

60 Takaka Hill repairs



The first stage of the Takaka Hill recovery and rebuild programme, following ex-Cyclone Gita in February 2018, is progressing well. Repairs to 10 sites within the single lane areas managed with temporary traffic signals have gone well over the 2018/19 summer, the peak road repair period. Retaining wall structures and ground stabilisation on these sites will be completed over the next two months.

Work for the remaining five more significantly damaged sites is now underway with geotechnical investigations informing the design of the repairs. Construction is scheduled to begin in spring aiming to be completed in the first half of next year.

Once these major sites are repaired, the road will be able to be reinstated to two lanes of traffic and no lights required.

We appreciate that local people in particular have to factor in short delays on every journey to and from Golden Bay. Thanks for your patience and for taking care around our crews, who have been working in tightly constrained spaces on some of the repair sites, right inside tight bends or directly below the highway.

We encourage everyone to maintain cautious driving over the winter when repair work will be scaled back, through to the completion of this work.

TRAVEL TO AND FROM GOLDEN BAY

The road will remain open 24/7 to all traffic, barring further incidents.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ON THE ONE-WAY SECTIONS

Drivers can safely use the one-way sections of the Takaka Hill road with the aid of the traffic signals. Time delays are displayed beside the lights by electronic signboards.

Running a red light is dangerous and has severe safety risks as there is no room for two-way vehicle traffic and no room to turn around.

Speed restrictions of 30km/h are in place through the one-lane areas.

Your patience is appreciated during the phases of the lights.

LOOK OUT FOR CYCLISTS

Cyclists are able to bike the hill, but we ask that they and all drivers take special care and be aware that people will need to wait if there is a cyclist ahead of them.

WAITING AT THE LIGHTS

Going up the Takaka Hill:

- Keep as far to the left as possible to allow for larger vehicles coming down.
- Keep the entrance to Riwaka Valley Road clear at all times.

Coming down from Takaka Hill:

- Keep left, in particular when passing the queued traffic waiting to ascend.

MOTORCYCLISTS ARE ASKED TO:

- stay in the queue
- don't jump the queue or go to the front. No stopping or overtaking
- expect patches of loose gravel and wet areas that will need extra attention and care.

TO REPORT AN URGENT FAULT OR ISSUE ON THE TAKAKA HILL, PLEASE CALL 0800 4 HIGHWAYS

← TO TAKAKA



TAKAKA

A big thank you from the NZ Transport Agency
On behalf of the Transport Agency, thank you in advance for your patience and understanding while we do this important work.

