

Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Activity

Minister's Weekly Update

12 May 2023



Waka Kotahi three phase response to the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle

Phase	Description	Current state
One: Emergency Response	Open temporary emergency access and lifelines to affected and isolated communities. Some customer access is likely to be restricted, for example, freight.	<p>State Highway 25A in the Coromandel is the only part of the network that is still closed due to damage caused by Cyclone Gabrielle.</p> <p>Note: State Highway 2, from Napier through to Wairoa, is scheduled to open on 14 May 2023. Daylight restrictions (7am to 6pm) will be in place initially.</p>
Two: Providing access for communities	Once lifeline connections are established, start to lift the level of service to support community access. This includes assessment, stabilisation, minor works and some maintenance.	<p>A full assessment is commencing on all corridors that were affected.</p> <p>Maintenance and Operations teams are continuing to repair at risk sites, while rebuild strategic planning is underway.</p>
Three: Rebuild and betterment for the long term	Undertaking permanent rebuild alongside our partners.	Strategic Planning is underway for three regions – Northland, Coromandel and East Coast – and is expected to be completed by July 2023.

Waka Kotahi has prepared [State Highway Access Maps](#) showing the key areas where restrictions apply and general advice on the length of time for repairs. These maps are updated three times per week (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday) until further notice.

Road status - Key operational progress updates

Overall



RAG status (arrow) colour shows status and the arrow direction shows change from the last report.

Northland

- A site on **State Highway 1, Mangamuka gorge**, was closed due to the recent weather event, which brought 300 millimetres of rain during the week ending 12 May 2023. There is one new slip, which is 50 metres from the summit on the Northern side. We were aware of the potential for this slip to happen and it will be managed under the Northland recovery programme.
- There was minor movement of the existing slip on **State Highway 1, Brynderwyns**, just north of State Highway 12. Based on this movement, our Trigger Action Response Plan (TARP) triggered a pre-cautionary closure early afternoon on 9 May 2023 – the road re-opened on 10 May 2023.
- An over slip in the Northbound lane of **State Highway 1, Dome Valley**, meant the road was closed on 10 May 2023. Teams were on site and the road re-opened at 7.35 pm.

Coromandel

- Physical works are underway on the under slip on **State Highway 25, Opoutere-McBeth**, and are expected to be completed by late May 2023.
- **State Highway 25A, Kopu to Hikuai**, remains closed to all vehicles until further notice. A decision was announced on 9 May 2023, that confirmed the optimum solution to repair the 110-metre slip on State Highway 25A will be a bridge. The decision was based on selecting the option that best balanced cost, programme and risk considerations. We are currently preparing a business case to support additional resilience and corridor improvements, that can be undertaken while State Highway 25A is closed.

Tairāwhiti

- There has been a delay to the **Hikuwai Bailey bridge** due to the piles not finding hard ground at 22 metres – geotechnical assessments indicated that hard ground was expected at 15 metres. The piles will now be driven an additional 12 metres deep. This has caused a delay of 6 to 8 days, which now has the bridge opening in early June 2023.
- **State Highway 35** remains open with access past the damaged Hikuwai bridge via a local road, and past the Mangahauini Gorge via the constructed bypass road. The network remains fragile, and we continue to monitor for any changes with weather events.
- Foamed bitumen¹ pavement work on **State Highway 2, Waioeka Gorge**, is progressing well.

¹ Foamed bitumen stabilisation (FBS) involves in situ stabilisation of pavement materials with bitumen as the primary binder. The process is used to improve the strength of granular materials, while retaining a flexible pavement. The advantage of FBS is that it's more resistant to moisture once compacted and it can be opened to traffic much earlier than cement bound products.

Road status - Key operational progress updates

Overall



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Hawke's Bay

- With the installation of the Waikare River Bailey bridge almost complete, **State Highway 2 from Napier through to Wairoa** will open to traffic with some restrictions from 7am on 14 May 2023. There will be daylight restrictions (7am to 6pm opening hours) in place initially. The road will continue to have significant traffic management in place and, due to the fragility of the network coming into winter, may be closed at short notice. The Waikare River Bailey Bridge will receive a blessing on 13 May 2023.
- Emergency works along **State Highway 5** continue to progress, with favourable weather conditions in Hawke's Bay recently. Work on the large drop out at Glengarry is still expected to be completed by the end of July 2023.

Proactively Released

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Alliance / Strategic Planning

Alliance

- We are currently working through the three-month establishment period and the longer-term delivery framework.
- We continue to develop a procurement strategy, including outlining how regional contractors and consultants will be engaged.
- Further engagement with local contractors is planned during the week ending 19 May 2023.
- We are arranging meetings with local contractors in the Tairāwhiti area to get their early input into Alliance planning.

Strategic resilience plan

Strategic Recovery Framework

- The Resilience Strategic Approach planning activity that is underway for Northland, Coromandel and the East Coast is aligned to Waka Kotahi's draft Strategic Recovery Framework. It guides the overall approach to recovery from disruptions, such as severe weather, and supports improving resilience. The framework will also help identify the appropriate level of service required for the corridors and identify the long-term access requirements. The framework is currently under development and future engagement is planned.

