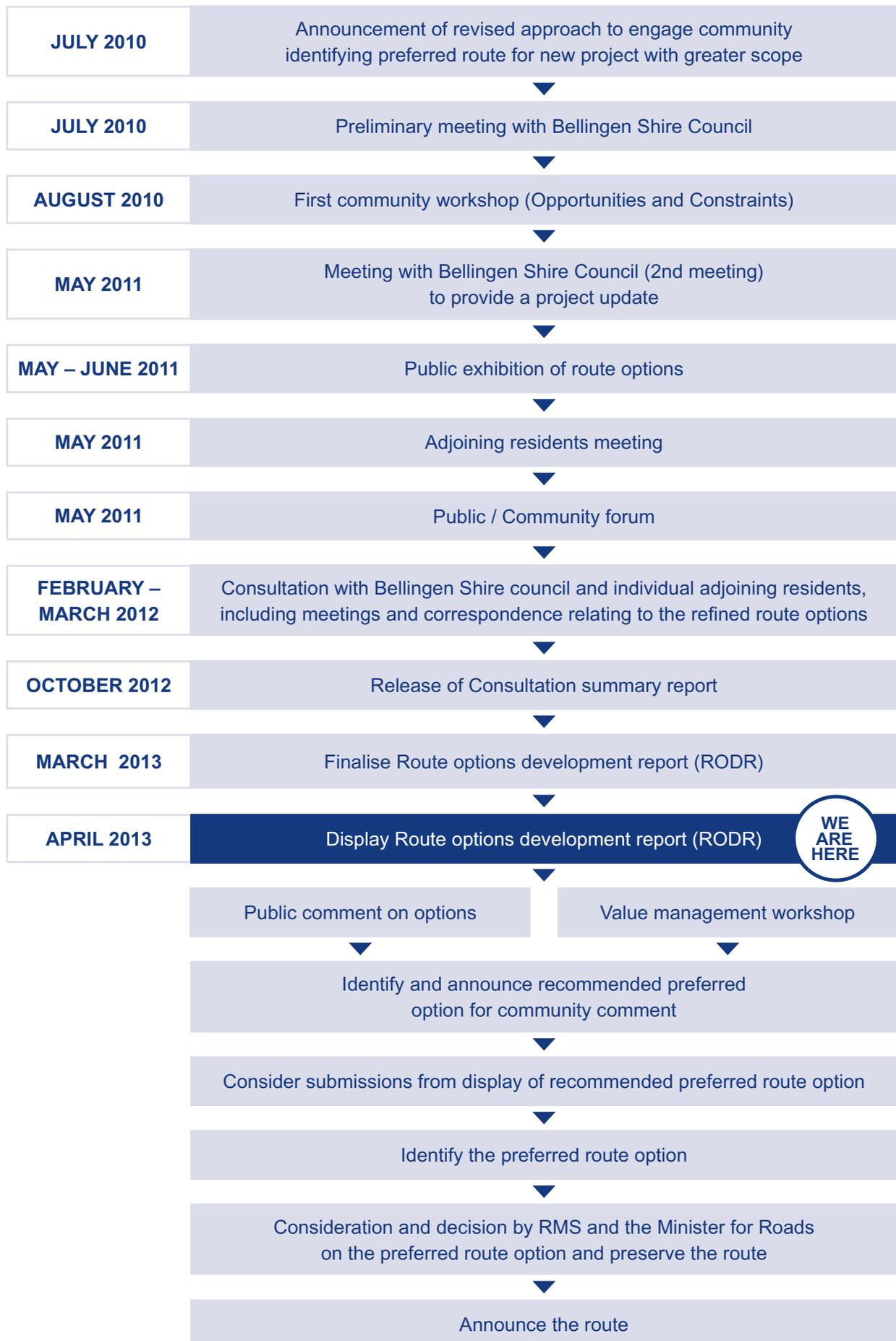
A preferred route option has not been selected at this stage. The preferred route must provide a balance across social, environmental and functional issues to meet project objectives, taking community values, environmental impacts and value for money into consideration.

