



Project open day success

Closing out a busy earthworks season.



Many thanks to those of you who attended our project open day in March. Up to 1000 people attended the event and were taken 'behind-the-scenes' of our exciting project. There was plenty on offer on the day, from information stands run by the environmental, geotechnical and structures teams, to van rides up to a purpose-built viewing platform, dump truck rides, drone footage, a digger simulator and a chance to get up close to the 'big kit'. We've received great feedback from those who attended, and the day proved to be a great way to celebrate and showcase the progress made in the 2018/19 earthworks season. We will host another open day in 2020, look out for more information early next year.

You may remember that we set ourselves a target of moving up to 4 million cubic metres for the 2018/19 earthworks season. And have we done that? The short answer is, nearly. This season alone we've excavated around 3.7 million cubic metres of earth and moved around 2 million cubic metres to fill areas. These numbers can be hard to visualise but become evident with the changing landscape, as the shape of the new motorway becomes clearer. Our recent drone footage is a great way to see these changes and the progress made across the project. You can view the March footage on our website www.nx2group.com or at our Information Centre, 45 Wyllie Road. Opening hours are Tuesday 9am – 1pm, Thursday 1pm – 4pm and first Saturday of the month by appointment only.

As we prepare for the wetter months ahead, our earthworks teams will start to close-out open areas and scale up sediment and erosion controls. You may notice previously exposed 'cuts' become a minty green colour, as hydroseed (a combination of mulch, grass seed and a natural adhesive) is sprayed as an effective technique for stabilising the slopes and batters. So, while earthworks activities will slow down significantly over winter, our teams are kept busy planning for the next big earthworks season which will kick-off in October 2019.

Ngā mihi,
Robert

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