

Nowra Bridge project

Project update | September 2023



Australian Government



Looking east over the Shoalhaven River, towards Shoalhaven Heads.

The Nowra Bridge project will provide a new four lane bridge over the Shoalhaven River, upgraded intersections and additional lanes on the Princes Highway.

What's coming up over the next few months?

Now that southbound traffic has moved onto the middle bridge, work is continuing along the Princes Highway to replace road pavement and construct concrete medians. Two southbound lanes and two northbound lanes will remain in place while this work is carried out.

Starting this weekend, we'll begin placing the final layer of road pavement, also known as the wearing course, on the Princes Highway from Mattes Way to Moss Street, and on sections of Bolong, Bridge and Illaroo roads. This work will be carried out at night and on occasion, will involve local road closures. Electronic signs will be in place in advance to advise of dates and detours.

Work to convert Pleasant Way to a cul-de-sac with a left in slip lane for southbound Princes Highway traffic is also under way and is expected to reopen in the coming months as planned. In the meantime, southbound motorists will continue to be detoured by the new local road, Shearwater Way.

The pedestrian underpasses along the northern and southern foreshores will reopen in the coming weeks. On the southern foreshore, stone pitching is now complete and the shared path has been upgraded from 1.5 metres wide to 2.5 metres wide.

Over on the northern foreshore where the landscape was too steep to construct a ramp, the stairs will have a bicycle access ramp to help cyclists travel under the bridges.

Nowra Bridge project

What we've been doing

Work over the last few months has included:

- Replacing over 37,000m² of road pavement north and south of the existing bridges
- Milling and re-sheeting the middle bridge, and installing line marking
- Regalvanising the steel safety barriers of the middle bridge
- Completing upgrades to the safety barriers and shared path on Bomaderry Creek Bridge
- Realigning southbound traffic at the northern end of the project to allow median works to be carried out
- Finalising work to the new roundabout at the intersection of Fairway Drive and Illaroo Road.



Vehicles drive south over the refurbished middle bridge for the first time.



Stone pitching on the southern foreshore is complete and the underpass will open soon.



Applying the new asphalt surface on the middle bridge.

What's coming up

Work over the coming months will include:

- Constructing concrete medians on the Princes Highway between Mattes Way and Shearwater Way.
- Placing the wearing course on the Princes Highway, and Bolong, Illaroo and Bridge roads.
- Finishing upgrades of the northern and southern foreshore underpasses
- Road pavement work on Scenic Drive and Pleasant Way
- Installing signage, line marking and landscaping
- Preparing to move traffic into the final configuration across the whole project area.

Did you know?

We've clocked up **over one million** work hours on the Nowra Bridge project since construction began, which is equal to 114 years!



Have you got your commemorative ribbon for the opening of the new Nowra Bridge?

We handed out commemorative ribbons to celebrate the opening of the new bridge, and we have a small number still available. If you would like a memento of this special occasion, please send us an email with your address and we will send the ribbons out to you.

Email: NowraBridgeProject@transport.nsw.gov.au

New mural is a 'thank you' to our Elders

Hand painted murals will soon be installed under the northern abutment of the new bridge, celebrating and honouring the Traditional Custodians of the land and waterways upon which we live, work and play.

The centrepiece of the murals is inspired by this year's NAIDOC week theme, For Our Elders. The centre mural celebrates the important and prominent role Elders have played, and continue to play, in our communities and families. They are cultural knowledge holders, trailblazers, nurturers, advocates, teachers, survivors, leaders, hard workers and our loved ones. The two other murals which will be installed under the new bridge are inspired by the landscape and the Shoalhaven River.

As part of the Nowra Bridge project's Aboriginal Heritage Interpretation Strategy, Transport for NSW and the Nowra Bridge project construction contractor, Fulton Hogan, have been collaborating on various interpretation projects with art students from TAFE NSW Nowra, their Aboriginal Cultural and Arts teacher Warwick Keen, and well-known local artist Glenn Duffield. Stay tuned for updates on when the murals will be installed!



Warwick Keen (teacher, TAFE NSW), Michelle Commissaris (student, TAFE NSW) and Glenn Duffield (artist).



Glenn Duffield working on the mural design.



Plantings along Bomaderry Creek

Cuttings from lily pillies and fig trees which were removed so Bomaderry Creek Bridge could be widened have been successfully propagated. Over the past two years, the cuttings have been growing into saplings and were recently planted along Bomaderry Creek.



Meet our newest furry friends

During a recent inspection of nest boxes installed around the Nowra Bridge project site, two brushtail possums were found (and frankly, they were not as pleased to see us as we were to see them!).

Two climbing arborists and an experienced ecologist undertook an inspection of the nest boxes to evaluate fauna occupancy. In other boxes, they found feathers, leaves and chew marks on the entrances which indicates they have previously been home to local wildlife. In the inspection carried out last year, the team discovered two rainbow lorikeet chicks nestled in one of the boxes.

In 2020, a total of 27 wooden nest boxes were installed in a variety of different tree species around the Nowra Bridge project site to provide a safe environment for native wildlife such as possums, birds, bats and other animals.



Acknowledgment of Country

Transport for NSW acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and pays respects to Elders past and present. We recognise and celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal people and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands and waters of NSW.



Contact us

If you have any questions or would like more information, contact our project team:

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Translating and interpreting service

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 331 713.