



The next phase of the Lower Otter Restoration Project is to start this autumn

The dry months have seen the scheme progress well with significant development in the north of the project area, and so we are now turning our attention to the very southern end of the site. This work will prepare the way for the connection of the historic floodplain with the Otter estuary via a breach in the earth embankment, programmed for spring 2023.

To ensure continuity of the South West Coast Path, we will construct a 70-metre footbridge in the location of the future breach. Whilst the footbridge works are undertaken, there will be a temporary diversion to the South West Coast Path.



Temporary footpath diversion

These works will begin 15th September 2022 until spring /summer 2023.

As part of the planned works, Budleigh Salterton Cricket Club is to be relocated to a purpose-built pitch in a more sustainable location above the floodplain. This means the existing clubhouse will be redundant and can be demolished. During this time, vegetation within the floodplain will also be removed (including the trees around the boundary of the cricket pitch) using a team of specialised arboriculturists. The removal of these trees will be mitigated by our planting programme of native trees following the construction works.

We will make sure we minimise the impact on people's use of Lime Kiln Car Park and the surrounding amenity areas during this time. In addition to putting in place a footpath diversion (as opposed to a closure), we will also ensure that the temporary site compound is located away from the car parking spaces where possible to minimise disruption to those wanting to use the car park. Please note, the play and skate parks will remain open throughout.

To enable these necessary works, there will be temporary traffic lights along Coastguard Road between 7am – 7pm during the week, to be removed during the evening and weekends. Until these works are complete, a safety barrier will also be placed to protect the war memorial.

The Lower Otter Restoration Project's aim is to create infrastructure and inter-tidal habitat that is resilient to the effects of rising sea levels and climate change. This new habitat will bring a variety of benefits to wildlife and plenty of amenity opportunities for visitors. Details of the project can be found at: www.lowerotterrestorationproject.co.uk/projectaims

We are working with nature, rather than against it, in the face of continuing climate change.