

ABSEIL ACCESS LTD

Reference Project

Geotechnical - Rock Fall Protection

Location: Reids Falls, SH73 Arthurs Pass

Date: June 2012

Client: NZTA / Waka Kotahi

Consultant: Opus Consultants

SH73 cuts through the Southern Alps via Arthurs Pass reaching an altitude of 920m and is the main road link between Christchurch and the West Coast. The Reids Falls site is an area of constant rock fall from an historic land-slip.

NZTA and Opus requested a design and install solution to mitigate the rock fall hazard. Due to the remote location the solution requires minimal maintenance. We proposed an attenuation chute which would catch the falling rocks. The captured rocks would be slowed down by the net curtain and fall to the base for removal.

The project involved removal of vegetation and loose rock, installation of 7 top anchors (RB32 x 6m deep) and 5 posts. Casing the top section of the holes was required due to the loose and broken nature of the ground.

The netting is Maccaferri galmac PVC coated double twist covering an area of 320sqm. 18 Maccaferri HEA Panels were laced on top for additional strength.











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