

Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Activity

Minister's Weekly Update

6 October 2023

Section 9(2)(a)

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 (e.g. freight).	State Highway 25A in the Coromandel is the only part of the network that is still closed due to damage caused by Cyclone Gabrielle. Traffic management and speed restrictions are in place on State Highway 2 between Napier and Wairoa, as well as between Gisborne and Opotiki, while repairs continue.
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.	Initial assessments have been completed, and detailed assessments continue for specific areas of the network. Maintenance and Operations teams are continuing to repair at-risk sites, while rebuild strategic planning is underway.
Three: Rebuild and betterment for the long term	Undertaking permanent rebuild alongside our partners.	Programme scheduling and prioritisation for the three regions - Northland, Coromandel and East Coast - are now being conducted along with confirmation of funding.

Road status-Key operational progress updates

Overall



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

Northland

- **State Highway 1, Mangamuka.** Contractors continue to work across both day and night shifts. The expected opening date is trending towards the third quarter of 2024.
- **State Highway 1, Brynderwyns.** A recommended repair option to return this section of state highway back to pre-event level of service is being investigated. The proposal could require a full closure of State Highway 1. We are progressing repairs on detour routes should the proposed closure go ahead.
- **State Highway 12/State Highway 1 Dome Valley.** Recovery design and construction work is in progress along these corridors at several locations. There is focus on completing this before Waitangi Weekend 2024 as we continue to plan the Major Works for Brynderwyn Hills.

Coromandel

- **State Highway 25A, Kopu to Hikuai** remains closed to all vehicles until further notice.
- **State Highway 25A.** Ten crews are working on State Highway 25A whilst closed undertaking drainage improvements, slip removal and other associated works. Resealing is due to commence at the end of October 2023. Planning is underway to replace nine culverts and with a further two working through consenting approvals.
- **State Highway 25A Gurnick's Culvert.** Replacement of this box culvert is ongoing.
- **State Highway 25A, Taparahi bridge.** Headstocks and abutments are being poured. The first of the bridge beams were delivered to site on 2 October 2023.
- **State Highway 25 Coroglen underslip.** Works are ongoing and should be completed by the mid-October 2023.
- **State Highway 25.** Contractors have been appointed at the Pumpkin Hill and Wharekaho Bay underslips. A further four sites will be issued prior to Christmas 2023 once designs have been completed.
- **State Highway 25 Ruamahunga Bay.** The design for slip site one has been approved with works due to commence shortly. Design for the remaining sites are due for completion.
- **Community Engagement.** The meetings with the various Community Boards and Business Associations are almost completed. Feedback has overwhelmingly been very positive.

Road status-Key operational progress updates

Overall



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Tairāwhiti

- **State Highway 35** is open with works being carried out on multiple sites under temporary traffic management. The network remains fragile, and we continue to monitor for any changes following weather events.
- Foamed bitumen stabilisation¹ pavement work on **State Highway 2, Waioeka Gorge and State Highway 2 Wairoa to Gisborne**, is ongoing and expected to continue into the construction season as more sites have been added to the programme. Work will be paused for two weeks from 16 October 2023 while the crews carry out much needed maintenance on their equipment.
- Due to multiple dropouts and over slips, **State Highway 2 north between Te Karaka and Matawai** is operating under temporary traffic lights until further notice.
- **State Highway 2 South** - minor flooding experienced due to the recent rain event, however the road remains open.
- The Asphalt Concrete programme continues on **State Highway 2 north of Gisborne**. Slight delays have been experienced due to inclement weather conditions, however this programme is expected to be completed by mid-October 2023.

