

Upcoming night closures at Devil’s Elbow on State Highway 2

Monday 7 October 2024

Kia ora,

The Transport Rebuild East Coast (TREC) team would like to advise that State Highway 2 (SH2) at Devil’s Elbow, between Aropaoanui Road and Tūtira (Hawke’s Bay), will be closed overnight for five nights from Sunday 3 November 2024.

These night closures will allow our crews to undertake preparation works for a major recovery project (Project I - Devil’s Corner) starting later this year.

Where	SH2 Devil’s Elbow, between Aropaoanui Rd and top of Waikoau Hill
When	<p>The road will be closed in both directions overnight for five nights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday 3 November, 9pm to 5am • Monday 4 November, 9pm to 5am • Tuesday 5 November, 9pm to 5am • Wednesday 6 November, 9pm to 5am • Thursday 7 November, 9pm to 5am <p>Following the last closure, the road will reopen at 5am Friday 8 November.</p> <p>The works are weather dependent. Contingency is Sunday 10 November to Thursday 14 November, 9pm-5am each night, finishing 5am Friday 15 November.</p>
Why	Preparation work for a large recovery project

What work are we doing?

Full overnight closures are required because the road is currently single lane in places and the whole width of the single lane is needed for the preparation works. These include widening the lane to shift traffic away from the worksite, new pavements, drainage, new barriers and clearing the slopes above the road.

This type of work cannot be done under short closures. We are doing these works at night to minimise the impact on the local community and freight as much as possible.

The main repair work for Project I - Devil’s Corner is expected to begin later this year. Future intermittent closures are likely required to complete this project. These will be communicated well in advance.

This work is weather dependent and TREC advises all road users to regularly check NZTA Journey Planner at journeys.nzta.govt.nz or the NZTA Hawke’s Bay and Gisborne Facebook page at facebook.com/nztahbg for changes.

How will it affect me?

Traffic control: SH2 will be closed to traffic in both directions at Aropaoanui Road intersection on the Napier side and at the top of Waikoau Hill on the Tūtira side. There is space at each closure point for vehicles, including HPMV, to turnaround. Please refer to the map below.

Traffic impacts: Unfortunately, there is no detour. Please plan to delay travel during the full road closure times. The work is weather dependent, please check journeys.nzta.govt.nz for updates.

Emergency services: Emergency services travelling on emergency/priority response will be assisted through the site safely and promptly.

Freight: Freight will be prioritised when the road reopens at 5am.

Who to contact: If you have any questions, please phone us on 0800 80 TREC (0800 80 8732) or email info@TREC.NZ

