

5 Rebuilding State Highway 5

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

Transport Rebuild East Coast



Rebuilding State Highway 5 between Ahuriri/Napier and Taupō

State Highway 5 (SH5) is a lifeline between Hawke's Bay and the central North Island and a key connector for communities, freight, businesses and tourism.

It is critical to ensure SH5 is a strong, reliable and safe transport route.



Large underslip at Captain's Culvert

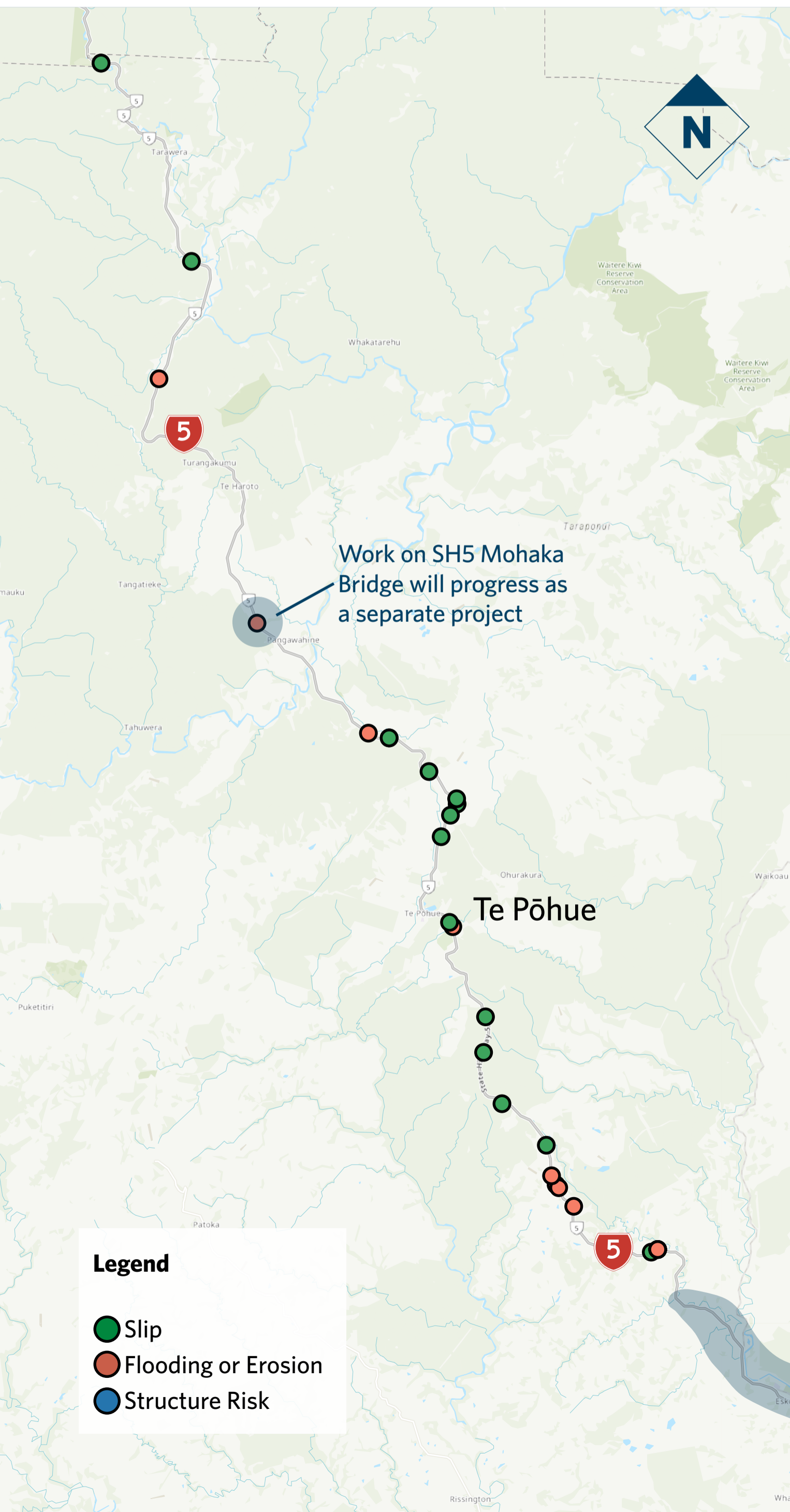


SH5 Mangakopikopiko Stream dropout



Cyclone damage at SH5 Eland

Rebuild programmes are subject to NZTA Board endorsement and funding



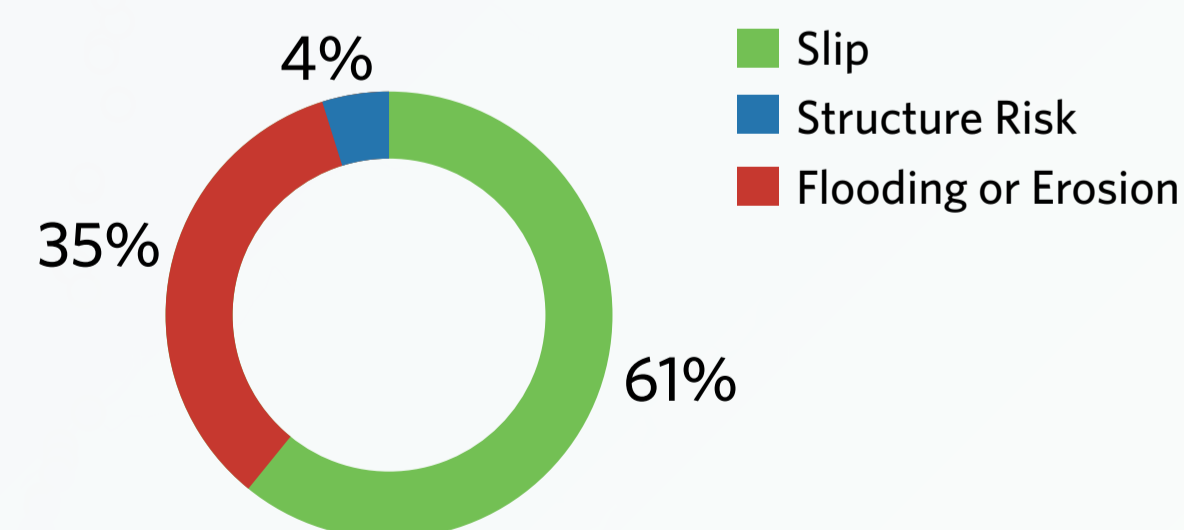
Scale of damage

Over 50 sites along SH5 have been damaged during Cyclone Gabrielle. If they deteriorate further, ongoing disruption (road closures, delays) could further impact people's lives and the regional economy.

Recovery work including slip repairs and drainage works is well underway, addressing many sites, however over 17 sites need more resilient fixes and rebuild funding.

A resilient solution for the Eskdale area is being progressed as a separate project.

SH5 Damage Sites



Rebuilding SH5

The SH5 Corridor Rebuild is focused on creating a reliable route with significantly reduced disruption. By improving the highest risk sites first, we can avoid future full closures and the road can reopen quicker after extreme weather events. Rebuild works include additional slip repairs, rockfall management, stormwater and drainage upgrades, erosion protection, flood management, revegetation and construction of retaining walls at specific sites.

We are also looking at new signs, tree management, culvert and bridge upgrades and improved digital communication. There is an opportunity to deliver four additional safety projects in parallel with resilience works, subject to funding.

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 Mohaka Bridge

Mohaka Bridge hasn't been damaged by the cyclone and is safe to use. However, if the bridge fails in the future due to a large seismic event, SH5 could be closed for months without a viable alternative route. We need to protect the connection and have a plan in place. TREC is going to seek funding to investigate and design a bridge upgrade.



SH5 Mohaka Bridge

Staging the SH5 Rebuild

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

Our focus is on the most critical and the straightforward sites. This work will immediately make a real difference. We will seek initial Crown funding for 17 of the highest risk sites, with rebuild work delivered over the next 3 years.