



Kaikoura Earthquake Update #11 – Friday 3 March 2017

Seabed changes are amazing. Previously at high tide, all these rocks were covered. Now present all the time.



View from Peninsula Walk overlooking township, view overlooking a bay on Kaikoura Peninsula Walk and view from South Bay Reserve end of track (Photos: Lynda Keene, Feb 2017)



News of the Week, “This update we’re providing a detailed account of road rebuild activities/progress and very pleased to say ‘*thank you*’ to Central Government for their recent announcement of a \$870,000 support package that will promote tourism in Kaikoura and other upper South Island districts impacted by last November’s earthquakes. Funding of \$650,000 will go to Kaikoura to enable a strong and early marketing push for the 2017/18 peak season. It will also support work to attract more domestic visitors now, with the majority of the region’s tourism, retail and hospitality establishments open for business.

We’re still seeing a steady flow of visitors around the District and it’s good to see the Point Seal carpark, South Bay Reserve, Dolphin Encounter, Whale Watch Kaikoura and the i-SITE carparks full of vehicles. It’s surprising how that one thing can help you get a zing back in your step because you know you’re back on the radar as a visitor destination. We still have a long way to go...but we’re on the way.

You may be interested in watching this video that Mayor Winston Gray and the community have shot thanking the Armed Forces for their tremendous support following the earthquake. Very heart-warming! <https://www.facebook.com/stu.pearce.56/videos/10155806483385410/>. Just a note to also say that all of Canterbury including Hanmer Springs, Nelson and Marlborough regions are open and welcoming visitors. Thanks again for everyone’s support. Have a great week! *Glenn Ormsby, GM Destination Kaikoura*



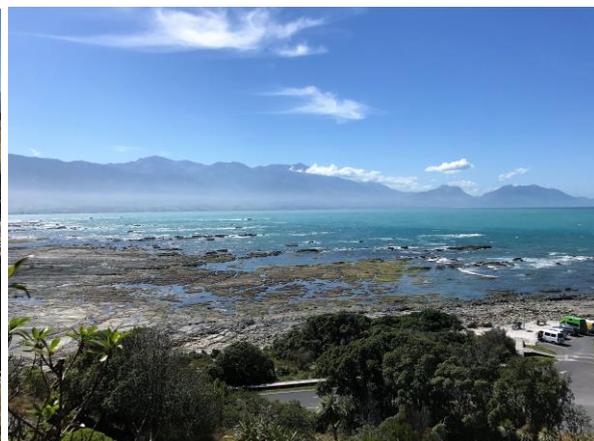
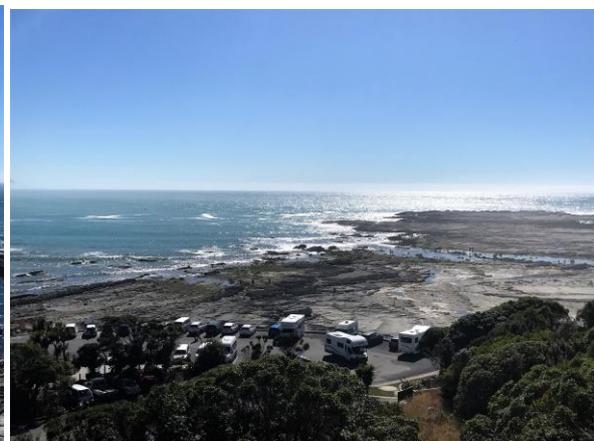
Key Spoutbites

- SH1 South to Christchurch **is open**
- Inland Route 70 between Hanmer Springs/Culverden and Kaikoura **is open**
- 91% tourism activity/attractions are open
- 88% retail, café and general services are open
- 83% accommodation providers are open
- SH1 North from Kaikoura-Clarence/Picton planned to reopen Nov/Dec 2017
- Kaikoura receives \$650,000 for tourism promotion <http://www.stuff.co.nz/marlborough-express/news/89850805/tourism-package-to-help-promote-quakestricken-kaikoura>
- Whale Watch Kaikoura, Dolphin Encounter and Albatross Encounter trips are operating daily (around tides)
- Kiwi Experience/Hasslefree Tours and Canterbury Leisure Tours running daily trips from Christchurch to Kaikoura



