



SH25A Taparahi

Reconnecting the Coromandel



State Highway 25A Taparahi, between Kōpū and Hikuai, suffered significant damage with the road collapsing after the North Island's major storm events in late January 2023. The road is closed while repairs on this vital piece of SH25A are underway.

This project is more than building a bridge, it's about reconnecting communities and building resilience to climate events and natural hazards so people can quickly recover from disruptions and move about the region.

How we're fixing SH25A

A bridge was selected as it will reconnect the Coromandel Peninsula communities in the shortest time possible, it's the safest and most resilient option, and work can continue throughout winter.

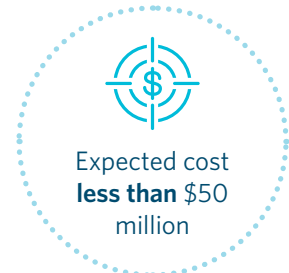
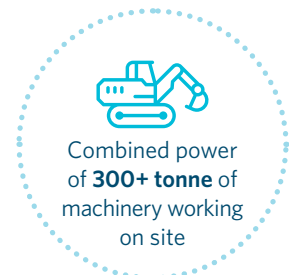
The design is a 124 metre three-span composite bridge with a concrete sub-structure, steel superstructure, and pre-cast concrete deck.

It's relatively simple and efficient to build and uses readily available materials.

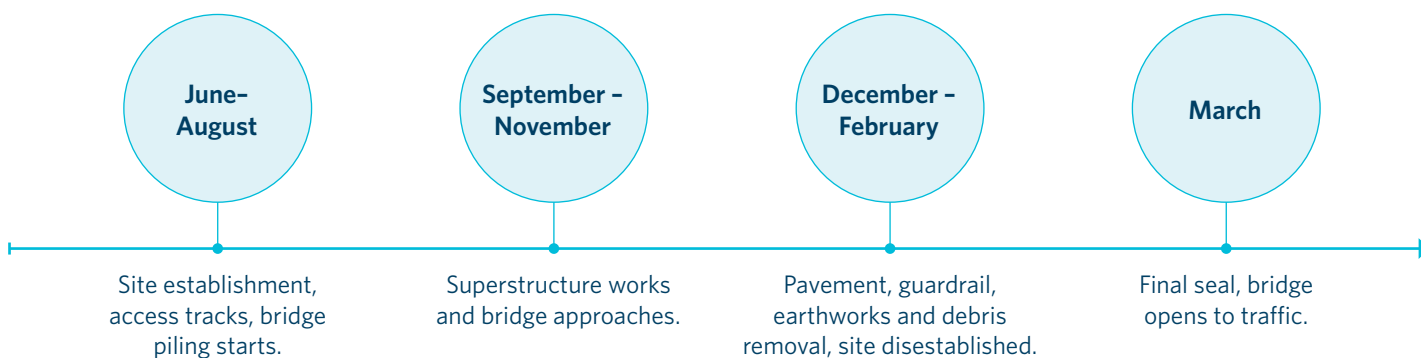
Who's doing the work?

We have a dedicated team from a joint venture between McConnell Dowell and Fulton Hogan, supported by Beca and Tonkin and Taylor. Now we're in full swing, well over 100 people are working on this project, either at the SH25A Taparahi site or offsite prefabricating bridge components in Napier and Auckland.

Taparahi in numbers



Programme timeline 2023/24



Focused on reconnecting the Coromandel

We acknowledge while SH25A is closed Coromandel residents, businesses and visitors are having to make sacrifices. The inaccessibility, extra travel time and costs, access to healthcare, impacts to freight, businesses, tourism and day-to-day life are front of mind for everyone working on this project.

While a bridge of this type would usually take 12 to 14 months to construct, Waka Kotahi is working closely with the contractors to accelerate delivery and building it in less than nine months. The goal is having SH25A open by the end of March 2024.

To achieve this we're using a design developed for another bridge, substantially speeding up the process. This design allows components to be fabricated off site, so when they arrive they are ready to be installed, allowing us to continue construction through winter - the wettest time of year and open the road in the shortest time possible.

Behind the name Taparahi

Ngāti Maru as mana whenua have long been calling this area Taparahi. The name means the emergence of large ridges. Taparahi is also the legal name of the land blocks around the slip.

How we're protecting the environment

The Coromandel Peninsula or Te Tara-O-Te-Ika-A-Māui is a unique home to precious ecological treasures. These are the measures we are taking to protect this special place:

- Exposed earth - installing erosion and sediment controls.
- Excess water - installing drainage at the top of the slip and onsite water treatment.



- Native bush - restricting vegetation clearance to a small localised area alongside the road to enable access. Natives and especially large trees are protected.
- Native Flora - only clearing small trees - outside of the bird breeding season and where there are no bats roosting.

What about the rest of SH25A

While SH25A is closed, it makes sense to complete necessary maintenance and repairs to provide ongoing resilient access. A programme of work is planned and includes clearing and upgrading drains, bridges and pavement repairs, and stabilising several slip sites.



For more information

Read more and sign up for regular updates about the project at nzta.govt.nz/SH25Arebuild

Email coromandel@nzta.govt.nz