
From: Official Correspondence
Sent: Wednesday, 5 October 2022 5:01 PM
To: Jemma Dacy
Subject: MINO-483 RESPONSE
Attachments: MINO-471 Media visit Mangamuka Gorge.pdf; SH1 Mangamuka Gorge - key message bank FINAL_Signed off.docx

Hi Jemma

Apologies for the delay response.

The following information was provided to the Associate Minister's Office last week to support the media visit to Northland. We can confirm this information is still up to date and will be useful for the PM trip tomorrow.

There are only a couple of minor additional updates regarding Mangamuka Gorge as at today's date, which we have listed below:

Mangamuka Gorge

- With more weather events last weekend, there has been more movement at two of the slips located in the Mangamuka Gorge. Maintenance crews will be working to try to stabilise the site and divert water away from affected areas.

State Highway 10 (SH10)

- Repair designs have now been confirmed for the slip on the section of SH10 Waitaruke, that is currently down to one lane. Materials for the repairs have been ordered and are currently being galvanised.
- Strengthening designs for the Parapara Bridge will be completed this week, followed by the pre-purchasing of materials. Procurement for physical works will commence following design completion.
- Pre-purchasing of materials for the Waitangi River Bridge have been ordered, and contract awarding is imminent.

Ngā mihi
Raymond

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From: Jemma Dacy <Jemma.Dacy@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 5 October 2022 1:36 pm
To: Official Correspondence <Official.Correspondence@nzta.govt.nz>; Cody Davidson <Cody.Davidson@nzta.govt.nz>; Leisa Coley <Leisa.Coley@nzta.govt.nz>
Subject: Update on Northland for PM - by 4pm please
Importance: High

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Hi team

The PM is travelling to Northland tomorrow.

Can the office please receive an email update by 4pm with the latest on Mangamuka Gorge, recovery of other key routes and anything else that might be helpful.

I note the attached came over last week - let me know if that's still up to date.

Ngā mihi

Jemma Dacy (she/her) | Private Secretary (Transport)

jemma.dacy@parliament.govt.nz | s 9(2)(a)

Office of Hon Michael Wood

Minister of Immigration | Minister of Transport | Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety

Private Bag 18041 | Parliament Buildings | Wellington 6160 | New Zealand

Office Phone: +64 4 817 8731 Email: michael.wood@parliament.govt.nz

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MINO-0471 Mangamuka Gorge media site visit

28 September 2022

Provide information about the upcoming media site visit to SH1 in the Mangamuka Gorge, scheduled for Friday 30 September 2022.

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency's response:

- SH1 through Mangamuka Gorge is still closed after severe weather damaged the highway in July and August this year as conditions remain highly unstable, and the ground is still moving.
- A media site visit is planned for Friday 30 September 2022 to provide an opportunity for media to see the extent of the damage to this section of SH1 first-hand, and to receive an update from Waka Kotahi on potential options for repairs or reconstruction. Regional Transport Systems Manager, Jacqui Hori-Hoult will be fronting media during the site visit.
- Please refer to the attached *Mangamuka Gorge - Key Message Bank* document for the full messaging that will be shared with media on the day.
- The key messages from that document are included below:
 - Heavy rain in July and August 2022 caused several slips under State Highway 1 (SH1) through the Mangamuka Gorge forcing Waka Kotahi to close the road.
 - This is the second time since 2020 the road has closed due to slip damage and photos don't tell the whole story of the severity of the damage.
 - The soil in the area is generally soft and unstable which makes the stability of the land in the gorge particularly susceptible to the effects of severe weather, including heavy rain.
 - Geotechnical assessments have now been completed which will inform next steps and this information is now being compiled.
 - While this will inform our decision making, the Mangamuka Gorge is facing a long-term resilience issue. We need to think strategically about our next steps and how we can ensure a resilient state highway north that serves its communities and those who use it.
 - State Highway 1 is an economic lifeline for Northland and Waka Kotahi is committed to ensuring Northland stays connected to the rest of the country.
 - Following this event, we have an opportunity to take a more strategic approach to readiness, resilience, and recovery, building on the work that has already begun.
 - To act quickly on this opportunity, Waka Kotahi is partnering with mana whenua, stakeholders and key experts to review the roles of SH1, SH10 and local roads in order to provide a resilient network.
 - While Waka Kotahi is accelerating this work, it is also ensuring that State Highway 10 (SH10) is working efficiently to accommodate the additional traffic with SH1 closed.

Mangamuka Gorge – Key Messages

Friday 30 September 2022

Context

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency is committed to providing a safe, reliable, resilient and integrated land transport system that helps people get the most out of life and supports business. We look after the national transport system with our partners, today and for the future.