Hawke's Bay

- **State Highway 2 between Napier and Wairoa** is open and functioning well, although some minor delays are to be expected at active worksites on this corridor. With the establishment of Transport Rebuild East Coast (TREC) in progress, recovery works at **State Highway 2 Te Ngarue Culvert** have commenced with the construction of a concrete block wall and this will reinstate two lanes of traffic. Design and construction at **Devil's Elbow** are being prioritised. Further north at **State Highway 2 Mōrere**, drainage and stormwater control works are underway to mitigate the hillside landslip, while a repair is designed.
- Repairs are being planned for the approaches to the **Waikare River Bailey Bridge** and closures for this work are scheduled for 7pm - 5am on 24 and 25 October 2023.
- Emergency works along **State Highway 5 continue**. The **Esk Forest** under slip has now been chip sealed and the road will soon open to two lanes, with traffic lights being removed. Repair for the dropout at **Elands** is also near completion and will soon open to two lanes, also removing the need for traffic lights. Construction has started at **Captains Culvert**, another site where the road is currently down to one lane. Other works nearby continue; it is estimated this work will be complete and the road reinstated to two lanes of traffic by the end of October 2023.
- Works continue at a large number of storm damaged sites along **State Highway 2, State Highway 5 and State Highway 38**. The number of locations subject to temporary speed restrictions and traffic management are reducing over time.
- **Tutaekuri Waimate Stream Bridge on State Highway 2 (Expressway)** requires further scour protection works following temporary repairs undertaken during the initial cyclone response. We are currently planning for two night closures from 8pm - 4am on 17 and 18 October 2023 to carry out this work.

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 is more resistant to moisture once compacted and it can be opened to traffic much earlier than cement-bound products.

Transport Rebuild East Coast (TREC) Alliance

- 84 people are currently working for TREC. 30% are locally based, and another 10% are relocating to the Coast. The team is a mix of secondments from alliance partners and people recruited from other organisations. Another 86 people will begin with TREC from October 2023 with two thirds of these people being local (from the existing Network Outcomes Contracts (NOCs) in Tairāwhiti and Hawke's Bay). We have had 284 expressions of interest from people across New Zealand who are wanting to work for TREC.
- TREC is advertising for a variety of roles and is focused on recruiting local people, while not overheating the local labour market. National recruitment has begun via TradeMe and LinkedIn. It is expected the team will grow at pace now to be ready for the Spring/Summer season.
- Following the confirmation of the Professional Services Sub-Alliance partners – Aurecon, WSP and Tonkin + Taylor – a Registration of Interest is being finalised for local firms to apply to join a Professional Services Panel.
- A Registration of Interest for the Physical Works Panel closes at midday, Friday 6 October 2023. This is in addition to the 280 local service companies already registered with TREC. This process will identify more specialist contractors to complement the local workforce.
- TREC planning is underway, and we have prioritised sites for our programme management into Priority 1, 2 and 3 sites. Local/iwi owned contractors who are prequalified to work for Waka Kotahi will be engaged for these early/critical works.
- TREC mobilisation of a crew to site for recovery work started at Te Ngarue Culvert and work has also started on both Devil's Elbow culvert and Concrete Pile underslip (north of Mōrere). Other sites will follow.
- The transition of the existing maintenance contracts into the alliance was completed on 1 October 2023.
- TREC hubs/offices are in Gisborne, Napier and Auckland. The details for the permanent Christchurch office are currently being reviewed ahead of sign-off by Waka Kotahi.

Resilience Strategic Recovery Frameworks

- The Whangārei to Dome Valley, Coromandel Hauraki and Hawke's Bay approaches have been endorsed by the Waka Kotahi Board at their September 2023 meeting. Programme scheduling and prioritisation is now being conducted along with confirmation of funding.

Bailey Bridges

Funding is currently being confirmed to replace Bailey bridge stock, a need that stemmed from the use of most reserve stock to replace the bridges destroyed during Cyclone Gabrielle. A decision on funding and procurement is expected in the near future.

Work is also underway to repair damaged components to increase the availability of Bailey bridge stock located across the North and South Island.

