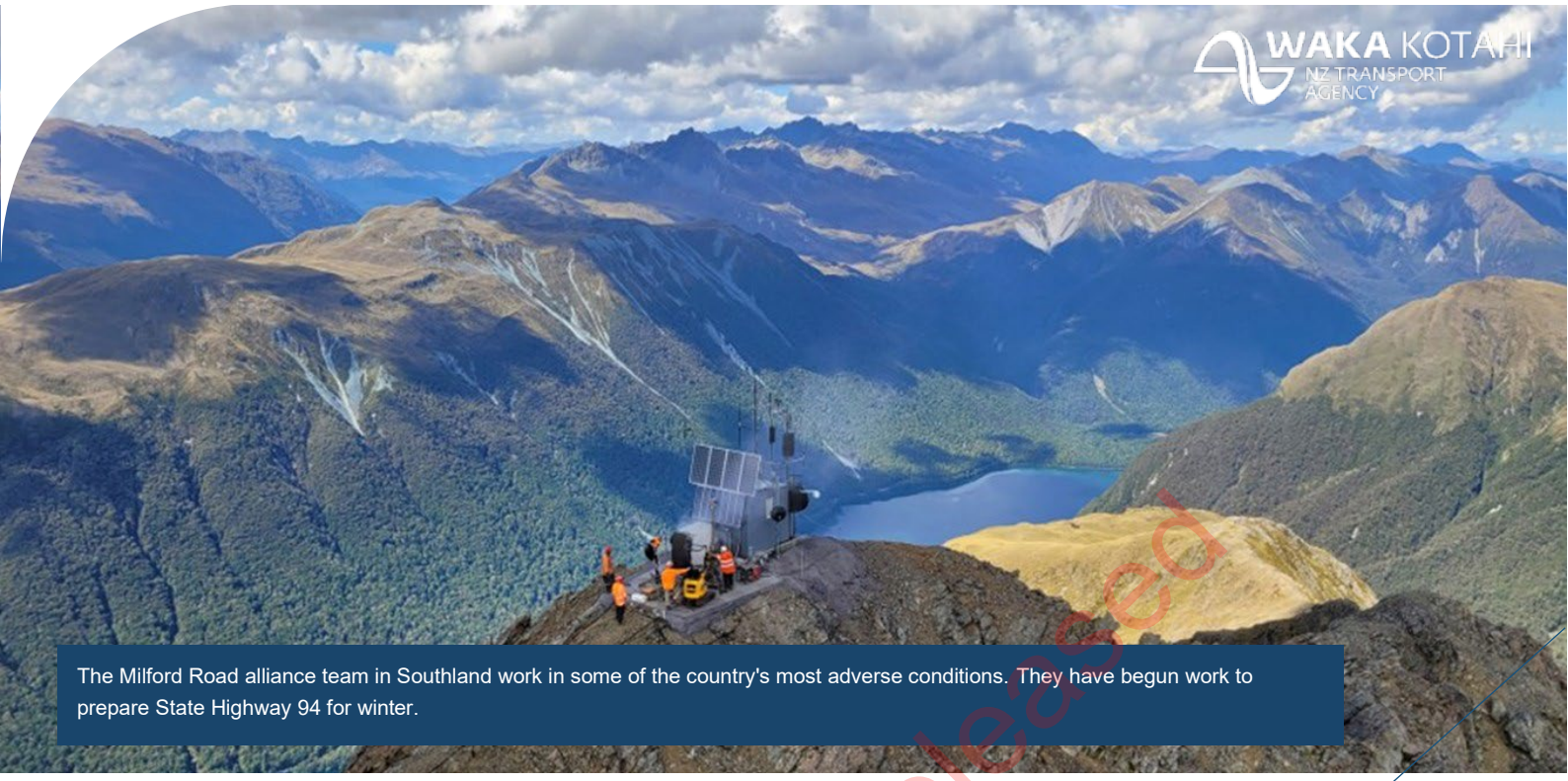


The Milford Road alliance team in Southland work in some of the country's most adverse conditions. They have begun work to prepare State Highway 94 for winter.

