



The Bulletin Kaikōura earthquake update

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Bulletin 100th edition!

It's been four years since the release of the first earthquake update in January of 2017, to inform the community of the recovery progress being made along the coast. We've now reached a milestone of a whopping 100 Bulletins - which works out at approximately one newsletter produced every fortnight.

As with any emergency response organisation, communication was key from the get go. We started out with a large Communications & Community Engagement Team, all furiously working away to keep isolated community members informed while the crew were out there moving mountains to reconnect them. The demand for information was especially high in the first year before the road reopened, with updates released weekly to offer a window behind the cordons.

Now as NCTIR begins to wind down and farewell Kaikōura, the Bulletins will be a reminder of the rebuild journey - covering everything from the early days (and nights) spent moving earth, sluicing, and laying foundations, to the massive feats of engineering, and the many faces behind the recovery and resilience efforts.

All our previous Bulletins are available for viewing on the Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency website: bit.ly/NCTIRBulletin.

In next month's Bulletin we will give an in-depth overview of our last remaining project - the rockfall canopy south of Peketā.

We hope you enjoy - and from all of us here at NCTIR, past and present, thanks for reading!

Ngā mihi nui,

NCTIR Communications Team



In this issue

- Milestones
- Countries
- Expertise
- Remaining work
- Reunions
- Village update

NCTIR timeline

2017 - 2021

It's been just over four years since the earthquake changed the Kaikōura landscape, and our work to repair the road and rail networks began. Below is a brief snapshot of some major milestones achieved over this time. For more information about the rebuild journey, check out our StoryMaps, which include eight online interactive stories. Scan the QR code, or follow the link: <http://bit.ly/2WoLENS>



<p>14 NOV 2016 7.8 magnitude earthquake</p>	<p>EARLY 2017 NCTIR formed</p>	<p>15 SEPT 2017 First freight train returns to Kaikōura on the newly opened railway line</p>	<p>14 NOV 2017 Kaikōura marina reopens, allowing commercial operators to reopen</p>	<p>15 DEC 2017 SH1 reopens one year, one month and one day after the earthquake</p>	<p>20 FEB 2018 Ex-cyclone Gita rips through the country, creating 95 new slips in the area and closing SH1 for 8 days and the railway for 13 days</p>	<p>30 APR 2018 SH1 returns to 24/7 service</p>	<p>1 OCT 2018 24/7 freight trains resume</p>	<p>1 DEC 2018 Coastal Pacific train services resume</p>	<p>21 DEC 2018 New larger Parititahi Tunnels open in both directions</p>
<p>FINAL PROJECT Rockfall-protection Canopy</p>	<p>DEC 2020 Cultural Artwork Package complete</p>	<p>DEC 2020 Racecourse realignment complete</p>	<p>OCT 2020 All rail work complete</p>	<p>SEPT 2020 Inland Road (Route 70) complete</p>	<p>AUG 2020 All safe stopping areas complete</p>	<p>JAN 2020 Jacobs Ladder works complete</p>	<p>27 NOV 2019 Hundalees Gita repairs complete</p>	<p>OCT 2019 Final seawall complete</p>	<p>JUL 2019 Five million work hours on NCTIR complete</p>

Canopy: Progress in pictures



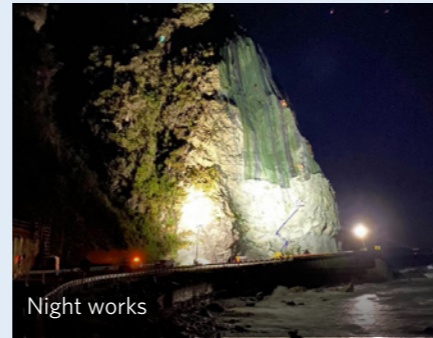
Rockfall protection work around a 325-metre high-risk section of hillside is progressing south of Peketā. Below are a few photos taken over the course of the project by those at the centre of the action. With over 600 rock anchors required to stabilise the rockface, it's little wonder most of the shots involve drilling!



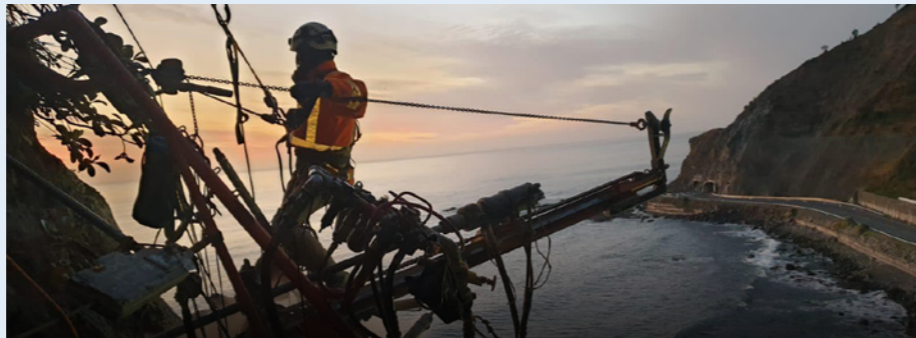
A number of newly poured plinth structures can be seen at the Canopy site this month