Insights travelling to/from Kaikoura (visit on 20 February 2017 by Lynda Keene)

I've always thought Kaikoura was one of the jewels in the South Island's treasure chest of gemstones and my recent visit just confirmed that and more. The raised seabeds with the mountain range and ocean as the backdrop to any photo just makes Kaikoura a *photographers' heaven!* Prior to the earthquake, all rocks were under water at high tide. The old high tide is the new low tide x 2. The rockpools at Point Kean seal colony go for almost a kilometre at low tide. Any chalky white coloured rocks now get no water cover and any green algae/dark rock colour you see is the new high tide. You can easily spend more than an hour down on the rocks walking around in awe taking photos. It's worth it!



Other Insights:

TIP: Travelling to speed limits and road conditions will help you enjoy your drive south.

- Travelling from Nelson-Murchison-Lewis Pass-Hanmer Springs-Culverden to SH1 was absolutely fine. If you're used to North Island traffic flows there's no difference. Traffic flowed well between 90-100km with no-one doing anything too crazy and the amount of trucks on the road didn't phase me (originally coming from the North Island). I didn't travel the Picton-St Arnaud part of the alternative south highway but could imagine this traffic would be heavier and travelling at a slower pace until they get to the Kawatiri Junction. *TIP: Plan ahead for food stops. I seemed to arrive at Springs Junction around 11.30am-12noon both ways and it was pretty busy but still okay to get food and refreshments. Other food stops include St Arnaud, Murchison, Maruia Hot Springs & Cafe, Hanmer Springs, Culverden and if on Inland Route 70, Waiau.*
- NZTA road signage was excellent. A number of previous 100km zones are now at 80km zones.
- Travelling from **SH1** (where Waipara hits SH1) **to Kaikoura** there was light traffic. You don't notice any changes in the road until you get just before the Hundalee Hills where there was a short detour before driving over the hills. You do see a couple of 'waves' in the road and notice the bendy road barriers.
- From the Hundalee Hills you drop down onto the SH1 coast road and as you make your way to Kaikoura there are numerous sets of road works, hill strengthening sections and new walls constructed. A very interesting drive with a couple of traffic light and stop/go sections. If you didn't know the area had had an earthquake, you'd just think, "Gosh, lots of roadworks going on here." If travelling direct from Christchurch or Waipara allow extra 20 minutes for slower driving along the coastal road. *Road crews have done a fantastic job making repairs.*
- Coming into the township, it looks pretty much business as usual. There's a couple of retail outlets with scaffolding and support beams and a few motels where you can see the effects. But generally, the town is in good shape.
- SH1 North of Kaikoura is closed off after about 12kms. Barriers will prevent any further travel.
- Travelling from **Kaikoura via the Inland Route 70** road towards Waiau and Hanmer Springs was fine. First 40 minutes towards Waiau no noticeable difference except for a few edges of the road where the edge has dropped away. There's a number of road work sections (maybe 8) where you may have a few 'wait' times while road crews are working. Important to drive slowly and to the speed limit where signage is indicated. There were a number of campervan/motorhome and rental cars driving north in my line of traffic who seemed to handle the conditions well.
- The community seems quite buoyant but also realistic about the visitor season and approaching winter months. Now is the time everyone is planning for the new season and all agencies are pulling out all the stops to ensure when Oct/Nov approaches, roads, accessibility, marina, accommodation and all activity and attractions are back in action.
- New Kaikoura Museum worth visiting. It is on the bottom level of new Council building.





One of the areas that have been cleared SH1 South of Kaikoura. Workers above tunnel area clearing loose rocks and a new wall constructed after road has been cleared.



These rocks on the roadside (oceanside) have been cleared by tunnel area as shown above. Another corner cleared on SH1 South (Photos: L Keene, Feb 2017)

SH1 NORTH OF KAIKOURA (ROAD BETWEEN CLARENCE AND KAIKOURA)

This information provided by NZTA, 3 March 2017. Road and rail links north of Kaikoura to Picton remain closed. Our work recognises these networks are critical for getting your goods to market, bringing visitors to the region and providing access for the many local communities along the route.

