

Main Road 92 Upgrade, Nowra to Nerriga

July 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 and the final bitumen seal of this section was completed in March this year.

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 is expected to be completed in mid 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 where earthworks and retaining walls are being constructed. Recent wet weather has greatly reduced progress of all construction activities.

Construction of the new 60 metre, four span concrete Bulee Bridge is well advanced and deck planks have been placed on Spans 1 and 2. Pre-cast concrete units for the fauna underpass east of Endrick River Bridge have also been delivered to site and put in place. This structure has been designed to allow koalas and other native animals to cross under the road safely.

On the western side of the Endrick River, drainage, earthworks and retaining wall construction is continuing. This 5 km section towards Nerriga village is through undulating open pasture. Some recent photographs showing the progress of the Stage 2 construction work can be viewed in the Photo Gallery of the MR92 Upgrade website.

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

Tenders for upgrading and sealing the remaining 20 kilometre section from Morton National Park to Billy's Hill have been advertised and this next stage is scheduled to start construction in 2009.

Changes to road conditions

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

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