We’ve slowed down for winter, but the next earthworks season is just around the corner!

Wet winter weather is not ideal for earthworks, but this doesn’t mean work on the project has come to a grinding halt. The team has been focusing on some key activities over the winter months, including ground improvement, drainage works and structures.

Bulk earthwork activities are carried out between October and April, when the rainfall is typically less and the temperatures warmer, which reduces the risk of erosion and sediment ending up in local waterways. During winter, earthwork areas are significantly reduced and environmental controls are put in place in line with the project’s resource consent conditions.

Drone Footage
Thanks to our Survey team trying new things, we have the most exciting Drone footage to date!
Subscribe to our YouTube channel for more Project Related Video’s

Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey – Now Live
The Ara Tūhono – Pūhoi to Warkworth Stakeholder and Communications Team are working hard to ensure the community are kept up-to-date with what’s going on across the project, and we’re keen to get your feedback on how we’re doing. Our previous survey gave us some great insights into areas for improvement and we look forward to hearing from you again.
All responses will go in the draw to win a $100 Countdown Voucher!
The survey is now live and will be open until Friday 27 September 2019. Click the link to take part in the survey:
What’s Coming Up

NORTH
1. Pukerito (Northern roundabout)
   Groundworks are progressing on Pukerito in the Northern end of the project.

2. Realignment of Wyllie Road
   Weather permitting, the ‘new’ Wyllie Road will be live to traffic early November 2019. This area is known as Tūhono ki Kourawhero.

3. Project Information Centre
   Located at the Kourawhero office, 45 Wyllie Road is our Project Information Centre available for the community to drop in and visit.
   Opening Hours:
   Tuesday: 0900 – 1300
   Thursday 1300-1600
   Or contact our friendly team to organise a visit outside of these hours.

SOUTH
4. Moir Hill Road widening
   Completed

5. Moir Hill Road realignment
   Following on from the Moir Hill widening works, which are currently approaching completion, we will be continuing with our works on Moir Hill by starting the realignment package. This work will include forming two new tie-ins from the existing road across the bridge followed by a commissioning and safety adoption process. Once completed it is envisaged that the traffic can be switched from its original layout to the new alignment in early November. This will allow the team to continue the northern extents of the CS1 cut and join the central and northern sections of the project. Works are expected to run between Early August to October.

6. S1 Cut
   View south through S1 Cut. Batter trimmed to final shape.

STRUCTURES
7. Te Tapuwae o Kahumatamomoe
   Te Tapuwae o Kahumatamomoe is an overpass and will realign Moir Hill Road later this year.

8. Arawhiti ki Pūhoi
   Works continue on our two largest bridges - Arawhiti ki Pūhoi and Arawhiti ki Ōkahu.

9. Arawhiti ki Ōkahu
   Works continue on our two largest bridges - Arawhiti ki Pūhoi and Arawhiti ki Ōkahu.
Meet the Team

Lewis Blake is a Safety Advisor for our Structures Team and has been working on the Ara Tūhono – Pūhoi to Warkworth Project for the past 7 months.

Lewis is based at Site Access Point 9 (SAP9) in Pūhoi but oversees health and safety across all bridging structures for the project. Based at Site Access Point 9 in Pūhoi, Lewis’ role is to monitor the health and safety of our structures and he spends most of his time on site engaging with the different teams, raising awareness and ensuring the various health and safety protocols and requirements are being adhered to across bridging structures for the project.

‘We asked Lewis what he enjoys about his role;’

‘What I enjoy the most about this role is the people, I love the interaction with the many different people I encounter daily. I love being outside in the field and not just stuck at a desk all day. There is still lots of paperwork to do and finding that balance can be a challenge sometimes. The paperwork side is also very important to have completed correctly, we need to make sure we have the document trails for auditing purposes to prove we have done what is required within the correct specifications.’

‘What does a normal day look like for you?’

‘As part of my role I attend the morning briefings where I will often talk to the guys and girls about any hot topics, I then head out onsite to help with the prestart planning, hazard identification and site inspections or I’ll be completing an audit.’

‘What’s the most challenging part of your role?’

‘I’m new to the construction industry so it was a big leap at the start, I had lots to learn as its quite different to building ships. So, in the beginning I spent as much time as I could on site talking to the crew and the engineers, asking a lot of questions and just trying to soak up the knowledge and wisdom from others, learning as much as I could.’

‘What were you doing prior to working for the Ara Tūhono – Pūhoi to Warkworth project?’

