



Project update

August 2025

Our project to upgrade Bewl Reservoir is approaching a major milestone.

During August, we will lift the three large steel marine pipes currently at the western end of the dam into the reservoir using a very large crawler crane. Each pipe weighs 20 tonnes, is 30m long, and requires the large crane to place them far enough out into the reservoir so the water is deep enough for them to float, especially with the very dry weather we've been experiencing.



Marine pipes being prepared for lifting into the reservoir

The pipes will be stored in the reservoir until October while we prepare the dam's protective surface. Once this is complete, the pipes will be floated into position on the upstream side of the dam and lowered into underwater supports in a complex operation involving floating pontoons, trolley systems, winches, and specialist divers.

Once up and running, this system will allow us to lower the water level in the reservoir quickly if needed, for example, to carry out repairs to the dam.



Our reservoir at Bewl is a key source of drinking water for East Sussex and Kent

from

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We expect the project will be complete before the end of Winter 2025/26. For more details, please scan the QR code or visit our website: southernwater.co.uk/our-region/improvements-in-your-area