

Takitimu North Link – Stage One



Left: Jessica Schofield, Ecologist (Beca) and right: Stephanie Kirk, Environmental Manager (FH/HEB JV) checking the fyke nets (a type of fish trap) and recording species found.

More activity on site

As a near neighbour to the Takitimu North Link Stage One project you may see our team out and about in the local area in coming weeks as ecological and environmental investigations continue, and enabling works get underway.

Our contractors, Fulton Hogan/HEB Joint Venture, were awarded the design part of the contract in May 2021 and have progressed site investigations, technical assessments and detailed design during this time.

Over the coming weeks the main focus will be at areas around Cambridge Road, Harrison Road, Richards Way, Wairoa Road and Wairoa Valley. Archaeologists, Ecologists, Kaitiaki (Cultural Monitors) and other members of our site crew will be setting up monitors and installing environmental controls. In order to complete this work, we have requested consent from some property owners to enter their properties.

Some of the essential preparation work that will be underway involves:

- Areas of archaeological interest will be investigated.
- Baseline freshwater survey work will be undertaken for fish and insects in the waterways, around and within the designation, to enable the monitoring and performance of ecological function and values over time.

- Some native lizards and skinks will be relocated prior to removing the vegetation. Ecologists will be setting up monitoring for native birds in vegetation so they can be also be relocated.
- Bat monitoring will be undertaken in the Minden Gully area.
- To allow for the use of construction vehicles, Harrison Road and Richards Way will be widened by one metre. Materials for the construction phase will be stockpiled at Wairoa Road.
- Utility services such as power and water will be relocated in preparation for construction. Direct notification will be provided to any affected residents.

You will see our team members in high visibility clothing at various times.

After the archaeological and environmental measures have been undertaken, vegetation and tree clearance will begin, this will include the clearance of some kiwifruit orchards.

What happens next

We plan to invite neighbours to a project information session at our site office in December 2021.

This will be a great opportunity to learn more about the project, meet the team and ask any questions. We look forward to meeting you soon.

We encourage everyone who wants to stay updated to subscribe to our e-newsletter for updates at nzta.govt.nz/takitimunorth

The gift of a name

We acknowledge the cultural significance of this whenua and were proud to be gifted the name, Takitimu North Link, by our hapū partnership group, Te Paerangi.

The alignment for the Takitimu North Link Stage One project is within the rohe of Ngāti Ranginui iwi, and includes the hapū of Pirirākau, Ngai Tamarawaho, Ngāti Hangarau, Ngāti Kahu, Ngāti Pango, Ngāti Rangī and Ngāti Taka.

Takitimu recognises the connection to the waka that brought the tohunga and navigator Tamatea Arikiniui to Aotearoa, at Tirikawa, the base of Mauao, at the entrance of Tauranga Moana.



Kaitiaki Jasmine Apaapa, Pirirākau, having an up close look at a banded kōkopu.



Retrieving a juvenile tuna (eel) from a gee minnow trap for measuring.



Getting ready to take an eDNA sample.

About the project

Through the New Zealand Upgrade Programme \$655m funding has been provided for Takitimu North Link - Stage One, Tauranga to Te Puna. The new four-lane expressway will increase transport choices for the area's growing population and thriving economy, and is part of the largest investment in walking and cycling in New Zealand history with a shared active mode path. The property phase of the project has made significant progress and the construction contract is expected to be awarded December 2021.



Read more and sign up for updates about the project at:
nzta.govt.nz/takitimunorth

If you have any questions about this work, please do not hesitate to contact us.

For more information

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