

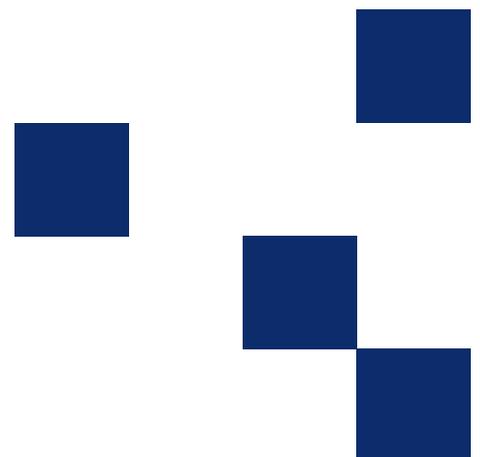


**Transport**  
Roads & Maritime  
Services

# SEATS REPORT

**RMS Southern**

February 2015





## 1 Summary

Roads and Maritime Services are currently working on 22 projects. There are:

- 15 proposals in development, including two in conjunction with local councils
- 5 project currently under construction
- 2 projects recently completed

### 1.1 Proposals in development

- Berry to Bomaderry Upgrade
- Princes Highway Albion Park Rail Bypass
- Princes Highway Nowra Bridge
- Princes Highway Dignams Creek
- Wilton Junction
- M1 Princes Motorway Climbing Lanes
- M1 Princes Motorway Interchange at Mount Ousley
- Princes Highway Burrill Lake Bridge
- Princes Highway, Termeil Creek
- Ellerton Drive Extension, Queanbeyan (in conjunction with Queanbeyan City Council)
- Batemans Bay Link Road, Batemans Bay (in conjunction with Eurobodalla Shire Council)
- Kings Highway Nelligen Bridge
- Cooma Creek Bridge
- Bemboka Bridge
- Bulli Pass

### 1.2 Projects under construction

- Gerringong Upgrade – Mount Pleasant to Toolijooa Road
- Foxground and Berry Bypass – to Olijooa Road to Schofields Lane
- Kings Highway Road Safety Review
- Heavy Vehicle Rest Areas
- Dalgety Bridge

### 1.3 Recently completed projects

- Crookwell Creek Bridge
- Princes Highway, Kinghorne St to Forest Rd, South Nowra

## 2 Proposals in Development

### 2.1 Berry to Bomaderry Upgrade

Following the display of the Review of Environmental Factors in late 2014, Roads and Maritime has undertaken amendments to the project design, and finalised the environmental approval and concept design for this 11.5km proposed upgrade of the A1 Princes Highway.

Design for the proposed upgrade continues in 2015 with a contract for the detailed design awarded to Hyder in January 2015. Property acquisition is continuing. The NSW State Government allocated \$10million for the project in the 2014/15 State Budget.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/berry-to-bomaderry/index.html>

### 2.2 Princes Highway Albion Park Rail Bypass

In the 2014/15 NSW State Budget, \$1million has been committed for ongoing planning for the future upgrade of the Princes Highway between Yallah and Oak Flats. A review of the corridor identified on local environment plans has been undertaken, and the suitability of the corridor was confirmed.

Roads and Maritime is continuing public consultation and discussion, particularly with Councils, and users of the Croom Regional Sporting Complex impacted by the planned future upgrade. Roads and Maritime have appointed a Hyder/Cardno Joint Venture for concept design and environmental assessment services.

Roads and Maritime lodged a State significant infrastructure application with the NSW Department of Planning and Environment.

The purpose of this application is for Roads and Maritime to advise the Department of Planning and Environment its intention to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

The lodgement of the State significant infrastructure application is in accordance with statutory planning processes.

The environmental impact statement is expected to be displayed in late 2015 for community comment.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/illawarra/albion-park-rail-bypass/index.html>

### 2.3 Princes Highway Nowra Bridge

Following public consultation in late 2014, the NSW Minister for Roads and Freight endorsed an option to replace the existing southbound crossing of the Shoalhaven River immediately to the west of the existing concrete bridge. Planning is now underway for a new bridge that will improve conditions on the Princes Highway, including intersection improvements near the bridge.

Prior to the recent Federal election, Ms Ann Sudmalis MP, Member for Gilmore, pledged \$10M to the planning of a new crossing of the Shoalhaven. In the 2014/15 NSW State Budget, \$2million has been committed to the project.

