



New Brooking Channel Bridge



Cert II Construction Trainees learning to tie steel.

Strong local involvement in the New Brooking Channel Bridge project

Last year's effort to rebuild the Fitzroy River Bridge saw outstanding community involvement. More than 250 locals were employed on the project, contributing more than 100,000 work hours towards the bridge's construction.

Building on this success, the New Brooking Channel Bridge project aims to further boost local expertise through extensive training and skills development, and continued investment in local business.

Industry-led training

Since May, the project has welcomed more than 50 workers who are taking part in a traineeship while working on the project.

The traineeships are tailored to meet both the employment needs of the project as well as the in-demand skills in the Kimberley region and beyond. The traineeships provide participants with the opportunity to secure meaningful paid employment, learn valuable skills from industry experts and earn a formal qualification in their chosen industry.

The traineeships offered during the include:

- Certificate II in Civil Construction
- Certificate III in Hospitality
- Certificate II in Security

Trainees are supported every step of the way by on-site mentors and supervisors, qualified trainers and assessors, and local organisation Gurama Yani U who provide tailored mentorship and support.



Above: Hospitality trainees during their first week on the job.

100% local earthworks team

The earthworks for the one-kilometre realignment of Great Northern Highway, which opened in June were completed by a 100% local team with all plant provided by local businesses.

The earthworks team for the new Brooking Channel Bridge works, comprises of long-term skilled operators as well as individuals who gained experience and qualifications during the previous year's bridge reconstruction efforts.



Above: The completed temporary realignment of Great Northern Highway, constructed by a fully local team.

Supporting a strong local industry

The project is committed to maximising opportunities for local businesses and supporting a strong regional industry. Local businesses have received dedicated support to effectively tender and deliver work. There are currently 33 Kimberley-based businesses engaged on the project, including 20 Indigenous-owned enterprises.

Spotlight on K&J Civil and Drainage Solutions

Local Bunuba men Kamus and Jamal started as operators on the New Fitzroy River Bridge project. During the project, they formed their own business, K&J Civil and Drainage Solutions (K&J Civil).

With the support of the project, K&J Civil secured their first contract, installing the underground services and lighting conduits for the new bridge. During the following wet season, K&J Civil completed works on several projects across the Kimberley and Pilbara.

Now back in Fitzroy Crossing, K&J Civil are providing key plant and labour as part of the New Brooking Channel Bridge project. K&J proudly employ 10 local Fitzroy Valley workers across the earthworks and bridge construction teams, and are looking to continue to grow and expand their business.

Above: K&J Civil and Drainage Solutions founders,



Jamal and Kamus.

Further information

For further information, please call 138 138, email enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au or visit www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/brooking-c-bridge/