We're innovating to make sure the system is efficient and sustainable, unlocking opportunities and keeping New Zealand moving.

Waka Kotahi know how important a safe and reliable State Highway connection is both within Northland and as a connection to the rest of the country, enabling, movement of people and freight. Safe and reliable connections are critical to Northland's social and economic outcomes.

We continue to experience weather events of increased frequency and severity as a result of climate change.

As this issue is happening nationwide, we need to think strategically about our next steps and how we can ensure a resilient state highway network that serves its communities and those who use it.

Adapting to climate change impacts will be an ongoing process of adjusting our responses and decision-making while supporting the wellbeing of our communities and businesses. By adapting to the unavoidable effects of climate change, we become more resilient to those risks.

Background

- Heavy rain in July and August 2022 caused several slips under State Highway 1 (SH1) through the Mangamuka Gorge forcing Waka Kotahi to close the road.
- This is the second time since 2020 the road has closed due to slip damage and photos don't tell the whole story of the severity of the damage.
- In 2020 two slips were severe enough to keep the road closed for almost a year. There are now at least five slips similar of increased severity, despite the underlying repair work we did after the 2020 event holding up well.
- Maungataniwha is still on the move and conditions in the gorge continue to be highly unstable with even moderate showers exacerbating current conditions. During our geotechnical investigations, the crew had to drill over 20 metres deep in some areas to find solid rock.
- The soil in the area is generally soft and unstable which makes the stability of the land in the gorge particularly susceptible to the effects of severe weather, including heavy rain.
- With the geologic nature in the surrounding Maungataniwha Ranges considered alongside ongoing impacts of climate change, the Mangamuka Gorge will continue to face resilience issues for many years to come.
- We have completed geotechnical assessments which will inform next steps and this information is now being compiled.
- While this will inform our decision making, the Mangamuka Gorge is facing a long-term resilience issue. We need to think strategically about our next steps and how we can ensure a resilient state highway north that serves its communities and those who use it.

A new approach

- State Highway 1 is an economic lifeline for Northland and Waka Kotahi is committed to ensuring Northland stays connected to the rest of the country.
- Following this event, we have an opportunity to take a more strategic approach to readiness, resilience, and recovery, building on the work that has already begun.
- To act quickly on this opportunity, we are partnering with mana whenua, stakeholders and key experts to review the roles of SH1, SH10 and local roads in order to provide a resilient network.
- This will confirm the approach to the resilience enhancements needed, including examining options, assessing costs, scoping risks, procurement, and implementation.
- We are taking a collaborative approach utilising the extensive knowledge about the region that Far North community representatives and experts hold to help determine our next steps.
- This technical work and feedback from our partners will feed into an options assessment which will recommend a preferred way forward.
- Whilst we are accelerating this important work, we will need to be thorough to achieve a resilient state highway north. We don't expect to have a view on the long-term outcomes until after the site assessments and above work is completed.
- Though we don't yet have all the answers, by working together with key Far North community members and experts, we are confident that together we will deliver a solution that will enhance the region for generations to come.

SH10 – detour route

- While we are accelerating this work, we are also ensuring that State Highway 10 (SH10) is working efficiently to accommodate the additional traffic with SH1 closed.
- SH10 has faced its own challenges due to wet weather this year, and we are focussed on accelerating the repair of slips and subsidence which have developed during this time.
- We've completed investigations and design options to fix the slip near Totara North Road, Waitaruke and are now awaiting confirmation of available construction materials. We're hoping to get started on construction to open the road to two lanes before Christmas.
- We're also investigating a cluster of three smaller slips approximately 2km north of the slip at Waitaruke to front foot a fix before it impacts the lanes.
- To ensure the continued movement of vital goods through the region, Waka Kotahi has also reinstated temporary access for over dimension vehicles to use the SH10 Waitangi River Bridge.
- Restrictions on use of the bridge were put in place earlier this year, following the detection of deterioration during a routine inspection.
- The condition of the bridge is being very closely monitored, with a structural engineer checking the bridge daily.
- We're in the process of confirming strengthening works for Waitangi River Bridge and Parapara Bridge, north of Taipa to safely remove the temporary speed restrictions.
- We are confident work can be completed without needing to close the bridge, however it may mean a single lane closure. We're aiming to complete strengthening work on Waitangi River Bridge before Christmas.

- We are monitoring the network condition daily, and how users are experiencing their journeys, and we will respond where necessary.
- We also have a large amount of resealing work scheduled as part of our summer maintenance programme to improve the road surface.
- If you're travelling along SH10 over the next few months, you will likely encounter some road works. Please be assured this is all part of a bigger picture to improve the network in this area, and we appreciate your understanding while we complete this critical work.

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