

# Keepersshield Quarry Site

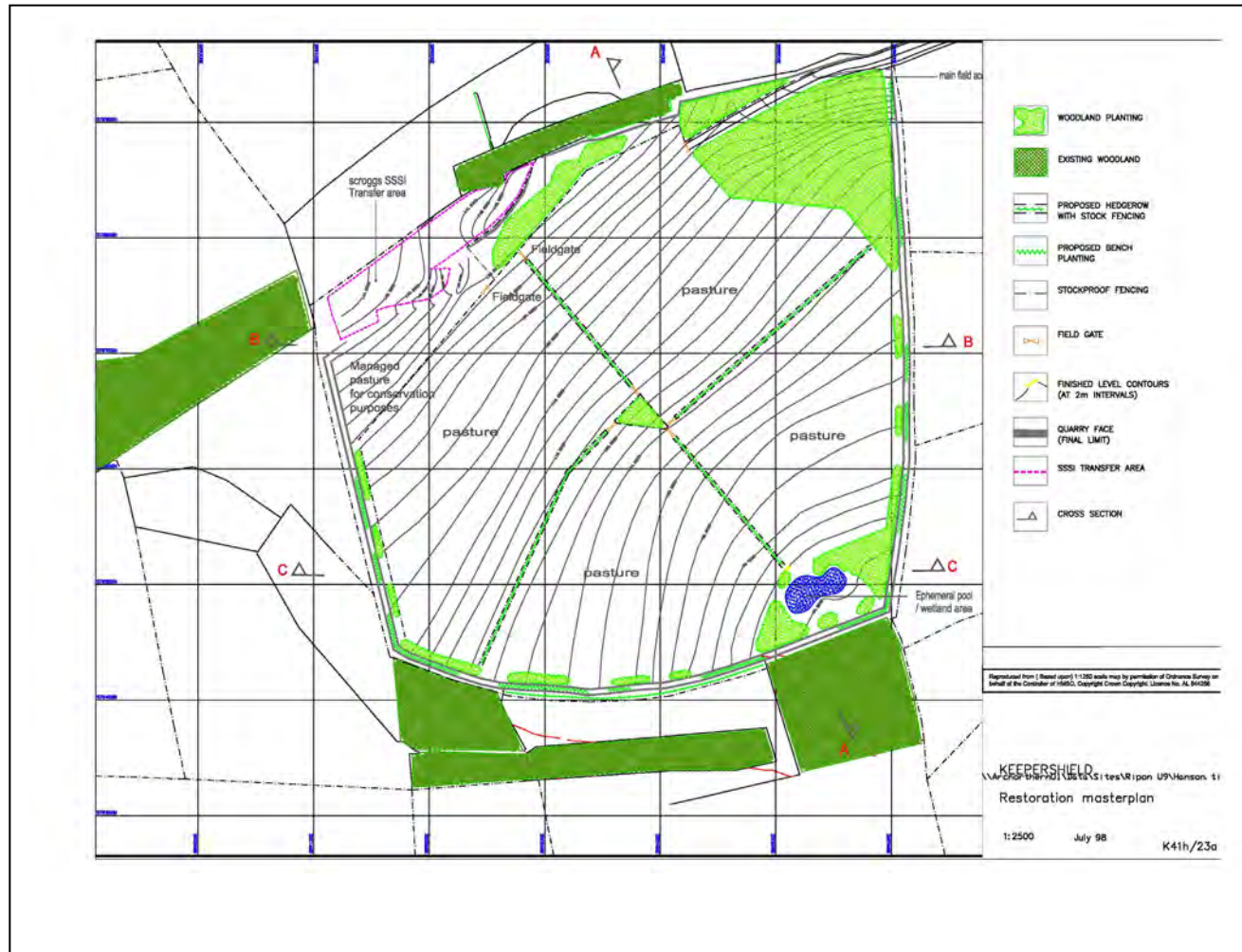
## Site Biodiversity Action Plan



**Site Information- Keepersshield**

<b>Site Name and Location</b>	Keepersshield Quarry, 1km to the north of the village of Chollerford, Northumberland Grid Ref – NY893727
<b>Hanson Company</b>	Hanson Aggregates - North
<b>BAP(s) that will be targeted</b>	UK BAP Northumberland BAP
<b>Habitat(s) to be developed</b>	Whin Grassland Hedgerows
<b>BAP species to be encouraged</b>	Red squirrel Farmland birds
<b>Designated Natural Area</b>	Tyne Gap and Hadrian's Wall
<b>Background and site description</b>	The quarry is set within an agricultural area with pockets of higher biodiversity value habitats where the Whin sill and limestone outcrop meet.
<b>National Designations (SSSI, SAC, SPAs, RAMSARs and NPs) within 500m</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Scroggs Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</li> <li>• Scroggs Site of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI)</li> </ul>
<b>Resource Requirements</b>	Restoration budget
<b>Contribution to biodiversity</b>	The Whin sill and limestone grassland comprising the Scroggs SSSI was relocated to an area of restored quarry in 1999, as the SSSI was within the permitted extraction area. In December 2010, Natural England designated the transferred grassland as The New Scroggs SSSI. Shining lady's mantle ( <i>Alchemilla micans</i> ) occurring with the Scroggs SSSI is rare and only found at three locations in the UK. Over 100 hundred plants of this and another more common species were moved as pot plants as part of the transfer of the Scroggs SSSI. The species continues to thrive in the New Scroggs SSSI and is one of the reasons for designation of the new SSSI.
<b>Partners and Local initiatives</b>	Whin Grassland Initiative, Northumberland Wildlife Trust
<b>Other documents supporting the site BAP</b>	The New Scroggs SSSI citation and background papers Restoration Plan

# Site Layout



## Action Plan

Item No.	Objective	Biodiversity Feature	Targets	Tasks	Assessing Indicator	Responsible Person	Timescale (Completion)
1	To maintain SSSI features	Whin sill grassland  Calcareous grassland	To maintain short and diverse sward as requested by Natural England and in management agreement	1.Continue annual grazing  2. Hand pulling of ragwort as necessary	No. of Alchemilla and other calcareous grassland species in sward	Landscape Architect Site manager  Ecological Consultants	Ongoing until 2048
