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# The Bulletin Kaikōura earthquake update



## CLARENCE RIVER BRIDGE REPAIRS PASS IMPORTANT MILESTONE



Jordan Judge



Clarence Bridge after the earthquake

No one was more relieved than Jordan Judge to see 'normal service' resume at the Clarence River bridge with the reinstatement of the 100km/h speed limit. Judge, a white-water river rafting guide, lives just north of the bridge, which until 18 July, was under traffic management controls with one lane and speed restrictions in place. The completion of repairs to the 304-metre long State Highway 1 bridge was a welcome development for the Clarence resident.

'I have watched the repair work closely and I think this final step will now make it easier for customers to come from Kaikōura to the Clarence to go rafting. I have a fairly relaxed view to life and comparatively speaking we were not badly affected by the quake. But it did create some financial and logistical issues,' he said.

Judge regularly drives south over the bridge to popular rafting rivers in Hanmer Springs. The repair meant 'every time I went across the bridge I could see progress and feel the connection back to Kaikōura being made. Some of my friends also worked on the repair so the connection to the community has been more than just a road.'

Judge now awaits peak summer tourism season with renewed interest. There will be no stop-go station to contend with and he will get a bird's eye view of the bridge from the water. 'I can't wait' he said. 'I know the river well having spent my entire life here and I always knew it was a big job and would take time and it's a great feeling to see it get ticked off and things return to normal.'

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Clarence Bridge on State Highway 1 had been under one lane with speed restrictions since the Kaikōura earthquake but structural repairs have now been completed. For the engineering buffs among you - built in the 1970s this bridge was the first box girder, balanced cantilever bridge built in New Zealand!

This Bulletin provides the latest information about the rebuild of road and rail networks damaged by the Kaikōura earthquake in November 2016. The Bulletin is produced by the North Canterbury Transport Infrastructure Recovery (NCTIR) - an alliance representing the NZ Transport Agency and KiwiRail, on behalf of Government.





# NEW ALIGNMENT NEXT STEP IN RETURNING SH1 TO TWO LANES AT WAIPAPA BAY



Slip 9, the first of 10 massive slips south of Clarence, buried State Highway 1 and part of the Main North Line railway.

The Papatea Fault uplifted the seabed and created new lagoons on the foreshore alongside the site. After the slip was cleared, the slope continued to fail in rainfall events and survey monitoring indicated the upper slope was moving. It was decided to move the road and railway more than 20m seaward away from the slip face and onto a safer alignment less affected by further instability.

Filling for the new realignment started mid-2017 and work to lay the new track began at the end of June 2018. New rails and new sleepers have been laid in place and the new piece of track was connected to the existing track in time for the first train to pass over it early July. Work has begun to remove the now disused section of old track allowing work to start on the new road alignment and returning it to two lanes.



## ROAD CLOSURE REMINDER- STATE HIGHWAY 1 NORTH OF KAIKŌURA

A scheduled road closure is planned for State Highway 1 north of Kaikōura from Monday 6 August to Wednesday 8 August to stabilise a rockface at Ōhau Point.

- Closure between Clarence and Mangamaunu
- Closure times from 8am to 4pm daily
- SH1 south of Kaikōura and Inland Road (Route 70) will remain open
- Closure is subject to favourable weather

Stay up to date at [www.nzta.govt.nz/p2c](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/p2c) or call **0800 4 HIGHWAYS** (0800 44 44 49)

### SH1 planned closure between Clarence and Mangamaunu for essential work

**3 days: Monday 6 August to Wednesday 8 August**

Daytime only:  
Closed 8am to 4pm







## NIGHT AND DAY - WHAT HAS HAVING THE ROAD OPEN MEANT

In November 2016, Karen and Bruce Barwick lost almost their entire life savings in the Kaikōura earthquake.

Yet, in the face of this hardship, they still managed to dip into their own pockets and cash register to give what little they had to help visitors stranded in the town after the earthquake. 'We did what we had to and what was right,' says Karen (Poppy) from inside their cozy café on the main street of town.