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# WEEKLY REPORT TO THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT

## Week ending 7 April 2023

#323

New Zealand Government

# 1. KEY UPDATES

| TITLE | UPDATE |
|---|---|
| **Te Huia Safety Case Variation** | A safety case variation (SCV) for the Te Huia rail service was submitted to Waka Kotahi on 24 March 2023. It is currently being assessed by the Rail Safety Regulator in collaboration with KiwiRail to determine that all new risks have been managed as is reasonably practicable. A determination based on the evidence submitted, or a request for further clarification or supporting evidence, will be made by 26 April 2023.<br><br>If the SCV is approved, there may be additional work for KiwiRail to undertake before the service enhancements can be introduced. We will keep you updated on any further developments with the assessment of the SCV. |
| **Road User Charges collection** | W S Group Limited has a liquidation hearing on 11 May 2023, after further adjournment due to the Director having trucks for sale. The amount of unpaid Road User Charges owing is $134,000 and we are proceeding to seek orders to liquidate due to lack of engagement up until recently.<br><br>Chapman Tripp have filed for liquidation of Clover Transport Limited, this will be served in the week ending 14 April 2023 and the hearing is scheduled for 17 May 2023. The total Road User Charges owed by Clover Transport amounts to $90,000.<br><br>C D Trucking Limited has been served a statutory demand to pay the full balance of $203,000 of Road User Charges. It has until 24 April 2023 to comply with the demand. |

# 2. REGIONAL UPDATES

| REGIONAL AREA | UPDATE |
|---|---|
| **Waikato/Bay of Plenty**<br> | **Variable Road Pricing study in Tauranga**<br><br>A road pricing study on the feasibility of using a variable road pricing to support Tauranga to deliver its outcomes will soon be completed. The study's preliminary findings show that pricing would have positive impacts for the region. The findings are being shared with the Commissioners who are likely to want to engage with government, and ultimately the public, as part of their next Long Term Plan process. |

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| REGIONAL AREA | UPDATE |
|---|---|
| **Central North Island** | **Waikare Bridge**<br><br>A media statement is planned for release during the week ending 14 April 2023 to mark the completion of pier construction for the replacement Bailey Bridge at the Waikare Gorge on State Highway 2 and provide an update on the expected timeframe for the installation of the bridge. |
| **Wellington/Top of South** | **State Highway 2 Hutt Valley (Moonshine Hill Road)**<br><br>Work is proceeding on four initial intersection safety improvement sites as part of the wider State Highway 2 Hutt Valley Safety Improvements project:<br><br>• State Highway 2, Moonshine Hill Road<br>• State Highway 2, Hebden Crescent (near Liverton Road)<br>• State Highway 2, Hebden Crescent (near Owen Street)<br>• State Highway 2, Owen Street<br><br>The State Highway 2, Moonshine Hill Road, will be made safer with the addition of new traffic signals, reduced speed limit, and raised safety platforms to allow safe right-hand turns into and out of Moonshine Hill Road. In addition, the nearby northbound passing lane may need to be shortened and converted to a 'slow vehicle lane'.<br><br>A safer speed limit of 60 kilometres per hour was proposed in the Interim State Highway Speed Management Plan. The proposed speed limit only applies to a short stretch of the corridor through the intersection, and only in the northbound lane. The southbound traffic bypassing the intersection on the existing 'seagull' layout will remain at 100 kilometres per hour.<br><br>Raised Safety Platforms are planned to encourage drivers to adhere to the 60 kilometres per hour speed limit. The platforms and lower speed limit help make the intersection safe by reducing the potential impact speed of side-on crashes at the intersection. Raised safety platforms are not yet common at State Highway intersections, and we expect a strong reaction to the plans including from freight operators and industry representatives.<br><br>These plans were shared with residents and the public in late 2022, but further communication and publicity will begin soon, ahead of construction and implementation of the Interim Speed Management Plan. Construction is anticipated to begin in late 2023 at the start of the new construction season.<br><br>Staff for Chris Hipkins, as MP for Remutaka, have requested an update on the project and possible site visit with Waka Kotahi. |

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| REGIONAL AREA | UPDATE |
| --- | --- |
| | **Transmission Gully Closure**<br>On 4 March 2023, State Highway 1 (Transmission Gully) was closed between Paekakariki and Pauatahanui due to a crash involving a fuel tanker and NZ Post truck. The road was closed for approximately 11 hours due to the amount of fuel spilling from the tanker (1000 litres). As a result, the Wellington roading network saw some delays over the course of the day, especially on detour routes State Highway 59 and State Highway 58, however these routes remained open and viable alternatives for travel. |

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