



Waitaki Bridges Replacement Project

NEWS UPDATE

June 2014



The new No 1 Bridge looking toward the Kurow township

The second of the two new bridges being built by the NZ Transport Agency over the Waitaki River on State Highway 82 at Kurow is opening ahead of schedule on Saturday 7 June 2014.

The two new twin-lane bridges replace two 133 year-old single-lane bridges that opened in 1881. The \$20.1 million project is part of the Transport Agency's \$1 billion programme of investment in Canterbury's transport network from 2012 to 2015.

The bridge contractor McConnell Dowell Constructors has had two crews working on the No 1 Bridge on the Hakataramea side of the river since the opening of the first new bridge on the Kurow side of the river on 4 April. The extra crews, along with the streamlining of the construction process and a piling programme that went smoothly, enabled the earlier opening date. The concrete for the new deck for this bridge has been poured and installation of the guard rails and hand rails is well underway.

Good progress is being made on deconstructing the first of the old timber bridges over the southern branch of the river and should be gone by mid-June. Traffic is using one lane of the new No 2 Bridge that opened in April while this job is being completed and will remain one lane until the widening of the road approaches to this bridge.

After the opening of the second bridge on 7 June, the contractors are expected to remain onsite until early October to carry out a number of tasks. These include deconstructing the second bridge, completing the road approaches for the second bridge, removing the old bridge and trestle used to build the new bridge, relocating two sections of the old bridge to the island and finishing any land rehabilitation work.

NEW NO 1 BRIDGE QUICK FACTS

- A modern 206 metre long structure.
- Vehicles travel on two 3.5 metre wide traffic lanes.
- A 1.3 metre-wide pedestrian/cycleway separated from the traffic lanes by a median barrier.
- The bridge piers are made of 1.5 metre diameter reinforced concrete columns with the piers driven to a depth of 22 to 25 metres into the river bed.

BENEFITS OF THE TWO NEW BRIDGES

- Secures a key regional and freight route along State Highway 82 between Kurow and Waimate.
- Capable of carrying larger and heavier freight vehicles enabling the more efficient and safer movement of freight between the Otago and Canterbury regions.
- Ensures the Hakataramea community has reliable road access to essential services and employment in Kurow.
- Offers a safe and reliable alternative route if the State Highway 1 bridge downstream at Glenavy is ever closed.
- Protects a critical transport link between Kurow and the Hakataramea Valley dating back to when the old bridges opened in 1881.



Preparing for the pouring of the final stage of the concrete deck for the new No 1 Bridge

CONSTRUCTION TIMETABLE BRIDGE NO 1 ON THE HAKATARAMEA SIDE OF THE RIVER

The following work will be completed:

May–August 2014

- Bridge No 1 opens on 7 June to one-way traffic only to allow deconstruction of the existing bridge that will commence from the Hakataramea side to the river.
- Work on displaying two trusses from the old bridges on Kurow Island. This will start as soon as two spans of the old bridge on the Hakataramea side of the river are available.

August–September 2014

- Remove the temporary construction staging trestle downstream of the new No 1 Bridge.
- Complete construction of the road approaches to the new bridge.
- Install guardrails.
- Seal bridge.
- Complete bridge abutments scour protection.
- Landscaping and planting.

CONSTRUCTION TIMETABLE BRIDGE NO 2 ON THE KUROW SIDE OF THE RIVER

May–July 2014

The following work will be carried out:

- Deconstruction of the old No 2 Bridge May/June.
- Bridge abutments scour protection.
- Landscaping.



If you require any additional information, please contact:

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More information about this project can be found at: www.nzta.govt.nz/waitaki-bridges-replacement-project