

2 Rebuilding State Highway 2

A stronger and more reliable connection between Ōpōtiki and Ahuriri/Napier

Transport Rebuild East Coast



State Highway 2 between Ōpōtiki and Ahuriri/Napier

State Highway 2 (SH2) between Ōpōtiki, Tairāwhiti, Wairoa and Ahuriri/Napier is the busiest road in the region and a lifeline route for the East Coast providing connections for communities, freight, business and tourism. It is critical to ensure SH2 is a secure, reliable and safe transport route.



Slip in Mōrere caused by the cyclone



Damage at White Pine Bush



Damage at SH2 Mohaka Hill

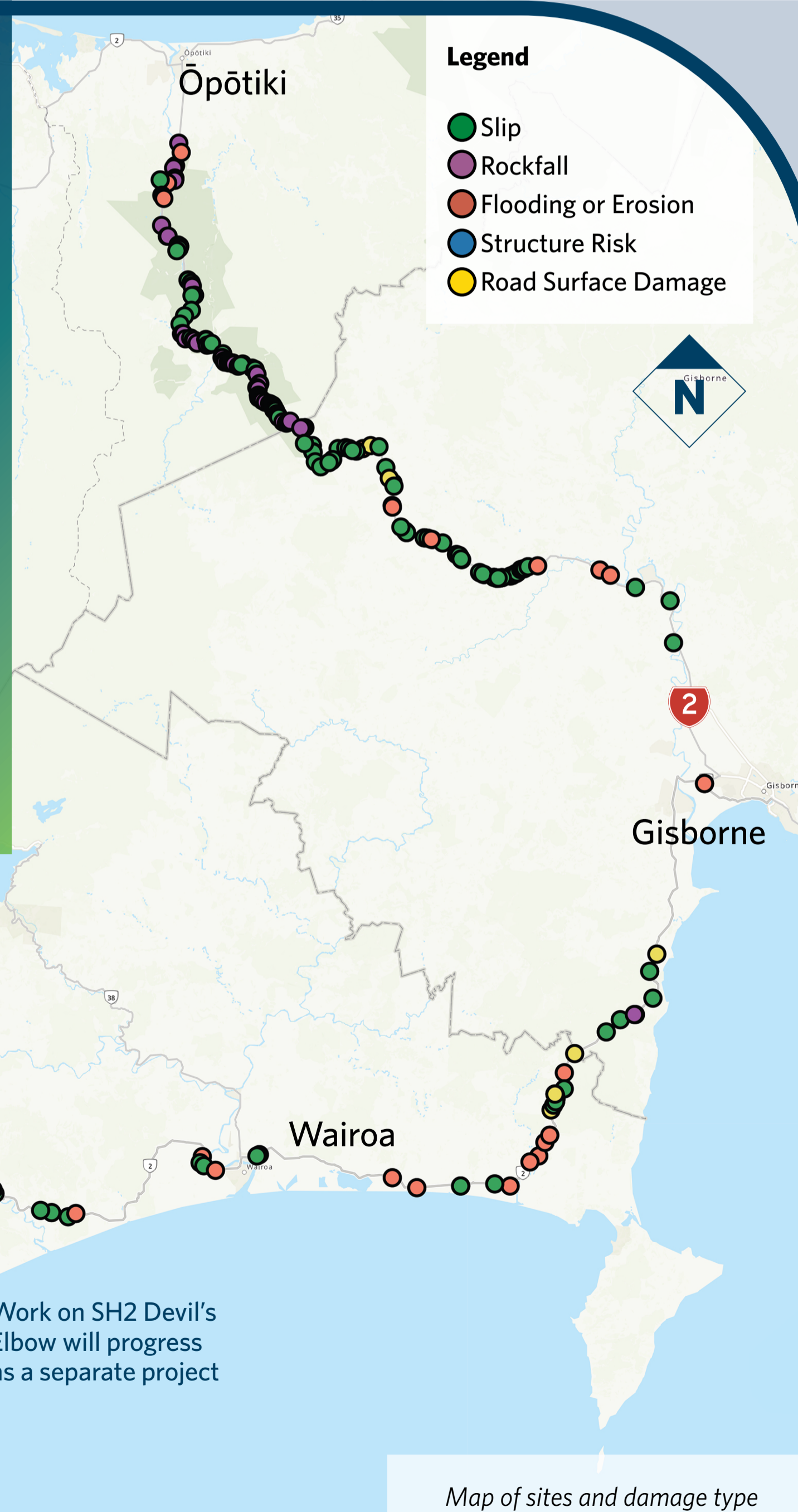
Rebuild programmes are subject to NZTA Board endorsement and funding

