



CRAIGIEBURN ROAD UPGRADE

Minimising our impact on vegetation and wildlife

The Craigieburn Road Upgrade will improve traffic flow and safety, reduce congestion, and provide better walking and cycling connections.

Once completed the upgrade will cater for future traffic volumes while also serving the current needs of the 28,000 people who drive along Craigieburn Road every day.

We understand and share the value placed on local flora and fauna by the community. With all major projects, we sensitively balance our impact on the environment with the need to improve road safety and journey reliability.

Assessing

We have assessed all aspects of the environment in order to inform our design and control measures. However, we understand that two of the most important environmental features of the local area are vegetation and wildlife, and special consideration has been given to these.

Health and safety

Works on the Craigieburn Road Upgrade are progressing with COVID Safe Plans in place.

For more information and advice about the coronavirus (COVID-19), please visit coronavirus.vic.gov.au



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Trees and vegetation

We've designed the Craigieburn Road Upgrade to preserve as much of the local environment as possible.

Our team of experts are exploring all possibilities to retain as many trees as we can, while developing opportunities to reuse any timber from trees that we need to remove.

Landscaping

We're working with landscape architects and key stakeholders including local Councils and the Department of Transport to develop an urban design and landscape plan. Landscape solutions will be in keeping with the character of the local area and our overall urban design principles.

Tree planting and landscaping are usually the final activities to take place once major works are completed in the area.

More information including landscaping plans and the types of vegetation to be planted will be shared with the community as the project progresses.

Reusing timber

While trees will need to be removed, we're looking at ways to repurpose the suitable timber from removed trees to contribute to the local community.

We'll work closely with the community to use the wood from the trees for environmental and community projects.

Some of the opportunities we're exploring include:

- placing logs in nature reserves to establish wildlife habitats
- repurposing wood to make nesting boxes for fauna relocation
- community projects completed by schools and community groups who may make furniture such as park benches or sculptures.



Above: Latham's Snipe, photo by Andrew Silcocks

How we're protecting wildlife

Some wildlife may be found within the area, including mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians.

We're working alongside specialists to ensure the protection and safe relocation of wildlife. To minimise impacts to wildlife we'll:

- ensure a qualified ecologist undertakes assessments to determine if wildlife is present or likely to be present before removing any vegetation
- have a qualified and licensed wildlife handler on site during vegetation removal to safely relocate any fauna that may be affected.

A population of Latham's Snipe (*Gallinago hardwickii*), have been identified north of the project in the Aitken Creek corridor. Latham's Snipe is a small threatened migratory bird and is listed under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act).

Protection Plans

Our works are not expected to impact the birds, however we will implement precautionary measures such as additional surveys, audits and managing light spill near Aitken Creek.



The Golden Sun Moth, photo by Dan Weller

Golden Sun Moths (*Synemon plana*) are critically endangered under the EPBC Act. The Golden Sun Moth is associated with grassland and has been recorded in the western end of the project.

Protection Plans

We have implemented no go zones to protect the moths' habitat where possible and will minimise disturbance in and around its habitat during the breeding season between mid-October and early January.

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