

MIN-3912 July weather event – impact to East Coast and Bay of Plenty regions update #2, PM 20 July 2022

20 July 2022

Update on emergency works site around the East Coast and Bay of Plenty Regions following significant rainfall and network failures. Further updates will be provided proactively as the situation evolves.

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency's response:

- The situation at each of the emergency works sites around the East Coast and Bay of Plenty is evolving.
- Heavy falls are expected overnight (6-10mm per hour), with a few showers tomorrow (10-20mm all day). Heavy rain is expected again on Monday and Tuesday. Strong wind watch in place for coastal Gisborne.
- There is still pavement movement at the SH35 Motu River site. 6000T of rock is being brought in to create a groyne to support the washout. Consent has been granted to do extraction further up the river to divert water away from the bank.
- Photos from this corridor show the extent of the cracking.



- As of 4pm Wednesday 20 July, the following will impact heavy vehicles:

State Highway 35 between Ōpōtiki and Gisborne

- At Motu River Bridge
 - West of the Motu River bridge, SH35 is reduced to a single lane to keep traffic a safe distance from the river due to cracking along the eastbound lane immediately adjacent to the riverbank.

- All heavy vehicles including over-weight and over-dimension vehicles are unable to use this route until further notice.
- At Kopuaroa (north of Te Puia Springs)
 - Due to the risk of truck roll-overs and the narrow lane width at Kopuaroa, SH35 will be closed to heavy vehicles with trailers after 11.59pm Friday 22 July. Truck and trailer units travelling before 11.59pm Friday 22 July will need to proceed with caution through the site.
 - After 11.59pm Friday 22 July, heavy vehicles with trailers will be turned around at Ruatoria and Te Puia Springs. Heavy vehicles without trailers will be allowed through the site.

State Highway 2 between Gisborne and Ōpōtiki – at Matawai

- SH2 is reduced to a single lane at the site of an underslip approximately 7km west of Matawai (on the southern approach to the Motu Bridge) between Gisborne and Ōpōtiki. A temporary guardrail is being installed around the dropout.
- Over-dimension vehicles will no longer be able to access the site due to the narrow width of the lane. Information is being gathered on how many permits have been issued to understand the impact of closing to over-dimension vehicles. We are in the process of notifying those with over-dimension permits.
- Heavy vehicles are able to access the site.

State Highway 36 between Rotorua and Tauranga – at Mangapouri Bridge

- This route is not suitable for all heavy vehicles. The alternative routes are SH2 and SH33 through Pāpāmoa and Paengaroa, or SH5 / SH28 / SH29 over the Kaimai Range.
- The road will be closed to all vehicles from 10am Thursday 21 July to 7pm Friday 22 July.