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Devil's Elbow

Road closed for recovery work

9pm-5am each night from
Sunday 3 November to
Thursday 7 November

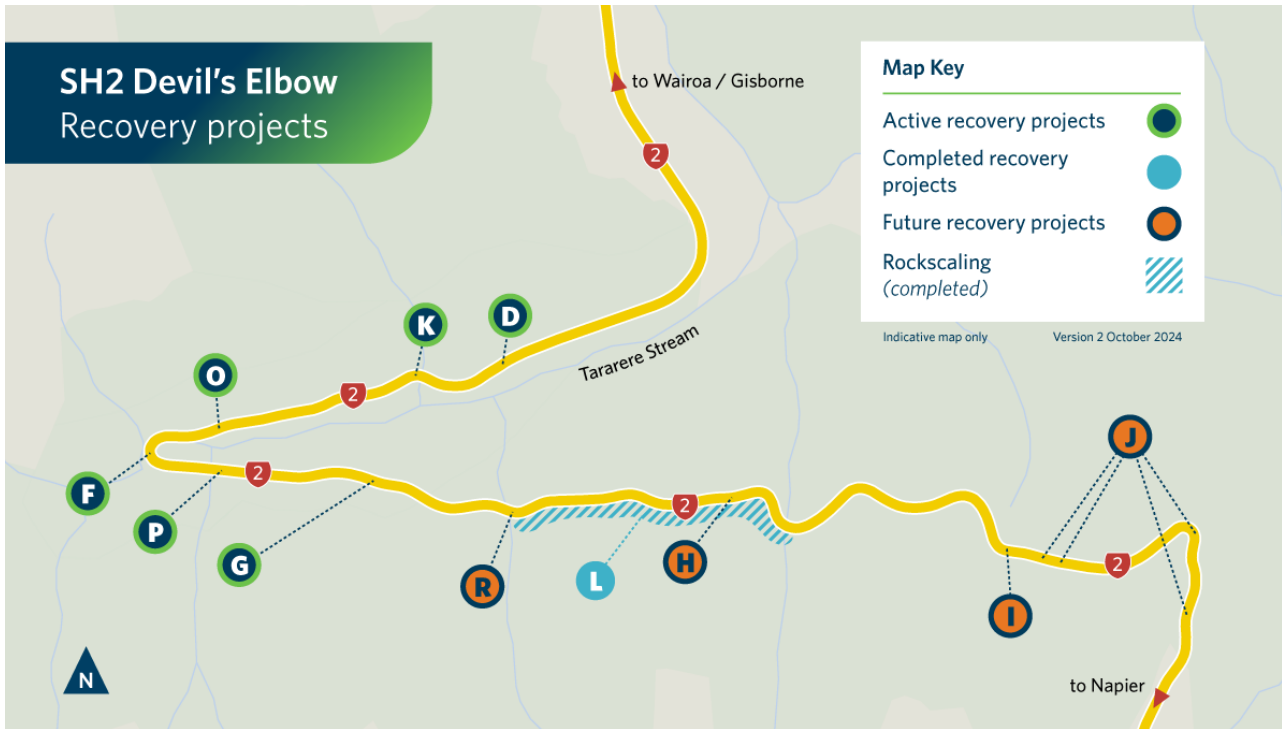
Transport Rebuild East Coast

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About Project I - Devil's Elbow

Project I - Devil's Corner will be the largest, and last, recovery project in the SH2 Devil's Elbow section (see 'I' on the map below). Cyclone Gabrielle caused a 40m long and 10m high underslip at this site that significantly damaged the southbound lane of SH2. It has been down to a single lane here since February 2023.

As of 2 October 2024, there are six recovery projects underway in the Devil's Elbow section (see map). These are expected to finish this spring. Projects R, H and J are expected to be finished by Easter 2025.



Map: Status of Devil's Elbow recovery projects as of 2 October 2024.

Project I - Devil's Corner is currently in detailed design and the main works are expected to start end of this year.

It is expected to take about 12-18 months and will be completed in stages. Once complete, this section of road will be back to two lanes.

During the November closures, TREC will prepare the Devil's Corner site to make it safe and accessible for the people and machinery required for the main works.



Photo: Cyclone damage at Devil's Corner, March 2023.

FAQs

Q. Why do you have to fully close the road at night?

The site at Devil's Corner has been down to a single lane since Cyclone Gabrielle damaged the outside (southbound) lane in February 2023.

Crews and machinery will need the whole width of the single lane road to complete these preparation works and the narrow nature of this section of highway means traffic can't safely travel around the work.

Night closures are the least disruptive for most road users and will allow our crews to complete work safely and efficiently.

Q. How do I get in and out of my property that is inside the closure?

The work may impact access to and from properties either side of the closure and worksite. There are residents' access only zones, but the worksites will not be passable during the closure times. Please refer to the map for the closure points and contact us before the closure dates at info@TREC.NZ

Q. Will emergency services be able to reach me?

Yes. Rest assured, emergency services travelling on emergency/priority response will be always assisted through the site safely. Emergency services are informed well in advance of closures like these and plan accordingly.

Q. Why is there still a temporary speed limit when there are closures?

The temporary speed limit slows traffic approaching the closure, keeping our hardworking crews safe.