

BOGONG HIGH PLAINS ROAD LANDSLIDE

Thursday 10th November, 2022

Key Messaging

This is a very large and complex active landslide with significant risk to public safety and both public and privately owned infrastructure assets.

All Agencies are working on feasibility of short term access options while developing long term plans to remediate the site and restore full access as quickly as possible.

Gain a comprehensive understanding of the social and economic impacts of Falls Creek and adjoining communities, North East Region tourist economy impacts and what is required for whole of government response to support.

Community safety must always be our priority.

The current estimate is for the Bogong High Plains Road to open to all traffic, with traffic restrictions in place by February/March 2023.

What has happened?

There has been a very large Landslide on Bogong High Plains (BHP) Road above Bogong Village. The landslide is believed to have been caused by heavy rainfall in the area in recent weeks.

This Landslide is going to severely restrict access from Mt Beauty to the areas of Bogong Village, Falls Creek and Howman's Gap for a number of months.

Alternative access to Falls Creek from South and North via Omeo Highway and Bogong High Plains Rd Omeo side of Falls Creek is available, however this will add significant travel time to any planned trip.

Emergency Access

To allow provision of emergency services to the impacted communities, an emergency service vehicle access track has been constructed to allow access to Bogong Village, Falls Creek and Howman's Gap from Mt Beauty. This track is now available for 4WD emergency vehicles to use for emergency purposes. This includes AGL to manage power and DoT to manage the landslide. The track alignment is on a narrow side-cut with no room for passing. Ongoing

works, to maintain the track surface, will continue to ensure access is maintained by DoT. This emergency access route is for emergency services only and not available for community or non-emergency vehicle use.

Walking track access

There is pedestrian access through Bogong Village for essential workers servicing Falls Creek, Howman's Gap and Bogong Village who are then shuttled by vehicle from Bogong Village to their work sites. This allows pedestrian access between a parking area at Lewis Camp, off the Bogong High Plains Rd northwest of Bogong Village, around the Potential Landslide Impact area, through Bogong Village to the Bogong Power Station car park where essential workers can meet shuttles to Falls Creek. Part of the pedestrian access track is shared with the emergency access 4WD track.

Walking track upgrade works have been completed. Track is on steep and undulating terrain so sturdy footwear and reasonable fitness is required.

Additional works have been completed at Lewis Camp car parking site. All organisations are requested to advise their personnel that this is the approved parking location for anyone needing access to Bogong Village on foot.

It is deemed too dangerous to walk the BHP road under the landslide for access.

Traffic control procedures are in place and only those individually listed will get through the access point.



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Department of Transport are working extended hours 7 days a week, weather dependant, to clean up the site to allow access as soon as it is safe to do so.

A Community meeting will be held early next week at the Mount Beauty Community Centre and live streamed to those living in Omeo, Falls Creek or other interested parties. Please refer to the Alpine Shire Council or Falls Creek Resort Management Board websites for further information.

Currently on site are 2 x 25T excavators (1 x long reach), 1 x 6T excavator, 2 x D6 bulldozers, 2 x wheeled loaders, 2x Positrak loaders, a fleet of tandem and trailer trucks to remove landslide material and an arborist and tree removing crew with associated plant and equipment.

Once the spoil is removed, the site can be made safe for geo-technical engineers to properly assess the Landslide site for safety and stability, and develop a site rehabilitation plan, to ensure ongoing safety of road users.

Approximately 3,750cubic metres of spoil has been removed to date, from an estimated 35,000cubic meters.

At this point it is not possible to safely operate additional machinery at the landslide site.

Machinery requirements will be continually reviewed as work progresses.


Active surveillance of the landslide site is now in place in order to monitor any additional movement and site conditions.

ROAD CLOSURES:

<https://traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au/incidents/4978546>

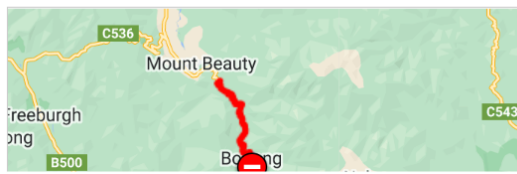
Bogong High Plains Road (C531)

From: Big Hill Road , Mount Beauty
To: Bogong High Plains Road, Falls Creek

 Road Closed - Debris

Bogong High Plains Road CLOSED between Cranky Charlie and Falls Creek due to landslide at Bogong Village

Started: 02/11/2022 9:22am
Updated at: 02/11/2022 9:24am



Please check the VicTraffic website for current road closure information on this event

A number of VMS boards advising of the road closure are in place throughout the Hume Region.

Rectification timeframes

There is a significant amount of work to be undertaken to remove the initial spoil from the Landslide site and undertake works to make safe passage for community access.

Current estimates indicate that community / public access along the Bogong High Plains Road by way of a single lane (under traffic management control) may not be achievable until late February – early March 2023.

This will be continually assessed, and regular updates will be provided as progress continues.

Until the site is safe enough to properly assess, it is difficult to estimate at this time, a long-term permanent solution to this event that will see uninhibited road access to community members, and the public.

Progress updates will be provided on a weekly basis to affected communities via updated newsletters.

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Key Contacts

- Department of Transport
- DELWP
- VICSES
- Alpine Shire
- Falls Creek Resort Management Board
- AGL



Mental Health and Family Violence

Nurse-on-Call on **1300 60 60 24** registered nurse, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from anywhere in Victoria.

It is normal to have emotional or physical reactions following a distressing event. There is always help available through your doctor or local mental health professionals.

[Lifeline](#) - 131 114 [Beyond Blue](#) - 1300 224 636
[MensLine](#) - 1300 789 978 [Kid's Help Line](#) - 1800 55 1800
[Mental Health Hub](#) 1300 375 330



Distribution list:

Falls Creek Village – for information
AGL for displaced residents
Mt Beauty residents – for Information
Howmans Gap Tourist Information
Falls Creek School
Omeo residents – for information