

KAIKOURA EARTHQUAKE UPDATE

WEEKLY BULLETIN – no. 9

24 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 earthquake 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.

REMINDER: EIGHT-DAY CLOSURE

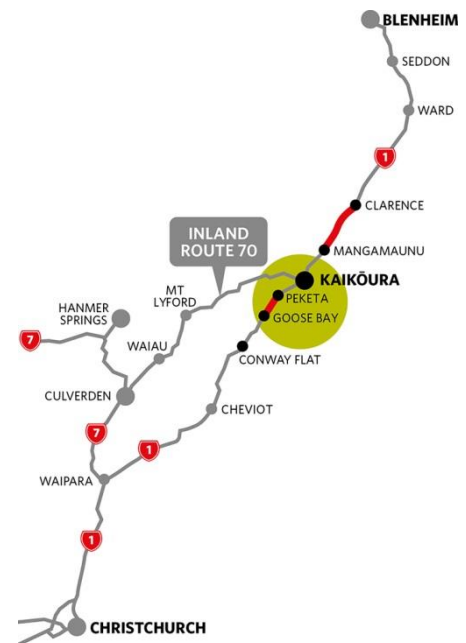


You are reminded that SH1 south of Kaikoura is closed to all traffic for eight days from **8pm this Sunday 26 March to 7am on Tuesday 4 April**. The closure is critical to remove loose rock and debris from 12 slip sites between Goose Bay and Peketa.

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

The earthquake continues to have an impact on your life because of these closures and we apologise in advance for the 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:

- All slip material at Site 1A has now been removed and our crew is installing concrete blocks around the bottom of the slip to build a safety bund.
- At site 1B, an excavator and bulldozer are bringing the material down from the top bench, while another two excavators are on the lower bench loading slip material onto three dump trucks which are carting the material to the stockpile near the slip.
- Nearly all the material from Site 3 has now been removed, and this machinery has moved to Site 4 to help bring down the material at this slip site.
- At the southern end of Site 6 Ohau Point, work alternates between clearing the slip material and sluicing the site for work to continue safely. North of this slip, the remote-controlled excavator is making good progress clearing material. Next week work begins installing rockfall netting on the slip face.
- Two sections at Site 7 continue to be sluiced, while the material is being brought down on the third and will be carted offsite from the end of next week.
- Work on the top bench at Site 8 will be completed by the end of this week and our crew will next week begin to remove material from the next lower benched area.
- The material from Site 9 has been stockpiled and is ready to be carted away.

- The first stage of the earthworks has been completed for the structural repairs of the Waima overbridge, south of Ward.

SH1 SOUTH

State Highway 1 south of Kaikoura remains fragile. Twenty-nine slips have been identified along this stretch of the highway as requiring further repair. The road remains subject to on-going closures because of repair work and bad weather. (For the latest travel information:

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

Latest update:

- Work this week has been focussed on preparation and planning for the planned eight-day road closure, starting this Sunday, to improve the safety at 12 slip sites between Peketa and Goose Bay.
- Work has continued clearing rock and debris from the slip at Rosie Morn. Rock fall protection will get underway once our abseilers have removed large boulders from the slip.
- Strengthening work continues at the Oaro overbridge and the retaining wall strengthening work started this week at the Parnassus overbridge.

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:

- KiwiRail's track crews are continuing to make good progress along the coastal section of the railway line, between Oaro and Site 1A at Mangamaunu, having already completed a large number of the minor/moderate track repair and realignment work. ***See before and after photos of a section of track located about 6kms south of Kaikoura.***



- Eighty percent of the design work for the repair of the rail tunnels is now completed and work is underway at tunnels 6, 16 and 18 – all north of Kaikoura and near the fault line – to lower and realign the tracks within the tunnels

- Earlier this week the train stranded near tunnel 15 to the north of Kaikoura during the earthquake was shifted northwards by several hundred meters to provide access for work to get underway in this area. It will be taken south past the slips once the railway track repairs are completed. **See photo right.**
- To the south, minor repairs are underway to the portals at tunnels 1 and 2; the first pile was installed at Bridge 90, near Ferniehurst, south of the Hundalee (**see photo right below**); and piling was completed at Bridge 95 near Spy Glass Point where work begins next week pouring the two abutments.
- Strengthening work has started at Railway Bridge 131 (near Wharanui), where the first pile cast was drilled this week. Once all the piles are poured, the existing bridge will be demolished and then the abutments and wing walls poured.
- Good progress is being made near Hawkeswood, just north of Parnassus, where work is underway installing subsoil drains to remove excess water from the hillside and back filling the excavated site is almost complete.
- Work trains are now operating on the Main North Line between Picton and Lake Grassmere. These trains are carrying ballast and other materials to work sites along the railway line for the rebuild. Please take extra care when near the railway lines. Previous planning to start running work trains out of Christchurch has been delayed until further notice.



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 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:

- \$13 million of repair work to the Inland Road, to get the road ready for winter, will be completed this week. The 16 crews, who have been working on the road during the last few weeks, repairing the earthquake-damaged sections, will next week move to SH1 south of Kaikoura to help with repair work along this section of the highway.
- In coming weeks, work will continue at the Whalesback slip, bolting rocks back into the mountainside; rock scaling at Conway Bluffs; and completing road protection work at Lu Lu's slip.
- Throughout winter, the crews will carry out culvert replacement and geotech works along the route, as well as winter maintenance and demolition and replacement of the Wandle Bridge.

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:

- Work continues to make this route safe and able to cope with the greater traffic volumes during the winter months. This programme of work is expected to begin to taper off from the middle of next month, improving journey times between Picton and Christchurch. By this time, more than 70km of the highway will have been either rebuilt or resurfaced since November.
- Safety improvement projects will continue throughout winter and into spring. These improvements will be focused on the Springs Junction, Murchison, St Arnaud and Renwick townships.
- Design work is also underway to widen sections of the highway to create further passing opportunities. This includes a number of slow vehicle bays.
- Police retain a strong presence along the route to help manage driver behaviour and speeds.
- A major truck rollover prevention roadshow is planned along the route from next month to reduce the number of rollovers. This is designed to raise both public awareness and improve safety for all road users, but in particular freight operators. The roadshow is an initiative between the NZ Transport Agency, NZ Trucking, NZ Road Transport Association, Road Transport Forum, Police, Commercial Vehicle Investigation Unit, Heavy Haulage, and a number of contractors and consultants.

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 focussed on deepening the harbour and resetting all the structures in the marina to the new depth.

Latest update:

- Demolition will get underway in the next few weeks of the coastguard ramp which is being rebuilt because the seabed has risen.
- Good progress is also being made to remove the marina piles in the inner harbour. These will be replaced once the harbour has been dredged. *See photo right.*
- Dredging of Berth 4 gets underway in the next few days which will allow Whale Watch to continue operating from this berth, rather than from a trailer. Dolphin Encounter continues to operate their daily services from within the harbour area, by using their trailer via the boat ramp.



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/kiwirailNewZealand/
- For travel information: <http://www.nzta.govt.nz/traffic/regions/11>

SH1 Kaikōura Coast remedial works

