LAND & WATER
Innovation. Inspiration. Results.

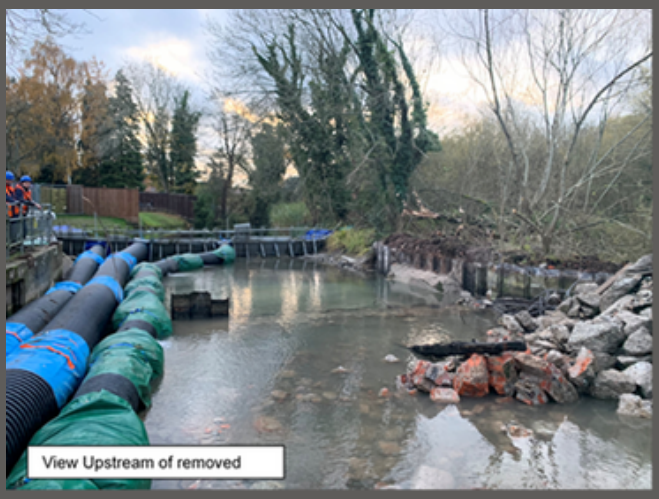
SHAW GAUGING WEIR

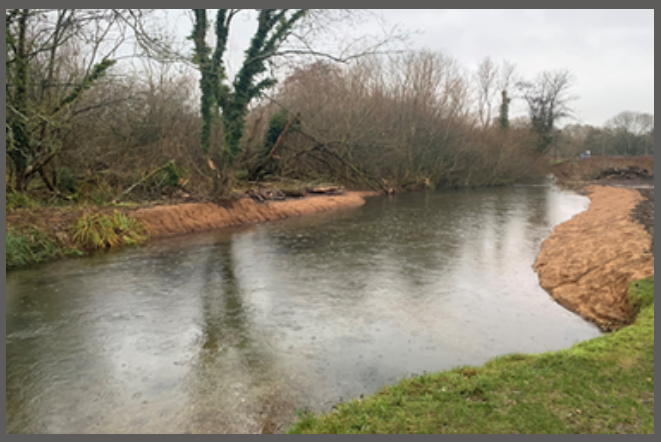
The Environment Agency looked to its FCRM framework contractors to assist with a project to remove Shaw Gauging Weir on the River Lambourn, a SSSI chalk river in Kent. The weir was to be removed and in order to protect the integrity of an upstream lake two flow controls and a level control structure was to be designed in a contractor led design and build contract. It was quickly realised that the site's ecological sensitivity coupled with strict contract dates meant the temporary works approach would be pivotal as the weir removal was not to degrade habitats downstream meaning the working area had to be taken off-line during construction. This would be a challenge with flow regime estimated to be between 0.88 – 1.29 cumecs, making pumping unviable both financially and environmentally.

Land & Water Services have developed a temporary framed dam system for use in waters below 1.5m this also has the ability to incorporate large bore pipework's that can be used to pass significant flow volumes through the dam and works area isolated behind. Having such a system operated by the contractor without reliance upon subcontractors, gives the regulatory authority confidence that any flood risk and environmental impact can be effectively managed.

All suitable materials recovered from the weir removal were segregated and either reused within the new bank structure or taken away by the EA to be used on other sites. Virtually no construction waste left the site.

The removal of the weir provides a one-time cost that restores many natural river processes and promotes natural migration of biodiversity which is particularly beneficial for the populations of brown trout within the Lambourn. In summary, the project provides significant ecological benefit to arrange of aquatic species, it also removes the need for future maintenance.





Project Particulars

Client: Environment Agency (South East Hub)
September - December 2019

PROJECT VALUE: **£198,700.00**

Find us on the internet at
www.land-water.co.uk
Contact us on 0844 225 1958