

KAIKOURA EARTHQUAKE UPDATE

WEEKLY BULLETIN – no. 8

17 March 2017

This weekly bulletin aims to give you an overview of the latest information on some of the work underway to rebuild and repair the road and rail networks damaged by the Hurunui/Kaikoura earthquakes in November 2016. The bulletin is provided by the North Canterbury Transport Infrastructure Recovery (NCTIR) – an alliance representing the NZ Transport Agency and KiwiRail, on behalf of Government. We're keen to hear from you with any questions about our work, or with any feedback on this bulletin. Drop us a line via email at info@nctir.com or give us a call on **0800 NCTIREQ** (0800 628 4737) – we'd like to hear from you.

SH1 – EIGHT-DAY CLOSURE

SH1 south of Kaikoura will be closed to all traffic for eight days from 8pm on Sunday 26 March to 7am on Tuesday 4 April. The closure is to remove loose rock and debris from 12 slip sites between Goose Bay and Peketa.

This work is critical to improve safety and help reduce closures during winter along this section of the highway.

The earthquake continues to have an impact on life with these closures and we apologise in advance for any inconvenience this will cause you.

Kaikoura will continue to be accessible by Inland Route 70.

SH1 NORTH

Road and rail links north of Kaikoura to Picton remain closed. Access to the beach and the surrounding areas near our work sites will be restricted to the public at all times while construction work is underway. The focus is on getting the road and rail networks re-opened as quickly as possible.

Latest update:

- Crews have this week completed the removal of all material from Site 1A and will next week begin stockpiling the material from Site 1B.
- About half the material has now been removed from Site 3 and equipment remains at Site 4 bringing down this slip.
- Vegetation has now been cleared from the southern side of Ohau Point (Site 6) and equipment is moving on site to begin clearing this site from next week. Our remote-controlled excavator is already on-site to the north and has started some preliminary clearance preparation work. *See photos right*



- Two sections of Site 7, south of Paparoa Point, have now been sluiced and work is underway on the third. Work will continue during the next month bringing down this slip. The material will then need to be removed from the site and stockpiled for future use.
- The top bench has this week been cut on Site 8, more than 115 metres above the road and work will continue during the next four weeks to bring down the 41,000 cubic metres of material in this slip. It will take another six weeks to remove this material from the site.
- Structural repairs of the Waima overbridge south of Ward will start next week. The structure used to create the road over the rail tunnel tilted over a length of 30 metres and needs to be repaired and the damaged panels replaced. *See photo right*



SH1 SOUTH

State Highway 1 south of Kaikoura remains fragile. Thirty-two slips have been cleared along this stretch of the highway, however the road remains subject to on-going closures because of road repair work and bad weather. (For the latest travel information:

<http://www.nzta.govt.nz/traffic/regions/11>

Latest update:

- Much of our work to the south this week has been clearing the slips and material that fell onto the road with the heavy rain that kept SH1 south of Kaikoura, between Peketa and Goose Bay, closed for much of the week. Rocks and debris came down at least 12 sites, including a new slip near Parititahi Tunnels, where about 200 cubic metres of material blocked the road.
- Some work did continue throughout the week clearing rock and debris at various other slip sites along this route to enable repair work to continue on the railway line. Twenty-nine sites have been identified as requiring work; five have already been cleared and we continue sluicing and scaling work from the south of the Raramai Tunnel, working north towards the Kahutara River Bridge.
- Strengthening work continues at the Oaro overbridge and work began this week on repairing the Parnassus overbridge.



INLAND ROAD

Inland Road (Route 70) is open 24/7 and remains a critical link for the Kaikoura community, with SH1 south open only during daylight hours. We continue to complete repair work along the Inland Road 70 to ensure the road will be in the best possible condition before the start of winter, providing that important alternative access to Kaikoura.

Latest update:

- The heavy rain during the last week has prevented our crews from completing sections of work along this road. Several days of good weather will now be needed to dry out the road to enable the final sealing to be done.