2	Increase in area of grassland of conservation interest	Calcareous grassland	To provide a link between the SSSI grassland and the County wildlife site grassland to the west	1.Ongoing restoration of area and spread seed/hay from SSSI to create species diverse grassland.	Include within SSSI monitoring. Ongoing restoration detailed in 3 yearly reports	Landscape Architect	Every 3 years from 2025 until 2048
3	Creation of blocks of broadleaved woodland connected by hedgerows	Broadleaved woodland Hedgerows	To provide general habitat around the fringes of the quarry and connect with existing blocks of plantation woodland with hedgerows	1.Establish and manage broadleaved woodland and hedgerows as part of restoration	Annual assessment of establishment success within aftercare period and detailed in 3 yearly reports.	Site Manager Landscape Architect	2043 to 2048
4	Species conservation and management	Alchemilla micans  Red squirrel       Farmland birds	1.To maintain and potentially increase the population of <i>A. micans</i>  2. Plant species such as Norway spruce; Scots, Corsican and lodgepole pine; larch; yew; hawthorn; blackthorn; bird cherry; wild cherry and guelder rose  Create hedgerows to provide nesting for birds, foraging and commuting routes for bats and connectivity	1.Continue annual grazing  2. Tree planting    3. Plant hedgerows	1.No. of Alchemilla species in sward  2.No of trees planted   3.Length of Hedgerows planted  Details in 3 yearly	Landscape Architect  Site Manager	Ongoing until 2048

			between woodland blocks and site margins.		reports.		
<b>4</b>	Creation of permanent/ ephemeral open water habitat	Open water and wetland margins	To provide a small wetland area within an otherwise largely agricultural restoration	None other than creation of suitable conditions for natural development of a small wetland	Area created	Site Manager Landscape Architect	2043
<b>6</b>	Habitat and species monitoring		Monitoring data on target animal and plant species by ecological consultants and inhouse.	1. Monitor SSSI every 3 years 2. Monitor other features as are restored for aftercare period	Monitoring reports and local specialist publications	Landscape Architect Ecological consultants	2025 onwards and every 3 years after until 2048
<b>7</b>	Provide information on SSSI	Produce materials to explain importance of Keepersshield Quarry biodiversity including flagship species	Maintain Scroggs display board	1. Display board maintenance when necessary	Display board in place	Site Manager Landscape Architect	ongoing until 2048