

# Fact sheet:

## Flora and fauna

The NSW Government is investing \$500 million to upgrade the roads around the new Northern Beaches Hospital with work proposed to be completed in time for the hospital opening in 2018.

Roads and Maritime Services has carefully examined the potential impact of the Northern Beaches Hospital Road Upgrade project and outlined ways to manage and mitigate these impacts.

A Flora and Fauna Management Plan has been developed to ensure appropriate measures are in place to protect the environment during construction.

Our aim is to provide a project that is physically and visually integrated within its surrounding environment.

### Trees and vegetation

Where possible, trees within the project site are being protected and will be used as part of the final urban design and landscape plan.

However, the project will result in the removal of trees and vegetation, including some Duffys Forest vegetation, which is an endangered ecological community.

Only those trees necessary for the road project are being removed.

To offset the removal of vegetation, Roads and Maritime will use 'biodiversity offsets'. These offsets could include measures like protection and conservation of an area of land with similar conservation value.

Roads and Maritime is also exploring options for revegetation using local seeds sourced

from within the area. Revegetation will be carried out within the construction zone and delivered progressively.

As well as planting trees inside the project area, we will be engaging with property owners and encouraging the additional planting of trees at the front of private properties to further enhance the bush and forest landscape of the area.

### Re-planting program

To reinforce the character of the area, the replanting program will include Indigenous vegetation, particularly Duffys Forest species.

The replanting will feature three distinct categories consistent with the local landscape:

- Duffys Forest revegetation will include areas around Wakehurst Parkway, Aquatic Drive, and parts of Frenchs Forest Road and Warringah Road, near Wakehurst Parkway
- Warringah Road planting will include tree planting, mass planted areas and turf grass
- Frenchs Forest Road and Naree Road will feature smaller street trees and turf.

### Plant Species

A wide variety of native species are proposed, including Banksia, Gum trees, Eucalyptus, Bottle Brush, Wattle, Boronia, Grevillea, and many more.



A full planting schedule can be found in the Urban Design and Landscape Plan, available on the project website.

### Pear trees

As a tribute to the local history of the area, clippings from a historic pear tree will be planted.

The clippings were taken from the old pear tree on Warringah Road, near The Forest High School. The tree was part of the Holland family orchard and one of the few remaining pointers to the early history of the area.

Unfortunately, a specialist arborist report indicated the tree was very old and in poor condition and needed to be removed.

Before its removal, a number of clippings from the tree were taken and will be replanted in and around the area following completion of the road upgrade.

### Fauna protection

Many species of fauna are found within the area, including mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians.

Before clearing of vegetation, an ecologist conducts surveys to identify any hollow bearing trees and help determine suitable locations for nest boxes. They are also regularly on site during clearing to ensure no animals are harmed.

To ensure fauna can safely access vegetation on either side of the upgrade, rope bridges and culvert crossings will be installed where appropriate, with input from ecological specialists, once the project has been completed.

Fauna fencing is also planned to be used to minimise the possibility of vehicle strikes to ensure no animals are harmed and any found are relocated to a safe habitat.

### Nest Boxes

As part of the offset strategy, over 170 nest boxes will progressively be installed around the Frenchs Forest area to provide a safe habitat for fauna.

Nest boxes are constructed in different sizes to support a variety of the different animals found in the area, such as birds, possums, microbats and some reptile species.

The nest boxes are built by a local supplier, and made from plantation grown eco ply.



A monitoring and maintenance program is in place to evaluate the effectiveness of the nest boxes and allow for routine repairs.

### Community and Environment Forum

A Community and Environment Forum has been established for the community to discuss the project and provide feedback. If you would like to be a member of the Forum, please contact us to register your interest.

#### Contact us

We are committed to minimising the impacts of construction and will continue to keep the community informed as the project progresses.

For more information or to report any concerns, please contact our delivery partner Ferrovial York Joint Venture:

☎ 1800 014 307 (free call line available 24 hours)

@ nbhcommunity@ferrovialyork.com.au

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🌐 [rms.nsw.gov.au/nbh](http://rms.nsw.gov.au/nbh)