

# Waitaki River bridges

## REPLACEMENT SCHEME



February 2009

### Overview

The Waitaki River bridges provide a crucial link between the Kurow and Hakataramea communities and are also important to Waimate residents 60km away. The bridges provide access from SH 83 on the Kurow side of the Waitaki River and SH 82 on the Hakataramea side.

The bridges are single-lane, 256m and 140m long, and predominantly timber construction.

The NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) maintains ongoing surveillance of the bridges, especially during floods. Recent structural assessments indicate that both bridges have come to the end of their serviceable lives and need replacing.

### Project background

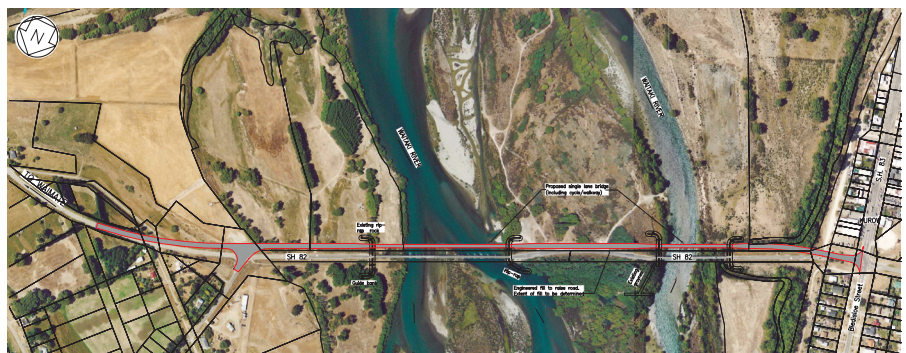
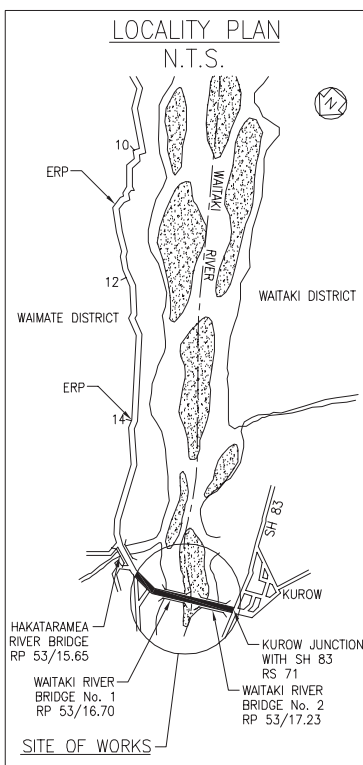
The proposed bridge replacement involves two new single-lane structures (with a footway). These would be built immediately downstream from the existing bridges. Consideration was given to two-lane bridges, but low traffic volumes didn't justify the much higher construction costs.

An investigation into replacement options for these bridges was originally carried out in 1998.

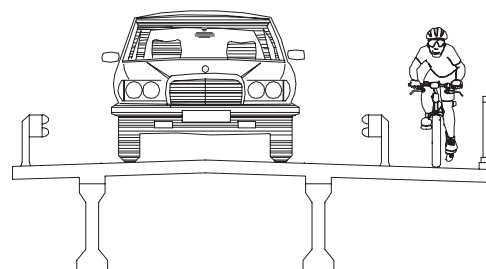
Replacements plans for the bridges were put to one side when Meridian Energy announced the Project Aqua development in the lower Waitaki. After Meridian abandoned Project Aqua, they continued to investigate other lower Waitaki options.

Further work on replacing the bridges was halted until Meridian finalised their plans. They have now done this - opting for the North Bank Tunnel scheme - a scheme that has no impact on the proposed sites for the new bridges.

The NZTA is reviewing the 1998 bridge replacement investigation to confirm its recommendations are still relevant for the current physical and environmental issues.



SCALE 1:2500



PROPOSED SINGLE LANE BRIDGE CROSS-SECTION

# Project objectives

- Preserve access between Kurow and Harataramea while achieving value for money.
- Avoid any fatalities and/or serious injuries resulting from bridge failure.

## Project description

The proposed two single-lane replacement bridges immediately downstream of the existing bridges would include a shared walkway/cycleway.

This option will require the construction of new bridge approaches over a distance of about 1600m (including bridges lengths).

Access to the recreational area on the island between the bridges will remain.

## Project process

Your feedback will be taken into account during the updating of the scheme assessment report.

The final proposal for replacing bridges will be subject to the approval of the NZTA board.

Their decision will determine when design work will start.



Current Waitaki bridge

## Providing feedback

We welcome your comments and views on this project. We are particularly keen to hear about issues that need to be considered during the projects investigation and design phases.

For further information, and to complete a feedback form, visit [www.nzta.govt.nz/consultation/index.html](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/consultation/index.html)

Please forward your feedback, by Friday 3 April 2009, to:

[steve.baker@opus.co.nz](mailto:steve.baker@opus.co.nz)

fax 03 365 7858

Feedback: Waitaki River bridges  
NZ Transport Agency  
PO Box 1479  
Christchurch 8140

## Contact us

**Michael Blyleven**  
Regional Transportation Manager  
NZTA Christchurch regional office  
Level 7, Pacific Brands House  
123 Victoria Street  
PO Box 1479  
Christchurch 8140

E [michael.blyleven@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:michael.blyleven@nzta.govt.nz)

Tel 03 372 1826

Fax 03 365 6575

**Steve Baker**  
Project Coordinator  
OPUS Consultants  
[steve.baker@opus.co.nz](mailto:steve.baker@opus.co.nz)

Tel 03 363 5400



On 1 August 2008, the functions and responsibilities of Land Transport NZ and Transit NZ were combined under one new organisation, the NZ Transport Agency (NZTA).

**For more information**

Visit the NZ Transport Agency website: at [www.nzta.govt.nz](http://www.nzta.govt.nz) or call our contact centre on 0800 699 000.