A decision will be made by considering

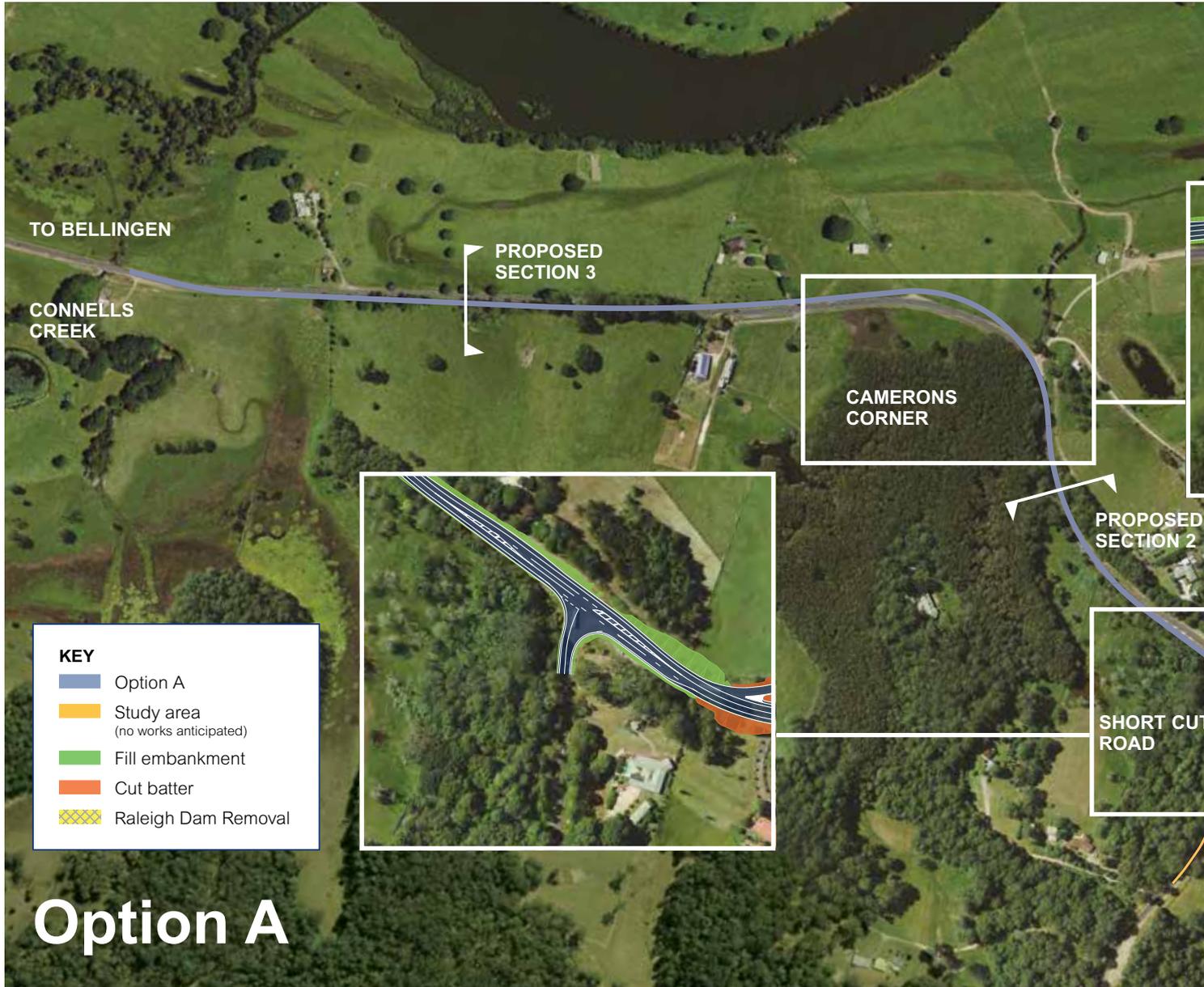
- All community feedback, including that received during and following the display of the Route Options Development Report,
- Technical and environmental information gathered during the route option development process,
- The outcomes of a value management workshop.

