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Dashwood Rail Overbridge Replacement



Current Dashwood Overbridge

Project update

The NZ Transport Agency's Marlborough Roads office is starting construction on a new rail overbridge and a straighter, safer road at Dashwood Pass.

Dashwood Overbridge has been the site of a number of crashes, and the layout of the road on either side of the bridge means that drivers have to slow down considerably to travel safely through the area. The tight curves and difficult approach to the overbridge can cause problems for all vehicles, particularly trucks.

The current four-span continuous beam overbridge was built in 1932, and while it is still in good condition, we need a bridge that's up to current earthquake standards. It's also too narrow for such a major road, so a new bridge will make it safer for everyone travelling along this bit of the state highway.

This \$6.8 million project is the biggest roading project in Marlborough since the Awatere Bridge replacement in 2007. It includes building a new seismically resilient bridge, improving the approach to the bridge, and removing several tight curves on either side. Work will begin in November and should be finished by winter 2015.

One of the last of its kind

Since 2003, we've been working to replace the narrow rail overbridges around the Marlborough region and make the roads leading up to them safer. The first was Welds Pass, which was done as part of the \$2 million Utawai safety improvements project. In 2005, we invested \$2.5 million to sort out the Elevation Overbridge north of Picton. Dashwood Overbridge is the next overbridge to be replaced, and we expect that work will be finished by winter 2015.



The Utawai Overpass that replaced the Welds Pass Overbridge in 2002



The Elevation Overbridge north of Picton built in 2005

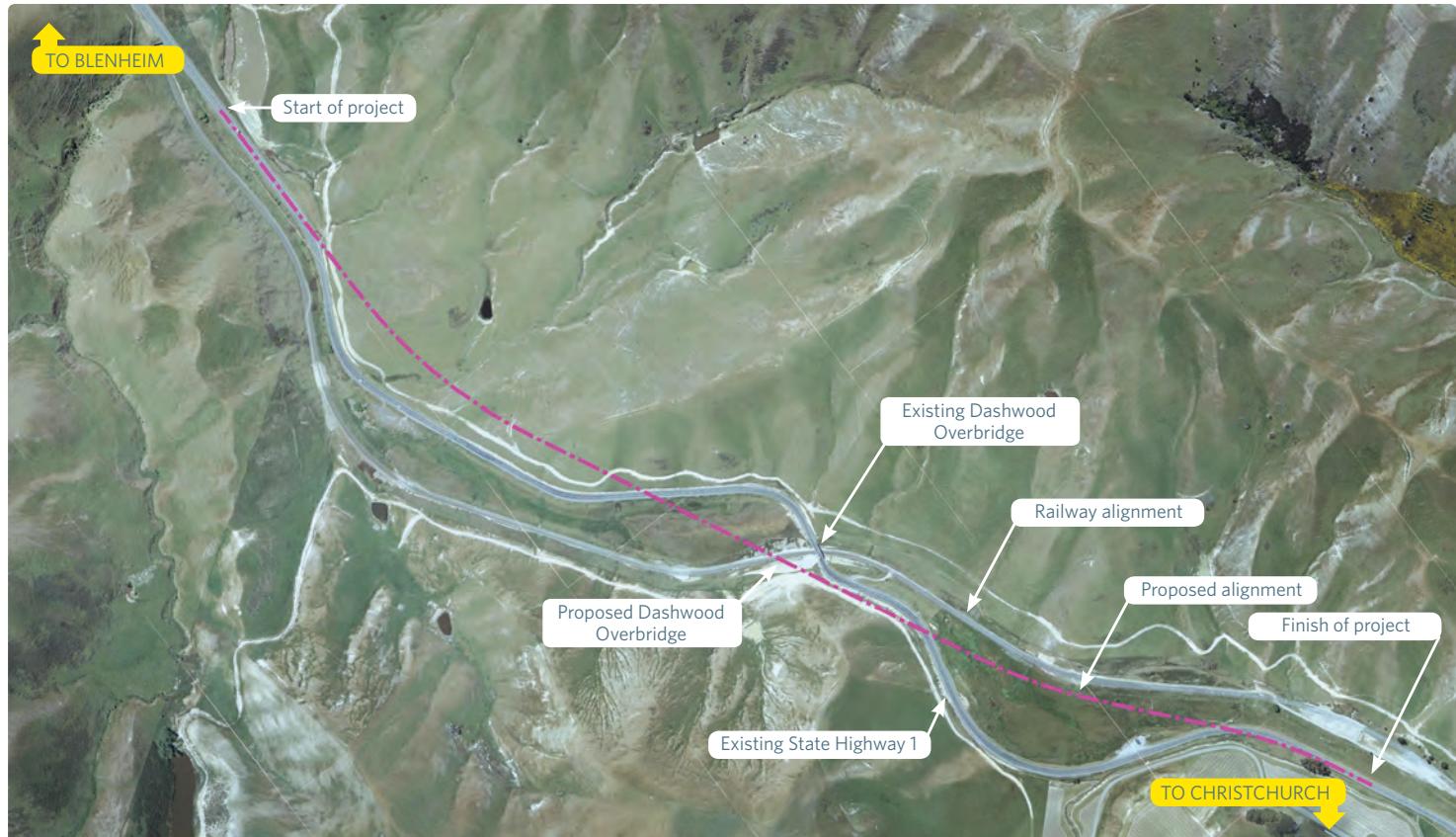
Benefits

This project will give everyone using this stretch of State Highway 1:

- a straighter, safer road to drive on
- a modern, seismically resilient overbridge
- better approaches to the new overbridge, and
- better travel times.

Our Safe System approach

Everyone makes mistakes, but mistakes on the road can have serious or even deadly consequences. Marlborough Roads recognise that safer roads and roadsides, along with safer speeds, safer vehicles, and safer use of the transport network all make a real difference to preventing fatal and serious accidents on our roads. This Safe System approach helps limit crash severity—even when mistakes happen.



Our contact details

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