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Woolgoolga to Ballina Upgrading the Pacific Highway

Environmental Impact Statement display
Information session – New Italy

Saturday, 19 January 2013

Agenda

Agenda Item	Presenter
Welcome & introduction	Kylie Cochrane
Proposed upgrade overview	Garry McPherson
Environmental Impact Statement, visualisation, mapping tool	Garry McPherson
Design features Environmental impacts	Nial O'Brien Chris Gorman
Ongoing proposed design refinements	Nial O'Brien
Upgrade standards	Garry McPherson
Extension construction hours	Garry McPherson
How to make a submission	Kylie Cochrane
Next steps	Kylie Cochrane
Questions and further information	Kylie Cochrane

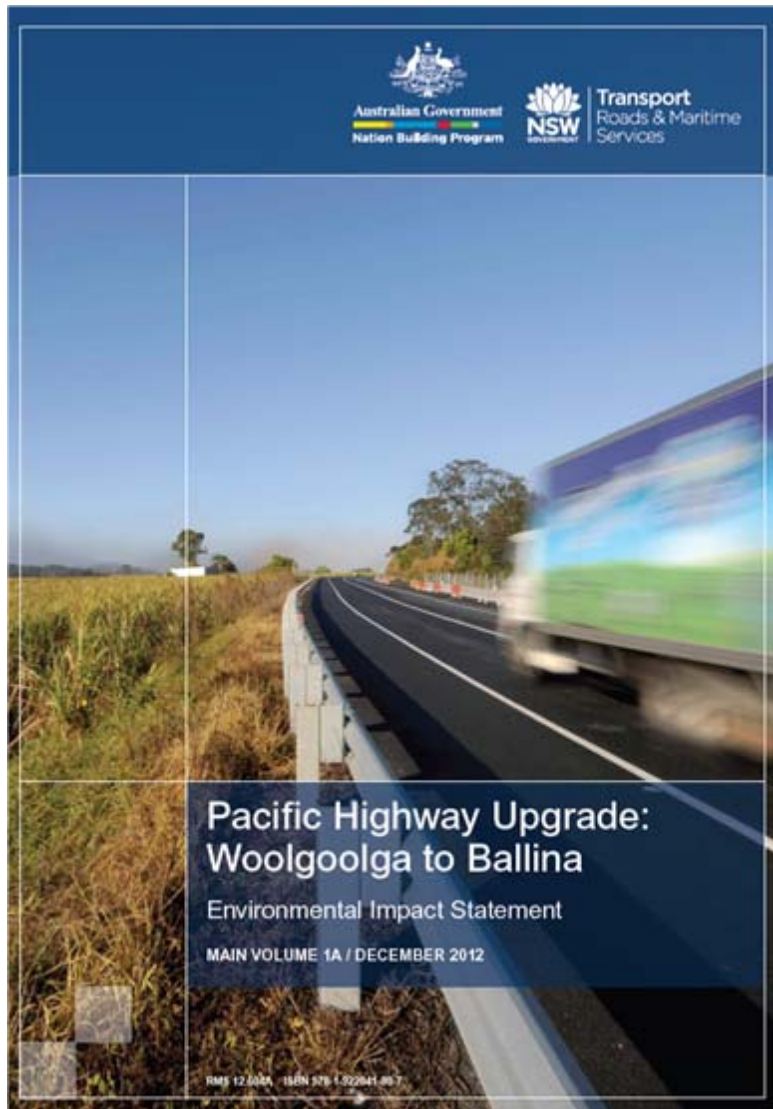
Proposed upgrade overview



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Environmental Impact Statement



- An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been prepared by the project team in order to seek planning approval.
- The EIS is the culmination of investigations into the feasibility, constructability, social and environmental impacts.

EIS tools for the community



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Visualisation and mapping tool - demonstration

Environmental Impact Statement



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- Upgrade and EIS have been divided into 11 sections for the purpose of planning investigation, design and construction.
- We are currently located in **section 7**.
- Full list of sections can be found in the project summary booklet.