Selection of the recommended preferred route will be followed by an opportunity for public comment on this route, and then consideration and decision by RMS and the Minister for Roads on the preferred route option and its announcement.

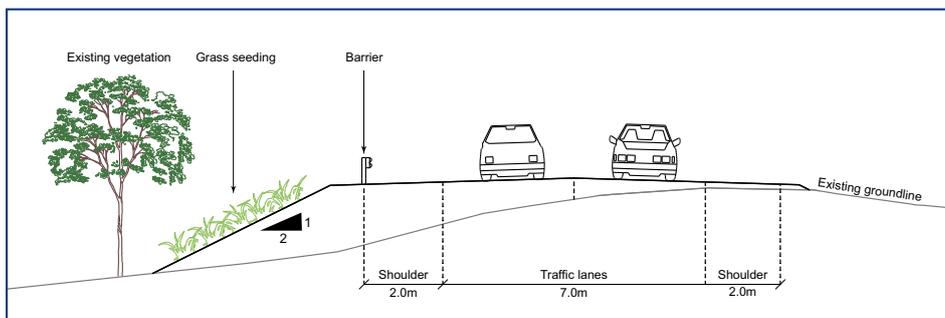
## Project planning process



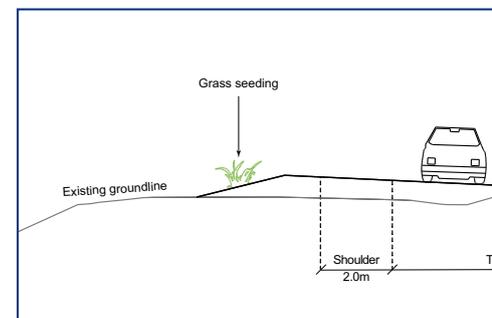
# The route options

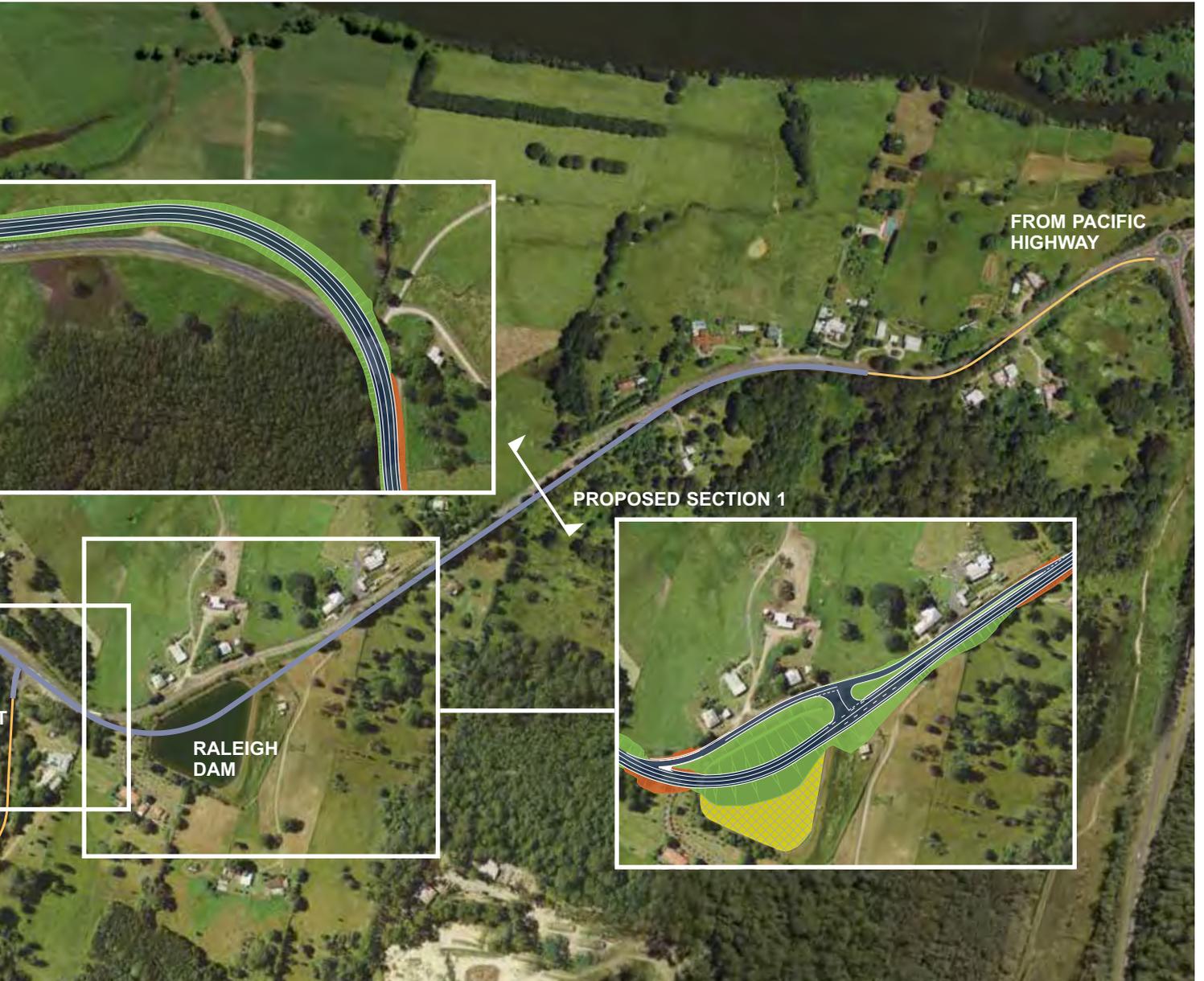


Option A: Proposed section 1

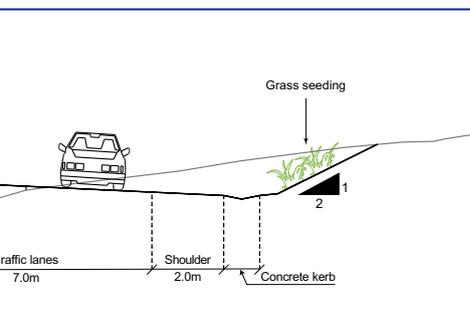


