



The Bulletin Kaikōura earthquake update

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Haere mai 2021!

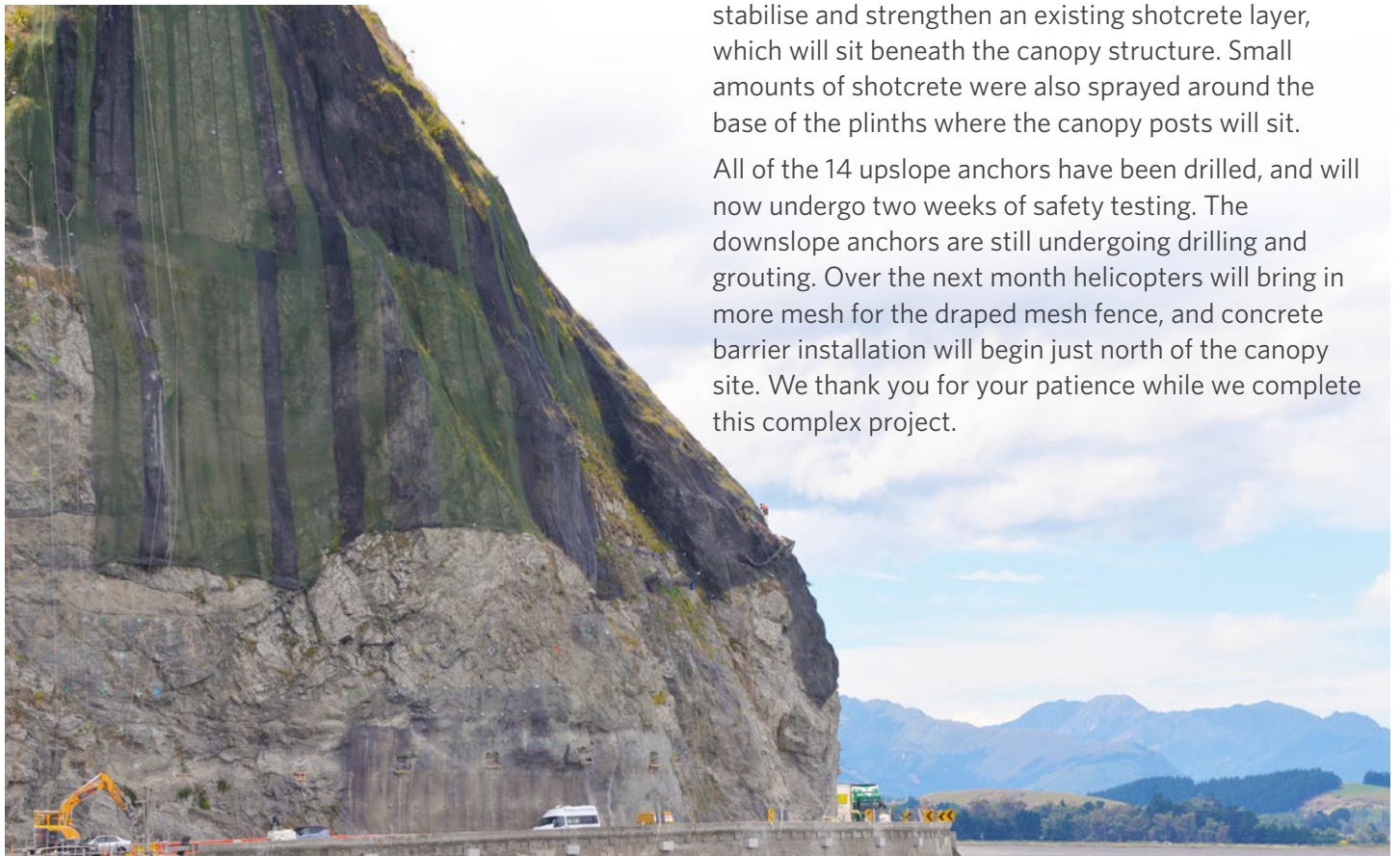


Welcome back to a new year - 2021! We hope you enjoyed your summer holidays. For anyone who journeyed along the coastal road we hope you took a moment to stop at the safe stopping areas and see the collection of new cultural art pieces, which were completed at the end of last year.

A small NCTIR team got back on the road in early January to continue work on our final major project, a rockfall protection canopy and draped mesh fence just south of Peketā.

The SH1 night closures associated with this rockfall work are continuing, Sunday - Thursday under the same timetable, which can be found here:

www.nzta.govt.nz/p2c along with a link to real-time journey information.



Waitangi night closure update



Over Waitangi weekend the road at the canopy will be open from 6:30am on Thursday 4 February until 7pm on the evening of Monday 7 February, with no closure on the Sunday. From 7pm - 9pm on Monday night there will be closures of 30 minutes maximum, with traffic cleared in both directions after each closure. The road will then close at 11pm, and the usual road closure timetable will resume. For more information on these closures email info@nctir.com or call us on **0800 628 4737**.

