



Whirokino Trestle and Manawatū River Bridge replacement

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

July 2018

Human remains discovered

In early June, koiwi (human remains) were found to the south of the project site on farmland, while stripping topsoil in preparation for earthworks. The find was approximately 800m south from the river at the top of a small hill. The koiwi was left in place and re-buried, after consultation with local iwi. A karakia was held and earthworks were relocated to allow the site to remain intact. There have been no other finds of this nature on the project to date.



Whirokino Trestle Bridge

Earthworks

Earthworks (as mentioned above) have commenced for the Whirokino Trestle embankments. Off-road dump trucks are carting fill across the temporary staging bridge, with approximately 450,000 cubic metres of sand to be moved within the next 6 months.

Wetland fishing

Fishing of a small willow wetland on the south side of the Manawatū River (and relocation of any captured fish) will begin shortly, before the wetland is filled in to make way for the south embankment which provides access to the Manawatū River Bridge. A new wetland will be created to the west of the new State Highway 1 alignment, with an additional approximately 1 hectare of riparian planting along the Manawatū River.

Bridge construction

Bored piling for the new Trestle Bridge is complete. The piles form the foundations for the piers that will support the bridge structure. There are 36 in total and each pile is 1.5 metres in diameter and approximately 25 to 30 metres deep. Over the next 3 months, 47 bridge beams will be delivered for the new Trestle Bridge – each beam is 35 metres long and weighs 66 tonnes.



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