Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Activity

Minister's Weekly Update

7 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 that are still closed. Some limited convoy access is allowed on State Highway 2 during the week.
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 / Strategic Resilience Plan

Overall

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

Key operational progress updates

- State Highway 1, Brynderwyn Hill is open
- State Highway 25A, Kopu to Hikuai remains closed to all vehicles until further notice.
- State Highway 35 is open, with access past the damaged Hikuwai bridge via a private road and past the Mangahauini Gorge via the constructed bypass road.
- Waikare bridge piling has been completed on State Highway 2. We are aiming to have the Bailey Bridge open by 30 April 2023.

Strategic resilience plan

- Over the next few months, we aim to prepare a strategic resilience plan for our state highway corridors. The aim of this work is to further support the immediate emergency works that have already taken place in Tairāwhiti, Wairoa and northern Hawke's Bay, and identify options for resilience works in the short, medium and long term.
- It will identify ranges of programmes and funding required for next steps, which will be further refined in the next stages. There is prior work and investigations in the project area that we can draw on, but this strategic response will take a stronger resilience lens.
- Gisborne, Wairoa, Hastings and Whakatane District Councils, as well as iwi, will be engaged in this stage of the plan.
- We are currently in week three of this 12-week project; the team has been initially focused on setting up the project and confirming the scope.

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Bailey Bridges / Long-term recovery

NEMA PRIORITISED BAILEY BRIDGES AND STATUS			
Bridge & Name	**Road Controlling Authority**	**Status**	**Bailey Bridge Opening**
Opoiti bridge	Wairoa District Council	Bridge installation completed	
Rissington bridge	Hastings District Council	Bridge installation completed	
SH2 Waikare River Bridge	Waka Kotahi, Hawke's Bay	Physical works underway	Mid- late April
SH35 Hikuwai Bridge	Waka Kotahi, Gisborne	Physical works underway	End of May
Moeangiangi Bridge on Waikare Rd	Hastings District Council	Sites confirmed as a priority for further assessments of technical suitability for bailey bridge	
Whanawhana bridge	Hastings District Council		
Ellis -Wallace	Hastings District Council		
Mangatutu Low Level bridge	Hastings District Council		
Makiekie (Coal) Creek Bridge	Manawatu District Council		
Hollywood Bridge (Bushy Knoll Road)	Gisborne District Council		

All work (and projected timeframes) are subject to variables such as ongoing weather impacts and the information of the day. Please be aware that the information is subject to change as response and recovery evolves. It is also important to note that completion of a Bailey Bridge may not result in the road re-opening due to other damaged sites.

National Recovery Approach

- The National Recovery Support Team (NRST) has been set up to assist with our transition from the National Emergency Response Team (NERT), and to ensure we have a single point of coordination, support and oversight for the physical recovery works.

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Funding update

Initial response

Update on funding approvals and amounts claimed:

$million	Approved (funding allocated but not paid)	Claimed (payments made)
Local Roads	137	19
Kiwi Rail	40 (estimate)	3.5
State Highways	76 (estimate)	4
TOTAL	253 (estimate)	26.5

Key Points

- The initial $250 million funding is being used to fund claims, including for local roads, at special funding assistance rates (FAR) of 91 percent to 100 percent
- A budget submission has been made for a further $350 million based on initial claims made from the East Coast region, with additional information being provided to Treasury as it comes available.
- Further requests are expected from Councils who have not yet submitted requests over the next couple of weeks.

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Funding update – continued

Rebuild

State highway estimates

- To date, there are currently only high-level desktop state highway estimates, without detailed site-based assessment or costings.
- Indicated range from that exercise is approximately s 9(2)(g)(i)
- The initial budget submission (effectively a placeholder) was set at the low end – that is, $3 billion.
- A better understanding of the Recovery rebuild costs will be available at the end of June 2023, once a more detailed network assessment, planning and strategic business cases are completed.
- The February emergency works claim came to $4,057,387. The updated emergency works figures for March 2023 will be available from 11 April 2023 once contractors have submitted claims.

