The discontinuance of Baystone Bank Reservoir and restoration of Whicham Beck

M. I. BAILES, MWH, Newcastle upon Tyne

P. BRADLEY, PBA Applied Ecology Ltd, Settle

C. SANDERS, United Utilities, Warrington

A. MULLIGAN, Eric Wright Civil Engineering Ltd, Preston

SYNOPSIS. Baystone Bank Reservoir was constructed in 1877 to supply water to the village of Millom, Cumbria. By 1996 the reservoir yield was not required for water supply purposes and in 2002 the reservoir was also identified as having inadequate spillway capacity. Following an assessment of possible options the North West's regional water company United Utilities took the decision to discontinue the dam and restore Whicham Beck to its pre-impoundment condition. This paper describes the reasons for the discontinuance, the design process and subsequent construction.