East Coast - Tairāwhiti/Wairoa

- The Tairāwhiti/Wairoa Resilience Strategic Approach planning is currently in week eight of the 12-week project.
- Over the coming weeks, the project team will establish assessment criteria and start testing/applying the strategic recovery framework and developing programmes for each corridor (State Highway 2, State Highway 35 and State Highway 38).
- A meeting is scheduled for 12 May 2023 to ensure we have clarity on the Strategic Planning work underway that will feed into the East Coast Alliance.

East Coast - Hawke's Bay

- A project team has been established for the Hawke's Bay Resilience Strategic Approach work, and this process is now underway.
- This work will identify options for resilience works in the short, medium and long term. Local council(s), as well as iwi, will be engaged during this stage of the plan.

Strategic Planning continued

Coromandel / Hauraki

- A project team has been established for the Coromandel Hauraki Resilience Strategic Approach work, and this process is now underway.
- This work will identify options for resilience works in the short, medium and long term. Local council(s), as well as iwi, will be engaged during this stage of the plan.
- A system view is being taken, meaning that key detours and some local routes are also being investigated, with the strategic cases due to be completed in July 2023.

Northland

- The Brynderwyn's Resilience Strategic Approach now has a consultant engaged, and they are being briefed on the requirements for this work.
- A point of entry, including scope, was submitted for funding during the week ending 5 May 2023.
- This work will identify options for resilience works in the short, medium and long term. Local council(s), as well as iwi, will be engaged during this stage of the plan.
- This approach includes State Highway 12 and State Highway 14 as the alternate route north.

Iwi engagement

Tairāwhiti Wairoa Resilience Strategic Response (RSP)

- As previously advised, Waka Kotahi has provided a briefing pack on the project and current status for iwi groups via our Pou Ārahi.
- This was shared with Treaty Partners so that they have an understanding of what we are working towards and to understand how best to work alongside them in this piece of work. This is the same information that we have shared with councils on our project governance group. A recovery alliance briefing pack was included in the same email.
- We have followed up to arrange hui; however, a number of groups are yet to confirm a time.
- Our Pou Ārahi is visiting the region in mid-May 2023 to re-engage kanohi ki te kanohi.
- The next stage of engagement will be detailed in the coming weeks, this includes extra resource on the ground to assist with iwi engagement, specifically related to the recovery/rebuild on the East Coast.

Other Strategic Response Projects

- We continue to engage with Ngāti Maru in the Coromandel, particularly regarding the State Highway 25A, Taparahi slip site.
- With the Hawke's Bay and Coromandel strategic workstreams getting underway, formal engagement will commence in the near future in these regions. This will be closely followed by the Brynderwyn strategic work commencing, along with related engagement.

Bailey Bridges

Allocation, provision and build of Bailey bridges continues to be an area of focus. Once all commitments are met, Waka Kotahi will only be left with around five 30-metre Bailey bridges for the entire country. We need to replenish our spare stock with at least ten 30-metre bridges in each of our North and South Island yards. We have expedited the repair of broken stock to try and bring our levels back up, at an estimated cost of \$2.2 million. We are also looking to add new stock soon.

NEMA PRIORITISED BAILEY BRIDGES AND STATUS			
Bridge & Name	Road Controlling Authority	Status	Bailey Bridge Opening
Opoiti Bridge on Tiniroto Road	Wairoa District Council	Bridge installation completed	23 February
Rissington Bridge on Puketitiri Road	Hastings District Council	Bridge installation completed	31 March
Makiekie (Coal) Creek Bridge on Pohangina Road	Manawatu District Council	Bridge installation completed	21 April
SH2 Waikare River Bridge	Waka Kotahi, Hawke's Bay	Nearing completion	Mid May
SH35 Hikuwai No. 1 Bridge	Waka Kotahi, Gisborne	Physical works underway	Early June
Whanawhana Bridge on Whanawhana Road	Hastings District Council	Nearing completion	Early May
Moeangiangi Bridge on Waikare Rd	Hastings District Council	Site investigation and design underway.	May
Mangatutu Low Level Bridge on Mangatutu Road	Hastings District Council	Site investigation and design underway.	May
Ellis-Wallace Bridge on Ellis Wallace Road	Hastings District Council	Design complete, physical works due to commence shortly	May
Hollywood Bridge on Bushy Knoll Road	Gisborne District Council	Mabey Bridge will be used due to span required	End of May
Te Reinga Bridge on Ruakitura Road	Wairoa District Council	Existing bridge to be demolished. Staging works to enable demolition and then reconstruction to be installed. Single span Bailey between the staging works to be installed.	Beginning of June

Bridge Name	Road Controlling Authority	Reason bailey bridge not required
Arapaoanui low level bridge	Hastings District Council	RCA advised that alternative solution was being pursued.
Dartmoor bridge	Hastings District Council	Staging. (Class 1 / General access traffic loading)
Matapiro bridge	Hastings District Council	Temporary access established. Options being confirmed for the permanent structure.
Crownthrope bridge	Hastings District Council	RCA advised that alternative solution was being pursued.
Brookfield Bridge	Hastings District Council	Resilience options for determining the outcome.
Te Puna bridge	Hastings District Council	RCA advised that alternative solution was being pursued.
Puketapu bridge	Hastings District Council	Proposing solutions for access
Darkeys Spur no.1 bridge	Hastings District Council	Large scale works required
Mclvars culvert	Hastings District Council	Temp access established. Permanent solution initiated for resilience.

