



Arnold River Hydroelectric Power Scheme

Client

TrustPower.

Project

This project proposes to provide a sustainable means to assist the West Coast in meeting their growing power demand. Water flowing in the Arnold River will be drawn into a canal at the location of the existing dam at the Arnold Reservoir. The minimum flow remaining in the Arnold River will be 12 cumecs. The canal will convey water to a storage pond, which will feed the power station, before being discharged back to the Arnold River. Numerous potential impacts have been discussed and offset by environmental enhancements. Spawning channels will be constructed and fish screens installed to stop adult trout and eels passing through the turbines; thus protecting the 16 species of fish present in the water course. From a recreational point of view TrustPower has committed to the construction of a white water course, as well as the placement of rocks to improve the kayak passage. Periodic flushing flows will take place to enhance the downstream channel and habitat. The use of additional fill material will allow embankments to blend naturally into their surroundings.

Sustainability outcomes

- Providing a renewable energy source for the West Coast
- Installation of fish screens, and spawning channels
- Maintaining existing flow velocity to ensure recreational values are sustained
- Preservation of high water quality and ecology
- Rehabilitation of vegetated areas disturbed by the project.



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