Option A: Proposed section 2

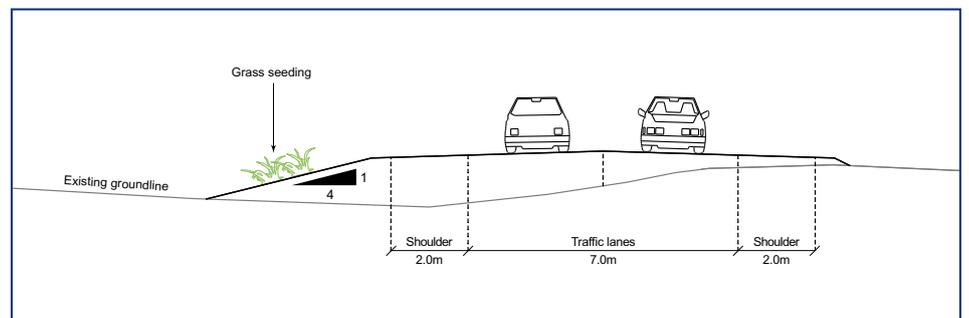


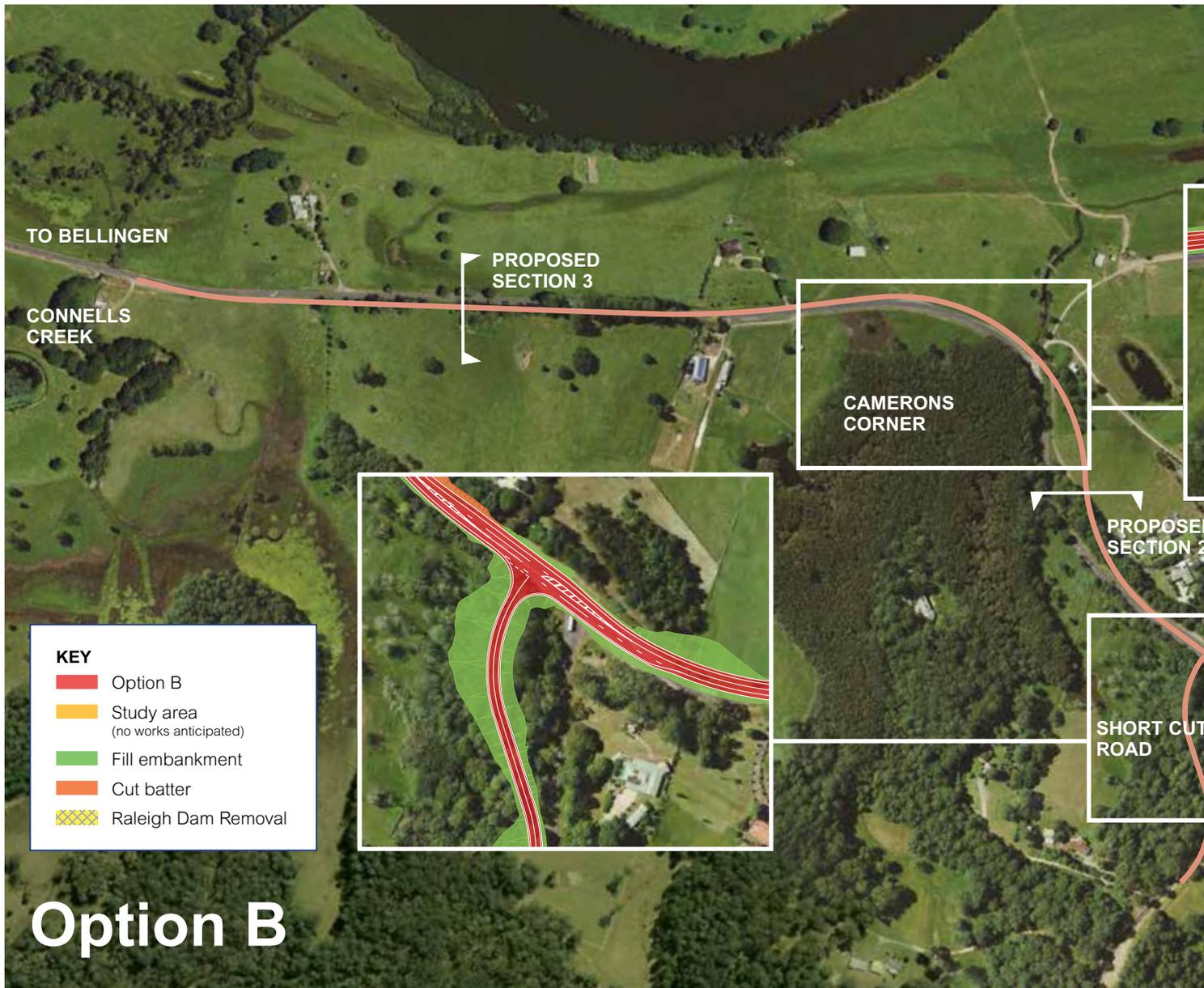


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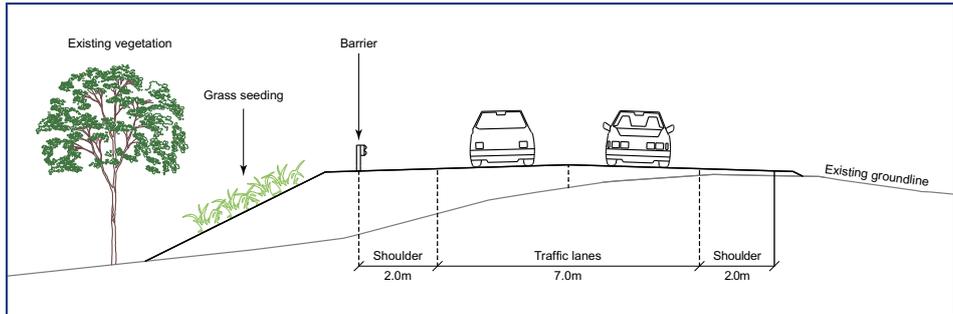


