

Upper Medway Navigation

Delays to works at East Farleigh Lock

Questions and Answers - Update 2

5 May 2017

This document accompanies newsletter 2 and seeks to answer the most frequently asked questions about the further delays at East Farleigh Lock.

Why can't we move the bird's nest?

All birds, their nest and eggs are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. It is an offence to damage or destroy an active nest or, prevent parent birds access to their nests.

We are unable to apply for a special licence which would allow us to move the eggs and the birds as the work at East Farleigh Lock does not meet the strict criteria required, such as preserving public health and safety.

Have nesting birds delayed other projects before?

There are other instances where nesting birds have halted construction projects, one such high profile case was the Millennium Dome where a Mallards nest delayed the works.

Couldn't you have prevented the birds from nesting?

It is not practical to net off every part of the site where birds could nest. We did not expect birds to nest in this critical area of the construction site, given the large amount of noisy activities taking place.

For any other queries please send an email to our enquiries inbox: KSLE@environment-agency.gov.uk