Fast forward to July 2018 and the couple continue with their spirit of kindness and generosity towards many of the NCTIR workers who regularly eat dinner at Poppy's Café savouring dishes like lamb shanks and their world-renowned handmade ice-cream. 'Many of these men and women have become like family to us and we do what we can to make their life away from home just a little bit more pleasant,' says Karen.



Bruce and Karen (Poppy) Barwick

Poppy's café is one of a number of Kaikōura restaurants that were able to survive throughout the recovery and rebuilding process via the Kaikōura District Council's innovative and award winning project - The Hospo Project: Feeding the Village People - that brought local businesses together to feed infrastructure recovery workers.

So what has having the road open since 15 December meant for the Barwicks?

'It's been amazing, we did not think they would get it done but those men and women worked day and night and they did it,' says Karen. 'It was like a light going on, it was like dark and then all of a sudden it was light,' she adds.

The couple worked 14 hours a day during a very busy summer season employing more people and clawing back some of what they had lost after the quake. Both agree it is an exciting time for Kaikōura as the planned safety and resilience work gathers momentum.

The highlight after the road opened for Bruce was the fact the town no longer felt like it sat at the end of a cul de sac. 'That was a real highlight for me,' says Bruce who looks forward to seeing the benefits and opportunities all the new features along the coastline will bring. 'It's going to be awesome,' he says.



## RAIL REPAIR WORK GETS MOVING



Repairs are underway on a landmark rail bridge which passes over State Highway 1 on the southern approach to the Hundalees in the Hurunui District. This work is part of larger programme of work to complete repairs on the Main North Line railway to enable the resumption of day-time freight and passenger services by the end of the year. Crews are also working at the Kahutara and Kowhai Rivers, Stony Creek and Morimurimu Stream on the Kaikōura coast - with further repairs starting elsewhere soon.



# SAFE SPEED REMINDER FOR SH1 BETWEEN PICTON AND CHRISTCHURCH

The NZ Transport Agency is urging people travelling on State Highway 1 (SH1) between Picton and Christchurch to stick to the temporary speed restrictions in place through several worksites on the route for their own safety as well as for the safety of road workers.

The North Canterbury Transport Infrastructure Recovery Alliance's Network Operations Manager, Tresca Forrester, says it's important for drivers need to stay safe by paying extra attention on this stretch of road.

'Several parts of the coastal highway are still having significant work carried out. Driving through a work site is not business as usual, and the lower speed limits which are in place on these sites are there to keep both workers and road users safe. Even at times when no workers are present, the conditions through these work sites are not suitable or safe for normal open road speeds.'

Ms Forrester says construction work is continuing along the Kaikoura coastal corridor to complete the restoration of road and rail links following the November 2016 earthquake, and make them more resilient for the future. 'The coastal corridor is very narrow which restricts the way we can move our equipment on the open road. We have a challenging work programme so this can sometimes cause delays. The journey between Picton and Christchurch still takes an average of 5 ½ hours on SH1, but people should allow plenty of time in case of unexpected delays.'

Drivers should continue to take care at level crossings as trains and other rail vehicles can run at any time and from either direction on the line between Picton and Christchurch as the recovery works continue. 'Trains travel faster than they appear and can't stop quickly. Drivers should always check both ways at level crossings before proceeding, day and night,' Ms Forrester says.

To plan your journey and for updates on delays, roadworks and road closures go to [www.nzta.govt.nz/p2c](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/p2c) or call **0800 4 HIGHWAYS** (0800 44 44 49). Check at least two hours before travel and when you're on the road.

## DELAY HOTSPOTS

Marked in red on this map are delay hotspots along State Highway 1 where construction work is currently underway to make the road safe and resilient for the future. Please drive safely through these areas - some of which are single lane.

### Kaikōura coast safety and resilience work

This work along the Kaikōura coast will make it safer for everyone travelling in the area. It will also provide better and safer access for people enjoying the coastal environment. Concept designs and more information can be found here: [www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/kaikoura-earthquake-response/safety/](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/kaikoura-earthquake-response/safety/)

If you have any feedback please email [info@nctir.com](mailto:info@nctir.com)

**Thank you for your patience.**

For further updates on the condition of State Highway 1 both north and south of Kaikōura please visit here [www.nzta.govt.nz/p2c](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/p2c) or call **0800 44 44 49**.

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