Barwon River Barrage Vertical Slot Fishway Construction - Summary Photo record





Channel extends back towards upstream bank exit.



Channel is completed and a blinding concrete base is poured to help slab construction.



The following day some water enters the site and is pumped and slab formed and poured.



Upside down culvert units are placed on the slab which form the fishway channel.



A trench is dug for the attraction flow channel. Concrete is poured around the culvert units and attraction flow channel to secure the structure. Rock is placed along the banks of the fishway to reinforce the banks against erosion, gantry for gates installed and remaining concrete poured.

Sheet pile is removed and fishway is opened.



Panoramic photo of site during construction.

Features of the fishway



Culvert units used in the fishway construction.



Cutoff walls were placed at upstream and downstream end of fishway.



Rocks were placed in the bottom of the fishway to enhance roughening.



An attraction flow channel provides extra water to fishway entrance. Plunching flow chosen to maximise noise attraction. Attraction flow operates to 100mm below FSL (maximum allowed)



Upstream exit recessed into bank and rock lined (temporary grate in place).



Entrance set behind sheet pile wall to reduce construction time and maximise site safety and retain weir integrity (hence a hole rather than a slot).



Entrance placed to right of main gates of weir. A small rock groin places fishway flow adjacent to the abutment wall.



Fish piling up below the gates prior to fishway construction, these fish (mullet and galaxias) were happily finding and ascending the fishway immediately after the fishway was opened, even while the excavator still worked!!!

Day two (22/02/2013) of operation had fish successfully ascending fishway, with thousands visible below, within and exiting the fishway. Construction time was 8days from breaking ground to passing fish.

Note: this is a summary report for SWIFFT. For the full original report please contact Denis Loveric, Corangamite Catchment Management Authority.