### Option A: Proposed section 3

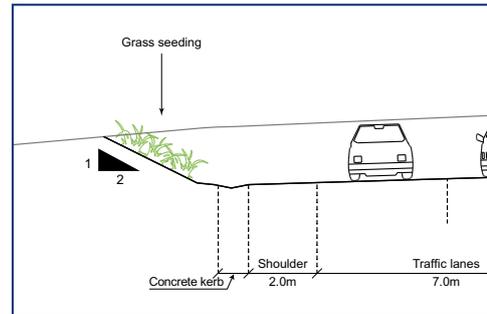


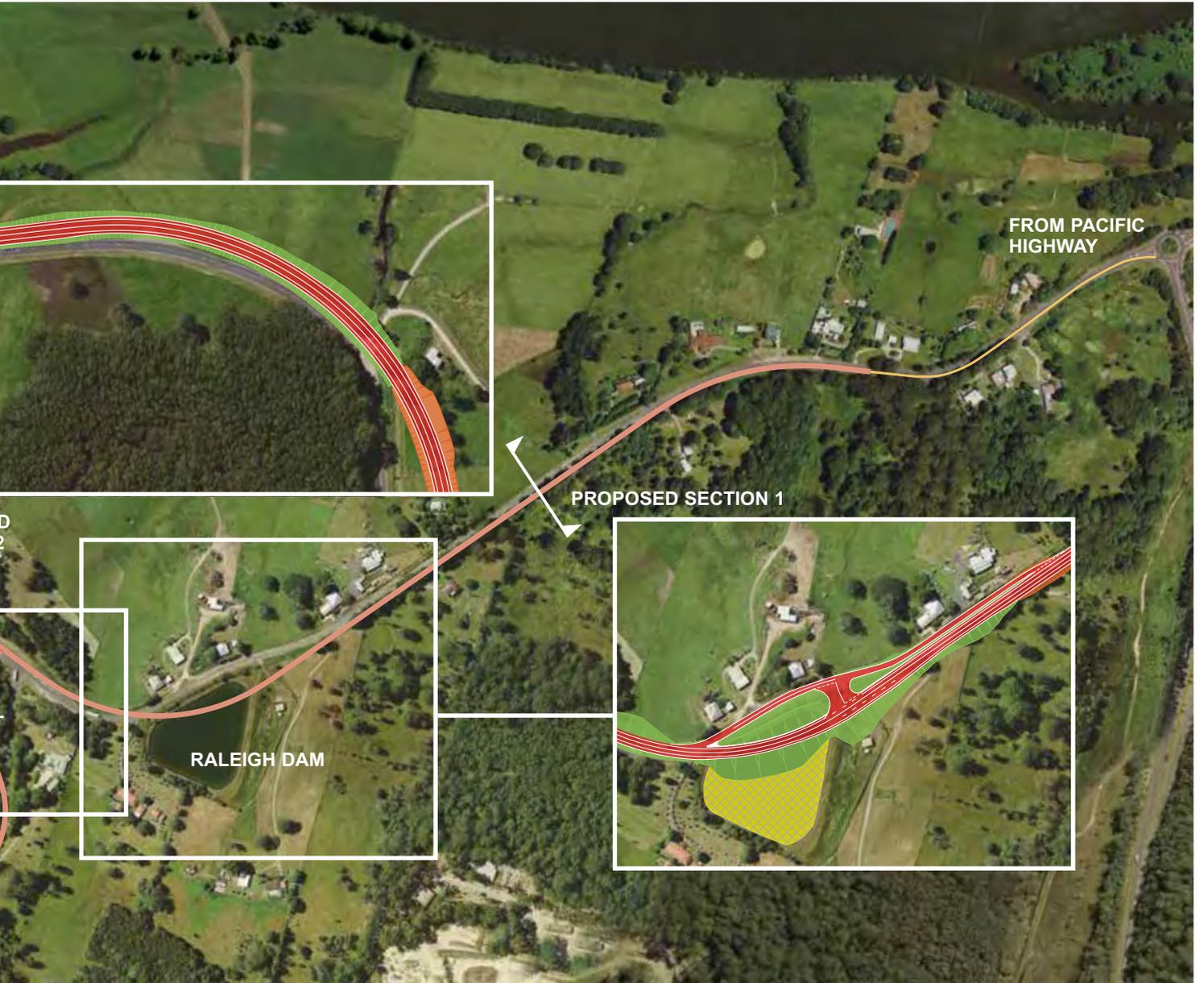


Option B: Proposed section 1

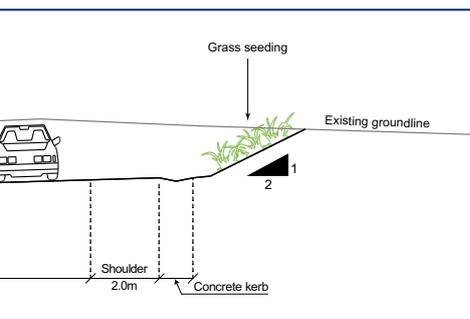


Option B: Proposed section 2

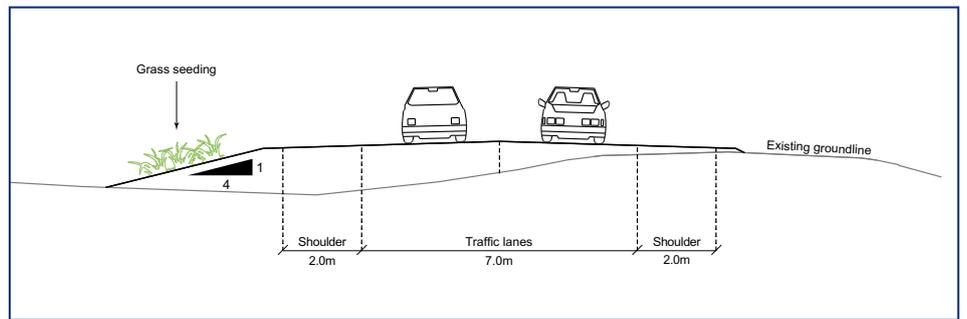




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### Option B: Proposed section 3



## Further information

### Community Information Session

The project team will be available to discuss the route options, the planning carried out to date and to answer any questions the public may have at a public information session to be held on:

**Date:** Thursday 2 May 2013

**When:** 3pm to 7.30pm

**Where:** Bellingen Shire Council  
Administration Centre  
Hyde Street, Bellingen

Please contact RMS prior to the day for room set-up purposes.

### For more information

For more information, please contact Project Manager Geof Berry on (02) 6640 1307.

Send written comments to:  
Roads and Maritime Services  
PO Box 576  
GRAFTON NSW 2460

Email comments to:  
grafton.regional.office@rms.nsw.gov.au  
Community feedback will be received until  
**20 May 2013.**

Thank you for your interest in the Waterfall Way Pacific Highway to Connells Creek project.



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