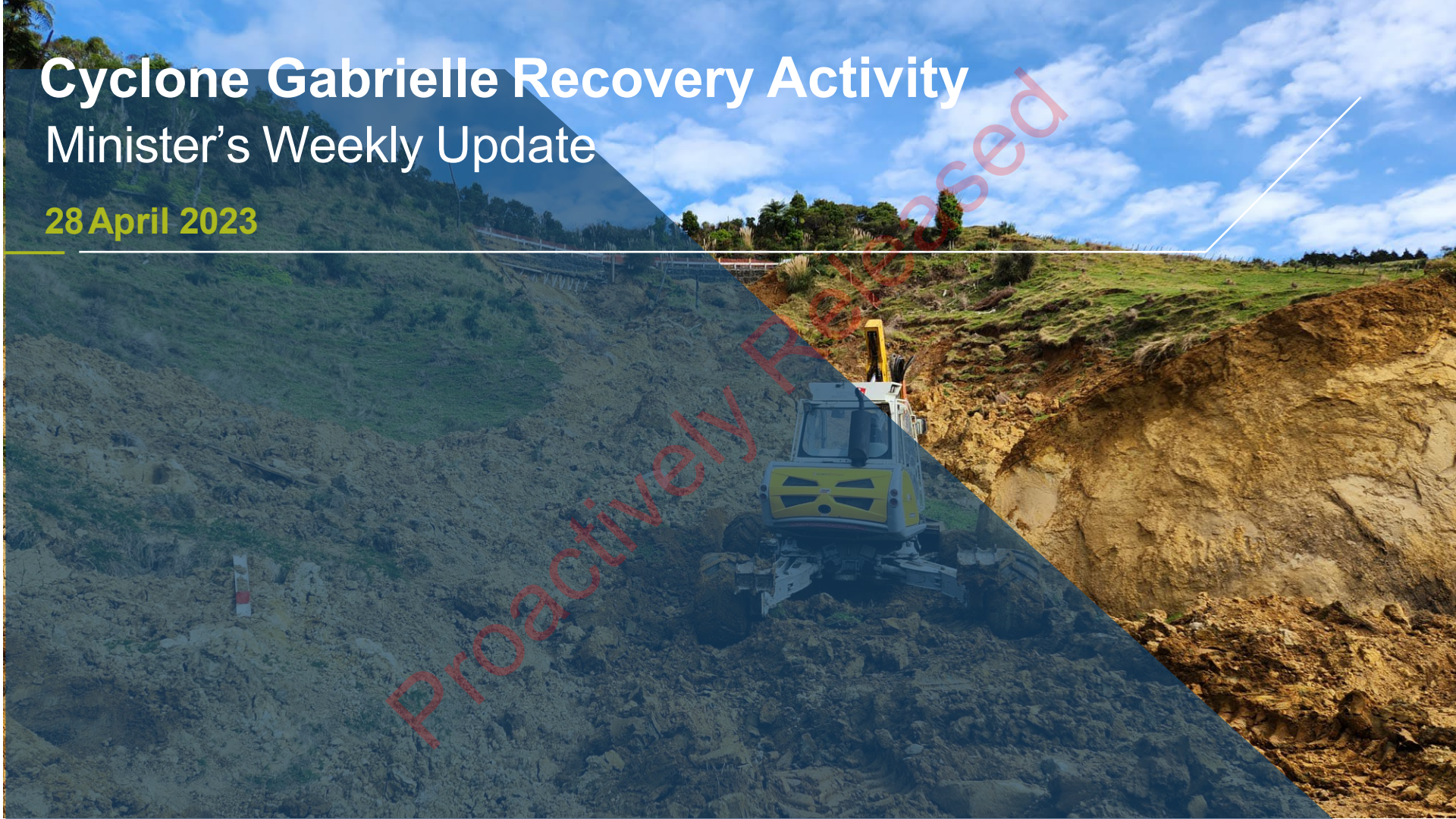
Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Activity

Minister's Weekly Update

28 April 2023



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Waka Kotahi three phase response to the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle

Phase	Description	Current state
One: Emergency Response	Open temporary emergency access and lifelines to affected and isolated communities. Some customer access is likely to be restricted, for example, freight.	State Highway 25A in the Coromandel and State Highway 2, between Napier and Tutira are the only sections of State Highway network that are still closed. Some limited convoy access is allowed on State Highway 2 during week days.
Two: Providing access for communities	Once lifeline connections are established, start to lift the level of service, to support community access. This includes assessment, stabilisation, minor works and some maintenance.	A full assessment is commencing on all corridors that were affected. Maintenance and Operations teams are continuing to repair at risk sites, while rebuild strategic planning is underway.
Three: Rebuild and betterment for the long term	Undertaking permanent rebuild alongside our partners.	Strategic Planning is underway for three regions – Northland, Coromandel and East Coast – and is expected to be completed by the end of June 2023.

