

STANLEY MILLS WEIR REPAIR

FISH MIGRATION MEASURES

The proposed works relates to repairs to several breaches within the existing weir on the River Tay at Stanley Mills near Perth:



The weir was constructed in the 18th century to provide water power to Stanley Mills, now a Scotland Heritage site.

The weir has suffered over the years from impacts during flood events which has led to its present condition with several small sections missing resulting in the water available to divert to the mill and hydropower station steadily decreasing and now around one half of that which was available just 5 years ago. This has led to a halving of the power generation from the hydropower station.

The proposed works includes for the systematic infilling of each damaged section with new rock armour to increase the volume of water diverted to the power station so as to restore carbon free power generation. The works will be carried out sequentially from the bank with plant and equipment working from the weir top rather than in the river channel itself. This will minimise the impact upon the river channel and any undue disturbance to the river sedimentation.

To further reduce the impact on the river the works will be carried out during the usual low flow period of May – July when the weir crest can be kept dry and water flow through the breaches minimised.

The works will not infill all breaches. There is one large central breach which currently facilitates the transit of migratory fish and recreational canoeists. This aperture through the weir will remain unfilled so as to minimise the impact on migratory fish and recreational users of this stretch of the river Tay.

Upon completion of the works the weir will be reinstated to the extent and condition which preceded the storm damage and which has facilitated the safe and effective migration of fish up and down the weir stretch for over 200 years. The intake to the hydropower plant will not be change, nor will there be any changes to the volume of water taken through the hydropower plant.

This work is regarded as emergency works as it very much aims to restore the weir as was, without any modifications and to maintain the balance between the river, the fish and the need to maximise the generation of carbon free electricity via the hydropower plant.