

Hampshire Avon Fish Counter

Knapp Mill, March 2025



Figure 1 – A spring salmon, estimated at 85 cm long, captured by the new overhead camera in channel 20 on 20/03/25.

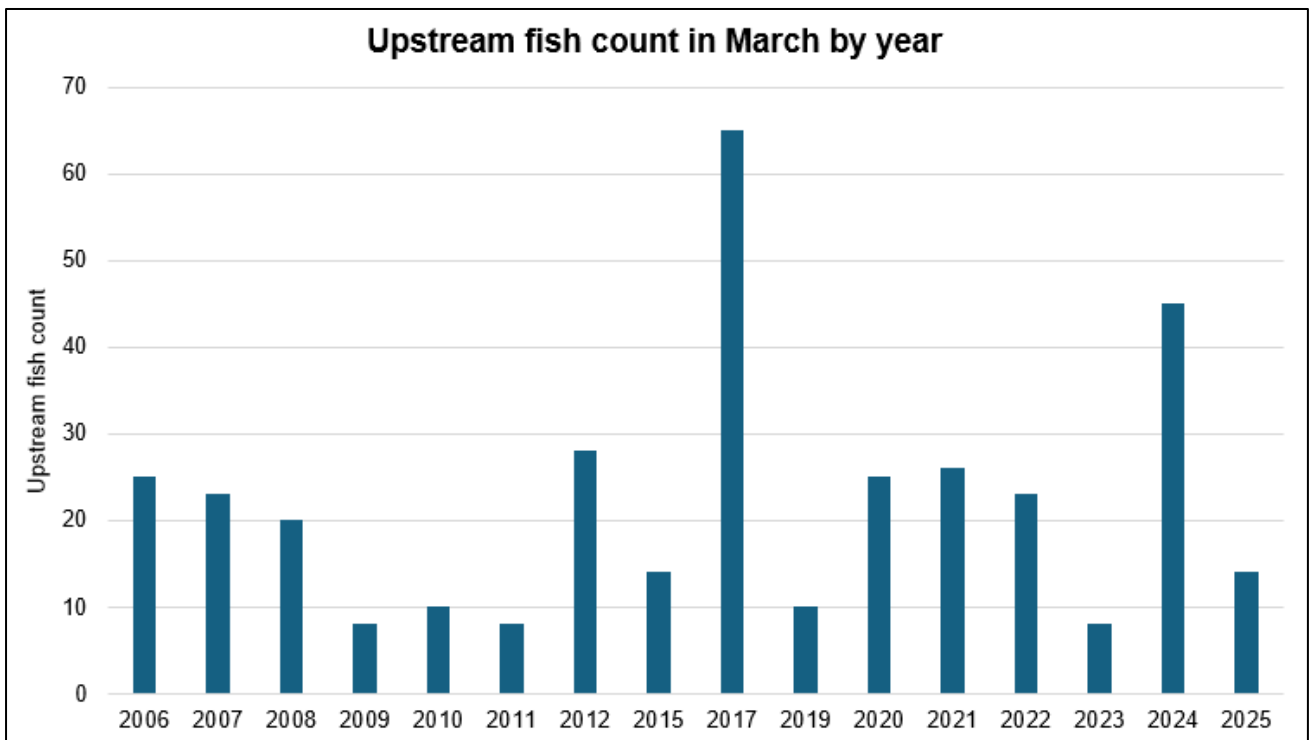
Summary

The fish counters at Knapp Mill operated without fault during March. As with February, 14 fish were recorded in this month. This represents 63.6% of the long term average for March.

