

Ground Investigation works – Burneside, Staveley, Ings and Kentmere

The Environment Agency has proposed a Flood Risk Management Scheme to better protect residential and business properties from flooding in the Kent catchment. We are currently in the site investigation phase for Burneside, Staveley, Ings and the upstream storage locations in Kentrigg and Kentmere ahead of our planning permission submission in Spring 2022. Below is a snapshot of some of these benefits being delivered as part of the scheme;



Ground investigation surveys – Catchment update

We're pleased to let you know that the majority of ground investigation (GI) being undertaken throughout Burneside, Staveley, Ings, and in upstream storage locations proposed at Kentmere and Kentrigg are complete.

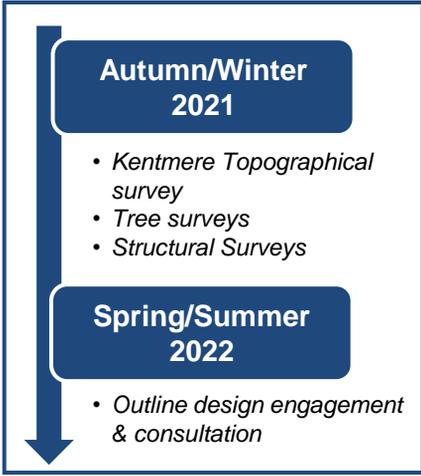
Once they are finished, we will have carried out over 200 exploratory locations to better understand ground conditions. This information will be used to develop the Flood Risk Management Scheme (FRMS) scheme proposals.

Over the next 12 months surveyors will re-visit borehole installations periodically to gather further information on seasonal changes in the water table.

What's happening next?

In the coming months, we will continue to undertake a range of environmental and ecological surveys across the upper catchment area to broaden our knowledge and help us to prepare our proposed design for the scheme. These include surveys of wildlife and habitats, both on the land and in the rivers.

As we progress our proposed scheme design we will also identify any existing structures, such as walls and bridges, which will require a structural survey and inspection which are key to our proposals. These surveys are likely to be undertaken in the new year.



What will this tell us?

This work is important as it will help us to identify key information we need to be aware of as we develop the proposed FRMS. This could include any particular constraints, or opportunities we need to take into account as we move forward.

From early on we have been working with landowners, partners and members of the community to explain our work and listen to any concerns they might have. These discussions will continue as the proposals evolve. The insight gathered, together with the survey results will be used to inform our proposed scheme designs.

What's involved in the up and coming surveys?

Kentmere topographical survey

Listening to local knowledge and input from our collaboration with the Kentmere Flood Liaison Group we have completed a supplementary topographical survey in the upstream areas of the Kentmere valley during September 2021. A small survey team used GPS equipment to take a cross-sectional survey to check the different slopes and levels of the land. This identifies key features such as water courses, trees, walls, public rights of way, bridleways, or service utilities. Data gathered is being used to better understand natural flood controls in the upper catchment.

Tree surveys

A small team will conduct a walkover survey between September and the end of October to identify and record 'arboricultural' features. This will identify woodlands, tree groups, or individual trees of significance that need to be considered as part of our proposals and could result in, for example, root protection zones or potential tree loss. Information gathered will inform the design of the flood defences and any mitigation that is required.

Structural surveys

Once we have a robust flood model and have a concept scheme design, we will instruct a number of surveys to be carried out on key structures e.g. walls and bridges to identify the structural integrity of existing infrastructure which may form part of, or be impacted by our proposals. It's likely this will take place in Spring 2022 but we will keep you updated.



GPS pole, topographical survey equipment



Tree surveys



Culvert, Staveley

Where will we find the latest information?

All information on the Flood Risk Management Scheme as it is being developed can be found on The Flood Hub. For more information visit www.thefloodhub.co.uk/upperkent

Contact us

Customer service 03708 506 506

KendalFRMS@environment-agency.gov.uk



Keep up to date

www.thefloodhub.co.uk/upperkent

@EnvAgencyNW 