The Wave
Stages 1 and 2 (Rail)

Wildlife management and connectivity

November 2026

The Wave – Stages 1 and 2 (Rail) project area includes waterways, wetlands, forests and other wildlife habitats. Maintaining connections between these areas helps wildlife move on the ground, through waterways or through the tree canopy.

Important habitat connections occur around Beerwah State Forest and adjoining waterways, Bells Creek, Lamerough Creek and Pelican Waters, Little Mountain and Aroona, Currimundi Creek and Kawana Forest.

What did the Draft Public Environment Report find?

The Draft Public Environment Report (PER) identifies that the loss and separation of habitat could affect wildlife and its movement between habitat areas.

The reference design includes bridges, elevated structures and the Little Mountain tunnels, which reduce ground-level disturbance in many locations. Wildlife crossings, fencing and other measures are proposed to help maintain movement between habitats and will be refined during detailed design.

How impacts will be managed

During construction

Clearing and construction activities will be managed to reduce the risk of injury and disturbance to wildlife. Measures include:

- identifying important habitat, clearing limits and areas to be protected before clearing begins
- using qualified wildlife specialists, known as fauna spotter-catchers, to inspect work areas and supervise clearing in stages
- retaining trees with hollows and other habitat features or salvaging them where practicable
- using temporary fencing and other barriers to keep wildlife away from active work areas, and stopping nearby work if wildlife is injured or orphaned.

Maintaining movement between habitats

Crossings and other measures will be suited to the wildlife and movement pathways at each location. These include:

- providing space and dry paths for wildlife beneath bridges and elevated structures
- using wildlife passages through culverts, rope bridges and other tree-canopy crossings, and maintaining fish passage where appropriate
- use fencing to guide wildlife towards crossings.
- replanting vegetation and reinstating habitat features where this helps connect habitat areas.

What happens next

The location and design of wildlife crossings, culverts and fencing will be refined during detailed design and construction planning. Inspection, maintenance and long-term ownership arrangements will also be confirmed.

Find out more

Read The Wave – Stages 1 and 2 (Rail) Draft PER for the detailed findings and proposed environmental management measures.

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