

Landsborough to Nambour

Rail Corridor Study

November 2007

Key considerations from preliminary investigations and community feedback

Environmental considerations

Preliminary environmental investigations have identified constraints and issues in the area, which has helped in refining the study focus area.

The study team will conduct more detailed environmental investigations in the coming months into areas of ecological significance including:

- national parks and other protected areas
- remnant vegetation
- creeks and habitats
- biodiversity and wildlife corridors
- areas of environmental significance to the community (eg community rehabilitation projects)
- areas of indigenous and heritage significance
- noise and air quality
- water quality and flooding
- geology and soils
- landscape character
- environmental benefits of improved rail passenger and freight transport.

Key issues

The following issues will be carefully considered by the study team when determining a preferred route for the rail corridor:

- current and projected demand for passenger and freight services
- future requirements and locations for stations
- minimising and managing environmental impacts
- minimising property impacts

- noise management and landscape treatments
- future use of sections of the current rail corridor that would not be required
- social and economic impacts and benefits
- future land use around the rail corridor and in the railway towns
- how to manage the interaction of the rail corridor with road networks in railway towns.

Community feedback

More than 1000 responses were received from the Community Values and Transportation Survey conducted in October. Thank you to all who contributed.

Key themes from the community feedback include:

- transport infrastructure on the Sunshine Coast needs to keep up with the population growth and demand for services
- rail services need to be more frequent with better connection to areas within the Sunshine Coast region
- environmental impacts need to be carefully managed
- travel times need to be reduced
- stations and trains need to be wheelchair and pram accessible
- trains and their facilities need to be modern and comfortable
- traffic on roads close to the current rail line is affected by low bridges and open level crossings.

For more information about the Landsborough to Nambour Rail Corridor Study, contact the study team:

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About the study

The Landsborough to Nambour Rail Corridor Study is an early phase of the Landsborough to Nambour Rail Project.

The Landsborough to Nambour Rail Project will include construction of a double-track railway along a predominantly new route, with room for extra tracks if required. The project will improve the efficiency, service frequency, operating speeds and reliability of trains, and cater for the increasing demand for rail services in the corridor caused by population and freight transport growth.

The study is a significant, long-term planning project that will allow for a greater level of certainty around the future development and land use of the areas surrounding the North Coast Line. By identifying and acquiring the corridor now, Queensland Transport is providing for the future needs of both rail users and the communities that surround the corridor.

The study focus area

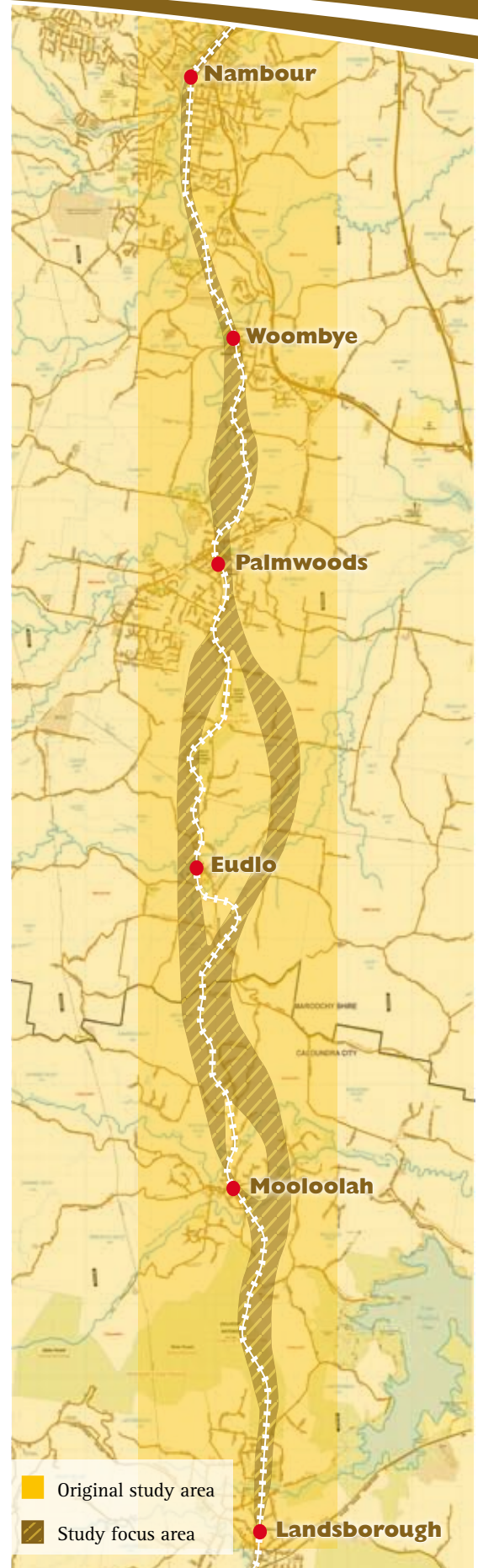
The study focus area is a refinement of the original study area made using information gathered from the community and other technical, social and environmental studies.

The study focus area shows a number of areas where it would be possible to locate a suitable route for the upgrade of the Landsborough to Nambour section of the North Coast Line.

The study focus area will be investigated in detail in the coming months to determine a preferred route for the rail project. Queensland Transport is aiming to announce the preferred route in early 2008.

The community also has the opportunity to comment on the study focus area to provide Queensland Transport with additional information that may assist in determining the preferred route for the Landsborough to Nambour section of the North Coast Line.

The preferred corridor will be the subject of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), with the rail line currently programmed to be operational by 2020.



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