

TREC Pānui

East Coast recovery and rebuild mahi



“Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini”
Success is not the work of an individual, but the work of many

TREC Pānui is a monthly newsletter from the [Transport Rebuild East Coast \(TREC\) Alliance](#) updating communities across Te Tairāwhiti (Gisborne) and Te Matau a Māui (Hawke's Bay) about the work being done to rebuild state highway and rail networks impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle.

Who is TREC?

TREC has been set up to plan, organise and deliver much of the long-term recovery and rebuild work needed on the state highway and rail networks across the East Coast, in conjunction with local businesses and contractors. TREC Alliance members are Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, KiwiRail, Downer, Fulton Hogan, and Higgins.

TREC has an 'East Coast first' philosophy in working alongside local partners and affected communities while drawing on broader support from across New Zealand so it has sufficient resources to deliver the scale of work required. TREC is also working with local councils to ensure the TREC work programme complements their work programmes and to ensure everyone has the people and resources needed for the wider East Coast rebuild.

The approach is all about delivering more resilient state highway and rail infrastructure in a way that also delivers good social outcomes for the communities we are part of.



Work underway at Devil's Elbow culvert site (SH2)

Who does what on the East Coast?

Transport Rebuild East Coast



TREC is responsible for:

- Short term recovery to keep state highways and rail open and running
- Longer-term investigation, design and rebuild of affected parts of the state highway network to build back stronger and smarter for the future
- Maintenance and operations of the state highway network day to day
- Longer-term investigation, design and rebuild of the rail line in Hawke's Bay impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle to create a safer and more resilient network



Waka Kotahi will continue:

Safety, resilience and walking and cycling projects which were underway before Cyclone Gabrielle.

Your local council

Working alongside your local council:

Your council is responsible for maintaining local roads, which are not state highways. TREC is working with East Coast councils to coordinate the recovery and rebuild of roads across the region to limit disruption and ensure everyone has enough resource to deliver this work.

Where TREC is working

Currently work on state highways is focused on reinstating damaged areas to two lanes and keeping them resilient to weather in the short term while longer-term fixes are developed.

We'll keep you informed of opportunities to find out more about the work programme as it develops, and to share your insights.

This map shows the network area that TREC is responsible for.



With critical work ramping up over the drier summer months there will be delays for road users. To get an understanding of what's happening on the network, and for real time updates, please use the [Waka Kotahi Journey Planner](#) and allow extra time for your journey between Napier and Gisborne.

Regular summer maintenance works

Downer and Higgins teams who usually deliver work to keep East Coast state highways maintained have joined TREC as the Maintenance and Operations team.

The team will deliver the summer road work programme which will include routine maintenance such as pavement repairs, renewals such as resealing roads,

and recovery work such as removing fallen trees.

As usual each summer, there will be some delays for road users with this critical work, but it will be coordinated as part of TREC's overall recovery work to limit disruptions.

Travel information will be updated on the [Waka Kotahi Journey Planner](#).



Longer-term rebuild works

Waka Kotahi is working with the government on how longer-term rebuild works will be progressed and funded.

TREC will involve communities as much as possible to gather insights and experience, and to ensure the designs, construction programme, and our ways of working reflect what is important to East Coast communities.

Procurement and recruitment

Procurement

We're working with local skilled and experienced contractors, suppliers, and professional services who understand road and/or rail building and the East Coast whenua.

Following contractor/supplier sessions in Gisborne, Napier, and Wairoa, along with meetings in Te Karaka and Ōpōtiki, we're forming a Physical Works Panel of local businesses interested to work with us. It will be an open panel and suppliers may be added during the TREC work programme as required.

Contact us via procurement@trec.nz if you would like to know more about this.

We have also asked for Registrations of Interest (ROI) from Professional Services firms (draftspeople, designers, engineers, planners etc). While our focus is on those who are locally based, the ROI was also open nationally given the scope of the work required.

Contact us via procurement.ps@trec.nz for enquiries about the Professional Services Panel.

Recruitment

TREC is advertising for a variety of roles and is focused on getting as many local people as possible onto the project.

While providing opportunities we're mindful of not taking critical roles away from other recovery organisations.

Interested in working for TREC?

