



Lithalun Quarry

Site Biodiversity Action Plan



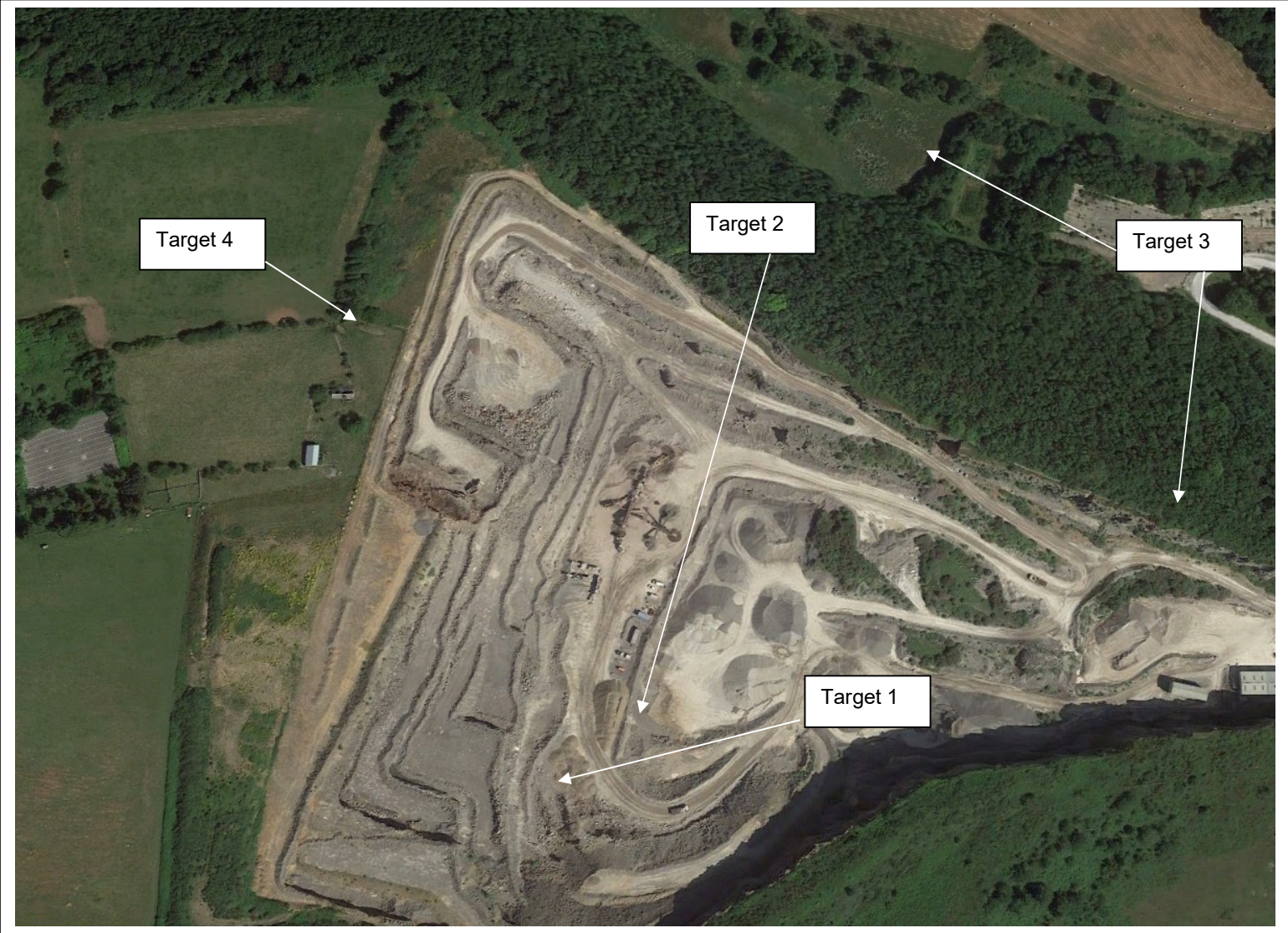
Prepared: November 2010

**Updated: August 2013
November 2018
August 2023**

Site Information- Lithalun Quarry

Site Name and Location (incl. Grid Ref.)	Lithalun Quarry, Ewenny, Vale of Glamorgan SS 897 764 (plant site)
Heidelberg Materials Company	Aggregates
BAP or other BAP(s) that will be targeted	UK BAP, Nature Recover Action Plan Wales, Wildlife in the Vale of Glamorgan- A Biodiversity Action Plan
BAP Habitat(s) to be developed	Woodland and Parkland Calcareous Grassland Lowland Heath Hedges
BAP species to be encouraged	Bird, mammal and invertebrates species associated with the above LBAP habitats. Dartford warbler, High brown fritillary, Adders
Designated Natural Area	None
Background and site description	Lower carboniferous limestone quarry occupying approx. 25ha, adjacent to a number of other limestone quarries operated by other companies . The surrounding landscape is a mix of grazed pasture, woodland and common land. The approved restoration scheme currently proposes low intensity agricultural grassland on the entire quarry floor, returned to common grazing, with a network of woodland copses and a hedgerow. Native woodland planting is also proposed on all of the quarry benches.
National Designations (SSSI, SAC, SPAs, RAMSARs and NPs) within 500m	Old Castle Down SSSI. Calcareous grassland and heathland on adjacent Common Land and part of the quarry screen bank
Resource Requirements	Restoration earthworks, tree planting, grass seeding and aftercare and consultant ecologist fees will be covered within the site restoration budget.
Contribution to biodiversity	Contribution will be through rotational coppicing of gorse to provide suitable habitat to support the Dartford Warbler and adder populations and to open up areas of calcareous grassland for plant and invertebrate species. Management of the woodland will improve the structure of the canopy and reinvigorate old and moribund coppice hazel stools.
Partners and Local initiatives	Local ecologist volunteers carry out Dartford warbler surveys on the adjacent Common Land
Other documents supporting the site BAP	Approved 2020 restoration plan available Old Castle Down SSSI citation

Site Layout



Action Plan

