



The British Dam Society

EVENING MEETING

Monday 26th April 2021. AGM at 6:00pm followed by:

Emergency Planning for Reservoirs

Jan Kiernan, Defra & Tony Deakin, Environment Agency
Sam Harris & Ian Hope, Severn Trent Water
Matt Coombs & Jo Parkinson, Natural Resources Wales



For synopsis and brief presenter biographies see overleaf

This meeting will be streamed live on the internet via MS Teams. For more details please visit the events page on the BDS website: <https://britishdams.org/meetings-and-events/events-calendar/>

For more information please contact the ICE on 020 7665 2147 or email: societyevents@ice.org.uk

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Synopsis

Presentation 1 - On-Site Emergency Flood Plans – The New Requirements in England (Defra & EA)

In November 2020, following consultation, the Government said it would take forward making a statutory requirement for undertakers of large raised reservoirs to prepare on-site emergency flood plans, by issuing a Direction to all undertakers in England. Defra and the Environment Agency will explain the new requirements and how this fits in with what owners and engineers do now.

Presentation 2 - Exercise Vander Mill Lessons Learnt on the Organisation and Running of an On-Site Plan Exercise (Severn Trent Water)

Severn Trent Water undertook an emergency exercise to test the on-site plan and emergency response at Ladybower Reservoir in 2019. This presentation will describe the planning of the exercise, the key events, and the lessons learnt.

Presentation 3 - Reservoir Emergencies: Planning, Review and Response (NRW)

Since 2015 NRW have experienced a number of reportable incidents at their reservoirs. As part of a drive to minimise such incidents and improve responses NRW have embarked on a programme of activities which have included: developing or updating on-site plans; installing appropriate drawdown facilities (temporary and permanent); undertaking emergency exercises (desktop and with contractors); incidents, debriefings and lessons learnt; training for internal staff (including control centre staff); briefing the Local Resilience Forum (LRF); and planning a joint exercise with the LRF

The presentation will provide an outline of each of these processes, and some of the key aspects and developments.

Presenter Biographies

Defra and Environment Agency

Jan Kiernan works in the Defra Reservoir Safety Team. Jan joined the Reservoir Safety Policy Team in October 2019 following several years on water quality policy and legislation. She is Senior Policy Adviser for reservoir safety and the Independent Reservoir Review.

Tony Deakin is the Reservoir Safety Manager for the Environment Agency.

Severn Trent Water

Sam Harris is the Resilience Specialist for Severn Trent Water and Hafren Dyfyrddwy. He is responsible for their “Being Prepared” programme of business continuity, incident management and emergency planning.

Ian Hope is the Dams and Reservoir Manager for Severn Trent Water and Hafren Dyfyrddwy. He is a Supervising Engineer, a past Chair of BDS and is responsible for guaranteeing the compliance and serviceability of 83 statutory reservoirs in ST and HD.

Natural Resources Wales

Matt Coombs is a Civil Engineer and Technical Director with Arcadis Consulting and a Supervising Engineer under the Reservoirs Act 1975. He has worked on a wide range of reservoir and water treatment projects for clients across the UK. Since 2015 he has been seconded into Natural Resources Wales operating as the Reservoir Compliance Manager.

Jo Parkinson is a Reservoir Project Manager and is training to be a Supervising Engineer under the Reservoirs Act 1975. She works on a range of reservoir projects from safety improvement works for historical mining reservoirs, to upgrading reservoir telemetry, and is leading on a programme to improve emergency response procedures including training and testing of staff and contractors working on reservoirs across Wales.