

PROJECT OVERVIEW



BOGONG HIGH PLAINS ROAD LANDSLIP



Access to Falls Creek along Bogong High Plains Road is planned to be restored late April pending weather and ground conditions, providing confidence and relief to locals, business operators and ski enthusiasts ahead of the 2023 Winter season.

Since taking over the management of the landslide recovery works Major Road Projects Victoria (MRPV) has carefully assessed the situation and is now confident a single lane of access to through traffic ahead of Winter is achievable. This will be subject to weather and favourable ground conditions.

We've been working closely with key stakeholders in the area – keeping them updated and assisting with critical logistical operations where possible.

Over the past month our construction partner Whelans Group Investments has brought in a fleet of specialised machinery and has continued to remove debris from the landslide.

Our crews are working seven days a week across all sections of the landslide and according to our current schedule we'll be able to provide access in time for pre-season preparations.

While our efforts have been focused on clearing the debris and restoring access ahead of Winter, our team of specialised design engineers have been concurrently working on a permanent solution for the area.

More information on the permanent solution including timing and details of disruptions will be shared as soon as possible – our current focus is on restoring access.

These works are heavily dependent on weather and ground conditions.

Image above: An aerial shot of the landslide from 25 February 2023.



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What are landslips?

Landslips, also known as landslides, can occur across Victoria for a variety of reasons. Some of the primary reasons landslips occur in Victoria include:

- **Heavy rainfall:** Victoria is known for its unpredictable weather patterns, and heavy rainfall can lead to soil erosion and landslips in steep and hilly areas
- **Earthquakes:** Although rare, earthquakes can cause landslides by destabilizing rock and soil formations, particularly in areas with steep terrain
- **Natural geological processes:** The geology of Victoria is complex and includes various rock formations, faults, and other natural features that can contribute to landslips.

Overall, landslips in Victoria can be caused by a combination of these factors, and they can have significant impacts on local communities, infrastructure, and the natural environment.

Managing the risks of landslips requires ongoing monitoring, assessment, and planning to reduce the likelihood and impact of these events.

Image below: Machinery moves from one side of worksite to the other along Bogong High Plains Road on 26 February 2023

What's happened?

The landslip is located on Bogong High Plains Road between Mount Beauty and Falls Creek just above Bogong Village. We estimate the landslip to be about 70 metres high and 100 metres wide and extending 100m into the mountain, making it the largest landslip in Victoria in over 40 years.

The loose debris and earth created from the slip is currently being removed and the landslip is being stabilised before rectification works can begin.

To ensure the safety of our workers and the public, we've established an exclusion zone should a further slide occur at any time.

Safety is our priority

Specialist equipment fitted with the highest level of safety measures, is being used to undertake the debris removal as some parts of the landslip are difficult to access.

We also need to regularly check to ensure any progress we've made doesn't affect the safety of the slip. Works are heavily weather dependent with periods of heavy or persistent rain, increasing the risk of the slip to start moving. We're working on a long-term engineering solution to this problem which can only be achieved with better access.

You will notice an increased number of trucks travelling up and down the mountain as we remove the debris. For everyone's safety we encourage cyclists and pedestrians to avoid the area.

4WD access track

The Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) is in the process of completing safety improvements on the 4WD emergency access track including installing guard rail and improving the surface of the track and drainage.

Anyone wishing to use the track must have a permitted vehicle, complete an application form available from Falls Creek Resort Management and have approval granted by DTP before accessing the track.

Residents seeking approval should contact Falls Creek Resort Management and request an application form.

Access to this track is restricted as follows:

- Access for **essential permitted workers and approved residents** is available between 6am and 8.30am and between 4.30pm and 7pm.

The track will be closed between 8.30am and 4.30pm, seven days per week. It will also be closed overnight, between 7pm and 6am every night.

Only emergency services responding to an emergency will be permitted access outside of these times.

For the latest information on the 4WD emergency access track visit roadprojects.vic.gov.au/bogong.



Machinery works to clear debris from Bogong High Plains Road



45,000

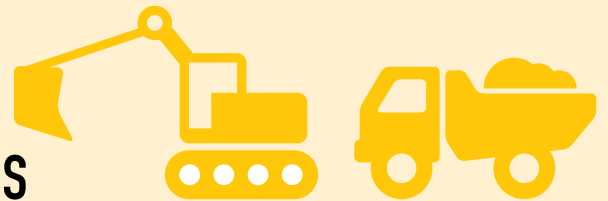
**CUBIC METRES
OF DEBRIS
CLEARED FROM
THE SITE**

24

**ROOMS RENTED+
2 HOUSES LEASED
LOCALLY TO
HOUSE WORKERS**

30+

**HEAVY EARTH-MOVING
MACHINES AND TRUCKS
ON SITE REMOVING DEBRIS**



9

**FULL-TIME STAFF
RECRUITED FROM
MOUNT BEAUTY
AND FALLS CREEK**



120



**MEALS PER
DAY TO FEED THE
WORKERS, ALL
SOURCED LOCALLY**

Timeline of events

- Oct 2022**
 - Landslip occurs – Bogong High Plains Road closed to traffic
- Nov 2022**
 - DTP begins debris removal
 - Establishes 4WD emergency access track
 - Geotech investigations begin
- Dec 2022 – Jan 2023**
 - Debris removal and investigations continue
 - Safety monitors installed
- Feb 2023**
 - MRPV takes over management of landslip rectification and appoints Whelans Group Investments as principal contractor
 - Debris removal ramps up – planning on permanent solution begins
- Mar 2023**
 - Community information sessions to update stakeholders on progress take place
- Apr 2023***
 - Access between Mount Beauty and Falls Creek is restored ahead of Winter Ski season
- Late 2023**
 - Works continue on permanent solution

**Subject to weather and favourable ground conditions.*

Who are we?

MRPV is the Victorian Government agency that oversees, plans and delivers road projects and upgrades across Victoria, with dozens of large and complex projects recently completed or currently being delivered.

Meet our construction partner

MRPV has appointed Whelans Group Investments to undertake the recovery works and permanent solution.

Whelans is a Gippsland based civil construction company that has been in operation since 1975.

The family-owned company specialises in civil construction, earthworks, and complex infrastructure projects, having previously worked on smaller landslips within similar terrain.

Whelans has a fleet of modern and specialized machinery and equipment, including excavators, bulldozers, graders, and rollers, many of which are currently on site, including a D8 dozer, which is the largest possible machine accessible to the mountainous area.

Their diverse range of expertise and experience, especially in the quarrying sector make them a valuable partner for this project.

Access to Falls Creek

For everyone's safety, Bogong High Plains Road remains closed between Mount Beauty and Falls Creek.

The road closure point from Mount Beauty is located approximately eight kilometres uphill at Ropers Lookout.

Visitors wishing to access Falls Creek can do so from the south via the Omeo Highway in Shannonvale.

Falls Creek business support

Businesses in the Falls Creek area can access the Business Relief Service – a free, confidential, one-on-one phone call or in-person appointment with a local Business Relief Adviser.

Advisers can help you connect with relevant support services, and with your next steps towards recovery.

If your business has been affected by the landslide, and you would like the support of a Business Relief Adviser, please call the Business Victoria hotline on 13 22 15.



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For languages other than English please call 9209 0147

1800 105 105 (call anytime)

contact@roadprojects.vic.gov.au



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