Canopy update



Work on the rockfall protection project south of Peketā has progressed this month. At the canopy site (pictured) crew have been undertaking shotcreting (sprayable concrete) work to stabilise and strengthen an existing shotcrete layer, which will sit beneath the canopy structure. Small amounts of shotcrete were also sprayed around the base of the plinths where the canopy posts will sit.

All of the 14 upslope anchors have been drilled, and will now undergo two weeks of safety testing. The downslope anchors are still undergoing drilling and grouting. Over the next month helicopters will bring in more mesh for the draped mesh fence, and concrete barrier installation will begin just north of the canopy site. We thank you for your patience while we complete this complex project.

Making history together

Taonga returned to Takahanga



Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura (TRoK) are poised to open the doors to a remarkable new whare taonga (museum) on the grounds of the Takahanga Marae, which houses over 400 taonga tūturu (artefacts) discovered along Kaikōura's earthquake damaged coast over the course of the NCTIR project.

The 2016 Kaikōura earthquake brought down around 1 million cubic metres of rock and debris. A team of up to 42 archaeologists has been responsible within NCTIR (in partnership with TRoK) for coordinating all of the archaeological heritage management to ensure that NCTIR works respect, protect, and preserve the area's rich heritage.

Approximately 200 archaeological sites were identified between Blenheim and Cheviot. NCTIR Archaeology Director Jeremy Habberfield-Short says this is a huge amount of sites to manage. 'It became evident quickly that the sheer scale of the project was one of the largest – if not the largest – in the country to date, and this presented a unique set of challenges to NCTIR in order to minimise impacts to cultural and historic places while also achieving construction milestones.'

NCTIR Cultural Monitor and Iwi Advisor Darran Kerei-Keepa says an agreement was made early in the project with the road and rail authorities, Waka Kotahi and KiwiRail, to return any taonga recovered during the programme. As a result of this agreement the Rūnanga have been able to build their own whare taonga (museum) on the grounds of the Takahanga Marae to house the collection.

'It's hard to explain,' says Darran. 'It's not just exciting – it's a very emotional thing to happen, and I don't know if it's happened anywhere else in the country.'

'One thing about this collection that makes it so unique is that it's actually 'provenanced' – which means we can look at a taonga and we can look at our maps and our GIS (Geographic Information Systems) and say it came from exactly that position. Having a provenanced collection is a massive achievement for NCTIR, Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura – and for the country.'

In December last year NCTIR's Archaeology Team, along with representatives from Waka Kotahi, KiwiRail and Heritage New Zealand, undertook the repatriation of all tāonga tuturu during a special ceremony at Takahanga Marae.

Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura Kaikarakia Brett Cowan says the return of the many artefacts discovered along the coast has been a real 'silver lining' of the 2016 earthquake.

'Even though the earthquake devastated the township, many artefacts have been discovered as a result of it. We have over 400 reasons to celebrate our relationship with NCTIR – and we have uncovered so many artefacts that we now have the ability to develop our own museum. Thank you NCTIR. We have made history together.'

The whare taonga is expected to open in March 2021, where these artefacts known as the Te Pou Ruru hau Collection will be on display, as well as other precious artefacts that are part of the wider Kaikōura Taonga Collection.



All images taken during special taonga repatriation ceremony in December 2020.

Village on the move

A small but dedicated team is overseeing the demobilisation and removal of the NCTIR Village, which has been sold to Smith Crane & Construction Limited following a successful tender process in December last year. The removal of the 96 buildings began in mid-January and will be complete by mid-February.

Matt Shepherd, who heads the NCTIR Village removal project, says back in May 2017 the prefabricated units had to be transported to Kaikōura through the Inland Road (Route 70). He notes that it is something of an achievement for the NCTIR team that some of the units are now able to return to Christchurch along the coast via State Highway 1.


'Because NCTIR has standardised the height and width of the road tunnels during the earthquake repair works, it is now possible to send these units back on specialised low loader trailers. It's a big win.'

Once all of the buildings have been removed, the land will be reinstated.

Village by the numbers

OVER 3,100
PEOPLE HAVE CALLED
THE VILLAGE HOME

SINCE 2017

220,000
BED 
NIGHTS
PROVIDED

1,677
NIGHTLY SHUTTLE

SERVICES

THE MOST NIGHTS

SLEPT
BY ONE
PERSON:
843!

KAIKŌURA CAFES AND RESTAURANTS HAVE SUPPLIED MORE THAN
 **270,000**
LUNCHES AND DINNERS FOR THE WORKERS IN THE VILLAGE



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Call our freephone: **0800 NCTIR EQ** (0800 628 4737) or email us: info@nctir.com

This Bulletin provides the latest information about the rebuild of road and rail networks damaged by the Kaikōura earthquake in November 2016. The Bulletin is produced by the North Canterbury Transport Infrastructure Recovery (NCTIR) - an alliance representing the NZ Transport Agency and KiwiRail, on behalf of Government.