Waka Kotahi has prepared State Highway Access Maps showing the key areas where restrictions apply and general advice on the length of time for repairs. These maps are updated three times per week (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday) until further notice.

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Road status

Overall

RAG status (arrow) colour shows status and the arrow direction shows change from the last report.

Key operational progress updates

Northland

- We are in the second week of a full closure of State Highway 1, Brynderwyns, to address the major over slip and carry out drainage work. Works are on track to be completed by 1 May 2023. Night work has continued and over 67 percent of slip material has been removed from B5 (one of the big slips). Detour routes are in place and are working well for light vehicles via Mangawhai and Waipu (using Nova Scotia Drive), and heavy vehicles using State Highway 12 and State Highway 14.

Coromandel

- State Highway 25A, Kopu to Hikuai, remains closed to all vehicles until further notice. An announcement on the solution to repair the road is expected to be made on 12 May 2023.
- Physical works are underway on the under slip on State Highway 25, Opoutere-McBeth, and are expected to be completed by late May 2023.
- There have been overnight road closures during the week ending 28 April 2023 at the northern end of State Highway 25, Kereta Hill, to facilitate urgent pavement repair work before winter.

Tairawhiti

- State Highway 35 is still fully operating, with access past the damaged Hikuwai bridge via a local road, and past the Mangahauini Gorge via the constructed bypass road. There was some damage towards the end of the week ending 21 April 2023 at Kopuaroa, which has been dealt with and resulted in no closures. The network remains fragile and we continue to monitor for any changes.
- The Hikuwai Bailey bridge is scheduled to open in late May 2023. A crane was erected during the week ending 21 April 2023.
- State Highway 2, Waioeka Gorge, is scheduled to have 24 lane kilometres (12 kilometres full carriageway) rehabilitated using foam bitumen[1] to ensure that the pavement holds over the winter and can handle the increased freight volumes currently using the route between Ōpōtiki and Gisborne. Work on the first site will start on 1 May 2023, north of Gisborne.

Hawke's Bay

- Waikare Bridge repair works are underway. Due to the geometry of the site, launching the bridge is not as straight forward as in other locations. We are aiming to open the bridge to residents (with restrictions) in mid May 2023 and to the public at the end of May 2023.
- Waitangi Bridge was closed 26 April 2023 at 8pm and re-opened 27 April 2023 at 5am for debris clearing.

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[1] Foamed bitumen stabilisation (FBS) involves in situ stabilisation of pavement materials with bitumen as the primary binder. The process is used to improve the strength of granular materials, while retaining a flexible pavement. The advantage of FBS is that its more resistant to moisture once compacted and it can be opened to traffic much earlier than cement bound products.

Alliance / Strategic Planning continued

Alliance

- We are currently working through the three-month establishment period and the more long-term delivery framework.
- We are also developing a procurement strategy and determining how regional contractors and consultants will be engaged.

Strategic resilience plan

Strategic Recovery Framework

- The Resilience Strategic Approach planning activity that is underway for Northland, Coromandel and the East Coast is aligned to Waka Kotahi's Strategic Recovery Framework, which guides the appropriate level of service required for the corridors in respect to resilience and identifying the long-term access requirements.

National Resilience Plan

- In parallel, the development of a national resilience strategic plan is also underway. This work will further support the planning work underway in the affected regions and identify options for resilience works in the short, medium and long term. Local council(s) within each affected region, as well as iwi, will be engaged during this stage of the plan.

East Coast

- The Tairāwhiti/Wairoa Resilience Strategic Approach planning is currently in week six of this 12-week project. The focus for the week ending 28 April 2023 has been on pulling together all the material gathered in the long list workshops from the previous week, this includes developing programmes for each corridor (State Highway 2, State Highway 35 and State Highway 38).

Coromandel

- A project team has been established for the Coromandel Resilience Strategic Approach work. A point of entry, including scope, has been submitted for funding during the week ending 27 April 2023.
- A Programme Director has been appointed for all recovery and resilience works across the Coromandel; this includes both strategic and physical works, which are being coordinated with Thames Coromandel District Council. A joint operational plan for the sub-region while State Highway 25A is closed will be developed.

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Strategic Planning continued

Hawkes Bay

- A project team has been established for the Hawkes Bay Resilience Strategic Approach work. A point of entry, including scope has been submitted for funding during the week ending 27 April 2023.

