Milford Road (SH 94)
Response and Recovery
4 March 2020
The event – 3-4 February 2020
Rainfall (peak):
Forecast – 28mm/hr
Actual – 55.4mm/hr
The Aftermath and Clean-up
Some damage not obvious
Initial Access Repairs (in first 3 weeks)

- Total work hours since 5 Feb = 6,791
  - Normal MRA hours/month = 4,100
- Alpine Operations Centre/Convoys = 5 staff per day
  - Normal operation = 2 staff per day
- Total Slip material removed = 11,000 m³ (+2,000 truck-loads)
- Total roading material fill (so far) = 9,800 m³
- Many individual items costed > $1m each
- Engineering design & consents will add to repair timeline
Restoration timeline:

- **4 Feb** – Damage occurs
- **8 Feb** – Emergency access restored
- **13 Feb** – Essential Svcs convoys start
- **21 Feb** – Tourist convoys start
NZTA’s Response Objectives

1. Restore access to Milford Sound
2. Repair the road as quickly as possible
3. Maintain commercial viability of businesses
4. Ensure the safety of contractors and visitors at all times

Vehicle convoys the only way to achieve these objectives within an acceptable timeframe.
Convoy Rationale

• Provide visitor access to help business viability
• Manage vehicle flow on a damaged road
  ▪ *Maximise time available to repair crew*
  ▪ *Ensure visitor/contractor safety*
• Allows NZTA to monitor and review response
• Convoys have resulted in good repair progress
• As a result, NZTA can now increase access options
Road Access – from 16 March

• Convoy distance shortened
  ▪ From East Gate to Monkey Creek (east of Homer Tunnel)
  ▪ Travel time approximately 15 minutes
  ▪ Distance 6km

• More daily convoys proposed
  ▪ Hourly, between 8:00am and 4:00pm

• Road open to public after construction-day
  • 5:00pm – 7:00am
  ▪ Access for Hunters/Fishers/Trampers
  ▪ Access for private vehicles, rental cars and campervans
New Convoy start & end points

- Monkey Creek
- Homer Tunnel East Portal
- Hollyford Road Turnoff (East Gate)

Total Distance: 7.7km
New Road Access - details

• Majority of Milford Road open except for a short 6km stretch
• Convoys will continue throughout repair period
• Private vehicles, rentals, campervans excluded from convoys
  ▪ Visitors will still need to catch a bus to reach Milford Sound during work day
  ▪ Road open to public 5pm-7am (outside construction hours)
• Control of vehicle access still required for repair work
• All access subject to weather and roadworks requirements
  ▪ Convoys/access can be cancelled at any time
New seal being laid on Milford Road
Questions/Comments