In December 2014 Roads and Maritime completed community consultation requesting feedback to help determine the the long term future of the old Nowra Bridge. The project team is currently collating all the ideas and feedback. A consultation report will be available mid 2015.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/nowra-bridges-shoalhaven-river/index.html>

### 2.4 Princes Highway Dignams Creek

In September 2014 Roads and Maritime awarded the contract for the detailed design of the project to GHD Pty Ltd. The 2014/15 State Budget allocated \$1.8 million to the project.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/dignams-creek/index.html>

## 2.5 Wilton Junction

The Roads and Maritime is continuing to work in conjunction with TfNSW and with the developers of Wilton Junction in regard to traffic modelling and infrastructure requirements.

## 2.6 M1 Princes Motorway Climbing Lanes

Roads and Maritime is planning to upgrade the M1 Princes Motorway, by adding climbing lanes at four uphill locations between Picton Road and Bulli Tops. The proposal will provide four new climbing lanes, two in each direction, at some areas with steep grades between Picton Road and Bulli Pass.

Roads and Maritime is continuing to refine the concept design for the project. SMEC Australia has been awarded a contract for the preparation of environmental studies. The Australian Government and the NSW Government have confirmed a joint funding arrangement as part of the Infrastructure Investment Program (previously the Nation Building 2 program). Construction work has been finalised on the northbound acceleration lane from the Picton Road intersection which was open to traffic on 17 September 2014.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/illawarra/mount-ousley-road/slow-vehicle-climbing-lanes/index.html>

## 2.7 Princes Highway Burrill Lake Bridge

Roads and Maritime has developed and displayed a preferred option for the future Burrill Lake crossing on the A1 Princes Highway at Burrill Lake.

Key features include:

- A 290 metre long bridge spanning the lake on a new alignment to the east of the existing bridge.
- Roundabouts on either side of the crossing to connect the A1 Princes Highway to local roads.
- A pedestrian and cycle path on the new bridge, connecting to new paths on both sides and linking to the Ulladulla cycle path.
- Pedestrian paths underneath both ends of the new bridge. There would be a total of five locations where pedestrians can safely cross the highway.
- The new bridge and highway would be higher than the predicted 1 in 100 year flood level and reduce the impact of flooding.
- Complete removal of the existing causeway and bridge.

The concept design has been developed following a range of technical, economic and social investigations and community considerations. Roads and Maritime is currently finalising the submissions report on the project for publication. A contract for the detailed design has been awarded to SMEC Australia Pty Ltd in October 2014.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/burrill-lake-crossing/index.html>

## 2.8 Princes Highway, Termeil Creek

Following project planning approval in late 2012, Roads and Maritime progressed the planning for the 1.6 km realignment and bridge replacement on the Princes Highway. Roads and Maritime has largely finalised pre-construction activities including detailed design, utilities design and relocation and the finalisation of property acquisitions. Roads and Maritime has invited tenders for the construction of the project. Tenders closed in late 2014 and construction is anticipated to begin in early 2015, and will take approximately 12 months to complete. The 2014/15 State Budget allocated \$5 million to the project

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/termeil-creek/index.html>

## 2.9 Ellerton Drive Extension, Queanbeyan

The NSW Government and Australian Government recently announced joint funding of \$50 million for the planning and construction of the Ellerton Drive Extension in Queanbeyan. The works are part of Queanbeyan City Council's program to provide for future traffic in the city and to provide an alternative route around the CBD. The route would provide flood free access in the event of a 1:100 flood. Roads and Maritime will be providing development and governance oversight to the project. The REF for the proposal went on display for community comment on 12 December 2014.

## 2.10 Batemans Bay Link Road, Batemans Bay

The NSW Government has announced \$10 million funding for the Batemans Bay Link Road to relieve congestion in the Batemans Bay CBD, especially during peak holiday periods. Roads and Maritime will continue to work with Eurobodalla Council to improve the intersection of the Batemans Bay Link Road and the Princes Highway and progress this work.

## 2.11 Kings Highway Nelligen Bridge

Roads and Maritime is investigating options for the future of Nelligen Bridge over the Clyde River at Nelligen, following a 2011 review which identified deterioration of the reinforced concrete piles under the bridge during routine inspections. Structural engineers have assessed the strength of the bridge and found it is still able to safely carry normal highway loads. The bridge will require significant future maintenance.