SLIP SEVERITY

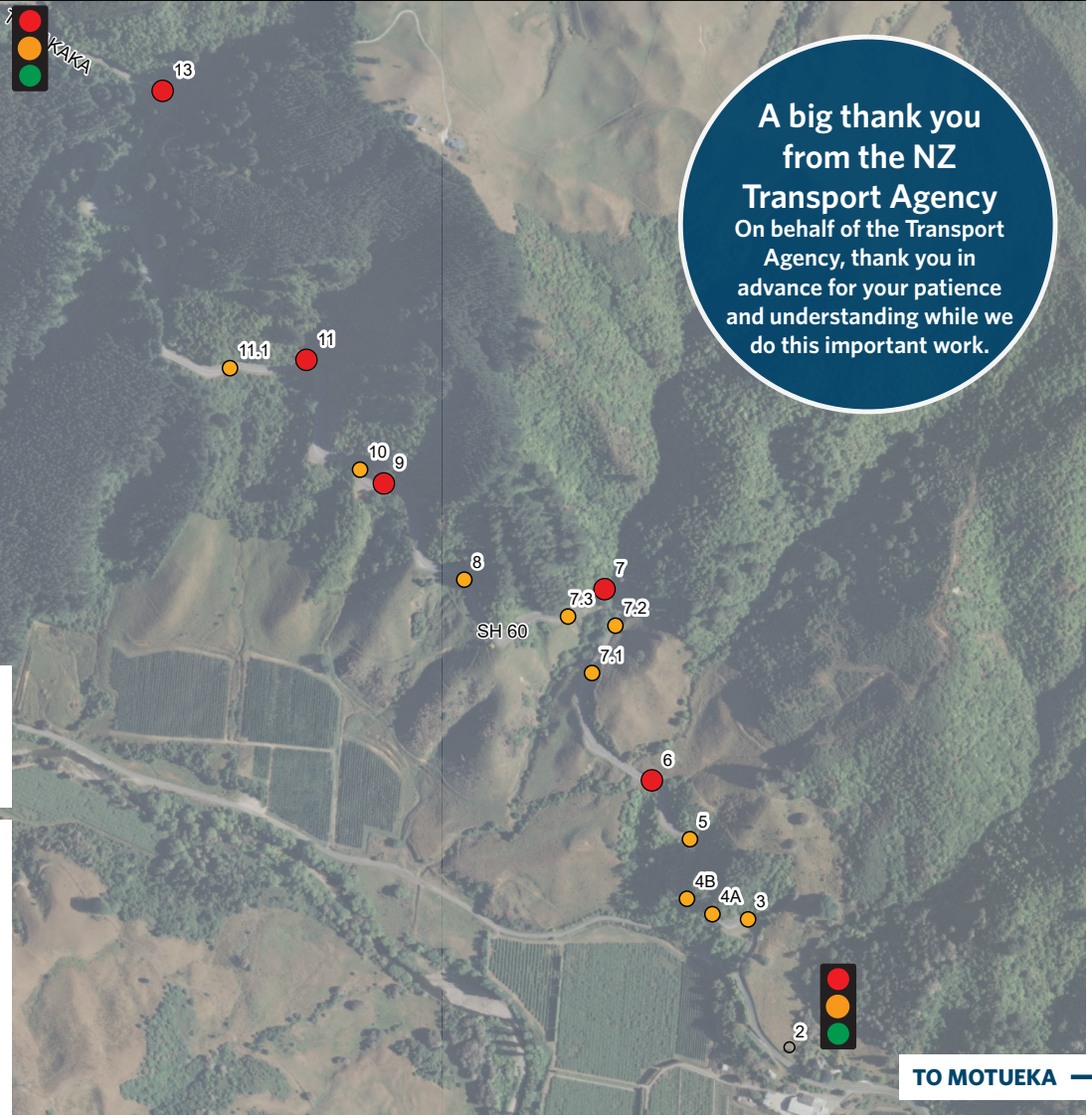
- Major (expected to be complete by first half of 2020)
- Minor (near completion)

The distance between traffic lights is approximately 1.5km and the speed limit is 30km/h.

There is sign at the traffic lights indicating how long it will be till they next turn green.

TIME UNTIL NEXT GREEN

- 6-12 minutes
- 2-6 minutes
- 1 minute



TO MOTUEKA →

ONCE YOU ARE THROUGH THE ONE-LANE SECTION, OUTSIDE OF THE LIGHTS:

- move into the left lane as the road returns to two lanes.

IF YOU ARE HEADING TO TAKAKA:

- slow vehicles, trucks and vehicles towing caravans should use the passing bays and stopping bays to allow other vehicles to go in front
- drivers need to be patient, cautious and courteous - if needed, pull over and let traffic behind you pass when it is safe to do so to prevent drivers becoming frustrated and making poor overtaking decisions.

WINTER DRIVING TIPS

- Drive slower than normal - in wet and icy conditions it only takes a moment to lose control.
- Avoid sudden braking or turns that could cause you to skid.
- Accelerate smoothly and brake gently.
- Use your highest gear when going uphill and your lowest downhill.
- For vehicles without anti-skid braking (ASB) systems, pumping the brake pedal in short rapid bursts helps avoid skidding.
- Drive at a safe travelling distance on slippery roads. In winter, especially in poor weather, double the two-second rule and leave a safe distance between you and the car in front.
- When travelling in fog, rain or snow, drive with your lights dipped.

FOR YOUR SAFETY

- No stopping between the traffic lights.
- No overtaking while travelling between the lights.
- Please don't wander out into the oncoming lane while you are waiting for a green light. Keep children safely with you at all times.
- Plan ahead and be prepared.

MORE INFORMATION

- 0800 4 HIGHWAYS
- www.facebook.com/nztasouthisland
- Transport Agency Twitter page Top of the South twitter.com/nztatots
- The key traffic and travel source which provides up-to-date information on weather and road conditions is www.nzta.govt.nz/traffic or www.nzta.govt.nz/takaka-hill

