



Proposed Fish Passage Improvements - Ashford Weir

Arboricultural Method Statement

The objective of this Method Statement is to ensure that all of the trees on and around the site are not damaged and their long term health is not affected in any way by the undertaking of the work.

The following notes detail the tree works proposed to facilitate the works and also the proposed tree protection measures that are to be in place during the undertaking of the works. Please also refer to drawing 04 – Arboricultural Plan and the map below.

1. The site is to be accessed only by small 4x4 work vehicles with a maximum gross weight of 3 tonnes. Traffic movements to and from site are to be minimised.
2. The informal track across the grass field is worn, rutted and well compacted. As such it is considered that this route does not require surface protection.
3. Four mature trees adjacent to the informal track require localised crown raising to create 3m wide by 3m high access corridors, the location of these trees is shown on the plan below in red. All arboricultural works must comply fully with BS 3998:2010 - Tree work. Recommendations. No limbs greater than 50mm in diameter are to be cut.
4. One tree adjacent to the proposed mortar/concrete mixing area and access route requires localised crown raising to create 2.5m wide by 2.5m high access corridor (only pedestrian access is required), the location of this tree is shown on drawing 04 – Arboricultural Plan. All arboricultural works must comply fully with BS 3998:2010 - Tree work. Recommendations. No limbs greater than 50mm in diameter are to be cut.
5. The mortar/concrete mixing area is to comprise a 5m x 5m bunded space formed with raised timber edges and heavy duty plastic sheet at the location indicated on drawing 04 – Arboricultural Plan. **Cement or other noxious materials must not be allowed to penetrate the soil.** The membrane is to be checked daily and repaired as required to ensure that an impermeable bund is maintained.
6. The proposed access route to the construction area from the proposed mortar/concrete mixing area and laydown area will be for pedestrian-operated plant up to a gross weight of 2 tonnes only. The route is indicated on drawing 04 – Arboricultural Plan. The route will be protected for the duration of the works; a 1.2m wide track will be formed with a 150mm depth of hardwood woodchip topped with 22mm plywood boards. The access route is to be checked daily and topped up/re-boarded as required to ensure a 150mm depth of woodchip is maintained and the plywood board is fully functional. **The objective is to avoid compaction of the soil to ensure that tree root functions remain unimpaired.**
7. Excavations – to avoid damage to tree roots, any excavation close to trees should be carefully undertaken, using hand-held tools. Roots occurring in clumps or of 25 mm diameter and over might be essential to the tree's health and stability. Exposed, damaged roots or those that have to be pruned should be cut so that the final wound is as small as possible and free from ragged torn ends. It is essential major roots (i.e. 25 mm and greater diameter) are retained undamaged.