Funding update at 10 May 2023

Initial response

Update on funding approvals and amounts claimed:

\$million	Approved as at 2 May 2023 (funding allocated for specific activity)	Approved as at 8 May 2023 (funding allocated for specific activity)	Change since previous week	Claimed as at 2 May 2023 (accrued commitments/ payments made)	Claimed as at 8 May 2023 (accrued commitments/ payments made)	Change since previous week
Local Roads	180	201	21	47.5	84.8	37.3
State Highways	76 (est.)	82.5 (est.)	6.5	29.8	45.3	15.5
TOTAL	256 (est.)	283.5 (est.)	27.5	77.3	130.1	52.8

Key Points:

- The largest local roads claims for the week ending 12 May 2023 were from Auckland Transport (\$25.6 million) and Gisborne District Council (\$8.2 million).
- Approximately \$0.5 million of further requests are currently under review and not included in the above approved local road totals. These pending approvals are expected to be approved in the next week. Requests still in draft include Kaipara District Council (\$7.9 million) and Ruapehu District Council (\$1.2 million).
- Local road approvals display a significant optimism bias in terms of capacity to deliver. Based on spend to date, it is expected that the actual expenditure in 2022/23 will be in the range of \$140 million to \$170 million.
- Waka Kotahi is continuing to finalise cost estimates for the initial response works on the state highway network, with applications for North Island Weather Event (NIWE) funding received for the Auckland and Waikato regions.

Note: all costs are NLTF share only

Weather events response and recovery communications and engagement

WHAT'S HAPPENED: 6-12 MAY



NATIONAL

- ELT video with SH25A announcement
- Brett's monthly update with recovery progress to all Transport Services people
- Key messaging + state highway access maps updated - sent internally
- Alliance Ministerial pack progressed
- Alliance comms and engagement plan updated

RISKS:

- iwi/Māori in impacted regions are limited in capacity to engage with government
- Resourcing comms and engagement to ensure success – currently being worked on



NORTHLAND



NOTE: *comms + engagement activity has moved to another phase now Brynderwyns is (mostly) open – information below covers the month of May (or by exception)*

Brynderwyns

- At 12pm on 9 May, SH1, Brynderwyn, was closed after torrential rain due to the risk of slips.
- The corridor held up well and was reopened at 6.30am 10 May.
- Comms included: traffic bulletins, social media update, emails to key stakeholders, radio interviews
- No further comms planned

Mangamuka Gorge

- Social media
- Monthly e-newsletter; weekly hapū meetings
- Key stakeholder, elected reps + hapū geotechnical background presentation
- Stakeholder workshop for Mangamuka Network Resilience Programme Business Case
- Update drone video + progress images on website
- Direct stakeholder, elected reps + hapū communications



WAIKATO

SH25 and SH25A Coromandel

- Ministerial announcement on SH25A option Tues 9 May + media interviews
- Ongoing weekly comms activity
- Mana whenua engagement
- Preparations for Resilience Strategic Response (RSR) workshops over the next three weeks
- Reviewing temporary speed limited for SH25 SH31, Kāwhia – day time road closures end 12 May.

RISKS: *SH25A managing expectations; ongoing SH25 vulnerability, including speed limits*



SH25 and SH25A Coromandel

- RSR workshop
- Prepare comms for SH25A contract award and update collateral
- SH25 speed review comms
- Ongoing weekly comms
- Ngāti Maru hui date TBC

SH31 Kāwhia

- Opening back to two lanes on 16 May



TAIRĀWHITI/WAIROA /HAWKE'S BAY

- The Tairāwhiti Wairoa Strategic Resilience Response team presented assessments of potential programmes of work for SH2, SH35 & SH38 to the governance group
- Local government update to Hawke's Bay + Tairāwhiti Mayors + council CEs + iwi by Linda (DRR) – also went to Minister Wood + Allan

RISKS:

- *Speed of strategic resilience recovery plans raises comms and engagement risks with iwi potentially under resourced + stretched when our desire is to work in true partnership*
- *Potential reputational risk to a week extension for completion of the Hikuwai Bailey Bridge, due to community reconnection since the cyclone. Reason for the extension is due to not finding hard rock as expected.*



- Connecting Tairāwhiti e-newsletter to 400 subscribers
- Gisborne Herald double-page advertorial to be published Saturday
- Comms on changes needed for Hikuwai Bailey Bridge – media release, in e-newsletter + advertorial
- Emerging programmes of work from the Strategic Resilience Recovery will be shaped up over the coming weeks



- Kia Marāma industry newsletter to go out
- Update and share messaging (Tuesday)
- Local contractors engagement in East Coast regions
- Alliance Ministerial pack finalised
- Progress Alliance comms and engagement plan