

NYMNP

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Design and Access Statement for Fishing Shelter adjacent to Grosmont Bridge, Grosmont

The River Esk is a very important, migratory river for salmon and sea trout. Salmon are essential for other species like Pearl water mussel. The maintenance and management of the River and the migratory fish populations is largely overseen and safe guarded by the interest of the fishermen. The Salmon and Sea Trout fishing season is from 1st April to 31st October, during which time the fishermen get the opportunity to enjoy the fishing but the river management takes place all year. Management includes monitoring of poachers or others who would do harm to the river and its wildlife, in particular its fish, for instance by disturbing the spawning redds during the crucial November, December, January and February periods.

The shelter has been sited in a key location which is a very important stretch of the river from Grosmont Bridge down to Balcony Pool and this can be observed from this single position. This is not only very helpful for poacher monitoring but also for anybody interested in watching the river or the wildlife around it.

It also provides a shelter from the rain and the sun, not only for the fishermen but also the full time River Keeper and others employed to carry out the management of the river, riparian habitat and woodland, and others wanting to observe the wildlife and carry out poacher watching e.g. Environment Agency bailiffs.

It is also intended that the shelter will be used to show parties and groups of people the wildlife associated with the river, in particular school children and other groups and it is hoped that the recently formed charity the Yorkshire Esk Rivers Trust will utilise it whilst engaging with its educational function. The proximity to the National Park Car Park and public toilet facilities in Grosmont make this a particularly suitable place for such groups to be able to engage with the river and its associated wildlife. Its size should be able to accommodate a reasonable sized group of people.

The shelter is of simple, timber construction, with a mono pitch roof over timber legs. Apart from the doorway entrance which is merely a gap, it is boarded around up to approximately 1m high, to afford some shelter and protection from the wind, whilst giving somewhere for users to conceal themselves behind. Apart from the 1m high boards and monopitch roof, it is open to the elements.

There is a fixed bench on one side facing the river.

The floor is formed from consolidated stone. The timber boarding is proud of the ground level.

The total size is approximately 6m x 4m.

Additional planting was carried out in the winter 2012/13 between the shelter and Grosmont Bridge and also at the side of the road near the roadside entrance to reinforce the existing hedge. When these trees and shrubs grow up it is anticipated they will completely obscure any view of the structure, even when the leaves are off the trees in winter. Currently it is only possible to catch a glimpse of the structure from the roadside or the bridge in a couple of places in winter and not at all in summer.

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