



River Gwili Underbridge



Case Study

Background

The River Gwili in Carmarthenshire, is a tributary of the River Tywi, the longest river entirely within Wales. Centregreat Rail were contracted by Network Rail to refurbish the underbridge crossing the river, located on the Craven Arms to Llandeilo Junction line (Central Wales Line). The project involved repair works to Network Rail's single span underbridge. The bridge span was 8m and comprised steel girders with a timber deck supported on masonry abutments. The superstructure was in poor condition, with severe corrosion to the steel deck elements.

Delivery

The works included:

- repair of the defects identified within the existing steel structure
- grit blasting the bridge structure
- painting of the bridge structure

The corroded steelwork to the redundant span was also removed and minor repair works to the abutment masonry were also completed during the works.

Outcome

Access to the various areas was gained via a scaffolding deck which was constructed off of the existing abutment walls. This scaffold solution was developed to remove the need to place scaffolding towers directly on the uneven river bed. Prior to undertaking any works, Permissions had to be granted from the EA, formerly the NRA, prior to work proceeding. Work was restricted to taking place outside the spawning season and further restricted by tidal conditions.



Client: Network Rail

Value: Circa £950k

Delivery Period: Mar 2016 – Dec 2017