

Aubourn Rock Ramp (Fish Pass)

Location: Aubourn, Lincolnshire (c10km south west of Lincoln)
Completion Date: May 2016
Partner: Aubourn Estate



Project objectives

- Enable fish and eel passage over the weir.
- Maintain a functional ford crossing.
- Use natural construction materials, including locally sourced stone.
- Create greater depth and flow variation in the channel upstream and downstream of the weir.
- Increase in-stream woody habitat.

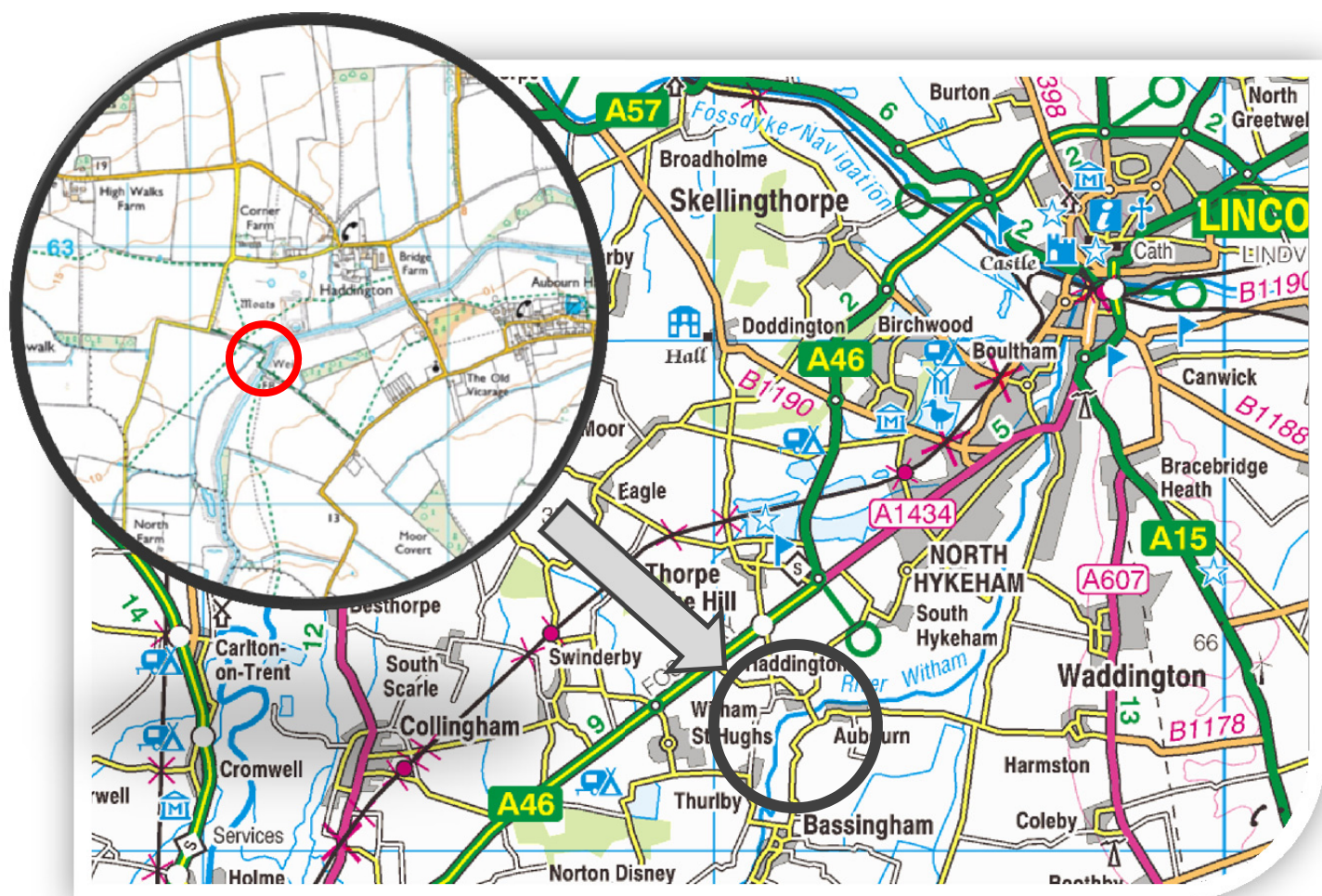
What we did

- Using steel sheet piling to maintain the water level and large rocks to conceal the steelwork, a series of stepped pools, rising c1m in c20cm increments, were constructed to create the “rock ramp” fish pass.
- Pools were excavated in the river bed and the material was deposited on the edge of the channel immediately upstream – a technique known as dig-and-dump.
- Riverside trees were hinged and secured into the channel and along the bank to create flow variation, increase woody habitat and provide refuges for fish and invertebrates as the water level and speed of flow increases.

The scheme was very carefully designed and assessed to ensure that it did not increase flood risk.

Visiting Aubourn Rock Ramp

Aubourn Rock Ramp is accessible via the restricted byway to the south west of Aubourn village. There is no public access along the raised flood bank.



Before – Aubourn Weir showing the drop of approximately 1m which created a barrier to the passage of fish and eels



After – the completed Aubourn Rock Ramp fish pass. Fish and eels can now pass freely upstream and downstream

For further information contact:

Matt Parr, Geomorphology Technical Specialist, Environment Agency, Lincoln
T. 0203 0255014. E. matt.parr01@environment-agency.gov.uk