NCTIR continues to make good progress on many fronts to the north, with more machinery and crews moving on-site to begin building access tracks and removing slips. Here's a link to look at NZTA's latest newsletter #6. <http://www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/projects/kaikoura-earthquake-response/kaikoura-earthquake-update-20170303.pdf>

Last week their crews installed rockfall safety bunds at some of the sites. These bunds help protect their construction crews from falling rocks. Four minor slips near Irongate have been cleared this week.

SH1 North of Kaikoura



- Completed the construction access road around Site 2 (pictured right), providing safe vehicle access for the community at Rakautara for the first time since the November earthquake.
- Stockpiled about 20% of the material from Site 1A and Site 1B, to use in the repairs of SH1.
- Started work at Half Moon Bay to build the bunds and access tracks around Sites 3, 4 and 5), which will enable us to get additional machinery and crews on-site, from the south, to Ohau Point (Site 6). The bunds help provide protection from falling rocks, allowing our crews to work below them.
- Continued helicopter sluicing and rock removal south of Papanoa Point (Site 7), where crews continue to make the site stable for the remote-controlled excavators to make their way from the north through to Ohau Point (Site 6) to enable slip clearance to begin. These slips remain highly unstable and hazardous, with large rocks and other loose material frequently falling.
- At Okiwi Bay (Site 8) (pictured right), a bulldozer is making good progress tracking through the bush to reach the top of the slip. Once at the top, removal of this slip can begin.
- At Waipapa Bay (Site 9), a 40-tonne excavator has brought the slip down at this site in just three days. Material from this slip is being stockpiled for future use in the repairs of State Highway 1



Photos courtesy of NZTA Newsletter No.6, SH1 North repairs

State Highway 1 South

State Highway 1 south of Kaikoura remains fragile. The highway is subject to on-going closures because of weather and road repair work. **With the approach of autumn and shorter days**, the opening hours along this section of SH1 are being reviewed. It is only safe to have the road open during daylight hours because of the risk of rockfall. New opening hours will be introduced soon.

Inland Road

Work on the Inland Road continues to ensure the road will be in the best possible condition before the **start of winter**. The nature of the road makes it susceptible to closures during heavy rain and weather events. During the next few months, our crews are completing road repairs along the entire route and removing of rock fall hazards.

Alternate SH1 Route – Picton to Christchurch

The alternate route (via Lewis Pass) is continuously being improved to ensure the route can better cope with the extra traffic, as well as making it safer and improving travel times for all road users and affected communities. This includes improving the condition of the road, as well as installing additional signage and introducing speed limit reductions. The large scrub fire near Hanmer this week saw our roading crews diverted from repair work along this route to help emergency services. Conditions are tinder dry in the area and everyone is asked to take extreme care.

Latest update:

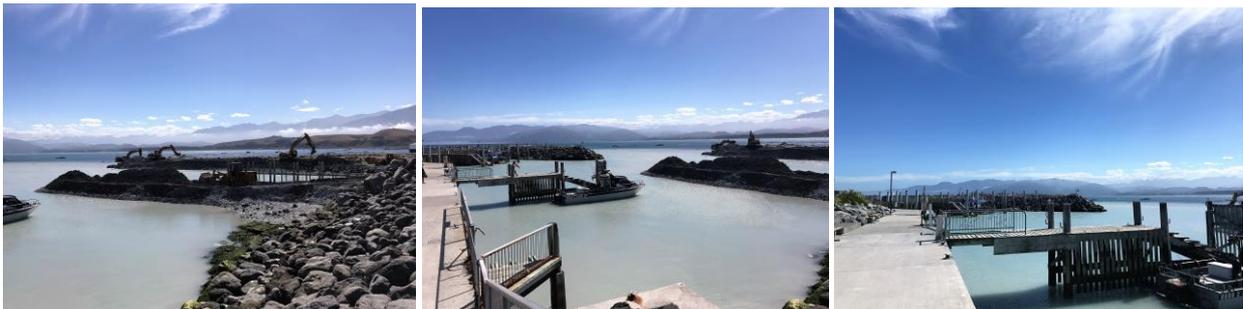
- Work along this route continues to improve the condition of the road and make it safer before winter. We're currently working at 26 sites where the greater volumes of traffic have caused the seal to deteriorate. This work is resulting in delays of up to 40 minutes along the route – everyone is asked to allow extra time for their journey. This work will continue for the next 10 weeks.
- Widening of the highway also got underway this week at Howard Narrows, at the southern end of SH63 north of Murchison.

