

Adjustable groundwater level on overpasses to benefit amphibians

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In the southern part of the Netherlands ARCADIS has designed an ecoduct with a special adjustment for species of wet habitats. At the top of the construction an adjustable waterlevel can be maintained by a pump and drainage system. By pumping up groundwater in the top layer there is a permanent groundwater level in a ditch at the top of the overpass. Despite of some technical problems concerning the pump this type of new design has shown some interesting results. Monitoring shows the overpass is frequently used by some rare amphibians like crested newts.