Scale of damage to SH2

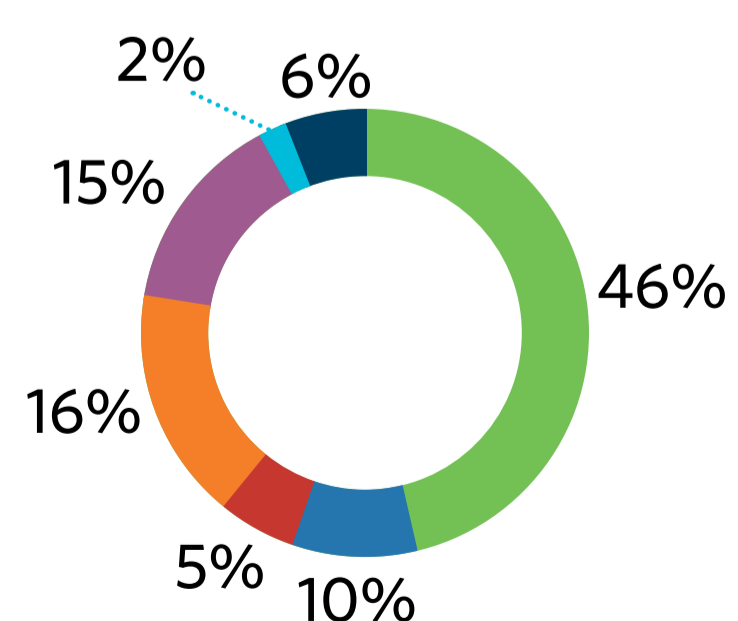
Around 400 sites along SH2 have been damaged by severe weather events. If they deteriorate further, ongoing disruption (road closures, delays) could further impact people's lives and the regional economy.

Recovery work along SH2, including slip repairs and drainage works is well underway. This will address some of the sites - but around 250 sites require more resilient fixes and rebuilding.

A realignment of SH2 and a new bridge over Waikare Gorge is currently progressing through consents and approval stages. Another major project on SH2, at Devil's Elbow, is being progressed separately.



SH2 Existing Resilience Sites



Rebuilding SH2

The SH2 Corridor Rebuild is focused on creating a more reliable route with reduced disruption. Initial investment will address the highest risk sites first and will target changes that will help avoid full closures, so the road can reopen quicker after weather events.

Future investment in SH2 will focus on changes that will reduce the risk of lane or shoulder closures.

Site specific rebuild works includes additional slip repairs, rockfall management, stormwater and drainage upgrades, erosion protection, revegetation and retaining wall construction.

Corridor wide improvements being considered include tree management, signage, culvert and bridge upgrades and improved digital communication.

What are the benefits?

- ✓ A more resilient state highway and lower risk of closures
- ✓ More reliable and equitable access and connections
- ✓ Better response and recovery from extreme weather events
- ✓ Increased confidence to invest in the region, grow employment and attract industry
- ✓ Improved regional economy. Fewer detours and lower freight costs
- ✓ Fewer deaths and serious injury crashes

Plans for Waioeka Gorge

Waioeka Gorge has a history of closures caused by natural events including slips, rockfall and flooding. SH2 through the gorge is particularly vulnerable to weather events and investment is needed to minimise the risk of future delays and closures. Funding is being sought to respond to 48 of the highest risk sites within the gorge to be delivered by TREC over the next 5 years. Interventions include rockfall and slip management and erosion protection.



SH2 Waioeka Gorge

Staging the SH2 Corridor Rebuild

We can't rebuild the whole network at once so TREC is prioritising work each construction season. This will ensure we balance available resources and funding, while keeping traffic moving.

Our initial focus is on the highest risk and the straightforward sites. We will seek initial Crown funding for 116 of the highest risk sites. TREC will deliver these rebuild works over the next 5 years.