

Dove Cliff Weir Removal – August and September 2021 update

The temporary bypass channel reinstatement has progressed well. However, managing groundwater ingress into the channel has been a bigger challenge than was expected by the contractor. This has led to a slightly later completion date than originally forecast and we will now be finishing construction in September rather than by the end of August.

The temporary bypass channel reinstatement is nearly complete and we are working on the final section which is the placing of the topsoil. This is a particularly important part of the reinstatement due to its location in the floodplain, and we are monitoring this very closely to ensure it is returned to the same condition as when we started. Once the temporary bypass channel is reinstated we will be removing the haul roads, site compound and reinstating these areas.

With suitable weather and flow conditions we will be complete and off site in September. Please bear in mind that all activities on the project are weather dependent and the construction programme naturally reflects this.



Images looking downstream of the bypass channel:

Left image with fully diverted river taken on 1 April 2021. Right image with bypass channel reinstated on 19 August 2021.

Dove Cliff weir works

All construction works around the weir removal have now been successfully completed.

Following the completion of the works, the channel consists of a more natural river bend, with a deep faster flowing section on the outside and a shallower flowing section on the inside, as shown in the images on the following page.

The mill fleam has been reconnected on the outside of the bend to ensure the flows are maintained.

Below is an aerial photograph looking down at the new river alignment where the weir used to be, adjacent to the aerial view design illustration.



PROJECT DOVE CLIFF
ILLUSTRATION AERIAL VIEW
BLACK & VEATCH
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Above Left: August 2021 aerial photograph of completed permanent works.

Above Right: Artist impression of completed project.

There will be some specific landscaping whereby we will replant native trees and shrubs in place of those that were removed to enable the weir removal works to be undertaken. This will happen in the late autumn of 2021 to align with their planting season.

Project activities completed in August

- Isolating the temporary bypass channel and restoring the land on the Derbyshire side of the river
- Temporary bypass channel - lower and middle sections complete

Main project activities over the coming month

- Complete final upper section of the temporary bypass channel
- Removing haul roads in both upper and lower fields and reinstating the ground
- Leaving the site

Contact us

If you have any queries about this project, or would like to be added to the mailing list to receive these updates, please contact our Engagement Team via email at Engagement_WestMids@environment-agency.gov.uk or by telephone on 0203 025 1583.

We also have an online information page about this project. The link to this page is <https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/west-midlands/removal-of-dove-cliff-weir>.

Thank you for taking the time to read this update.