South Bay Marina Progress

The repair work to the marina and harbour continues. Reinstatement of Kaikoura Harbour is crucial to restoring the economic prosperity of the town's tourism and fishing industries. Government has committed \$5m to the restoration of the harbour facilities.

More than 10,000 cubic metres of material has now been dredged from the main marina channel. This is being used to construct a cofferdam across the marina basin: a watertight enclosure pumped dry area that will enable construction work to get underway to deepen the marina basin below the waterline within the harbour.

Whale Watch Kaikoura and Dolphin & Albatross Encounter trips are running daily around tides. The marina is expected to be fully operational mid-year.



Photos: L Keene, Feb 2017

Info NZ Inbound Tour Operators and Offshore Tour Wholesalers (Agents)

Inbounds and agents planning to include Kaikoura on future itineraries (2017 and 2018), please note SH1 Picton-Clarence is open. However, the road from Clarence-Kaikoura is closed and not expected to open for 6-12 months. There are options to fly from Clarence to Kaikoura with Air Kaikoura.

For FIT travellers and cycle tours, note the roads will be quieter and don't have a lot of traffic and perhaps a cycle portion from Blenheim-Clarence and then a flight could be an idea. Alternatively, other road/cycle transport options for cyclists from Christchurch-Kaikoura then a fly option. This is a great way to see the new raised sea-beds and other changes in the landscape.

New Product Idea – Coastal & Seabed Hiking

Lots of opportunities for school groups, travel clubs, senior and education markets to visit Kaikoura and learn about the impact of the earthquake and geology. Scientists around the world will be interested in changes.



Here's a sample of some of the great views you'll see walking around the Peninsula. White chalky rocks used to be covered with water at high tide. Now green dark coloured rocks are high tide. (Photos L Keene, Feb 2017)

Air Kaikoura www.airkaikoura.co.nz Wings Over Whales www.whales.co.nz and Sounds Air www.soundsair.com have scheduled and charter services to/from Kaikoura.

All ferry services with Interislander and Bluebridge sailings are fully operational.

Intercity has introduced two new daily bus services between Nelson and Christchurch which will travel via Murchison, Springs Junction and Hanmer Springs.



Intercity reinstated their coach service in January from Christchurch to Kaikoura.

- **8728** Departs Christchurch 07:00 Arrives Kaikoura 09:40
- **8727** Departs Kaikoura 15:50 Arrives Christchurch 18:25

The times are identical to the previous timetable and the towns/communities en route will also be serviced – e.g. Cheviot, Amberley. Please note, the timings make it possible to do a Whale Watch or Dolphin/Albatross encounter day trip on most days including kayak, seal swim trips, hiking and general sightseeing. FIT pax and wholesalers are of course free to book a Whale Watch cruise and then separately book Intercity to get there and back, same as before the earthquake

STANDARD INFORMATION: SH1 South Road and Inland Route 70 are Open

Road access is restored to Kaikoura. The Inland Route 70 is open and State Highway 1 to the south of the seaside town is open with restrictions. **SH1 north of Kaikoura is closed 6-12 months.**