Item No.	Objective	Biodiversity Feature	Targets	Tasks	Assessing Indicator	Responsible Person	Timescale (Completion)
1	Ecological monitoring and recording	Dartford Warbler	Improve and update site records to aid future BAP management and development	<p>1. Appoint and brief ecological consultant to carry out updated survey and update 2013 gorse management plan if required</p> <p>2. Ensure on-going annual surveys are carried out</p>	<p>Surveys completed and plan updated</p> <p>Regular monitoring of Dartford Warbler populations</p>	Site Manager	<p>Q4 2024</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
2	To continue gorse coppicing regime	<p>Dartford Warbler</p> <p>Calcareous grassland and its associated flora and fauna (esp high brown fritillary) will also benefit from opening up areas in the gorse</p>	To continue with the gorse management regime on the southern screen bank, to achieve varied canopy age/structure appropriate to support Dartford warbler	<p>1. Carry out target 1</p> <p>2. Carry out management regime</p>	<p>Surveys completed and plan updated</p> <p>Gorse management regime in place. % gorse cover coppiced</p>	Site Manager	<p>Gorse management plan drawn up by Q3 2025</p> <p>Carry out next phase of gorse management by end of Q1 2026 if required</p>
3	Positive management of existing woodland blocks	Semi natural woodland and its associated flora and fauna	Implement an appropriate management regime of thinning and coppicing to achieve improved structure / age diversity to	<p>1. Carry out regular hazardous tree surveys of woodland areas</p> <p>2. Implement tree felling as</p>	<p>Surveys completed</p> <p>No hazardous</p>	Site Manager	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

			improve habitat quality	required and additional coppicing of moribund hazel coppice stools as required	trees and diverse age structure of woodland and shrub layer		
				3. Review streamside vegetation for management requirements and implement as required e.g. riparian coppicing	Area reviewed and one-off management carried out if required		Review carried out Q4 2024 and first phase of management Q4 2027
4	Increase the extent of woodland habitat	Broadleaved grassland and associated flora	To create further areas of woodland	1. Increase extent through prompt planting of bench restoration	No. trees planted	Site Manager	Ongoing