



OTOKO PĀ SLIP SITE COMPLETED

Work on the Otoko Pā underslip, one of the sites being repaired along State Highway 4, was completed late last month. The repairs started in November last year, so it was satisfying for everyone involved to complete work on the site.

‘We were only a few weeks away from finishing work on Otoko Pā before we had to shut the site down because of COVID-19 and the lockdown’ says Waka Kotahi Manawatū-Whanganui & Taranaki System Manager Ross I’Anson

‘It’s been great that the work crew were able to get back on site and finish off the repairs. And it’s now looking really impressive.’

There are challenges associated with repairing any site and the Otoko Pā underslip was no different.

‘There was a lot of cut material, such as soil and rocks, to deal with at Otoko Pā and that was quite challenging in an isolated location like this. So the crew did well to finish work there within a six months period, especially when you take into account the time we weren’t able to be on site during lockdown.’

The site has now been sealed, road markings are in place, and all temporary traffic management has been removed.

‘We’re really pleased with how the repair work has turned out. We’re also working on a number of other sites along State Highway 4, and Otoko Pā has set the standard for what we want to achieve for each of those,’ says Ross.



DEWATERING AT TE OREORE



Preparations to improve road resilience at Te Oreore are underway with dewatering systems being put in place at the vicinity of last year’s major landslip.

The October 2019 slip happened in a steep area. This has made the area prone to landslips from earthquakes, heavy rainfall, and destabilisation caused by the river undercutting the slopes. Water pressure from persistent rain built up within the rock at Te Oreore eventually triggered the landslip.

We constructed a temporary road on Ātiahau Whanganui Inc whenua through the landslip area which opened in December. In May we announced a reinstatement solution which would follow a similar path.

‘To make sure the new road is as safe as possible, we need to reduce the risk of landslides.. And to do this we’re installing a dewatering system for the site which will help make the ground more stable,’ says Waka Kotahi System Manager Ross I’Anson.

‘We are doing this work ahead of building the new permanent road which we’re looking to get underway in summer next year.’

A work crew is now installing the first phase of a dewatering system which will help stabilise the area and mitigate slip risks. They’ve built access tracks and upgraded the drainage ready to carry water away from the site.

The SH4 bulletin will be available monthly at selected sites in Raetihi, Ohakune and Whanganui. We encourage you to read about progress on State Highway 4 (SH4) and share it with your whānau. If you have questions about anything you see in the SH4 bulletin there are a range of places to find out more on the back page.

SIGN UP to receive monthly updates online nzta.govt.nz/sh4-repairs

PLAN AHEAD FOR SAFE WINTER TRAVEL

We're encouraging motorists to plan ahead to minimise delays and keep themselves and other road users safe, as wintery weather sets in.

Temperatures have well and truly dropped so it's a good time to start thinking about safe winter driving. Ice, fog, rain and snow can make for treacherous road conditions.

Winter driving tips

- Check weather and travel conditions on highways before you start your trip and on breaks throughout your journey - use www.journeys.nzta.govt.nz or call **0800 4 HIGHWAYS** (0800 44 44 49).
- Ensure your car is safe and equipped: spare tyre, warrant of fitness up-to-date, lights, brakes and wind-wipers all working, clean windscreen inside and out, check tyre treads to ensure good grip.
- If you're travelling long distances, share the driving and have regular breaks.
- Wear your seat belt throughout the journey and check your passengers have theirs clicked in too.
- Driving on roads that are exposed to snow and ice can be treacherous, so slow down and drive to the conditions, not the allowable/legal speed limit. Increase the following distance between you and the vehicle ahead.
- Be prepared when travelling in case of delays on the road, particularly in alpine conditions. Make sure you have warm clothes/food/water/charged mobile phone. In an emergency, phone 111. Bear in mind some parts of the highway have no cell coverage.
- Learn about winter driving, including how to get your vehicle ready and if you're driving in an area where chains may be needed, practise putting them on before you go so you're not caught out.



WHISKEY'S CORNER NEARS COMPLETION

Work on another site north of Otoko Pā is also nearing completion. Like many other projects across the country, construction on Whiskey's Corner was put on hold during the COVID-19 enforced lockdown, before crews were able to return in mid-May.

Work at Whiskey's Corner is expected to be completed by the end of June, except for the final surfacing, which will be finished at a later date. This won't, however, delay the re-opening of the road to two-way traffic.

Minor patch repairs will continue until the final surfacing can be finished off in spring 2020, when the warmer months will ensure a quality finish.

WHERE CAN WE GET COPIES OF SH4 BULLETIN?

Ruapehu District Council offices

Ohakune i-Site

Waiouru i-Site

Whakapapa Village i-Site

Ruapehu District Council -
Main Office

Raetihi Caltex Motors

Raetihi Farm Supplies

Raetihi Four Square

Raetihi Information Centre

Ohakune BP Service Station

Ohakune New World

Placemakers Ohakune

GAS National Park

Whanganui District Council

Whanganui Library

Gonville Library

Z-Dublin St Service Station

Whanganui

BP 2Go Service Station

Whanganui

Cafe 4Forty4

Whanganui

Whanganui i-Site

For more information and updates,
please visit nzta.govt.nz/sh4-repairs

Traffic updates: nzta.govt.nz/traffic

Facebook: facebook.com/nztacni

Twitter: twitter.com/nztacni

Journey planner: journeys.nzta.govt.nz

Phone: **0800 4 HIGHWAYS** (0800 44 44 49)

If you have a smartphone, open the camera app and hover over the code to the right then click the link once prompted on your phone.