‘I have worked in Health and Safety for over 4 years. Prior to this project I worked for a company called Babcock who were situated at the Navy base in Devonport. They did ship fabrication maintenance and upgrades, I worked closely with the commercial team on Super Yachts, Barges and transportation.’

‘What is the most rewarding part of your role?’

‘I’ve always tried to have a people first approach. I feel that for any H&S professional to be successful it is important that you can listen and take in the feedback and ideas people offer and listen and learn from it. I like to work with people to address any concerns they have and not just dictate to them.’

‘On a personal note, I’m going to be a father in December with our first child. My wife and I have been together 8 years and we were married in Minnesota USA. We are both big American Sports fans, so on the night of our wedding day we took the wedding party (still in our wedding outfits) to an ice hockey game in America. We were filmed at the game and the American talk shows picked it up and we went viral, you can look us up on YouTube and see us on Good Morning America.’

Gifting of names by Hōkai Nuku

The naming of significant projects and project features is an important process for mana whenua (the people from this place) which highlights connections to their ancestors and iconic identity markers in our environment. It can also identify specific associations through historical events and activities.

Structure/Area | Gifted Name | Meaning
--- | --- | ---
Okahu Viaduct | Arawhiti ki Okahu | Name is location specific and directly related to the waterway.
Pūhoi Viaduct | Arawhiti ki Pūhoi | Name is location specific and directly related to the waterway.
Moir Hill Bridge/Overpass | Tapuwae o Kahumatamomoe | Name specific to the Cultural Footprint and Manuhiri korero. This name acknowledges the coast-to-coast pathway travelled by the ancestor, Kahumatamomoe.
Kauri Eco Viaduct | Arawhiti Pua Ngahere | Description to symbolise ecology, rakau, Ngahere (forest). Combines symbolism of all Ngahere. Notion of regeneration of forest based on seed sown by the mature trees.
Cut from Schedewy to Moir Hill | Awa Hīkauae | Revival of the use of Hīkauae for the area rather than Hungry Creek for the Pūhoi tributary, Hīkauae Creek. This name acknowledges a significant victory in the area.
Wylie Road Junction | Tūhono ki Kōurawhero | The name symbolises the abundance of a particular kind of freshwater crayfish that once filled the local streams. The saying ‘Ka whero te Kōura’ (the crayfish goes red), refers to a person who is quick-tempered and flushes in anger.
Wylie Road Compound (45 Wylie Road) | Kōurawhero | Name reflects the general location of the roundabout recognising the hill between the two gullies.
Northern Roundabout | Pukerito | Name reflects the general location of the roundabout recognising the hill between the two gullies.

What does Ara Tūhono mean?
The first name gifted by Hōkai Nuku in 2012 to the Pūhoi to Wellsford Project, was Ara Tūhono, the pathway that connects you from North to South and coast to coast. The adoption by the Transport Agency of the dual Māori and European naming of the motorway as, Ara Tūhono – Pūhoi to Wellsford Road, is symbolic of the collaborative relationship between Hōkai Nuku and the Transport Agency.

The Hōkai Nuku Cultural Advisors represent the mana whenua for the area and provided names for the key structures and features on the project which were endorsed by the Transport Agency in November 2017. A whakawātea, ceremonial opening will be held for each structure and feature to officially open them and formalise their name.

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<tr>
<th>Structure/Area</th>
<th>Gifted Name</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
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Matariki

We celebrated Matariki by learning a Waiata (song) with our Project Partners Hōkai Nuku.

Ko Matariki te whetu hei Arataki e
A tutuki noa ki te mutunga
Pūritia nga tohutoho o te wa
Kia manawanui, kia rangimāte

Translation:
Matariki will guide you in all things
From time to eternity
Maintain the gospel teachings
Take hold of opportunities presented
Be patient be calm
Is through faith, hope and charity
Be loving, be patient, be calm

Construction Jargon

MILLING

- Pavement milling (asphalt milling, or profiling) is the process of removing at least part of the surface of a paved area such as a road, bridge, or parking lot. Milling removes anywhere from just enough thickness to level and smooth the surface to a full depth removal.
- Milling machines utilize a large, rotating drum that removes and grinds the surface of the asphalt. The carbide cutters are positioned in such a way that after being cut, the pavement is automatically moved to the centre of the drum. The pavement is then loaded onto a conveyor belt attached to the milling machine.

SWALE

- A swale is an open vegetated drainage channel or shallow trough-like depression designed to carry, detain, partly treat and promote the filtration of stormwater run-off, usually 5–10 m wide.
- Swales also known as bioretention, filter or infiltration strips, are broad, grass channels used to treat stormwater run off. They direct and slow stormwater across grass or similar ground cover and through the soil.