



MEDIA RELEASE

FRA CONCERNED AT FLAGRANT DISREGARD OF WEIGHT LIMITS ON BRIDGES

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Fiji Roads Authority (FRA) Chief Executive Officer Jonathan Moore says they are extremely concerned at the flagrant disregard for weight limits on bridges around Fiji.

“In several locations specific weight restrictions have been stated against specific bridge because these bridges are in a deteriorated condition and there is a serious risk that they could be further damaged, or even collapse, if overloading continues unabated,” Mr Moore said.

He said such deteriorated bridges, in 16 locations around Fiji, were due for complete replacement over the next 18 months, but in spite of this load control must be observed right up to their last day of service.

“Those individuals and organisations should realise that they are not only jeopardizing lives, but they are also putting the entire economy of Fiji at stake by continuing to overstress the infrastructure.”

Mr Moore said the specific examples in the photographs come from Vanua Levu, at Vesidrua, and they were currently in a position where they may have to close this bridge, and two others, along the Nabouwalu-Labasa Road.

This, he said, would clearly have a very serious knock-on effect and they were resisting the proposal unless it becomes an imperative.

“However, if overloading continued to be out control the decision may be taken out of our hands as any one of these bridges could be damaged beyond repair or use, which would mean closure.”

NB: Picture Attached Below



Photo Caption: An overloaded truck- a threat to road safety near the Navesidrua Village in Seaqaqa