

## Start of piling for Briner Bridge upgrade in Tucabia from Tuesday, 17 September

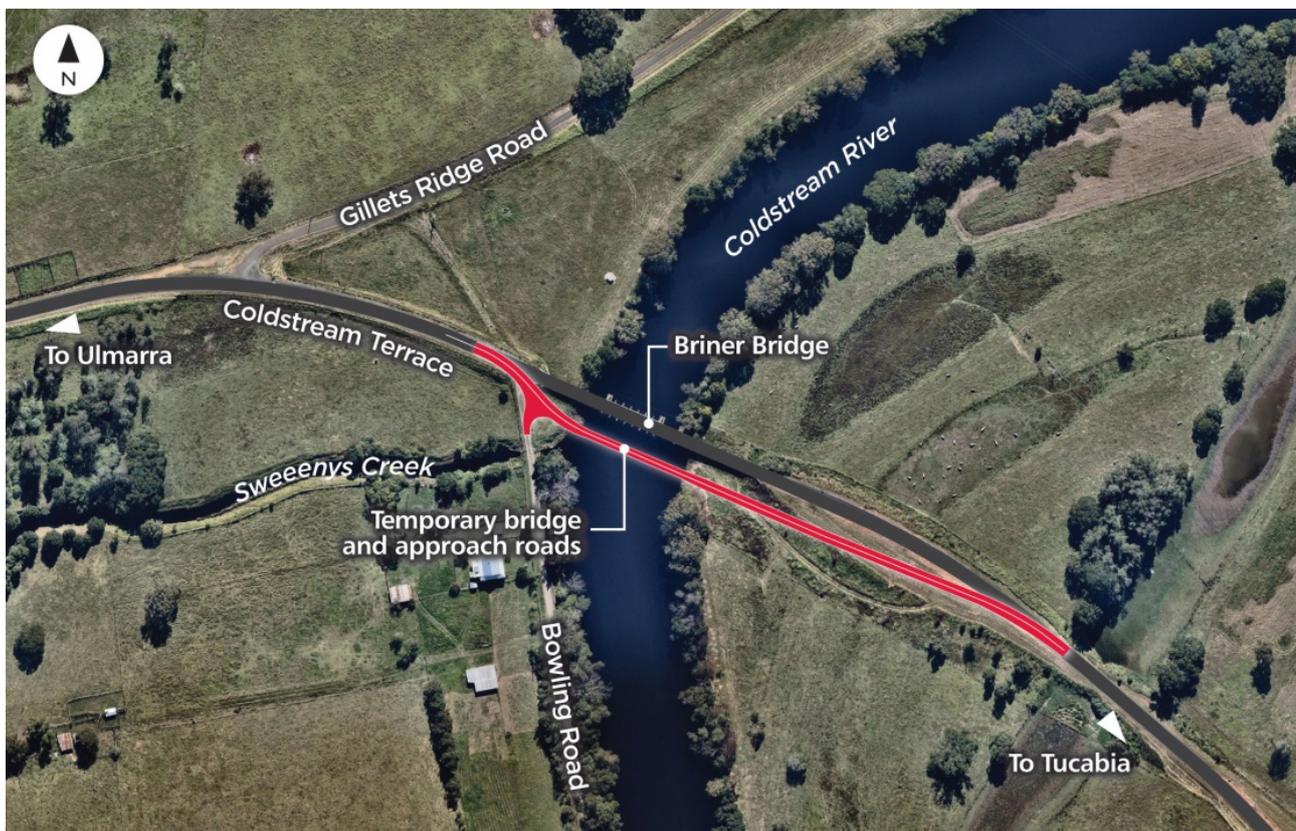
The NSW Government is funding an upgrade of Briner Bridge over the Coldstream River.

Roads and Maritime Services is delivering the project, which includes improving the structural capacity of the bridge and widening the bridge deck with an approved heritage arrangement to allow two lanes of traffic prior to nomination to the State Heritage Register.

We are building a temporary, one-lane bridge upstream of Briner Bridge to allow traffic to cross the river while the upgrade is carried out. The temporary bridge will be 4.2m (one lane) wide and will have the same 33t load capacity as the existing Briner Bridge.

The first stage of piling, which will be required for the foundations of the temporary bridge, will start on **Tuesday, 17 September** and will take about **eight weeks** to complete, weather permitting. It will then be another three to four weeks before the temporary bridge is open to traffic (around mid-December).

We will be working between **7am and 6pm Monday to Friday** and **8am and 4pm Saturdays**.



## What is piling?

Piles are structural elements which are driven and bored into the ground to create a strong foundation to support a structure. Piles are commonly used when the soil closer to the surface does not have the strength to support a structure. Piling is the name of the activity used to install the piles.

Driven piles will be used on the temporary bridge and for the new piles on the Briner Bridge. Driven piles are installed by driving pre-manufactured piles (in this case steel) into the ground using a large impact hammer on a piling rig. This method of piling is generally noisier, with a constant banging sound as the piles are driven into place.

This process typically creates some ground vibration. The level of ground vibration will vary according to the local terrain, geology, groundwater, weather and the distance to the receiver.

## Piling staging

The first stage will involve installing piles for the temporary bridge, which will take about eight weeks to complete. The piling work will involve:

- Building piling pads
  - Installing sheet piles for the temporary abutments adjacent to the existing bridge
  - Installing H piles (structural columns) to support the temporary bridge.
- After the first stage of piling is complete we will install the temporary bridge and finish the temporary road approaches before opening it to traffic. We expect this will take up to four weeks to complete.

Once the temporary bridge is opened to traffic the existing bridge will be deconstructed and new piles for the existing bridge will be installed. This piling will be carried out early in 2020 and we will write to you again before it starts.

**The temporary bridge will be closed for one weekend while the truss is removed from the existing bridge.** The closure is needed as we will have a crane working from the temporary bridge abutments during this activity. It is anticipated the closure will occur about two weeks after the temporary bridge opens to traffic.

## How will the work impact me?

The piling work will generate noise. We will try to minimise the impacts by:

- Fitting machines with reversing 'squawkers' rather than 'beepers'
- Using vibration instead of hammering where possible
- Turning machines off when not in use.

## Traffic changes

During construction of the temporary bridge there will be occasional disruptions to traffic while we move machinery and materials into position. These disruptions will be up to 15 minutes at a time. We will make every effort to minimise disruptions.

The temporary bridge will be available for the duration of the closure of the existing Briner Bridge, except for some weekends when the bridge will be closed to allow the use of a large crane. We will keep the community informed well in advance of these weekend closures.

## Contact us

If you have any questions, please contact our Project Manager, Nick Wood on 6642 4491 or [Nicholas.wood@rms.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Nicholas.wood@rms.nsw.gov.au). We thank you for your patience during this important work.



If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call us on 6640 1331.