Northland

- The Brynderwyn's Resilience Strategic Approach work sees consultants coming on board to assist with the business case and next steps.

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Iwi engagement

April 2023 summary for Tairāwhiti Wairoa Resilience Strategic Response (RSP)

- Waka Kotahi provided a briefing pack on the project and current status for iwi groups via the Pou Ārahi.
- This was shared with Treaty Partners so that they have an understanding of what we are working towards and to understand how best to work alongside them in this piece of work. This is the same information that we have shared with councils on our project governance group. A recovery alliance briefing pack was included in the same email.
- We have followed up to arrange hui; however, a number of groups are yet to confirm a time.
- Through State Highway 38 Nature's Road engagement, the Ngāi Tūhoe Chief Executive advised the Tairāwhiti Wairoa RSP Project Manager that the Wairoa Governance Recovery Group was being established.
- Waka Kotahi met with Ngāi Tūhoe Chief Executive and kaumatua on 21 April 2023. The Project Sponsor, Transport Planning lead and Project Manager were all in attendance.
- Ngāi Tūhoe provided some background on the Wairoa Governance Group (WGG). This marks the first time in history that groups in the area are working together. There is a shared desire for a community-led recovery, where government engagement is via the WGG for a coordinated approach.
- Waka Kotahi met with the Wairoa District Council Chief Executive and Mayor, and the Ngāi Tūhoe Chief Executive and kaumatua to discuss the project. The Project Sponsor, Transport Planning lead, Project Manager, Waka Kotahi Director of Regional Relationships and Pou Ārahi were all in attendance.
- Ngāi Tūhoe expressed a desire for an aligned view on where funding priorities should be. Generally, State Highway 2 is considered a key lifeline for the region.
- Wairoa District Council highlighted that the northern section of State Highway 2 to Gisborne is a priority for them, followed by State Highway 2 south.
- We met with Ngāti Pāhauwera during the week ending 28 April 2023 to discuss the project. They would like to be updated regularly, with another update suggested for in two weeks' time.
- We are yet to commence iwi engagement for the other Resilience Strategic Response projects.

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Bailey Bridges

NEMA PRIORITISED BAILEY BRIDGES AND STATUS			
Bridge & Name	**Road Controlling Authority**	**Status**	**Bailey Bridge Opening**
Opoiti Bridge on Tinirotu Road	Wairoa District Council	Bridge installation completed	23 February
Rissington Bridge on Puketitiri Road	Hastings District Council	Bridge installation completed	31 March
Makiekie (Coal) Creek Bridge on Pohangina Road	Manawatu District Council	Bridge installation completed	21 April
SH2 Waikare River Bridge	Waka Kotahi, Hawke's Bay	Physical works underway, bailey bridge installation started 26/4	Early May
SH35 Hikuwai No. 1 Bridge	Waka Kotahi, Gisborne	Physical works underway	End of May
Whanawhana Bridge on Whanawhana Road	Hastings District Council	Physical works underway, site ready, installation to begin in the next few days	Early May
Moeangiangi Bridge on Waikare Rd	Hastings District Council	Site investigation and design underway.	May
Mangatutu Low Level Bridge on Mangatutu Road	Hastings District Council	Site investigation and design underway.	May
Ellis-Wallace Bridge on Ellis Wallace Road	Hastings District Council	Site investigation and design underway.	May
Hollywood Bridge on Bushy Knoll Road	Gisborne District Council	Site investigation and design underway. Use of Mabey bridge proposed due to span required.	End of May
Te Reinga Bridge on Ruakituri Road	Wairoa District Council	Existing bridge to be demolished. Staging works to enable demolition and then reconstruction to be installed. Single span Bailey between the staging works to be installed.	Beginning of June

Bridge Name	Road Controlling Authority	Reason bailey bridge not required
Arapaoanui low level bridge	Hastings District Council	RCA advised that alternative solution was being pursued.
Dartmoor bridge	Hastings District Council	Staging. (Class 1 / General access traffic loading)
Matapiro bridge	Hastings District Council	Temporary access established. Options being confirmed for the permanent structure.
Crownthrope bridge	Hastings District Council	RCA advised that alternative solution was being pursued.
Brookfield Bridge	Hastings District Council	Resilience options for determining the outcome.
Te Puna bridge	Hastings District Council	RCA advised that alternative solution was being pursued.
Puketapu bridge	Hastings District Council	Proposing solutions for access
Darkeys Spur no.1 bridge	Hastings District Council	Large scale works required
McIvars culvert	Hastings District Council	Temp access established. Permanent solution initiated for resilience.