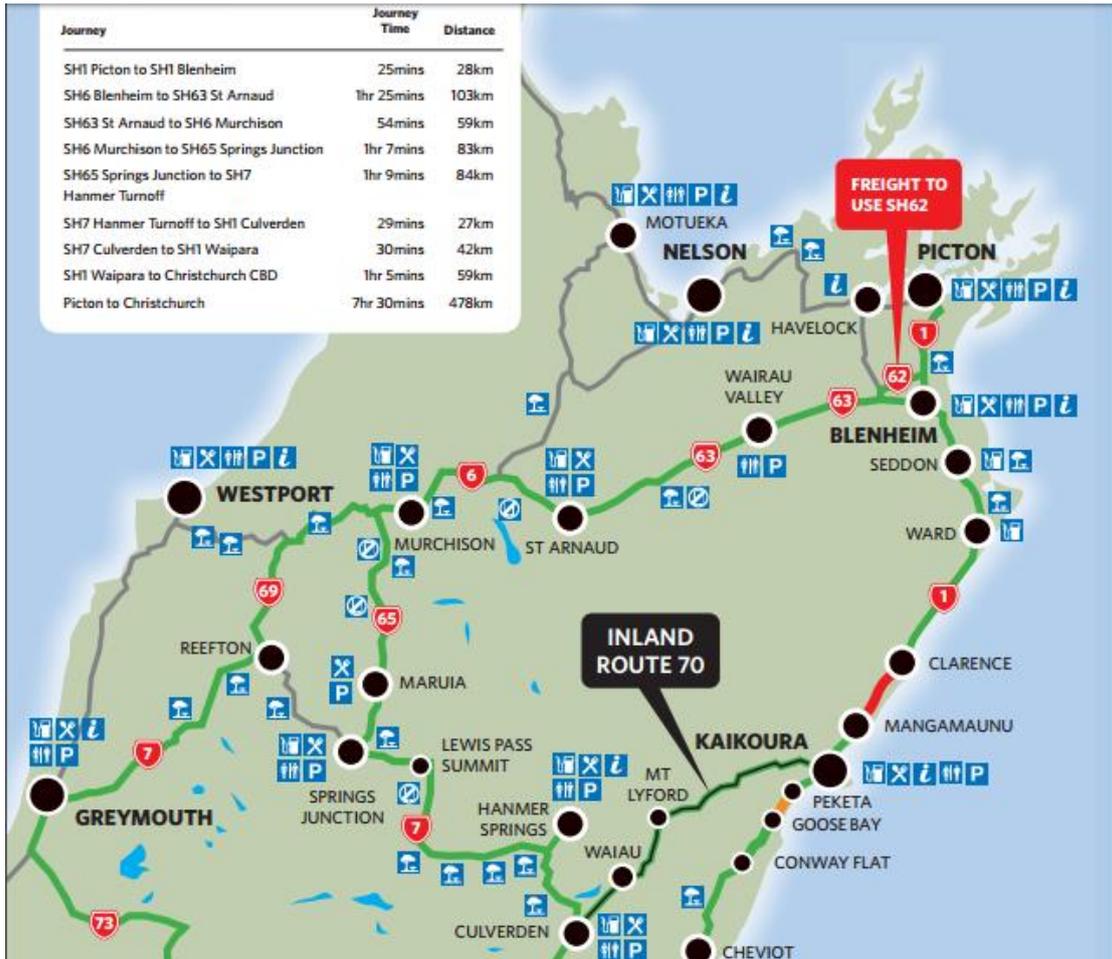
Access along **SH1 to the south of Kaikoura is open but has night-time restrictions.** These will remain until all slip faces have been stabilised and traffic signals have been installed along a 1km coastal section of the route where there is single-lane access only. **Access will be two-way and only during daylight hours, 6am to 8pm.** The last vehicles will be admitted to travel along SH1 south from Peketa at 7.30pm. Vehicles travelling north from Christchurch are advised to leave the city by 5.30pm to ensure they get through to Kaikoura before the road closes at Oaro at 7.15pm.

There is no stopping or camping along the route because of the risk from potential rockfall in the event of any further seismic activity or heavy rain. There will be designated rest areas for your safety.

<https://www.nzta.govt.nz/traffic-and-travel-information/travel-information-for-canterbury-and-marlborough-regions/>

The **Inland Route**, between **Waiau** and **Kaikoura**, is open **24/7 with unrestricted access both ways**. There are speed restrictions and no stopping areas which everyone using the route is asked to strictly adhere to. The average travel time for the 90km route from Waiau to Kaikoura is about two hours. The route remains hazardous and fragile and all road users are asked to take extra care and be prepared for the unexpected.

Picton-St Arnaud-Murchison-Lewis Pass-Hammer Springs-Culverden-Waiau-Mt Lyford-Kaikoura