Roads and Maritime is currently undertaking a cost benefit analysis of the major rehabilitation and new bridge options for the crossing of the Clyde River at Nelligen. The outcome of this analysis will assist Roads and Maritime to decide the best way forward.

To assist in this decision, a number of investigations, including a preliminary environmental investigation (PEI), are currently being carried out. The PEI will be made available for public viewing shortly. The PEI assesses the planning and environmental constraints including, biodiversity, visual impact, noise and vibration, heritage, and land use for a range of 'repair or replace options'.

Underwater bridge inspections were performed in late 2013. Roads and Maritime expects to have the information needed to make a decision on preferred options for the bridge in mid 2015.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/kings-highway/nelligen-bridge/index.html>

## 2.12 Cooma Creek Bridge

Roads and Maritime have begun planning for the strengthening of Cooma Creek Bridge on Sharp Street, Cooma. The strengthening work will consist of building additional supports beneath the bridge to improve the lifespan of the bridge. The existing bridge is able to carry current traffic loads but work is needed so the bridge can meet future traffic demands.

Roads and Maritime is planning to undertake the majority of the strengthening work during the summer months to minimise the impact on the community and winter tourist industry, with works on site delayed and expected to begin in late January/early February 2015 taking approximately three months to complete.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/cooma-creek-bridge/index.html>

### 2.13 Bemboka Bridge

Roads and Maritime is planning to widen the bridge over the Bemboka River on the Snowy Mountains Highway at Moran's crossing, approximately eight kilometres south-west of Bemboka. The works will enable safe continued use of the bridge by Higher Mass Limit (HML) vehicles and will include work on the approaches. A REF has been finalised and is available on the project website. Roads and Maritime has begun initial preparation work at the site, which is expected to be complete in October 2014. Major constructions expected to follow these activities and to be complete in mid 2016.

Funding for this project is part of the NSW Governments Bridges for the Bush program. The initiative is a commitment from NSW Government to improve road freight productivity by replacing or upgrading bridges over the next five years at 17 key locations in rural and regional NSW. The NSW Government has allocated \$50 million to the Bridges for the Bush program in the 2014/15 Budget, including \$5 million for the Bemboka Bridge project.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/bemboka-bridge-upgrade/index.html>

### 2.14 Bulli Pass

Roads and Maritime is investigating the potential of an improved escarpment crossing by way of upgrading Bulli Pass as a possible efficient and safe alternative route to Mount Ousley Road. The NSW Government is funding planning investigations. There is no current funding or timeframe for construction of the upgrade and investigations are continuing.

## 3 Projects Under Construction

### 3.1 Gerringong Upgrade – Mount Pleasant to Toolijooa Road

The upgrade of the Princes Highway between Mount Pleasant and Toolijooa Road, funded by the NSW Government, continues to progress well. The \$329 million upgrade is for the 7.5km upgrade of highway to include two new interchanges, at Gerringong and Gerroa.

A major traffic switch was undertaken with highway traffic now travelling predominately on the future northbound carriageway. Twelve bridges on the northbound carriageway are complete and the new rail overbridge will be completed in early 2015. Construction is past the half way point with completion expected in mid 2015, weather permitting. The 2014/15 State Budget allocated \$76.5 million to the project.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/gerringong-upgrade/index.html>

### 3.2 Foxground & Berry Bypass – Toolijooa Road to Schofields Lane

The Foxground and Berry bypass is the second stage in the Gerringong to Bomaderry series of projects. The project is fully funded by NSW State Government. The project will bypass the Foxground bends and the township of Berry, improving road safety and travel times for motorists and reducing traffic congestion within Berry.

