Bookmark Creek project works FAQ



Located around Renmark in South Australia, Bookmark Creek is an 8 km anabranch that bypasses Lock 5 and 13 km of the River Murray main channel.

The Sustaining Riverland Environments (SRE) program has contracted Fulton Hogan to undertake works at Bookmark Creek. This includes the construction of a multi-functional inlet regulator near Eliza Jane Estate and an upgrade of Nelwart Street Bridge. Infrastructure upgrades at both sites are expected to deliver improved environmental flows and fish passage through Bookmark Creek, as well as improve access for recreational kayak and canoe users.

What will construction involve?

The inlet regulator will include a larger and more open waterway for increased flow. Regulator gates will be available for use during weir pool operations and will most often be in the fully open position. The structure will enable pedestrian access, canoe passage and fish passage under all operational scenarios. The structure will not be open to public vehicle access however it will be suitable for emergency vehicle services access if required.

The Nelwart Street bridge construction has been completed. The previous road crossing was removed and replaced with a modular pre-cast concrete bridge structure spanning the full width of the creek. In addition to removing the flow restriction at this location, the bridge is now 6m in width and enables safer passage over the creek by larger vehicles (and includes guard rails on each side). This is the first time in decades that there is free-flowing water in the latter part of the creek.

How long will construction works go for?

12 months. The majority of on-site work is expected to be complete by the end of September at the inlet regulator, with completion, cleanup and handover throughout October. There will be no public access to Gregory Way during construction from October 2024-October 2025.

Will there be noise/dust during construction?

Standard working hours are 7am – 5pm, Monday to Friday and every second Saturday. Fulton Hogan will place

measures to minimise noise and dust impacts. Occasionally, there may be a need to commence work early, for example when pouring concrete during hot weather. Any work outside normal working hours, which could potentially create noise, will be communicated to stakeholders/residents.

What will the flow rate be?

A normal flow rate of approximately 80ML/day is being maintained through Bookmark Creek during construction via a bypass of the inlet regulator construction site.

After construction, up to 220ML/day flows can be achieved under normal conditions.

Will construction of the regulator affect water levels or quality at Jane Eliza Estate?

The inlet regulator construction will have no impact on the operation of lagoons in Jane Eliza Estate.

Will it be possible to kayak the creek following construction?

Access along the creek will be available via a canoe chute when the inlet regulator is not in operation, or by using the canoe portage ramp when the regulator is in operation. Kayakers will be able to paddle from the top structure, travel down Bookmark Creek and loop back to the top via the river.

More information

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Government of South Australia Department for Environment and Water