BREAK-ME-NECK HILL

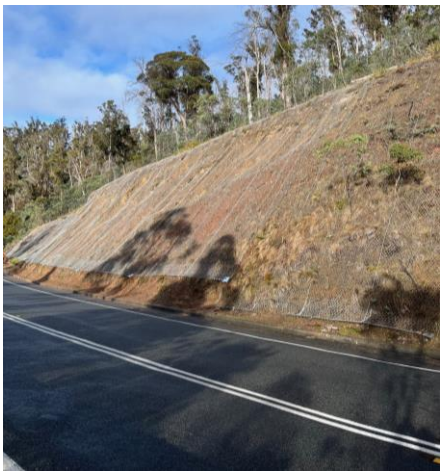
Drape Mesh Install

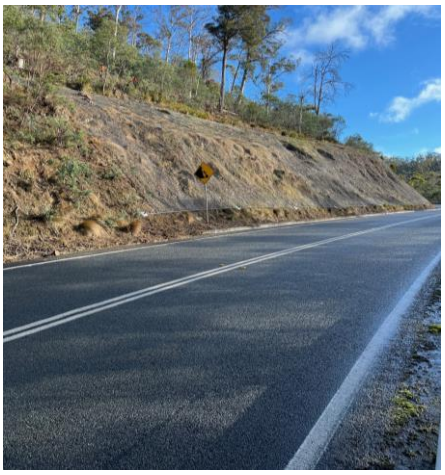
Date: **May 2024 to Jul 2024** Principal: **Dept of State Growth** Project Value: **$650k**

TASK

DSG identified approximately 100m section of embankment which required drape mesh application to prevent rocks falling on to the road causing traffic blockage or worse.

Shaw completed the installation of the drape mesh by initially scabbling the face for rock then drilling in anchors which then facilitated the mesh installation. Shaw had recently completed similar works at Nicholls Rivulet and applied many of the lessons learnt to this project.





CHALLENGES

A key issue for the site was completing the works without completely blocking the Tasman Highway. Shaw was able to sequence the works such that the Tasman Highway was not blocked in both directions during the construction of the works. While construction activities would take slightly longer to complete, the desire to improve community outcomes was a key determinant of the construction methodology.

The works were particularly challenging, with the majority of the works being perched on the side of a steep workface. Shaw needed to engage specialist equipment as well as skilled rope based labour to complete the works safely and effiecently.

The specification required pull out testing of the anchors lead to abortive works. Shaw proposed an alternate solution whereby the anchors were tested in situ. Shaw was able to demonstrate that by using this methodology that the anchors met the design requirement rather than as a theoretic exercise. This methodology minimised the programmatic and cost risks applied to the project with improved positions for the client and community especially as it allowed reopening the site to the public earlier.

OUTCOMES

Shaw were able to ultimately deliver a complicated project in difficult site conditions. Whilst the works needed to be technically accurate, minimising the impacts to the local environment as well as reducing impact to the local community was key in delivering key project outcomes.