

# River Thames lock closures

## Investment programme November 2021 to March 2022

### Issue 2

27 September 2021

Listed below are the locks that will be closed during the 2021 to 2022 investment programme. The locks will be closed from the first date listed and re-open the day after the final date.

Date	Location	Work being carried out	Canoe portage with care during closure
24 November 2021 - 18 January 2022	* <b>Rushey Lock</b>	Reconstruction of chamber stairwells to incorporate a recessed egress ladder, replacing some lock chamber fenders and undertaking partial lock side resurfacing.	Yes
25 November 2021 - 13 January 2022	* <b>Cookham Lock</b>	Replacing the lock chamber vertical rubbing timbers.	No
6 January 2022 - 1 March 2022	* <b>Bray Lock</b>	Replacement of lock chamber rubbing fenders, undertaking partial lock side resurfacing and improving the lock gate anchor system.	Yes
3 February 2022 - 30 March 2022	* <b>Penton Hook Lock</b>	Reconstruction of lock gate anchor points, undertaking partial lock side resurfacing and improving the emergency access to the upstream breakwater structure.	Yes
4 February 2022 - 7 April 2022	* <b>Blakes Lock</b>	Resurfacing the existing head landing path. Reconstruction of the existing canoe portages at the upstream end of the head landing as well as refurbishing the lock head bullnoses and lock gate walkways.	No
17 February 2022 - 21 April 2022	* <b>Goring Lock</b>	Reconstruction of access steps to tail of Lock Island, replacement head landing timber fenders and reconstruction of short stay mooring path (Thames Path).	N/a
Dates not yet available, but will be between 1 November 2021 - 31 March 2022	<b>Romney Lock</b>	The replacement of Romney Lock chamber fenders that have exceeded their design life and require renewing.	Yes

Dates not yet available, but will be between 1 Nov 21 - 31 Mar 22	<b>Hambledon Lock Cookham Lock Boulton Lock Old Windsor Lock Bray Lock Boveney Lock and Teddington Lock</b>	<b>#1</b> Lock hydraulic control system upgrade to seven lock site operating systems to improve resilience. More site specific detail to follow after our tendering process is complete.	Yes
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**\* Changes since previous issue**

**#2** Additional lock hydraulic upgrades are being planned to replace existing pipework with more resilient stainless steel pipework. This is being considered for all hydraulic locks and individual closures will be updated as contracts are awarded.

**Please note:**

- **#1 and #2 above**  
Both these hydraulic control system upgrade projects are out to tender and we will update customers with Issue 3 as soon as tenders have been returned - hopefully in the next few weeks.
- **Sonning Tail Landing** refurbishment is in the process of being awarded to contractors and will require a closure for some time **between November 2021 and March 2022**. Exact closure date will be advised to customers as soon as possible.

## Other major works

We will also be carrying out other major works on the River Thames during 2021 to 2022. Please see below for details.

**Sonning Lock upstream short stay mooring** - creating a formal short stay mooring, approximately 170m in length, upstream of the lock head layby as well as refurbishment of tail landing fenders and undertaking local environmental improvements.

**Non-tidal Thames wreck removal** - the removal of priority wrecks that are either sunken, stranded or abandoned and causing an obstruction to navigation. These may cause some local disruption, which we will advertise through our Harbour Master's Notices.

**Public safety risk assessment control measures** - a package of works to at various Thames Lock sites to improve public safety. This will consist of safety fencing, access improvements and hazard identification.

**Shoal management** - undertaking shoal management work at Eynsham Lock, Godstow Lock and Benson Lock to improve the navigable access to these locks. These are likely to cause some local disruption, which we will advertise through our Harbour Master's Notices.

**Bridge principal inspections** - undertaking principle bridge inspections to understand condition information as well as any refurbishment.

**Thames weir refurbishment package** - a package of works to refurbish Bell Weir A, Penton Hook, Benson, Days and Old Windsor Weir to maintain their resilience and operability.

**Weir condition surveys at Goring, Whitchurch and Osney weir B** - Engineering condition surveys at these sites to inform future investment needs.

**Shifford Lock gates replacement** - phase 1 of this project will be to assess the material options relating to a replacement to maximise sustainability, reduce carbon and maintain the heritage of this site.

**Godstow Weir B replacement** - pre-emptive fabrication of weir elements prior to construction in 2022 to 2023.

**Sandford Lock canoe portage** - creation of new access steps to the canoe portage downstream on the lock island, in the weir stream.

**Abingdon Lock access track** - refurbishment of approximately 170m of Abingdon Lock's access track to improve its safety for users and make it more resilient to modern traffic.

**Abingdon tail canoe portage** - creation of an offshore canoe portage, between the riverbank and the existing tail landing stage to provide safe access for unpowered craft.

**Thames Path Bridge 70 (Days Lock)** - reconstruction of bridge to ensure it remains structurally safe for Thames Path users. These works will require a temporary footpath diversion.

**Thames Path Bridge 71 (Days Reach)** - reconstruction of bridge approach wall to ensure it remains structurally safe for Thames Path users.

**Thames Path Bridge 93 (Little Stoke)** - reconstruction of bridge to ensure it remains structurally safe for Thames Path users. These works will require a temporary footpath diversion.

**Goring Lock and short stay mooring refurbishment** - reconstruction of access steps to tail of Lock Island, replacement head landing timber fenders and reconstruction of short stay mooring path (Thames Path).

**Mapledurham Weir fish pass** - the creation of a new fish pass at Mapledurham weir to improve fish passage along the River Thames.

**Marsh head horse bridge replacement** - phase 1 of this project will be to scope the opportunities and constraints, that will be incorporated into a design in future years.

**Cookham weir fencing improvements** - redesign and installation of new safety / security fencing at the Odney Weir to reduce water safety risks to members of the public.

**Bray hand radial weir fish pass refurbishment** - refurbishment of the existing hand radial weir and fish pass to improve their operability and reliability.

**Bray mill weir refurbishment** - major refurbishment of weir structure to raise its condition and ensure it continues to be safe of reliable to operate.

**Fish pass design improvements at Sunbury Weir and Chertsey Weir** - the design of new fish passes at these locations to improve fish passage along the River Thames.

**Sunbury Dry Dock refurbishment** - an ongoing project to improve the dry dock facility. Following our previous work to replace the dry dock gates, this phase will improve the roof structure and pumping system.

**Sunbury beam lock gate replacement** - phase 1 of this project will be to assess the material options relating to a replacement to maximise sustainability, reduce carbon and maintain the heritage of this site.

**Teddington weir guard piles** - re-design and installation of new safety guard upstream of the main weir to improve the safety provision to river users as they approach the lock.

## Keep up to date

We send our River Thames investment programme to you as early as possible to help you plan your cruising over the winter. However, this programme is subject to change - for the most up to date version, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/river-thames-restrictions-and-closures>.

We also send email updates on River Thames closures and restrictions, to subscribe to this service please email [riverthames@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:riverthames@environment-agency.gov.uk).

You can view the current River Thames conditions at [www.environment-agency.gov.uk/riverthamesconditions](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/riverthamesconditions).