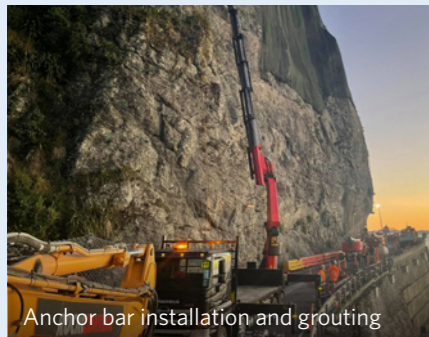
Drilling spot bolts at the very start of the project



Night works



Drilling in preparation for shotcrete work at the end of last year



Anchor bar installation and grouting



A 100-metre long draped mesh fence is 90% complete

Roped in from day one



Dan Ashfield started working on the Kaikōura earthquake response shortly after the shaking stopped. His home organisation, Tonkin & Taylor, sent him up from Christchurch before NCTIR was formally established to help map earthquake-related land damage, and to provide Geotechnical assessments and advice on the battered transport network. He bounced from the Inland Road, to the rail rebuild between Cheviot and Claverley, and then into a NCTIR role on the north coast of Kaikōura. 'I'll never forget those early days. The positive attitude and energy of all those involved was inspiring,' he says.

As NCTIR shifted into a managed recovery, Dan joined the Designers' Construction Phase Services team - providing on-site design advice

while documenting his construction observations for quality-confirming purposes. On top of this he was also one of a small team of Geotechnical advisors, working on a 24/7 on-call basis to provide advice on slope-related hazards and emergency response for rockfall events.

During his time in Kaikōura Dan has been a Swiss-Army knife of useful skills. He has worked on almost every kind of infrastructure project at NCTIR in some capacity; from bridges, roads and rail tunnels, to rockfall protection structures with the abseiling teams. The latter happens to be a favourite part of his job.

'I really enjoy the technical challenges and airy exposure involved in installing rockfall protection. It is engineering problem solving - but with a great view!'

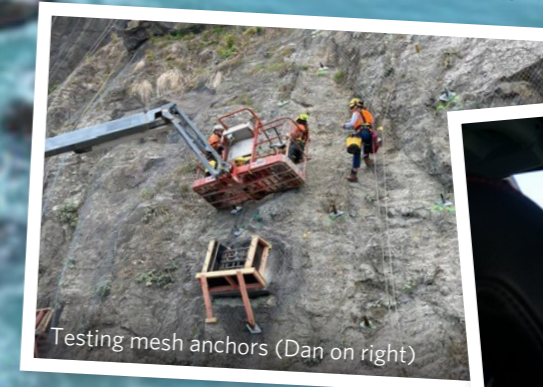
Dan is now focussed on completing NCTIR's final project, the self-cleaning rockfall canopy south of Peketā. He is working a mixture

of day and night shifts alongside a team of abseilers and other Geotechnical engineers and designers.

'This last project is by far the most technically challenging rockfall protection structure the NCTIR team has built, in my opinion. Only a handful of rockfall canopies have been built around the world and with our sites' unique setting - its shape, geology, seawalls and active highway - we're having to think outside the box when solving the challenges that arise.'

While it has been hard spending so much time away from his Canterbury-based partner, home and hobbies, Dan says he is excited to see the project through.

'It is very rewarding to be working on a structure that will keep travellers safe from rockfall and that will become an unmistakable local landmark when it is completed. I am proud to be a part of NCTIR's world-class last hurrah for the Kaikōura coast.'



Testing mesh anchors (Dan on right)



Dan during a geotechnical inspection flight

Canopy night closures



Night closures associated with the Canopy work are ongoing due to delays in material delivery and poor ground conditions. The current closure timetable can be found here: nzta.govt.nz/p2c along with a link to real time travel information. For more information please call us on **0800 628 4737** or email info@nctir.com. Thank you for your ongoing support as we complete this complex piece of work.



