Managing the Canal & River Trust’s Water Resources

Introducing the Canal & River Trust
The Canal & River Trust is a charity that cares for England and Wales’ wonderful legacy of 200-year-old waterways, holding them in trust for the nation forever. The Trust is among the UK’s biggest charities, with responsibility for 2,000 miles of canals, rivers, docks and reservoirs, along with museums, archives and the country’s third largest collection of protected historic buildings. The Trust was launched in the summer of 2012, taking over responsibility from British Waterways and The Waterways Trust in England and Wales.

Water Management
The Water Management Team’s vision is to support the Canal & River Trust by striving towards excellence in water management. We embrace the principles of efficiency, demand management and sustainability in our plan to meet the future demands for water.

Operational Water Management
The Water Management Team review water resources for reservoirs, canals and rivers every week. A Water Budget is produced to advise the local Waterways regarding the efficient conjunctive use of water resources.

SCADA Telemetry System
(SC-supervisory Control And Data Acquisition)
SCADA is a primary tool in the joined-up management of water resources and flood risk. It consists national monitoring, control and data storage. GPRS 3G mobile communications allow data to be displayed in real-time and accessible via a GIS interface. Alarms are set up to call out to the mobile phones of on-call staff. There is mobile phone access for all staff; a smartphone app is under construction to increase usability.

Strategic Water Management
The Water Management Team undertakes strategic assessments to understand the risks and pressures on canal water resources. Early in 2014, we will publish a Consultation on a Water Resources Strategy that will:
• define our overarching vision for how we will manage water resources across the network through to 2050;
• address future pressures on water supply and demand;
• support the wider charitable objects of the Trust, in particular to meet agreed levels of service.

Visit our website: http://canalrivertrust.org.uk

Mat Wells & David Mould, Water Management Team

Discover more and get involved
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