

Alan Barham Maintenance Team Award 2020 Nominations

South Coast Track and Civil Routine Maintenance Team



Introduction and General Description.

The South Coast Territory extends just south of Waterfall in the North to Bomaderry in the South. The region encompasses some of the most picturesque rail scenery in Australia, with the track winding through villages and small country stations such as Oak Flats and Wombarra, as well as large regional centres such as Wollongong and Nowra.

The South Coast Track, Civil and Structures team provides routine maintenance and repair work to the 180km of track and 290 points that exist, as well as delivers contract services to the Port Kembla freight terminal.

The proud and dedicated staff ensure that the safety of the public and of the team is their first priority. They take delivery of outcomes seriously, and with a sense of pride deliver on their maintenance plans 100% of the time. An incredible achievement considering they are also called upon to deliver services and support other territories and during possessions as required.

The South Coast Track, Civil and Structures team is renowned for helping their colleagues and their communities. In 2020, the team raised \$3,500 for the bushfire appeal for the NSW Rural Fire Service (see attachment 2) and spent countless hours travelling to the Blue Mountains to assist with fire damage clean-up and repairs of the Western Line. This highly skilled team also raised their hand to assist the Inner City earlier this year. These are just some examples of how the team's passion for helping others in times of need has made a difference in what has been a challenging year.

The team is proud of their skills and provides Sydney Trains with some of the most experienced and knowledgeable track civil workers in the network maintenance group.

The structures team provides critical services to Sydney Trains ranging from bridges, culverts and overhead structures inspections, maintenance to major structural repairs involving complex projects (see attachment 3). The team looks after a large geographical area including Waterfall to Bomaderry west to Macarthur and north Sefton. This dedicated team of 4 staff have a particularly challenging role in such a diverse landscape where we move from the state's oldest viaduct in high slip areas to flood plains such as those south of Kiama in the Toolijooa area and finally the heat of the South West.

The South Coast has around 130 days of rain per year and receives an annual rainfall of over 1300mm. Our civil, track and structures teams must be ready to respond and do so no matter what the weather. Recently, extreme weather washed away the South Coast line south of Gerringong when over 350mm of rain fell in a 48hr period (see attachment 1). While our commuters were tucked away home in bed, our team swung into action re-ballasting and repairing the line immediately, with rail traffic reopened within 48hrs, a great effort in trying conditions with no safety incidents. Similar events occurred twice this year alone, with the northern Illawarra suburbs receiving over 250mm of rain in 24hrs in February. All teams responded and delays to rail traffic were extremely low.

People:

There are 30 staff in the South Coast Track, Civil and Structures team providing 24/7 coverage for the rail network. This diverse team is made up of men and women from varying backgrounds. The team is highly motivated and takes its commitment to its role in the local community to heart. An example

of the team going above and beyond is when staff provided emergency first aid to a disabled community member this year. They are innovative and proactive, championing new equipment in the network such as the new MRWS/ATWS system being developed by Anthony Koziol. This system will greatly increase the safety and efficiency of our staff while working in the rail corridor. As well as this the team regularly puts its hand up to trial new equipment and review our SWMS and SWI's.

Organisational leadership:

The South Coast Track, Civil and Structures team is supported through great leadership provided by their team managers and leaders - Darryl Crosland, Daniel Meier, Jason Coombes and Justin Howard. These team members go out of their way to ensure their team is regarded highly amongst their network and peers. Our teams are managed in the field by a group of dedicated Work Group Leaders, providing on ground expertise and leadership. These Work Group Leaders are business orientated and understand the need to deliver while operating in a safe way. The team has an excellent track record in safety having only one (1) lost time injury last year.

The team plans their work with a three month look ahead and reviews past plans to ensure efficiency and compliance is met. This work is carried out by our team leaders and area planner ensuring that that the South Coast remains not only compliant but an efficient service for the public of NSW.

The work we do:

South Coast Track and civil 100% compliant to its TMP.

Compliance report (Track Team)	Planned work	Completed work	Compliance %
Safety Critical	5,622	5,622	100%
Safety Significant	5,035	5,035	100%
Safety Other	1,340	1,340	100%

Number of IADs	Reported	Removed
	262	272

Attachment 1:

Washaway South of Gerringong station August 2020 – track restored within 24hrs.



Attachment 2:

South Coast Fundraising appeal for the 2020 bushfires



Attachment 3:

Structures work recently repairing damaged overhead wiring structures at Pine Road Fairfield.

