

# **Coldstones Quarry, Pateley Bridge**

## **Site Biodiversity Action Plan**



Prepared: 2006	Updated: December 2022
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### **Site Information- Coldstones, Pateley Bridge**

<b>Site Name and Location</b>	Coldstones Quarry, Pateley Bridge, North Yorkshire. Located 2km to the west of Pateley Bridge, North Yorkshire, on the edge of the North Pennine Moors. Grid Ref – SE125640
<b>Hanson Company</b>	Hanson Aggregates - North
<b>BAP(s) that will be targeted</b>	UK BAP Harrogate BAP
<b>Habitat(s) to be developed</b>	Unimproved acid grassland with wet heath/mire and rush vegetation Calcareous Grassland Ponds
<b>BAP species to be encouraged</b>	Peregrine*, Hen Harrier*, Grey Partridge, Skylark (also Red Grouse, Golden Plover*, Curlew*, Lapwing, Redshank and Snipe) Great Crested Newt *Species for which adjacent North Pennines SPA is designated.
<b>Designated Natural Area</b>	North Pennine Moors SAC/SPA
<b>Background and site description</b>	Coldstones, Pateley Bridge quarry comprises an area of active quarry, a screen mound together with unimproved sheep-grazed acid grassland/heath/rush vegetation. There are four ponds, dry-stone walls, ephemeral scrapes ditches and runnels. Current management aims include management of all undisturbed ground within the site boundary and management of the habitats restored on the screen mound.
<b>National Designations (SSSI, SAC, SPAs, RAMSARs and NPs) within 500m</b>	The site is adjacent to the North Pennines Moors SPA and SAC and Greenhow Pasture SSSI and lies within Coldstones Grassland SINC.
<b>Resource Requirements</b>	Restoration budget
<b>Contribution to biodiversity</b>	Conservation and management of both a national and local BAP target habitat. Upland breeding bird species are national and local BAP targets. The restoration will augment a SINC and will maintain a significant wildlife resource in the area.
<b>Partners and Local initiatives</b>	Pateley Bridge Quarry Landscape and Biodiversity Enhancement Fund Management Group.
<b>Other documents supporting the site BAP</b>	Coldstones Quarry/Pateley Bridge Management Plan. Restoration Plan

# Site Layout



## Action Plan

Item No.	Objective	Biodiversity Feature	Targets	Tasks	Assessing Indicator	Responsible Person	Timescale (Completion)
1	To manage the existing habitats.	Upland grassland/heath/rush          Ponds	Maintain 50ha of acid grassland/heath communities by appropriate grazing pressure and rush control          Maintain four ponds	Repair and rebuild boundary stone walls  Maintain grazing pressure (1.5 sheep.ha <sup>-1</sup> ) across site except Compartment 6  Control invasive weed species  Manage pond habitats to prevent succession  Maintain tall sward height around ponds by limited grazing in Compartment 6	Length of stone wall repaired (m) and rebuilt (m)  Land area maintained by NVC type (ha).  Land area cleared of weed species (ha).  Annual report	Site Manager  Landscape Architect  Ecological consultant	Ongoing until 2059
2	Habitat management of new screening mound.	Upland grassland/heath/rush	Maintain 14ha of upland grassland.	Re-establishment of acid grassland  Maintain grazing pressure (1.5 sheep.ha <sup>-1</sup> )  Monitoring of metalliferous grassland to an area along toe of extended screen mound	Land area maintained by NVC type (ha).  Land area cleared of weed species (ha). Annual report Vegetation survey by quadrat of metalliferous vegetation ,frequency determined by management plan.	Site Manager  Landscape Architect	Ongoing until 2059

<b>3</b>	Habitat restoration and aftercare of the quarry	Calcareous grassland	Create calcareous grassland in quarry floor and benches.	Restore >1ha of calcareous grassland and 20ha bench vegetation	Areas completed Annual report	Landscape Architect	2033 to 2059
<b>4</b>	Species conservation and management	Breeding snipe, redshank, curlew, lapwing and skylark (and in longer term golden plover and red grouse) Foraging hen harrier and grey partridge. Wintering golden plover and lapwing  Great crested newt	Maintain bird breeding populations.  Maintain >100 GCN pop. Maintain presence of other amphibian species. Minimise disturbance to existing populations.	Protect existing known nests/habitats and limit disturbance on site by making site staff aware of habitat areas.	Detailed species monitoring as per management plan  Site Manager and Landscape architect to inform site staff and contractors working close to habitat areas.	Site Manager  Landscape Architect  Ecological consultant	Ongoing to 2059
<b>5</b>	Habitat and species monitoring	Breeding and wintering bird populations  Rare and notable plant population	Ensure target species are monitored and appropriate response agreed  Monitoring data on bird and rare plant species collected by staff, external volunteers or consultant ecologists.	Monitoring before each new 5 year management plan	5 yearly reports	Ecological consultants	Ongoing until 2059

6	Communications and publicity	Groups visiting the quarry. E.g. geology students. Maintain access to Coldstone Cut which attracts 15,000 – 20,000 visitors per year. Update display boards as and when necessary.	Visitors per year	Update display boards as necessary. Maintain Coldstone Cut	No of people visiting site Visitor feedback	Landscape Architect  Site Manager	Quarry visits on going. Public visits to Coldstones Cut ongoing.  Ongoing to 2059
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