

Wallaga Lake Bridge essential maintenance work

Community update | June 2023

What maintenance work will be carried out?

While the crossing is still safe, work must be carried out to repair and strengthen the structure to ensure its continued use into the future. Work to the structure of the bridge includes replacing and strengthening girders, piles, pier bracing, headstocks, cross beams, corbels, railings and kerb.

The project also includes repairing the bridge deck and work to stabilise the abutments and prevent scouring. This will involve the installation of new H piles, gravel boards and replacing backfill material and rock.

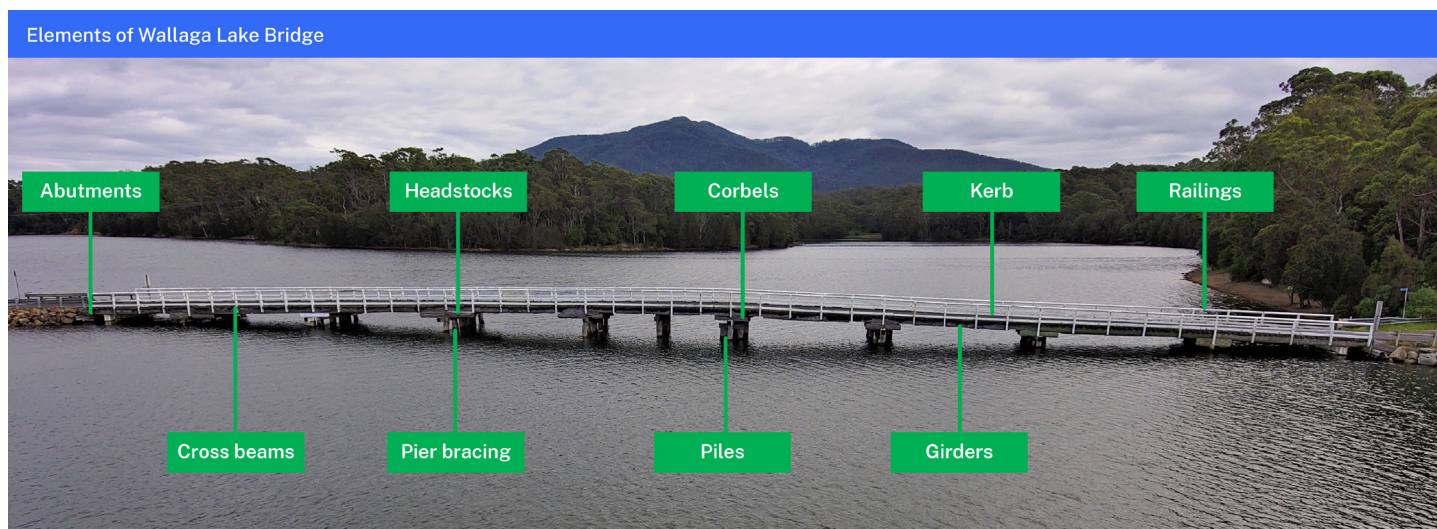
Aesthetically the bridge will not change. We will maintain the current look of the bridge by replacing elements with like-for-like.

Why is a full two-month minimum closure required in both options?

We will be repairing and replacing large elements of the structure including the girders that span between the piers of the bridge. During this process, the bridge will be lifted at two piers and supported by a barge on the water below the bridge. Divers will also be working in the water under the bridge.

While this work is being carried out, the bridge cannot be used as it will not safely hold the weight of vehicles with key structural elements removed.

To ensure the safety of the community and our workers, and to complete this work efficiently, safely and to Transport for NSW quality standards, the bridge is required to be closed for a minimum of two months while this work to replace structural elements is carried out.



Why can't the work be carried out at night?

Wallaga Lake Bridge is a unique, low lying, single lane structure. The nature of the work is intricate and unsafe to be carried out under 'day maker' lighting due to the risk of shadowing and blinding from using lights strong enough to illuminate adequately for night works.

Most of the work will be carried out under the bridge deck and includes heavy lifting to replace and repair large bridge elements. This includes the large timber girders weighing up to three tonnes each.

Pontoon scaffolding and a barge will be used to hold up the headstock to support the bridge spans and transfer the bridge load to the pier below while each component is repaired. Managing these risks is significantly greater at night.

How to have your say

Complete the survey at yoursay.transport.nsw.gov.au/wallaga-lake-bridge-consultation or scan the QR code below. You can also email or write to us on the contact details included in this update.



Scan to provide feedback

**Feedback closes
23 June 2023**

Why is the bridge not being replaced?

Built in 1894, the Wallaga Lake Bridge is a local iconic piece of infrastructure. We understand that some members of the community are keen to see the bridge replaced with a new structure, however Transport has no plans to replace the bridge at this time.

Transport will continue to monitor the bridge to ensure it remains safe and trafficable, and will continue to prioritise maintenance to ensure connectivity is maintained in the immediate future. We will also work with the adjoining Eurobodalla Shire Council and Bega Valley Shire Council on the long-term future planning for Wallaga Lake Bridge.

Contact us

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

1800 015 379

Wallaga.Lake.Bridge@transport.nsw.gov.au

transport.nsw.gov.au/wallaga-lake-bridge

Wallaga Lake Bridge

PO Box 477 Wollongong NSW 2520

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 015 379.