Around the world with NCTIR

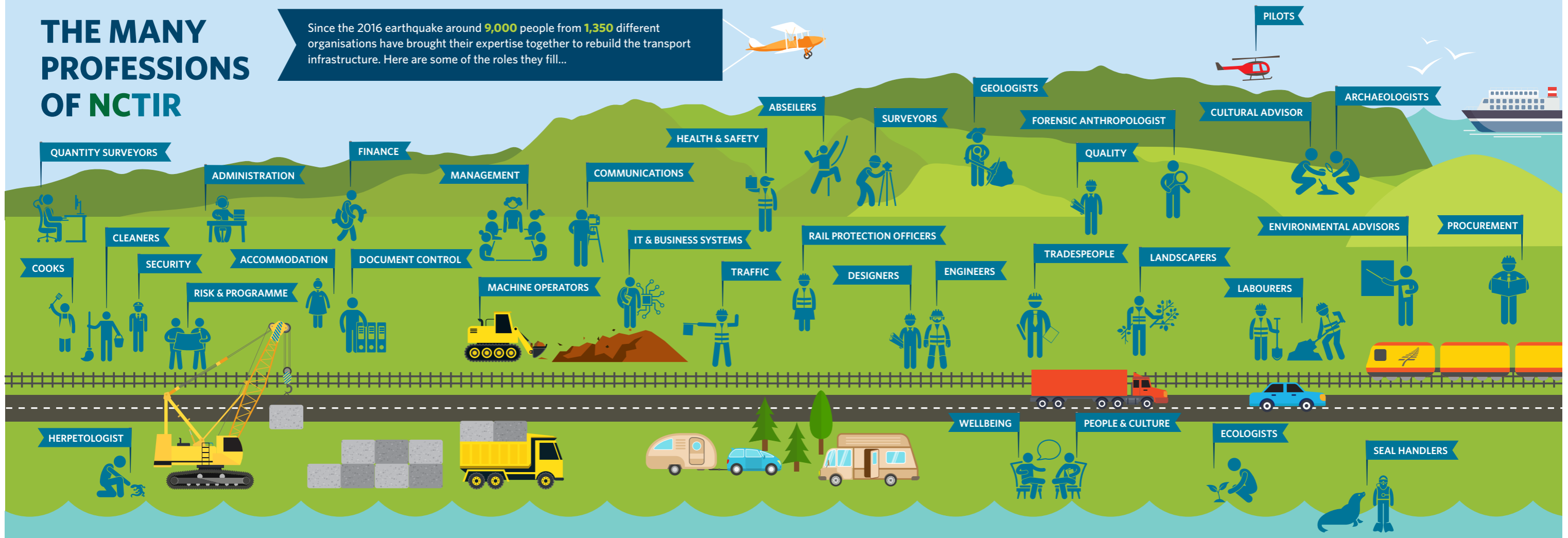
A 2019 survey of the NCTIR team found that out of 153 respondents, approximately 50% had moved to New Zealand from other countries around the world. Below is a map marking out the home countries of those surveyed, as a celebration of their decision to live and work with us down here at the bottom of the world.



“The best part about this job is meeting so many different people from different cultures,”
traffic controller Brandon Te-Rewiti Timms.”

THE MANY PROFESSIONS OF NCTIR

Since the 2016 earthquake around **9,000** people from **1,350** different organisations have brought their expertise together to rebuild the transport infrastructure. Here are some of the roles they fill...



Where are they now?



New Zealand is a small country and its construction industry is like a small town. As our past workers disperse around the country to join the many infrastructure projects currently underway, many have reported bumping into old colleagues from their time in Kaikōura.

There have been little NCTIR reunions all the way from Queenstown, West Coast, and Marlborough, to Wellington, the Waikato and Auckland.

We received a photo from our former Quality Engineer Johana Delgado of one such reunion, which occurred at the Waikato Water Treatment Plant near Tūākau.

'It's really comforting to see faces you already know around site,' says Delgado. 'And it's also really helpful, because you already know them and understand how they work.'

A number of team members have also remained locally, finding work around Kaikōura in supermarkets, community organisations and at the council – even one as the new Chief Executive!



Reunion in the Waikato: Left to right – Euan Cunningham, Paul McGill, Sam Waduge, Johana Delgado, Dylan O'Connor, Tracy Brown, Michael Weyland, Cezar Bognot, Jonny Newton.

New life for the NCTIR Village



With all units removed, the land reinstatement is now underway at the former NCTIR Village site



Matt Shepherd during the Village demobilisation

We said goodbye to the NCTIR Village this month.

For the past two months NCTIR Logistics Manager Matt Shepherd has been overseeing the deconstruction and removal of the workers' Village, unit by unit, after it was sold to Smith & Crane Construction in December 2020 by tender process.

With the buildings gone, earthworks are now underway to reinstate the land.

After four years of providing a home away from home for our team, the site in Ludstone Road will be returned to its owners in March.

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CONTACT US

Call our freephone: **0800 NCTIR EQ** (0800 628 4737) or email us: info@nctir.com

This Bulletin provides the latest information about the rebuild of road and rail networks damaged by the Kaikōura earthquake in November 2016. The Bulletin is produced by the North Canterbury Transport Infrastructure Recovery (NCTIR) – an alliance representing the NZ Transport Agency and KiwiRail, on behalf of Government.