PRIORITISED BAILEY BRIDGES AND STATUS				Other Bridges	Road Controlling Authority	Status update
Bridge & Name	Road Controlling Authority	Status	Bailey Bridge Opening	Arapaanui low level bridge	Hastings District Council	Access established
Opoiti Bridge on Tiniroro Road	Wairoa District Council	Bridge installation completed	23 February	Dartmoor bridge	Hastings District Council	Access established
Rissington Bridge on Puketitiri Road	Hastings District Council	Bridge installation completed	31 March	Matapiro bridge	Hastings District Council	Temporary access established. Options are being considered for the permanent structure.
Makieke (Coal) Creek Bridge on Pohangina Road	Manawatu District Council	Bridge installation completed	21 April	Crownthrope bridge	Hastings District Council	HDC currently have the site open to light vehicles under traffic management while they continue construction.
SH2 Waikare River Bridge	Waka Kotahi, Hawke's Bay	Bridge installation completed	14 May	Brookfield Bridge	Hastings District Council	Resilience options for determining the outcome.
Whanawhana Bridge on Whanawhana Road	Hastings District Council	Bridge installation completed	15 May	Te Puna bridge	Hastings District Council	RCA advised that alternative solution was being pursued.
Moeangiangi Bridge on Waikare Rd	Hastings District Council	Bridge installation completed	13 June	Puketapu bridge	Hastings District Council	Proposing solutions for access, working through design.
SH35 Hikuwai No. 1 Bridge	Waka Kotahi, Gisborne	Bridge installation completed	14 June	Darkeys Spur no.1 bridge	Hastings District Council	Large scale works required
Mangatutu Low Level Bridge on Mangatutu Road	Hastings District Council	Bridge installation completed	15 June	McIvars culvert	Hastings District Council	Temp access established. Permanent solution initiated for resilience.
Follies Bridge on Waihou Rd	Hastings District Council	Bridge installation completed	13 July			
Awatere Bridge on East Cape Rd	Gisborne District Council	Bridge installation completed	22 July			
Ellis-Wallace Bridge on Ellis Wallace Road	Hastings District Council	Bridge installation completed	11 August			
Hollywood Bridge on Bushy Knoll Road	Gisborne District Council	Mabey bridge will be used due to span required. Bridge construction has been completed. Opened 27 September	27 September			
Te Reinga Bridge on Ruakitura Road	Wairoa District Council	Existing bridge has been demolished. Single span Bailey between the staging works to be installed. Current indication is works beginning in mid - late Spring.	November			

Funding update at 4 October 2023

North Island Weather Events (NIWE)

Update on 2023/24 funding approvals and amounts claimed (both response and recovery):

2023/24 \$million	Approved as at 25-Sep-23	Approved as at 2-Oct-23	Change since last week	Claimed as at 25-Sep-23	Claimed as at 2-Oct-23	Change since last week	Crown Funding Allocated ¹
Local Roads	170.3	170.3	0	65.4	69.0	3.6	137.5
State Highways	13.1	13.1	0	45.6	45.6	0	415.5
TOTAL	183.4	183.4	0	111.0	114.6	3.6	553.0

¹ The allocation of Crown funding is notional and can be adjusted based on demand.

Key Points:

- The TREC Alliance has been formed to carry out recovery work on state highways and railways in the Tairāwhiti and Hawke's Bay regions. A funding request of \$218.8 million for 2023/24 and \$164.7 million for 2024/25 has been received, is under review and will be considered at the November 2023 Board meeting.
- A funding request for Auckland Transport of \$134.6 million in 2023/24 was approved by the Board in September 2023, subject to further Crown appropriation. This has not been included in the table above as the approval is still conditional. A further funding request for an estimated \$142.7 million (total cost) in 2024/25 will be submitted once Crown funding is confirmed. Significant funding requests are expected in the next few months from other councils impacted by NIWE.
- The local road claims received this week were Wairoa District Council (\$3.3 million) and Whangārei District Council (\$0.3 million).
- Note the figures above exclude 2022/23 funding, for which the final claims (response) were: \$112.4 million for state highways and \$210.0 million for local roads.

Note: All figures are NLTF share and relate to 2023/24 only, unless otherwise stated.