

Vegetation Fact Sheet

The Australian and South Australian governments have committed a total of \$685 million to fund the Fleurieu Connections projects, which are being delivered by the Fleurieu Connections Alliance (FCA). This includes the further \$125 million committed by the South Australian Government to deliver on the election commitment for a grade separation at the intersection of Aldinga Beach Road and Aldinga Road, full duplication of Main South Road between Seaford and Sellicks Beach, plus new overtaking lanes between Myponga and Cape Jervis.

These projects will result in safer and faster journeys for motorists and provide a vital boost for local tourism, communities and support hundreds of jobs each year during construction. Information on the projects can be found on the project website at: <u>www.fcalliance.com.au</u>

Minimising impacts on vegetation

The projects have been carefully designed and staged to minimise vegetation impacts, as much as practically possible.

While every effort was made, the existing width of the road carriageways does not allow for road duplications, overtaking lanes and intersection upgrades without tree and vegetation removals occurring.

The project team will work closely with relevant authorities, impacted property owners and interested parties to minimise and manage impacts to vegetation and wildlife.

Managing vegetation removal

Vegetation removal is managed in accordance with the Department for Infrastructure and Transport's (the Department) Vegetation Removal Policy. <u>https://dit.sa.gov.au/vegetationremovalpolicy</u>

Vegetation removal is carefully supervised by project environmental staff. All vegetation is inspected prior to removal and the surrounding area post removal. If animals are found, they are carefully removed and relocated by professionals.



Image showing example of existing vegetation overhanging Main South Road, Maslins Beach.

Night works to remove tree limbs encroaching over roadways will be required in the interest of public safety and the safety of our workers. Traffic management will be in place whilst these works are undertaken.

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As part of the offset for vegetation that is removed, areas of the road corridor will be landscaped to maintain amenity, biodiversity and contribute to the environmental value of the area.

Reusing limbs and trunks

Fallen limbs play an important part in local biodiversity. Large limbs and trunks removed as part of the project will be retained to be placed in parks and reserves where possible. Opportunities are also being investigated to reuse trunks in local parks and reserves, for nature play or art installations. Local wildlife rescue groups will also be given trunks, limbs and excess hollows for use. The remainder of the removed native vegetative material will be mulched and used in landscaping.

Retention and reuse of hollows for habitat will play an important role in minimising the impacts of tree removal. Hollows will be identified, and trees marked prior to vegetation clearance by the FCA Environmental Team. Hollows will be placed on the ground amongst existing vegetation in a location where they do not smother native vegetation or present a hazard to persons or property and will provide habitat for our native fauna.

Removal of weeds and non-native vegetation will be disposed off-site at an Environment Protection Agency approved landfill facility.

Selecting Species

The landscaping designs will balance the use of indigenous and non-indigenous species. Species selection will adhere to safety standards for proximity to the road corridor. Further information, including landscaping plans and vegetation species, will be provided as the landscaping design progresses.

Vine health and protecting primary industry during construction

The health of vines in the McLaren Vale region is vital to the local community and the wine and tourism industry.

The FCA is engaging with Vine Health Australia and local vineyards to ensure our work methods and practices prevent the transmission of disease and protects the health of vines, as well as other horticultural activities, animal

husbandry and cropping and grazing activities. For more information, contact us or Vine Health Australia. www.vinehealth.com.au

Community Wildlife Program

We are currently exploring opportunities with councils, local schools, community groups and wineries to help offset the loss of habitat caused by vegetation removals.

This will include exploring opportunities to work with local community groups and schools to replant trees and vegetation.

If you are interested in participating in information sessions or if you would like to share ideas or provide feedback to the project, please telephone 1300 896 826 or email info@fcalliance.com.au





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