Fulton Hogan was awarded the contract to undertake the work in June 2014. Property acquisition, utilities and environmental monitoring tasks are currently underway. Fulton Hogan has installed their site management offices in preparation for the start of construction expected early 2015. The 2014/15 State Budget has allocated \$80 million to the project.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/foxground-berry-bypass/index.html>

### 3.3 Kings Highway Road Safety Review

The NSW Centre for Road Safety and Roads and Maritime have undertaken a road safety review of the Kings Highway between the Princes Highway roundabout at Batemans Bay and the easternmost part of the ACT border just south of Bungendore. The review was finalised and released in May 2013. The report has now been released and can be found on the following link;

[http://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/downloads/kings\\_hwy\\_safety\\_review.pdf](http://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/downloads/kings_hwy_safety_review.pdf)

The NSW Government has allocated \$16 million over the next two years as part of a three year road safety improvement program with a total allocation of \$20 million. Works near Larbert Road and Doughboy have recently been completed. Construction of an eastbound overtaking lane is currently underway east of the Shoalhaven River. Construction of several road safety treatments is proposed to start during 2014.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/kings-highway/index.html>

### 3.4 Dalgety Bridge

Roads and Maritime is undertaking a major rehabilitation of the Dalgety Bridge. Rehabilitation is required to minimise future maintenance costs and prolong the life of the Dalgety Bridge which crosses the Snowy River on the Jindabyne - Dalgety Road. The NSW Government has allocated \$4.5 million for this essential work.

Work on the rehabilitation started in January 2014 and is expected to continue until mid 2015. There are currently no road closures in place and Roads and Maritime will keep the public advised of any construction impacts. Roads and Maritime Services will continue to update the community about this project as it progresses.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/dalgety-bridge/index.html>

### 3.5 Heavy vehicle rest areas

The NSW and Australian governments joint funded \$8.7 million to construct five new heavy vehicle rest areas on the Princes Highway between Sussex Inlet and the Victorian border. This will ensure compliance with the National Transport Commission (NTC) fatigue management guidelines and improve stopping opportunities for the heavy vehicle operators.

#### 3.5.1 Southbound rest areas

- Jerrawangala, 2 kilometres south of Sussex Inlet Road – completed.
- Waldrons Swamp, 7 kilometres north of Moruya – completed.
- Near Christopher's Road, 32 kilometres north of Bega - 12 month moratorium in place.

#### 3.5.2 Northbound rest areas:

- Near Dummetts Lane, 28 kilometres north of Bega – completed.
- Near Broulee Road, 7 kilometres south of Mogo – completed.

Two rounds of monitoring have been conducted at the three recently opened HVRA sites. The monitoring included placement of traffic counters, noise monitors and a CCTV camera to assess what noise, traffic and user behaviour impacts are occurring in the heavy vehicle rest areas and their surrounds. Roads and Maritime is assessing the information retrieved from this monitoring to address the issues raised by community members around the Christopher's Road proposal. Advice to the community is expected by the end of 20d14.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/heavy-vehicles-rest-areas/index.html>

## 4 Completed Projects

### 4.1 Crookwell Creek Bridge

A replacement for the 110 year old timber truss bridge over the Crookwell River located between Crookwell and Binda was recently opened to traffic, and a Ministerial visit occurred in August 2014. The replacement bridge is:

- A three span 39.37 metre long pre-cast concrete plank bridge
- Located approximately 15 metres downstream from the existing bridge
- Designed and built to meet current bridge standards (including HML capability).

The bridge approaches were also improved as part of the project. Removal of the old bridge is expected to start in February 2015 and take four months, weather permitting. The works were funded through the NSW government's Bridges for the Bush initiative.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/crookwell-bridge/index.html>

### 4.2 Princes Highway, Kinghorne St to Forest Rd, South Nowra

The \$62million 6.3 kilometre Princes Highway upgrade at South Nowra was officially opened by the Minister for Roads and Ports and the Member for South Coast on Saturday 29 March 2014. The project now provides for improved traffic flow for both local and 'through' travelling motorists on this busy section of the Princes Highway.

In addition to the highway upgrade work, Roads and Maritime completed a new road shoulder on the highway between Parma and Forest roads (in the northbound direction). The work was finished in mid-August 2014. The completion of this upgrade is part of the governments' commitment to provide two lanes in each direction from Waterfall to Jervis Bay Road.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/south-nowra/index.html>

## 5 Miscellaneous actions

### 5.1 Mt Ousley maintenance process

Roads and Maritime has initiated a coordinated maintenance program for works on the M1/Mount Ousley/Picton Road portion of the network. The programme provides for full night-time closures of parts of the network to allow for a range of coordinated maintenance activities to be undertaken in a safe and efficient manner. Closures are advertised widely to all road users including freight stakeholders, and have proven successful to date.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/illawarra/mount-ousley-road/index.html>