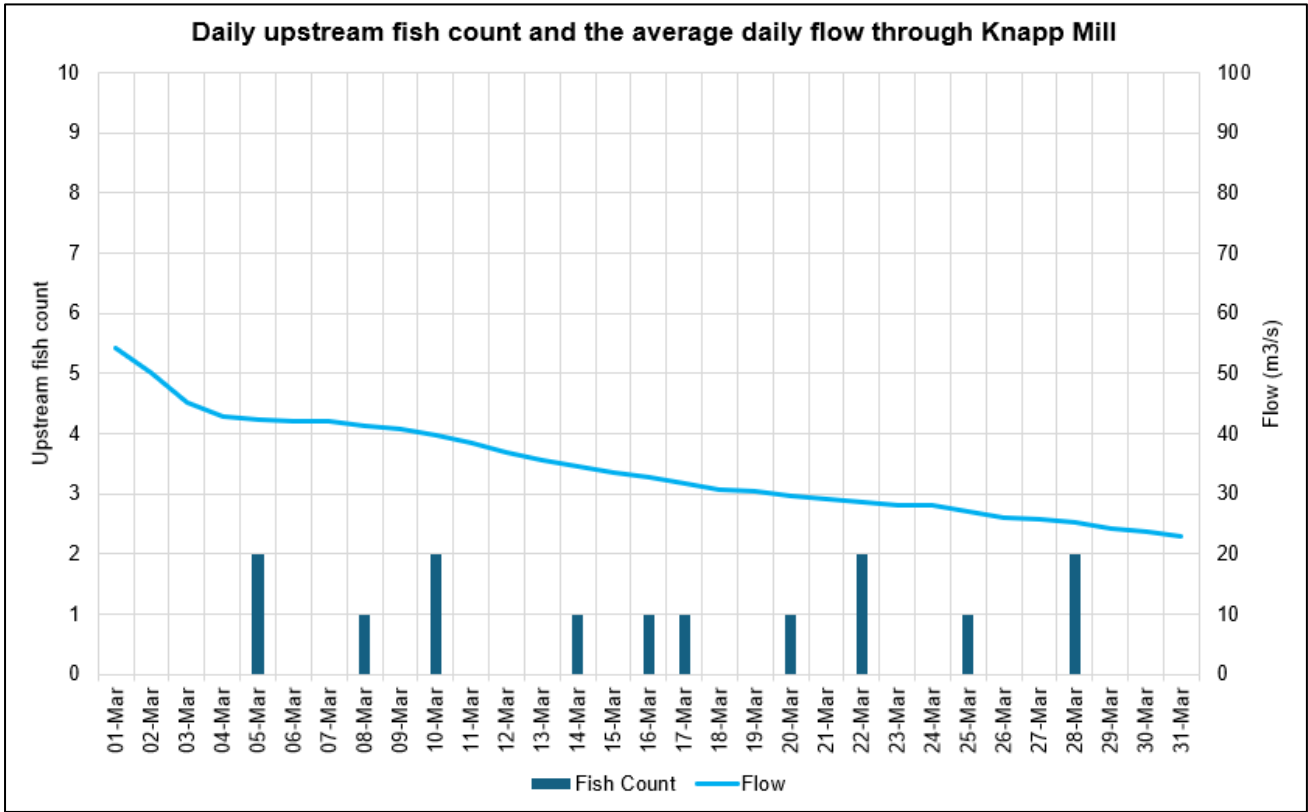
In the middle of March we installed cameras in channels 19 and 20, although the return of high water turbidity means that even the overhead cameras are struggling to get clear shots (as in our somewhat murky figure 1). A challenge with the particularly nice weather lately has been the rapid drop in flow in the Avon, which resulted in hatches on the Great Weir being closed much earlier than last year. The fish generally favour the outside channels so we chose to place our available cameras there. However, these channels are the first to

close as flows decrease, so each time we need to redesign the camera set ups to follow the open hatches inwards.

Data



Graph 1 - A comparison of the total upstream fish count in March across each year (excluding 2013, 2014, 2016 and 2018).



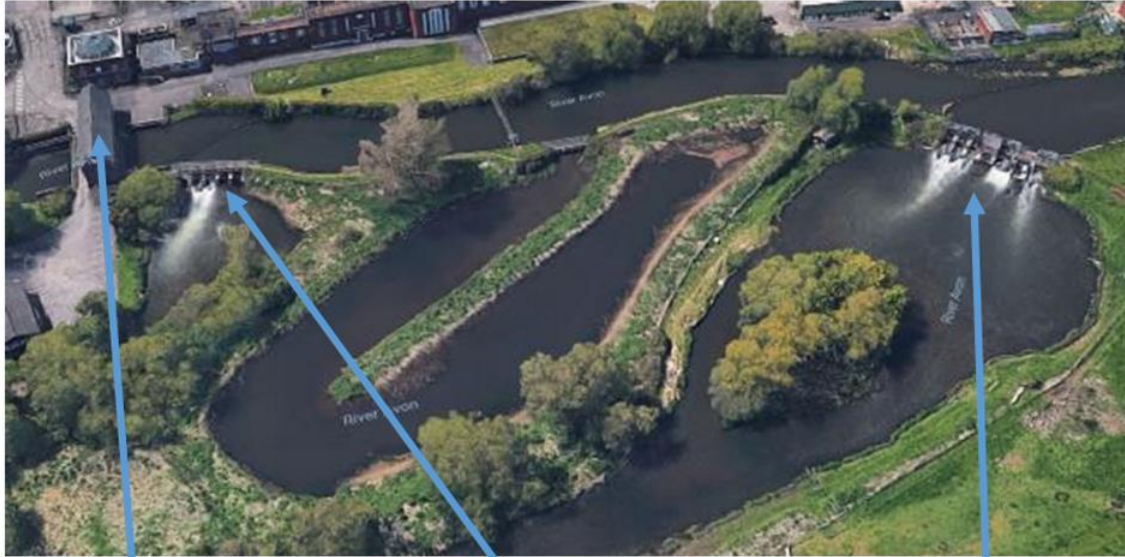
Graph 2 - 2025 upstream fish count each day in March alongside the flow through Knapp Mill for the same period.



Figure 2 – Labelled image of the Great Weir showing the location of each channel.

For further information

Contact: KnappMill@environment-agency.gov.uk



Route 1 – Turbine House

Open to fish movement throughout the year in all flow conditions.

Route 3 – Side Weir

This weir unfortunately has no fish counters and so an unrecorded number of fish may use it when the hatches open in high flows.

Route 2 – Great Weir

Majority of fish pass through this structure as it sits within the main channel. The fish pass is located here.