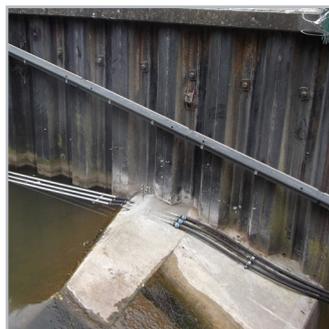


PROJECT EEL PASS FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION



We are pleased to announce the acquisition of Kingcombe Aquacare LTD. As specialists within all aspects of water maintenance and management, the Kingcombe team have brought with them a number of new services that we are now offering inhouse to our clients across the UK.

The Environment Agency wished to install an eel pass on their crump weir at Bitton, Bristol. The usual solution would be to install an electrically pumped system. In the case of Bitton however, the cost of bringing mains electricity to the site was prohibitive and so alternatives were sought.

An eel ladder would not be suitable due to the vertical height of the weir of more than 4.5m and the overall distance to still water. Kingcombe Aquacare Ltd were therefore asked to investigate the use of hydraulic ram pumps instead of electrically powered pumps.

Working closely with the Environment Agency we designed a pumped eel pass using 3 modern ram pumps. The total lift was 9m over 18m to ensure that the eels and elvers could be dropped into still water.

The design was carried out on our CAD system which allowed the design to be tested prior to fabrication. When the design work was complete, the eel pass was fabricated in our workshops and assembled to check accuracy.

The challenging installation was carried out by our site team with no disruption to the function of the monitoring station. Within 24 hours of commissioning, the first elver was recorded using the new eel pass.

Kingcombe Aquacare were proud to win the 'Environment Agency Project Excellence Award for Innovation' as a result of the work done for this project.