Local communities cash in on bridge building bonanza

- Three bridge building contracts awarded for Woolgoolga to Ballina section
- 118 of 166 bridges are now contracted for construction
- About 2,300 workers now on site in total, boosting local economies

Contracts have now been awarded to construct 118 out of the 166 bridges being built as part of the Woolgoolga to Ballina section of the Pacific Highway upgrade.

- Seymour Whyte Constructions Pty Ltd will build bridges at 20 locations between Glenugie and Tucabia
- BMD Construction will build bridges at nine locations between Tucabia and Tyndale plus the new bridge across Shark Creek
- Bielby Hull Albem will build bridges at 19 locations between Maclean and Iluka Road, along with the contract to build bridges at 12 locations between Trustrums Hill and Broadwater

BGC Contracting Pty Ltd has also been awarded a contract to undertake major works on the Tyndale to Maclean section of the Woolgoolga to Ballina upgrade, which is about 13 kilometres in length.

Federal Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Darren Chester said the three new contracts kept the pipeline of jobs and economic stimulus flowing through the region.

“This continual stream of investment in one of regional Australia’s major infrastructure projects is great news for local employment, with the project delivering sub-contracting and supply opportunities and flow on benefits to supporting industries such as accommodation and hospitality,” Mr Chester said.

New South Wales Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight Melinda Pavey said new bridges were being built at 109 locations between Woolgoolga and Ballina, along with new or replacement creek crossings, underpasses and overpasses.

“Bridge building work has been contracted separately to other works in order to speed up delivery of the upgrade, which remains on track for completion by 2020. I’m pleased to see a range of experienced companies selected to deliver this latest package of bridges,” Mrs Pavey said.

Federal Member for Page Kevin Hogan said the contract awards would continue as the Australian and New South Wales governments continue to invest in the project.

“Almost 2,300 people are now working on Pacific Highway projects between Port Macquarie and Ballina, providing a substantial boost to the north coast economy,” Mr Hogan said.
New South Wales Member for Clarence Chris Gulaptis said the Pacific Highway upgraded remained on track to open to traffic by 2020.

“We are seeing tremendous progress on the overall project, and equally impressive benefits for the region’s economy. These new contracts won’t just deliver new infrastructure for the region – they will lock in local jobs and prosperity,” Mr Gulaptis said.


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<tr>
<th>Media Contacts</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For Mr Chester:</td>
<td>Kerri Griffiths</td>
<td>0417 617 482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For Mrs Pavey:</td>
<td>Lance Northey</td>
<td>0438 436 343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For Mr Hogan:</td>
<td>Peter Weekes</td>
<td>0428 173 114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For Mr Gulaptis:</td>
<td>Debbie Newton</td>
<td>0402 073 804</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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