

AUSTRALIA'S LONGEST BRIDGE

Macleay Valley Bridge Australia's Longest bridge

The Macleay Valley Bridge is a road bridge over the Macleay River and its floodplain near the settlement of Frederickton, New South Wales, Australia. The bridge is part of the Pacific Highway (A1) new alignment which bypasses Kempsey and Frederickton. At the time of its official opening in 2013, the bridge was the longest road bridge in Australia.[3][4]

The bridge is constructed of 941 concrete beams supported by 93 piers. Installation of all support beams was completed in October 2012. On 24 February 2013 the bridge was opened to visitors for a preview walk, and then to traffic on 27 March 2013 following an official opening by Anthony Albanese MP, the Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development.[5] The 3.2-kilometre-long (2.0 mi) bridge carries four lanes of traffic, part of a 14.5-kilometre (9 mi) stretch of divided highway; two lanes in each direction, each lane 3.5 metres (11 ft) wide. The bridge was constructed by Abigroup as part of the A\$618 million Kempsey Bypass project funded by the Australian Government from the Building Australia Fund;[6] within this budget, the bridge itself cost \$185 million.[1]