- Sixteen crews are carrying out repairs and upgrades to the road surface along damaged sections of the route as well as tree felling to reduce the risk of black ice for motorists over winter. This does have an impact on traffic flows and will result in delays. Please allow extra time for your journey.
- Over the next six weeks, between Mount Lyford and Kaikoura, we will be completing \$4 million of improvements.

ALTERNATE ROUTE– PICTON TO CHRISTCHURCH

The alternate route (via Lewis Pass) is continuously being improved through the use of new technology, such as mobile towers to reduce coverage black spots, webcams and radar to monitor what is happening to keep everyone safe, and road improvements to make the route safer and easier to travel on.

Latest update:

- The heavy rain also had an impact on progress with work along the alternate route this week. Crews were diverted from repair work to keep the highway open and everyone safe with some minor slips along the route and potholes developing at works sites.
- The wet weather has delayed the completion of some of the work along the route but with settled weather, work to make the route safe and able to cope with increased traffic volumes should be completed before the onset of winter.
- Work continues to complete the repair and reseal of more than 50kms of road and make safety improvements.
- Police retain a strong presence along the route to help manage driver behaviour and speeds.

MAIN NORTH LINE RAILWAY

The Main North Line railway (MNL) between Picton and Christchurch is a critical part of the network for moving freight between the North and South Islands. More than 1 million tonnes of freight is moved on the MNL each year.

Latest update:

- Maintenance trains are now operating on the Main North Line between Picton and Christchurch and everyone is reminded to take extra care. These trains are carrying ballast and other materials to work sites along the railway line for the rebuild.
- KiwiRail's 230-tonne ballast tamper arrived in the South Island this week to add its weight to the rebuild of the Main North Line. The tamper follows the maintenance trains packing the ballast under the sleepers and correcting the track alignment.
- Piling of Bridge 90, near Ferniehurst, south of the Hundalee, was delayed this week because of a redesign but was expected to get underway before the end of this week, while piling at Bridge 95 near Spy Glass Point is scheduled to begin mid-next week.



- Near Hawkeswood, just north of Parnassus, good progress is being made to stabilise the hillside by filling the excavated site. Future culvert and retaining wall work will be completed before replacement of the track can be done. *See photo right.*
- Earthworks at site 161 near Spy Glass Point, is now completed, with repair work at Site 160, south of Haumuri Bluffs, scheduled to be completed by the end of next week.
- Strengthening work will commence at Railway Bridge 131 (near Wharanui) and Railway Bridge 120 (1km south of Clarence), early next week. This work will involve concrete piling and installation of a temporary bridge at Bridge 131.



KAIKOURA HARBOUR

Reinstatement of Kaikoura Harbour is crucial to restoring the economic prosperity of the town's tourism and fishing industries. The marina has been raised by about a metre; work is focused on deepening the harbour and resetting all the structures in the marina to the new depth.

Latest update:

- Dredging of the inner basin is now 50% complete. Surplus limestone material has been stockpiled for future use, while work is underway to construct the coffer-bund to drain the marina to complete works in this area. The boat ramp will remain operational during this time.
- Both Dolphin Encounter (using their trailer via the boat ramp) and Whale Watch (from Berth3) continue to operate their daily services from within the harbour area.



KEEP UP TO DATE

How to contact us and keep up to date with the NCTIR project:

- Subscribe to receive our weekly bulletin by emailing info@nctir.com, with 'Bulletin' in the subject line.
- Visit our website: www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/kaikoura-earthquake-response/
- Call our Freephone: **0800 NCTIR EQ** (0800 628 4737)
- Email us if you have a question: info@nctir.com,
- Attending one of the community meetings, keep an eye on your local newspapers.
- Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/nztasouthisland/ or www.facebook.com/kiwirail
- For travel information: <http://www.nzta.govt.nz/traffic/regions/11>

SH1 Kaikōura Coast remedial works

