

What's Going on at the Weir?

Phase I of Construction Winter 2008/2009

Construction of the "Harvie Passage" weir project began in December 2008. The construction will not remove the weir, but rather will change the hydraulics downstream of the weir to eliminate the dangerous re-circulation. This will be done by adding a concrete wedge on the downstream side of the weir, and by constructing a series of boulder and concrete steps (or drops) to reduce the height at the weir.



Contractor's cofferdam construction winter 2008

In 2008/2009 the contractor extended the concrete wall that separates the sluiceway gates from the weir, in order to accommodate the future construction of the drops. The contractor also constructed the first section of the concrete wedge on the weir, next to the wall.



Looking south at the constructed wall extension
Completed spring 2009

Phase II of Construction Summer 2009/Winter 2010

Phase II of construction started in July 2009. The contractor will construct a series of cofferdams in the river to isolate their work area, and will re-route the main river channel to allow for construction of the downstream drop structures on river left and river right, and the entrance to the low flow channel on river right at the weir. This work will continue throughout the fall and winter. Please obey all pathway closure signs as the contractor needs room to haul and stockpile rocks.



Looking down the Bow River at the safety booms upstream of the weir

Why Phase the Construction?

The construction is being phased over a three year period to avoid times of the year which are critical to fish life cycles and to avoid the high stream flows that occur annually in the spring and early summer.

The contractor will work to isolate areas in-stream with cofferdams during each of the three phases to minimize impacts to the aquatic environment.



Artist's rendering of completed project entitled "Harvie Passage"

Phase III of Construction Summer 2010/Winter 2011

The final stage of construction will begin in the summer of 2010 and continue through the fall and winter. The contractor will complete their construction of the high and low water channel drops. The weir still won't be ready for use at this point so please stay clear.

Benefits of the completed Harvie Passage Project Include:

- Improved safety at the weir
- Enhanced fish passage & habitat
- Recreational opportunities for boaters



Boulder concrete work on low water channel (river right)

Specialized experts will test or "commission" the new facility once construction is complete to ensure it is functioning as designed and safer for everyone to use. Once the commissioning is complete the public will be informed that the facility is ready to use.



Once completed the rehabilitated weir will provide white water paddling opportunities (photo courtesy of Chuck Lee)