

Protection of Native Fauna (Giant Barred Frog)

Pacifico Acciona Ferrovial JV

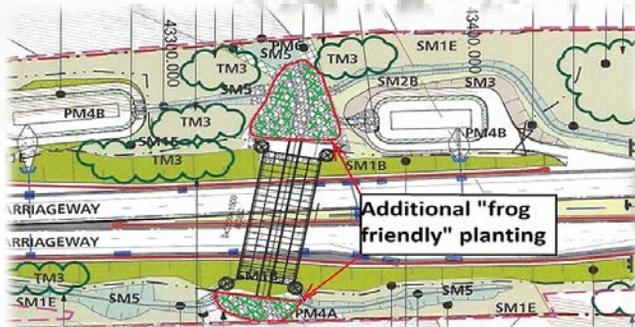
Pacifico is Joint Venture (JV) established to deliver the **Warrell Creek to Nambucca Heads** section of the Pacific Highway upgrade on the Mid-North Coast of NSW.



A **Frog-Friendly Treatment** (Giant Barred Frog EPBC Listed) was developed following an Unexpected Find at Butchers Creek Five Cell Reinforced Concrete Box Culvert.

The Unexpected Find of **Giant Barred Frog Tadpoles** (EPBC Protected Fauna Specie) at Butchers Creek occurred post RCBC Line Design finalization, as well as after the commencement of construction works.

The Environment team ensured the **protection of native fauna** through the use of an innovative and sustainable approach that is appropriate as a long-term solution.



Following the discovery, provision of a “frog-friendly” treatment to each invert of the five-cell box culverts was developed. Roads and Maritime coordinated a functional re-design with the contractor, Pacifico, using cobble stones salvaged from the culvert excavation that **emulated the natural creek bed** either side of the culvert.

Without compromising the drainage design, this method would encourage dispersal and **passage of adult frogs** and tadpoles by facilitating a more natural deposition of sediment and detritus during flood flows. In the floor of each culvert cell, cobble stones were set into a bed of wet concrete and dressed similarly to the pebble-crete finish of a concrete drive way.

Environmental benefits:

- ✓ Savings in terms of a **redesign** of the culvert to a plank bridge and removal of the constructed component of the RCBC Line.
- ✓ Saving in terms of **Program Delays** due to redesign.
- ✓ Best practice with **fauna management**.
- ✓ **Stakeholder satisfaction:** implementing such system increases the client and stakeholder satisfaction by demonstrating that the contractor is always looking for improved performance.



Giant Barred Frog

Pacifico prepared innovative sample test panels for review and approval by Agency officers



This initiative won the Australian Business Awards for Sustainability

