

Caban Coch Dam Repair

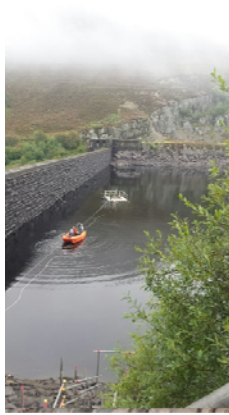
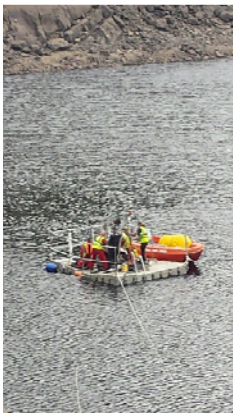
Overview:



Site Location:	>> Caban Coch
Client:	>> DCWW
Project Duration:	>> 6 Weeks

During a routine inspection carried out by the Dam Safety Team, a defect was identified with a pipe at the Victorian-built Caban Coch dam, in the heart of the Elan Valley, Mid Wales. The dam supplies 2.3 million people across Mid Wales, Hereford and Birmingham so is of major strategic importance.

It was decided that one of the defective pipes could not be repaired and needed to be isolated underwater, inside the reservoir. This complex and hazardous operation had rarely been attempted in our industry in the UK.



The scale of the operation was enormous—the reservoir needed to be dropped by six meters, draining around 35,500 mega litres of water.

A specialist dive team was brought in to perform the complicated and challenging procedure to make sure the repair of the scour pipe was safe. Parts of the pipe weighed more than two tonnes and work was carried out underwater in near zero visibility, 36 meters below the surface of the reservoir.



The operation involved groups from Dam Safety and Capital Delivery at DCWW as well as support by Lewis Civil Engineering, Edwards Diving Services and Mines Rescue.



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