

Case Study: Channel diversion, Rode Bridge, River Frome Product: Envirolok® Vegetated MSE Wall System



At this site in Rode, near Frome, increased water flow from the Mendip Hills was putting additional stress on the bridge that linked the village to the A36. The divert from the River Frome, which was originally created to form a mill race for Rode Mill, previously passed under one span of the bridge which now struggled with the increased water levels. Therefore, an additional channel was created to relieve this stress via a new pass under another span of the bridge during periods of high water.

To reconnect with the main flow, a channel was created on the downstream side of the bridge and lined with Envirolok® vegetated MSE bags. The bag system provided a permanent solution comprising of six courses of bags including one below the water level to control scour. The Envirolok® bags were filled with a gravel and soil mix and seeded internally to provide long-term erosion protection when water was released into the channel. For much of the year the channel will be dry and vegetated has established well even in heavily shaded areas.

Envirolok® was selected as it offered the ideal combination of permanent erosion and scour protection with a vegetated surface rather than a hard landscaping option which would stand out from the otherwise green environment.

