Bored piling

In the first week of December, we'll start setting up for bored piling at the new Trestle Bridge. These piles will form the foundations for the central piers that will support the bridge structure. There are 36 in total and each pile is 1.5 metres in diameter and approximately 25 metres deep. First we'll drill a hole, install a reinforcing cage, and then fill the hole with eight trucks of concrete. Each pile will take around one day to complete.

Once the piles are completed, the bridge columns will be constructed. These are six metres high and will support the cross heads and bridge deck which will sit on top.

The Trestle Bridge bored piling will take around two months to complete, then we'll move south to the Manawatū River Bridge.

Ecology

The Manawatū River is used as a migration corridor for several fish species migrating between fresh and salt water including; Flounder, Longfin Eels and Inanga. Because of this, there are restrictions on when we can work in the river.

A small willow wetland will be removed to make way for the bridge construction, which is on the south western side of the current Manawatū River Bridge. A new wetland will be created to the west of the new SH1 alignment, with an additional 0.97 ha of riparian planting along the Manawatū River.

Christmas shut down

We'll be taking a Christmas break from Friday 22 December to Monday 8 January 2018, but we'll still have people on site dampening down the dust with water carts and keeping an eye on the site.