



Huntly project update

July 2017



The big deck pour on the Whangamaire Stream bridge required 95 trucks to bring in 520 cubic metres of concrete.

Winter focus is building bridges from end to end

Some things might slow down over winter for the team building the Huntly section of the Waikato Expressway – but the bridge sites are a hive of activity.

Fulton Hogan-HEB acting project director Tony Adams says many operators and their machines have been relocated around the country, including the Kaikoura earthquake recovery job, until earthworks crank up again in spring.

“But the highlight at the moment is our bridge sites where we are flat-out on six of the nine bridges in the 15km project,” says Tony.

“Over summer some of these streams were at record high levels but now things are back to normal flows and we are pressing on with the structures programme.”

That has seen concrete decking poured at the Ralph Road and Whangamaire Stream bridges and MSE (Mechanically Stabilised Earth) walls and piling going

on at others. (See a full breakdown of bridge work inside)

The wet summer and autumn meant it was a challenge to meet targets over the last earthworks season. “We moved 1.8 million cubic metres which was short of our goal of 2 million cubic metres,” says Tony.

“This was mainly due to the five storm events experienced during February, March and April. In the 120 days from February to May we had just 38 sunny days!

“But that just means a bit more to do this coming season starting in October when we have 1.2 million cubic metres to move. We have all the right staff and machinery from last season in place ready to go.”



Keeping you informed

Keeping the community informed about progress on the Huntly section is important to the project team.

We'll keep you informed through these quarterly newsletters, regular updates to residents of works happening in their area and links on our website and Facebook page.



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An aerial view of what's happening