- Email jobs@trec.nz
- Search TREC on [Seek](#) or [TradeMe](#) to see our current vacancies
- Follow our [LinkedIn page](#)

Being a good neighbour

With an anticipated 1,000 field staff required on the East Coast for TREC works we're mindful of pressure on an already depleted housing market. As the work programme ramps up (and the TREC team grows) accommodation will be needed for some team members coming from out of the region.

Early planning and discussions for two TREC temporary accommodation villages is underway, one in Tairāwhiti and one in Hawke's Bay, potentially housing around 150 people each. More details will be provided as planning progresses.

Some of the work underway



Thank you for your patience and for helping to keep our people and other road users safe while this essential work is done

The following work (and timeframes) may change if there are weather events or other issues we have to work around, but we'll keep you updated on any major changes.

Waikare Gorge bridge demolition

2

Large portions of the Waikare Gorge bridge were washed away during Cyclone Gabrielle but a temporary Bailey bridge installed earlier this year helped restore critical access along State Highway 2 (SH2) between Wairoa and Napier.

- Removing the slash and debris from around the bridge
- Cutting sections of the bridge and lifting on to trucks to take off site
- Removing the bridge spans and taking off site

On 30 October, TREC started work to demolish the collapsed bridge. This work is expected to take 5-6 weeks and includes:

At times there may be around 10-minute traffic delays as the demolition equipment and crew move on and off site.



Temporary Bailey bridge and old Waikare Gorge bridge



Concrete pile underslip near Wairoa/Tairāwhiti boundary

Concrete pile underslip

2

Drainage works are complete at a concrete pile underslip, near the Wairoa/Tairāwhiti boundary. An underslip occurs on the downhill side of a road and doesn't always directly affect the road's surface but can pose a risk if not addressed.

The damaged road surface was restored and resealed late October and is now open for two lane traffic.



Devil's Elbow culvert site

Devil's Elbow culvert site

2

Work has started to reinforce the Devil's Elbow embankments and improve drainage. Current focus is on creating footings for a new embankment wall.

By mid-November, road users should see a new earth wall start to rise in height, which will eventually restore the lost road lanes and shoulder. Construction is expected to continue into early 2024.

Te Ngarue culvert

2

Cyclone Gabrielle caused serious damage to Te Ngarue culvert near the Tangoio Falls scenic reserve. Traffic was down to one lane and there was a risk of further serious damage. Work at this site involves rebuilding the embankment slopes and installing a retaining wall.

The road is scheduled to be back to two lanes by mid-November.



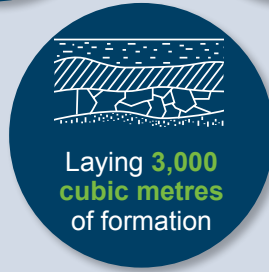
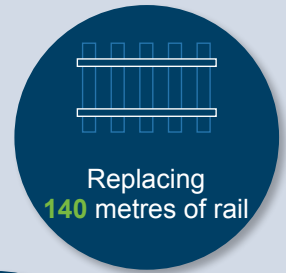
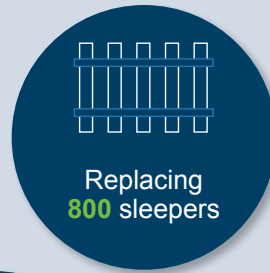
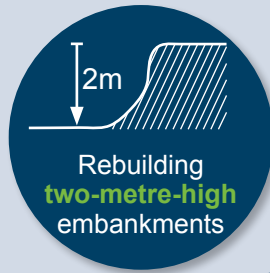
Te Ngarue Culvert

Reopening the rail line to Napier



KiwiRail did an exceptional job of reopening the rail line to Napier in September. The section of line between Hastings and Napier, particularly around Awatoto, was badly damaged in the cyclone, with track and embankments washed away, and major damage to Bridge 217, which lost piers and spans in the floods.

The work included:



The rebuild of Bridge 217 is temporary, to get rail freight moving as quickly as possible. TREC is undertaking concepts for a permanent new bridge to be constructed over the next couple of years.

Stay in touch

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info@trec.nz

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Visit our website

nzta.govt.nz/trec

We value your feedback. Please get in touch if you have any questions or thoughts for the team.

This newsletter provides the latest information about the rebuild of state highway and rail networks damaged by Cyclone Gabrielle in 2023. TREC Pānui is produced by the Transport Rebuild East Coast (TREC) Alliance.