

Main Road 92 Upgrade, Nowra to Nerriga

February 2008 Update

Stage one construction

The first stage of the \$80 million upgrade of Main Road 92, comprising the 24 kilometre section from Hames Road westerly to Morton National Park, has been open to traffic since May 2007. Final bitumen sealing of this section is scheduled to commence by the end of this month and take approximately one week to complete. Motorists are advised to expect delays to traffic and drive with additional care on the new work until line marking is completed.

Stage two construction

A \$22.5 million contract for the second stage of the upgrade, comprising the nine kilometre section from 44 kilometres west of Hames Road (near the Touga Road junction just east of the Bulee mountain area at Billy's Hill) to the village of Nerriga, was awarded to Nace Civil Engineering Pty Ltd in July 2007. Construction commenced in November 2007, and is expected to be completed in the first half of 2009.

This stage involves widening, realigning and sealing the existing gravel road and includes major improvements to the steep and narrow section from Bulee Gap to the Endrick River.

Clearing to allow construction of earthworks and retaining walls in the eastern part of this stage is now complete. Piling work for the foundations of the new 60 metre long, four span concrete bridge near Bulee Gap was completed earlier this month. Fencing and minor clearing work has commenced in the section between the Endrick River and Nerriga.

Part of this work is through the western area of Morton National Park. It has remnants of the colonial heritage "Wool Road", together with several Indigenous heritage sites and threatened flora species that are being carefully preserved during construction.

For all enquiries concerning operational matters relating to construction activities for this stage, please call the NACE Civil Engineering Pty Ltd site engineer, Clinton Woods on **0412 490 602**, or the project supervisor, Bob Meins on **0412 464 866**.

Stage three design and construction tendering

Detailed design for widening, realigning and sealing the remaining 20 kilometre section from Morton National Park to Billy's Hill is complete and documentation for this third stage construction contract is in progress. Tenders for the contract are currently scheduled to be invited later this year.

Changes to road conditions

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

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