

Main Road 92 Upgrade, Nowra to Nerriga

October 2009 update

Site work on Stage three, the final stage of the 54 kilometre MR92 Upgrade commenced in July and is now well underway. This \$25 million contract, awarded to NACE Civil Engineering Pty Ltd, is expected to be completed in late 2010.

The sections east and west of Sassafras have now been cleared and the scope of the improvements to the road alignment can now be appreciated. In these sections earthworks progressed well during September and pavement construction commenced at the eastern end near Tianjara Falls. However an extended period of rain and showers during mid October has hindered progress this month. As earthworks are completed traffic is being switched progressively to the new alignment.

Clearing work has started in the Sassafras area, with work in October on the eastern side of Sassafras on Sassafras Hill.

Road conditions deteriorated in the wet period and NACE has carried out grading work on the gravel sections to improve travel conditions.

This stage will deliver 20 kilometres of upgraded road from Tianjara Falls to Billy's Hill near Bulee Gap and will link the first two stages of the upgrade. Much of this stage of the construction is adjacent to Morton National Park or through Sassafras. While most of the road works closely follow the existing alignment there will be major improvements to the steep incline east of Sassafras.

Stage one, the 24 kilometres from Hames Road, Nowra to Morton National Park, was finished in June 2007 and Stage two, the nine kilometres from Bulee to Nerriga, was officially opened to traffic in September 2009.

For all enquiries concerning operational matters relating to construction activities, please call the NACE Civil Engineering Pty Ltd site engineer, Merv Eagle on **0424 667 174**, or the project supervisor, Bob Meins on **0412 464 866**.

Temporary closure of Charleyong Bridge until mid December 2009

The RTA is carrying out essential bridge maintenance work on Charleyong Bridge until Friday 11 December 2009, weather permitting.

Charleyong Bridge is located approximately 26km west of Nerriga and 25km east of Braidwood.

The bridge is closed to traffic on **Tuesdays and Wednesdays only until Friday 11 December 2009 between 8.30am to 3.30pm** to ensure the safety of motorists and workers. Motorists can use the bridge outside these times.

The school bus will be able to cross the bridge on both trips every school day. Emergency services will also be able to cross the bridge when required.

A detour is in place from Braidwood via Charleys Forest Road up to Wog Wog then continuing onto Nerriga Road. Alternatively motorists travelling between Nowra and Canberra can travel via Nerriga, Oallen Ford, Sandy Point and Tarago joining the Kings Highway at Bungendore.

Motorists coming from Goulburn are advised to travel via Windellama, Sandy Point and Oallen Ford to Nerriga.

Please note these detour routes are unsuitable for vehicles towing caravans in wet weather.

Changes to road conditions

Motorists are advised to drive carefully throughout the construction area as the road conditions are variable on the remaining sections of gravel road. Particular care should be taken in wet weather as the unsealed sections of the road can be slippery and suitable only for 4WD vehicles.

During working hours motorists will be escorted through the works as heavy plant and machinery are in use on the road.

For current road conditions visit www.rta.nsw.gov.au/trafficreports .