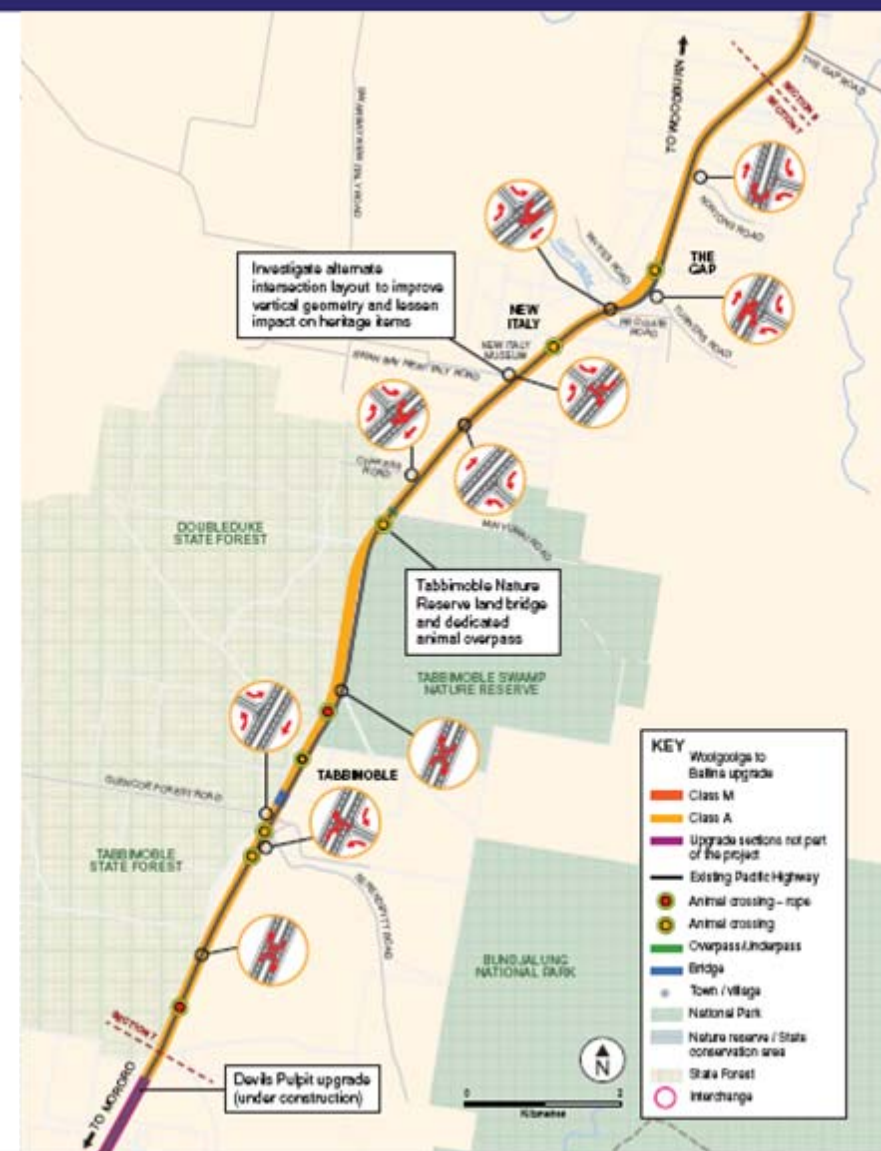


Section 7 – Devils Pulpit to Trustums Hill



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- Duplication of the existing highway, with minor deviations at Cypress Road and Whites Lane.
- Upgraded to arterial standard (Class A).
- Land bridge crossings for animals within Doubleduke State Forest, near Tabbimoble Swamp Nature Reserve and Minyumai Road.
- Realignment of Serendipity Road, Minyumai Road and Whites Road.



Section 7 – Devils Pulpit to to Trustums Hill



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- Existing highway will become the service road near Cypress Road and Redgates Road.
- Wide median to retain existing high canopy trees to aid animals to cross.
- U-turn facility at Nortons Road for southbound to go north.

Section 7 – Devils Pulpit to to Trustums Hill

Potential impacts

- Loss of habitat for animals.
- Loss of about 30 hectares from Doubleduke State Forest.
- Loss of about five hectares from Tabbimoble State Forest.
- Minor heritage impacts.

Ongoing proposed design refinements

- The design that the EIS has been prepared on is the Refined Concept design that was displayed for community comment in October 2011.
- The EIS design also incorporates further changes following the display, in a number of locations along the project.
- Further consultation has also identified a number of further design refinements in this area.
- RMS will continue to consult with the community about these potential design refinements.
- Further refinements to the design could occur following the EIS display and during further development of the detailed design.

The ongoing proposed design refinements in this area include:

- Potential investigation to improve the intersection layout at Swan Bay New Italy Road.
- Potential low noise pavement locations to be further developed in the detail design.

Two upgrade standards



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- RMS is seeking approval for a motorway standard of highway, however the project would be built initially to a combination of motorway (Class M) and arterial standard (Class A).
- **Class M** – two lanes in each direction, 110km/h posted speed limit, controlled access highway with grade separated interchanges and no u-turn facilities and a continuous alternative route for local traffic.
- **Class A** – two lanes in each direction, at least 100km/h posted speed limit, limited access highway with at-grade intersections. This may include intersections where right turn movements are permissible and u-turn facilities would be provided on both sides of a property access.

Extended construction hours



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- RMS is seeking approval from Department of Planning and Infrastructure to extend the standard construction working hours by an additional two hours on weekdays and four hours on Saturdays.
- Standard construction hours are: Monday to Friday, between 7am to 6pm. Saturday, between 8am to 1pm.
- Will mean less disruption to motorists, shorter overall construction time, allow more work to be completed using the extended natural light during spring and summer.
- Noise screens, sound enclosures and noise control methods will be used where possible.
- Survey form available on the project website.

How to make a submission

ELS is on display until 4 February 2013.

Submissions can be made via:

Post: Major Projects Assessment
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
Sydney, NSW 2000

Email: plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au

Online: <http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au>

Fax: (02) 9228 6355

Next steps



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- The Department of Planning and Infrastructure will consider submissions as part of the project approval process.
- A decision is due to be made in mid 2013 with construction expected to start once funding is provided.

Further information

For more information on the proposed upgrade:

Project information line: 1800 778 900 (free call)

Fax: (02) 9928 2502

Email: w2balliance@globablskm.com

More information is available at www.rms.nsw.gov.au/pacific