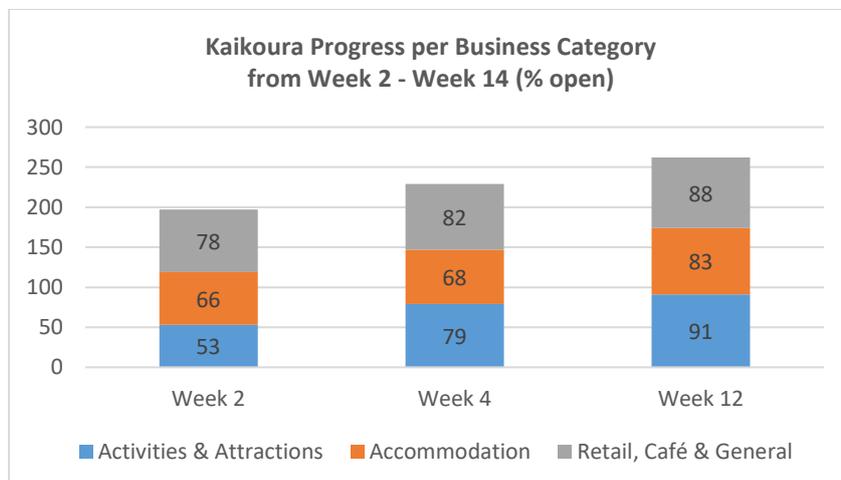
Kaikoura i-SITE Manager, Mariet van Vierzen said, “Word is out about the new look raised seabeds and how they really add to the views (vista) when doing the Kaikoura Peninsula walk. It takes about 1 hour one-way from Point Kean Seal Colony to South Bay Reserve and its worth walking one way along the shore and one way along the top of the Peninsula (2 hour return). It’s been neat to see so many visitors in the i-SITE and around the town and the carparks busy at Dolphin & Albatross Encounter and Whale Watch Kaikoura.”



New views around the Kaikoura Peninsula

Table 1.0: Progress Indicator Summary Week 2 to Week 14 (3 March 2017)

Progress Indicator	Week 2 29 Nov 16	Week 4 17 Dec 16	Week 14 3 Mar 17
Activities/Attractions	53% open	79%	91% open
Retail, café, general	78% open	82%	88% open
Accommodation	66% open	68%	83% open
Inland Route 70 road	closed	Restricted access 2 Dec	Open 24/7
SH1 South	closed	Reopened 21 Dec	Open – day driving only
SH1 North	closed	Closed	closed
Residential properties	White 938	White 1215	White 1660
	Yellow 112	Yellow 50	Yellow 230
	Red 34	Red 27	Red 31
Commercial properties	White 193	White 199	White 226
	Yellow 4	Yellow 37	Yellow 34
	Red 5	Red 3	Red 2



Activities/Attractions – 45 operators on spreadsheet (91% open for business)

- Albatross Encounter (operating daily)
- Air Kaikoura
- Air Kaikoura Pilot a Plane
- Atawera Art
- Board Silly Surf & SUP Adventures
- Caves Kaikoura Tours (early Feb)
- Clarence River Rafting
- Dolphin Encounter (operating daily)
- Emporium Brewery
- Emporium Mini-golf
- Fish Kaikoura
- Glenstrae 4Wheel Adventures
- Homeward Hill Art Gallery
- Indulge Body & Soul
- Kaikoura Coast Track
- Kaikoura Cheese
- Kaikoura Farm Park
- Kaikoura Fishing Charters
- Kaikoura Fishing Tours
- Kaikoura Golf Club
- Kaikoura Helicopters
- Kaikoura Kayaks
- Kaikoura Marine Tours
- Kaikoura Museum
- Kaikoura Short Walks
- Kaikoura Shuttles
- Kaikoura Snorkelling Tours
- Koura Bay Fishing Charters
- Koura Bay Golf (9 holes)
- Kowhai Gorge Horse-trekking
- Kaikoura Lavender Farm
- Levi's Pedal Kayaks
- Maori Tours Kaikoura
- Llama Trekking
- Seal Swim Kaikoura
- South Pacific Whale Watch
- Spey Creek Hunting
- The Point Sheep Shearing Show
- Waikoura Springs & Freshwater Crayfish & Poultry Farm
- Wings over Whales
- Whale Watch Kaikoura (2-3 trips daily)

Accommodation – 81 properties on spreadsheet (83% open for business)

Please find attached a copy of a spreadsheet that has information on Accommodation providers and whether they are open (white) for business if they are **yellow** (closed in the interim while still being evaluated) or **red** stickered (closed indefinitely).

Retail/Food & Beverage Services – 104 businesses on spreadsheet (88% open)

The majority of retail, hospitality and general service outlets **are open for business**. Information collated from i-SITE. Please refer to spreadsheet attached with this email for specific information.