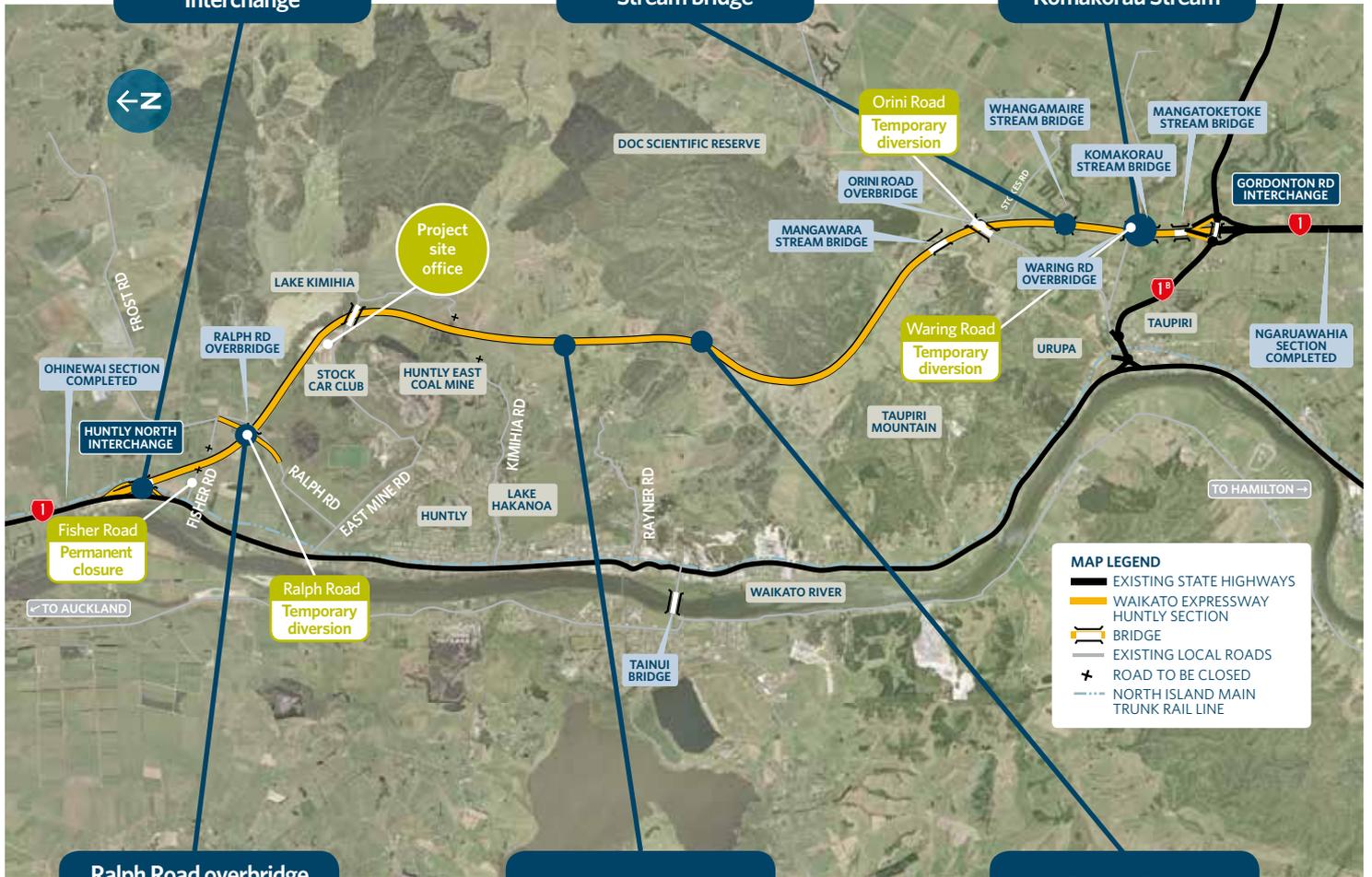
Huntly Northern Interchange



Whangamaire Stream bridge



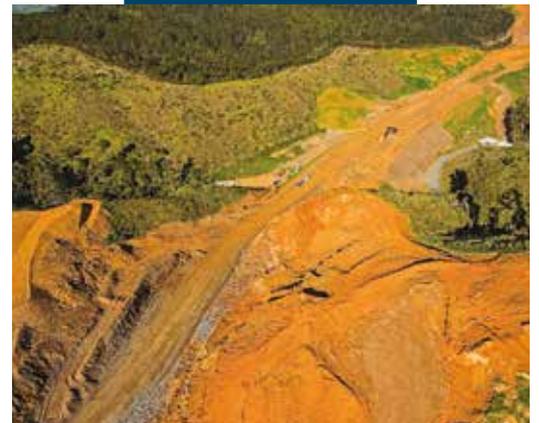
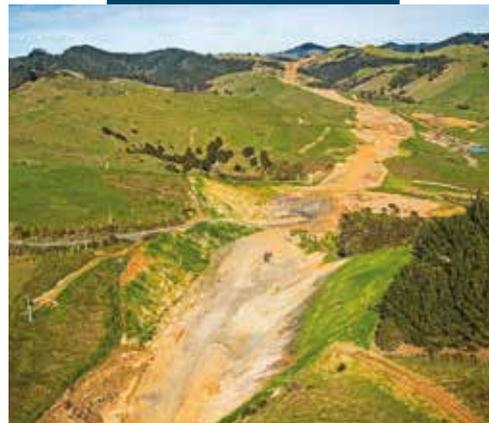
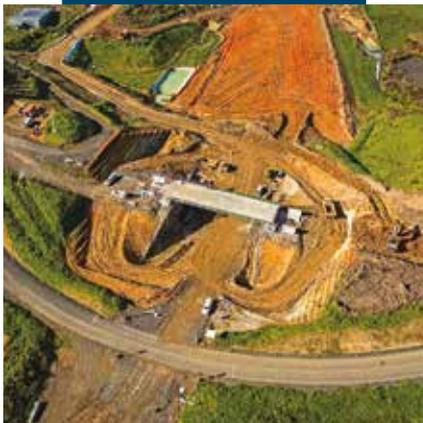
Waring Road and Komakorau Stream



Ralph Road overbridge and temporary diversion

Johnsons' Valley

Taupiri Pass



Crew lend a hand at Kaikoura

The earthquake recovery at Kaikoura requires plenty of big gear.

With earthworks wound down for winter some of the Huntly project workers and their machinery headed south to add some grunt to the big earthquake recovery job at Kaikoura.

