

17 November 2017

ON TRACK FOR THE LAST MAJOR MAINTENANCE WORK FOR 2017

- **6.30am Monday 20 November to 6.30am Friday 24 November 2017**
- **528 kilometres of track**
- **More than 1000 dedicated staff and contractors**

The Hunter Valley will again be the focus of attention next week when a major maintenance shutdown kicks off to complete the last round of essential rail maintenance works for the year.

The Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) will be carrying out track reconstruction, installing new rail, improving level crossings, cleaning ballast, tidying up the rail corridors and ensuring the signals are in peak performance.

“There will be two stages of works within the rail corridor,” said ARTC’s Jonathan Vandervoort, Group Executive of the Hunter Valley Network.

“Stage one is from Kooragang to Muswellbrook north. Stage two is from Muswellbrook to Narrabri”.

Hundreds of passenger and freight trains run on the ARTC network every week and safety is always the number one priority.

“We know that these works can be disruptive but we are very grateful for the support of the Hunter Valley community. We’d like to thank everyone for their patience while these important works are carried out”.

Mr Vandervoort also asked motorists to be alert at all times and advised that there are a number of road closures during the works.

“There will be trucks and other vehicles going in and out of the work sites. Please be vigilant so we can help keep everyone safe around worksites”.

ARTC also has a strong focus on innovation.

“We continue to look at ways to improve safety where there is people and machinery involved,” Mr Vandervoort said.

“For example, during our last maintenance shutdown, we trialled proximity safety devices which were fitted to a dump truck and an excavator – when workers came within a particular distance, an alert was sounded notifying the operator.”

For further information about our trackwork, visit our [calendar](#) which will give you an idea of the work that may be taking place in your area.

The next major maintenance works in the Hunter Valley are February 20 – 23 in 2018.

Passenger service customers are advised to visit www.nswtrainlink.info and www.sydneytrains.info regarding changes to passenger services. Some services are being bussed.

ENDS

Media contact: Bas Boly, ARTC, 0477 340 658

There are a number of road closures due to the works. Further information on p2 of this release.

Works will take place:

6.30am Monday 20 November – 6.30am Friday 24 November Kooragang / Warrabrook Hanbury Jct to Thornton Coal Roads Thornton to Maitland Coal Roads Maitland Yard Maitland to Allandale Allandale to Branxton Branxton to Minimbah Minimbah to Whittingham Whittingham Branch Whittingham to Camberwell Jct Camberwell Jct to Mt Owen Jct Mt Owen Jct to Newdell Jct Newdell Jct to Drayton Jct Drayton Jct to Muswellbrook	6.30am Monday 20 November – 8.30pm Thursday 23 November Muswellbrook to Ulan Muswellbrook to Werris Creek Werris Creek to Gunnedah Gunnedah to Boggabri Boggabri to Narrabri
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ROAD CLOSURES

ARTC is carrying out important maintenance works at a number of level crossings and major roads.

Location:	Proposed Schedule of Works:
Segenhoe Road, Aberdeen	Closed from 6:00am Monday 20 th November to 6:00pm Tuesday 21 st November, expect delays Thursday 23 rd November between 8:00pm and 10:00pm
Callaghans Lane, Quirindi	Closed from 12:00 noon to 2:00pm Wednesday 22 nd November
Wollombi Road, Farley – detours via Sawyers Gully Road, Kurri Kurri and Old North Road, Lochinvar	Closed From 6:00am Saturday 18 th November to 6:00pm Sunday 26 th November
Brook Street, Muswellbrook	Closed from 6:00pm Tuesday 21 st November to 2:00am Wednesday 22 nd November
Ogilvie Street, Denman	Closed from 6:00am Wednesday 22 nd November to possibly 6:00pm Thursday 23 rd November

During maintenance periods the level crossings and roads that are closed will be closed continuously for access from both sides. We ask motorists to plan travel ahead of time to account for any delays and avoid these locations around the proposed times and dates.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works.