McKanes Bridge upgrade
Review of Environmental Factors

Roads and Maritime Services | October 2019

Background
The NSW Government is planning to upgrade McKanes Bridge over Coxs River on McKanes Falls Road at South Bowenfels. The proposed work includes strengthening of the existing bridge with a safer, stronger and more reliable bridge while still preserving the heritage aspects of the original.

The work will increase the bridge’s load capacity to 42.5 tonnes and reduce maintenance requirements while retaining the heritage significance of the McDonald truss bridge. McKanes Bridge is one of four McDonald truss bridges remaining in NSW and is listed as a State Heritage item.

Key features of proposal to upgrade the bridge include:

- Upgrading the structural capacity of the bridge
- Retaining the original McDonald timber truss design
- Upgrading critical structural elements of the bridge with superior and more durable elements
- Upgrade the existing bridge to allow safe use by vehicles up to General Mass Limit (GML) standard.

In developing plans to restore the bridge, Transport for NSW has been working closely with the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) to ensure the bridge’s heritage features are retained.
Review of Environmental Factors

Roads and Maritime Services has prepared a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) to determine the environmental and social impacts for the upgrade work to McKanes Bridge. The REF is now on display for public information and comment.

The REF explains the proposed upgrade work involved and the proposed method to carry out the work.

To facilitate the upgrade of the bridge it is proposed McKanes Falls Road would be closed to traffic for about 12 months, with a detour in place via Jenolan Caves Road and the Great Western Highway.

The REF also addresses how the work will be managed, the options considered and the methods used to minimise environmental impacts on;

- The local community through access, noise and vibration
- Flora and fauna
- Soils and water quality
- Flooding

You are invited to provide feedback on the REF by Wednesday 20 November 2019.

Display locations

The REF is on display at the following locations:

Lithgow City Council
180 Mort St, Lithgow

Hampton Halfway Hotel Motel
1856 Jenolan Caves Road, Hampton

Community drop-in sessions

Members of the project team will be available to answer your questions about the REF and receive your feedback on the project at:

Lithgow Valley Plaza
Thursday 7 November 2019
12pm to 2pm
4pm to 7pm

Old Hartley School Hall
Wednesday 13 November 2019
4pm to 7pm

There will be no formal presentations, so you can visit at any time during the sessions.

Have your say

Please provide feedback on the REF by Wednesday 20 November 2019, by sending your comments to:

Email: western.projects@rms.nsw.gov.au
Mail: McKanes Bridge capacity upgrade REF, PO Box 334, Parkes NSW 2870
Phone: 1800 167 499
Website: rms.work/mckanesbridge

What happens next?

Feedback on the REF and design will be considered and a submissions report will be published.

Roads and Maritime Services will then complete the final design and prepare for construction.

We will continue to keep the community updated as the project progresses.