Local Road estimates

- There is no basis for a reliable estimate as of 6 April 2023.
- The initial budget submission (effectively a placeholder) was for $1.5 billion.
- Councils are beginning to query the likely funding arrangements for the permanent reinstatement works, as they begin to enter into contractual arrangements for the longer-term rebuild.

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Weather events response and recovery communications and engagement

WHAT'S HAPPENED: 25-31 MARCH

NATIONAL

- Alliance media release + OnRamp article drafted
- Key messages updated
- Weekly sharing of key comms information internally established
- Recovery milestones visual developed
- Tier 2 & 3 contractor engagement Tairāwhiti
- OnRamp recovery page live

NORTHLAND

Brynderwyns

- Brynderwyn Hills open in both directions
- April closure dates confirmed for two weeks from 17 April
- Key stakeholder comms
- X2 media releases
- Social media posts, including video
- Informal blessing ahead of opening

Mangamuka Gorge

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

- Announcement Friday 31 March of reopening timeline – May 2024
- Comms included: media release, DM stakeholders, e-newsletter, website update, video, flyers + storyboards, social post

WAIKATO

SH25 and SH25A Coromandel

- Successful media site visit + Coromandel FM interview Monday
- Weekly e-news out
- Submitted Ministerial event proposal for announcement of preferred option (TBC late May)
- Minister Wood meeting Thames Coromandel District Council (TCDC) 30 March – briefing provided
- RLT agreement to continue strengthening TCDC relationship

SH31 Kāwhia – media release + social post to announce solution + work programme to repair underslip

SH23 Raglan – website updated, korero mana whenua about blessing, proposal for Ministerial event submitted (TBC 1 May)

RISK: SH25 closure without warning due to cracking or slip – wide impact on community; Easter and school holiday traffic volumes; SH31 long daytime closures when rebuild starts 11 April (five weeks)

EAST COAST

- Constructive hui between Waka Kotahi regional representatives (Pou Ārahi and DRR) and Te Tairāwhiti iwi leaders
- Multiple social media + media
- Third Hawke's Bay recovery e-newsletter out
- Hawke's Bay recovery webpage updated
- Local government updates to Hawke's Bay + Tairawhiti Mayors council CEs by Linda on Tues + Thurs – also goes to Minister Wood and Associate Minister Allan – from next week move to once weekly + as needed
- Information to Minister Allan's office about Mangahauini Gorge track opening
- Update to Tūtira community

WHAT'S COMING UP: 1-7 APRIL

- ELT video Nicole – NERT, response + recovery update
- TS email from GM
- Consultants meeting
- Follow up email to consultants + contractor group
- Tier 2 & 3 contractor engagement Hawke's Bay
- TS newsletter National Recovery Team article
- Key stakeholder mapping
- Update and share messaging

Brynderwyns

- Preparing comms for April closure
- Planning weekly updates during closure

Mangamuka Gorge

- OnRamp story, radio interviews, Maori TV interview, detailed stakeholder briefing, distributing flyers + storyboards to community, planning community events

SH25 and SH25A Coromandel

- Comms support for SH25 repair + closures for Geotech
- Engagement with freight groups
- Social and e-news
- Coromandel FM radio interview
- Engagement planning mana whenua for next hui and potential site visit

SH23 Raglan

- Work on plans for blessing
- Opening may be earlier than 1 May as progressing well
- E-newsletter update progress + retaining wall

SH31 Kāwhia

- Comms re work starting 11 April – take five wks

- Photos to be taken of work being done, e.g. Waikare Gorge
- Connecting Tairawhiti e-newsletter out Monday
- Blessing for Mangahauini access track SH35, past Mangahauauini dam opening Monday
- Developing comms plan for Te Tairāwhiti Wairoa Strategic Resilience Case
- Minister Wood visit 6 April – itinerary + briefing

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