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Funding update at 26 April 2023

Initial response

Update on funding approvals and amounts claimed:

$million	Approved as at 17 April 2023 (funding allocated for specific activity)	Approved as at 24 April 2023 (funding allocated for specific activity)	Change since previous week	Claimed as at 17 April 2023 (accrued commitments/ payments made)	Claimed as at 24 April 2023 (accrued commitments/ payments made)	Change since previous week
Local Roads	144	173	29	43.6	46.6	3.0
Kiwi Rail	40 (est.)	40 (est.)	0	6.4	6.4	0
State Highways	76 (est.)	76 (est.)	0	29.8	29.8	0
TOTAL	**260 (est.)**	**289 (est.)**	**29**	**79.8**	**82.8**	**3.0**

Key Points

- The new local road funding approvals are for Auckland Transport ($28.2 million) and Tauranga City ($1.2 million).
- A combined Waikato/Bay of Plenty request ($13.8 million) and approximately $20 million of further requests are currently under review and not included in the above approved totals. These pending approvals are expected to be approved in the next two weeks.
- Local road approvals display a significant optimism bias in terms of capacity to deliver (forecast total approved National Land Transport Programme share is $215 million). Based on spend to date, it is expected that the actual expenditure in 2022/23 will be in the range of $140 million to $170 million.
- State highway funding approvals and claims are updated monthly following financial month-end. Work is continuing to confirm the costs of the initial response on the state highway network.
- The KiwiRail claim of $6.4 million is the cost incurred to end March 2023; however, has not yet been claimed.

Note: all costs in NLTF

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Weather events response and recovery communications and engagement

WHAT'S HAPPENED: 22-28 APRIL

NATIONAL

- Key messaging + state highway access maps updated - sent internally (Wednesday)
- Milestone visual updated
- Planning progress update to industry
- Determining consultant expressions of interest comms

NORTHLAND

Brynderwyns

- Brynderwyn Hills to open 1 May
- Videos published on social media
- Key stakeholder updates for opening
- Media release about opening
- Informal karakia with local iwi and contractor ahead of opening

Mangamuka Gorge

Noting the gorge was closed in August 2022 due to weather events and 15 slips

- Social media post
- Residents update

WAIKATO

SH25 and SH25A Coromandel

- Confirmed Ministerial event date 12 May. Event documentation, planning and campaign briefing underway
- Coromandel FM radio interview Monday (Rob Campbell) + e-news issued
- CE visit to site 27 April
- Preparation for next hui with Ngāti Maru and next steps

SH31 Kāwhia – e-newsletter update (hard copies to village stores) and Facebook post on repairs and progress. All comms channels updated to reflect mid-May completion

SH23 Raglan – blessing and opening event preparation for 2 May. Webpage updates with new images and drone footage

RISK: *SH25A announcement date and achieving 12 May deadline; ongoing SH25A vulnerability and community concerns about speed and condition as we head into winter*

EAST COAST

- Multiple media releases and responses, and social media
- Local government update to Hawke's Bay + Tairāwhiti Mayors + council CEs by Linda (DRR) – also went to Minister Wood + Allan
- Iwi update emails sent 27 April
- Hawke's Bay recovery newsletter out 21 April
- Liaised with Ngati Pāhauwera about blessing ceremony of Waikare Gorge Bailey Bridge
- Positive hui with Ngati Pāhauwera with a positive way forward for being involved
- Residents letter, stakeholder email and Connecting Tairāwhiti traffic bulletin notification on pavement update, SH2 north

WHAT'S COMING UP: 29 APRIL-5 MAY

- Council Live Call Tuesday 2 May
- ELT video recovery progress
- Update and share messaging (Tuesday)
- Determine comms support needed for design philosophy + standardisation work
- Progress update to industry
- Planning recovery engagement requirements
- East Coast Alliance explainer content created
- East Coast Alliance comms + engagement plan developed

Brynderwyns

- Further social media content

Mangamuka Gorge

- Hapu + key stakeholder update
- E-newsletter
- Social post

SH25 and SH25A Coromandel

- Ministerial event preparation
- Campaign preparation
- Draft The Valley advertorial and issue weekly e-news
- Prepare for next hui with Ngāti Maru and next steps
- Recovery cross-government meeting

SH23 Raglan

- Blessing event 2 May
- Communications to announce road open

SH31 Kāwhia

- Webpage update

- In-depth story on the 300 tonne crane at Hikuwai
- Hawke's Bay Strategic Resilience Recovery Plan comms and engagement planning
- Meeting with SH5 community representatives 1 May - online
- New update to be shared to Tūtira community

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