Six operators are in Kaikoura, along with their 30-tonne dump trucks on long-term hire from Porter Hire. Also in the South Island are a site engineer, quality engineer, surveyor and earthworks supervisor.

Apart from some isolated winter works areas, Huntly earthworks won't restart until the new season in October. So the project was able to respond to a call from the North Canterbury Transport Infrastructure Recovery (NCTIR) which is responsible for the repairs to SH1 and the rail line to the north and south of

Kaikoura needed after last November's 7.8 earthquake.

NCTIR's Earthworks Operations Manager Gary Ikin says it's fantastic to have more resources to help with the earthworks and it was pleasing to be able to draw on more expertise and machines from a company within the NCTIR alliance.

Huntly project director Tony Dickens says when the call came, there was no trouble finding volunteers. "This is a great outcome for all parties involved. Some of our project earthmoving machines are being used during the winter when they usually sit idle and the rebuild project gains a skilled team of earthmovers when they are most needed."



Helping out: From left, Chris Wiren, George Balloch and Thomas Hunt

Bridges progressing well

There are nine bridges to build for the Huntly section. Here's a progress update:

NORTHERN INTERCHANGE RAIL BRIDGE

Abutments are well under way, both of which are 150m long. The northern MSE walls and the southern lower wall are now complete, with the southern upper MSE wall under construction. Construction of the bridge superstructure won't start until 2018 after all SH1 traffic is switched to the new north-bound on-ramp which will be used temporarily by all traffic.

RALPH ROAD BRIDGE

The bridge structure is nearing completion with 90 cubic metres of concrete and 33 tonnes of reinforcing steel put down at the end of May. In spring earthworks will start on the re-alignment of Ralph Road followed later this year by the construction of the final road surface.

MANGAWARA STREAM BRIDGE

The concrete deck was completed in December 2016, with construction traffic using the bridge. Bridge barriers are currently being placed which will see the superstructure completed in August 2017.

WHANGAMAIRE STREAM BRIDGE

520 cubic metres of concrete was needed to complete the bridge deck. The bridge approach embankments are under construction with the placement of the bridge barriers to follow. Scour protection on the stream banks is being placed to give protection to the bridge piers.

WARING ROAD BRIDGE

Construction of the western MSE wall will start next month to be followed by the eastern wall later this year.

KOMAKORAU STREAM BRIDGE

The driving of the final piles are almost complete on the southern side which will be followed by the construction of abutment D and pier C. The concrete super T beams will be placed later this year.

MANGATOKETOKE STREAM BRIDGE

Ground improvement work is complete and the driving of the permanent piles is under way and expected to be completed in September. This will be followed by the abutment and pier head construction with beams expected to be placed later this year.

The final two bridges are at McVie Road and Orini Road. MSE wall construction will begin in late 2017.



A view of bridge building over roads and streams across the southern sector towards Gordonton Road.

Expressway overview

The Waikato Expressway is one of the Government's seven Roads of National Significance. It will improve safety and reliability, and reduce travel times and congestion on State Highway 1 by delivering a four-lane highway from the Bombay Hills to south of Cambridge. The Expressway is being built in seven sections.



STAFF PROFILE

Construction manager

Tony Adams



With project manager Tony Dickens taking a well-earned break his deputy Tony Adams is in charge till the other Tony returns next month.

Current role and responsibilities

Construction manager and acting project manager.

Background, previous few jobs

Worked for Fulton Hogan for 22 years, originally in the Central Otago region, did a stint in American Samoa constructing an airport runway in Pago Pago, then Auckland as contracts manager before settling in Cambridge to work on the Huntly section.

What I love about the Huntly job

Large project with a diverse range of construction requirements.

What keeps me awake at night

Time, cost and building the job safely.

Family and outside interests

Involved in kids surf lifesaving at the Whangamata Surf Club, mountain biking and DIY at home.

Did you know?

Huntly project approaching halfway stage

Nearly 1 million work hours so far

A temporary quarry operation will process rock from the Taupiri Pass area



Any questions?

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