

Mortimer Quarry

Site Biodiversity Action Plan



Prepared: October 2006

Updated: December 2013

Site Information- Mortimer Quarry

Site Name and Location (incl. Grid Ref.)	Mortimer Quarry SU 62727 64185 (site entrance)
Hanson Company	Hanson Aggregates
BAP(s) that will be targeted	Hampshire BAP UK BAP
Habitat(s) to be developed	Heathland Acid grassland Ponds and open water Broadleaved woodland
BAP species to be encouraged	Dormice Bat spp. Reptiles Song thrush, Woodlark, Nightjar, Tree Pipit
Designated Natural Area	London Basin
Background and site description	<p>Sand and gravel site comprising part-restored extraction areas and silt lagoons in Burnt Common (total 40ha), un-restored plant site and silt lagoons (17.5ha) and Eastern extension (38ha) which is, at time of writing, partly being used for silt lagoons with the remainder currently being restored.</p> <p>A southern extension into Benyons Inclosure is currently being considered by Hampshire County Council and therefore is outside the scope of this BAP.</p> <p>The surrounding landscape comprises extensive commercial forestry of the Englefield Estate to the south and east, Padworth Common Local Nature Reserve to the north comprising heathland, woodland and ponds, and un-worked areas of Burnt Common acid grassland immediately north of western working areas and silt lagoons</p>
National Designations (SSSI, SAC, SPA etc) within 500m	None
Resource Requirements- comment on cost if appropriate	All restoration and biodiversity costs to be paid out of the site restoration budget.
Contribution to biodiversity	Creation of heathland, acid grassland and open water bodies to support their associated invertebrate species, reptiles and bat spp.
Partners and Local initiatives	Hampshire Wildlife Trust (HWT)
Other documents supporting the site BAP	<p>Environmental Management Consultants Ltd – Ecological/ Hydrogeological Analysis : Burnt Common, Nov 1990.</p> <p>Burnt Common approved restoration masterplan B156r/89</p> <p>Hanson Planning Application for Eastern Quarry Extension – June 04 and approved restoration plan B156/TAL/2/revb</p> <p>Hanson Planning Application for Proposed Southern Extension into Benyons Inclosure</p>

Site Layout



Action Plan

Item No.	Objective	Biodiversity Feature	Targets	Tasks	Assessing Indicator	Responsible Person	Timescale (Completion)
1	Maintain and increase the extent of heathland and acid grassland	Lowland heath, lowland acid grassland and associated birds/invertebrates/reptiles	<p>To ensure positive management of existing Burnt Common heathland and grassland communities</p> <p>To increase the area, connectivity and quality of heathland and acid grassland through new restoration</p>	<p>1. Maintain mowing regime of every 2 years depending upon growth and grassland requirements</p> <p>2. Assess woodland adjacent to grassland for opportunities to push edge back to allow more open grassland</p> <p>3. Create reptile hibernacula by using felled trees to create log piles</p> <p>4. Set up and monitor trial plots to establish the most appropriate way of creating heathland</p> <p>4. Seed areas of heathland/ grassland restoration immediately after restoration earthworks with a suitable nurse and wildflower mix/ green hay or heather brushings</p>	<p>No scrub encroachment</p> <p>Assessment carried out, m² of open ground re-created</p> <p>Log pile s in place</p> <p>Trial plots set up, results gained and interpreted</p> <p>Area m² restored and seeded</p>	<p>Site Manager</p> <p>Landscape Architect</p> <p>Site Manager</p> <p>Landscape Architect</p> <p>Site Manager</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Assessment Q4 2015 First phase clearance Q2 2016</p> <p>Q2 2016</p> <p>Trial plots set up 2012, monitoring ongoing</p> <p>Northern lake margins to be seeded by Q3 2014</p> <p>Ongoing as restoration occurs</p>

2	Increase the extent of ephemeral pools	Ephemeral pools and their associated species	To increase the number of ephemeral pools to complement the existing open water bodies	1. Work with HWT to create ephemeral ponds, scrapes and pools on completion of restoration earthworks	No. of pools/features	Site Manager	Southern Burnt Common lake scrapes completed by Q3 2014 then ongoing
3	Maintain, create and enhance woodland blocks and corridors	Dormice and bat spp.	<p>Enhance existing woodland corridors to benefit dormice</p> <p>Increase the extent of woodland habitat for target species</p> <p>Ensure woodland corridors are retained</p>	<p>1. Enhance Eastern Extension woodland corridor with hazel understorey</p> <p>2. Ensure woodland link is planted on re-graded valley feature in Eastern extension whilst retaining heathland links as well</p> <p>3. Where possible, in liaison with the Estate, plant tree and shrub species to provide feeding, nesting and hibernating opportunities for dormice</p> <p>4. Consider need for dormice links when creating more open grassland habitats on Burnt Common through Target 1</p>	<p>No. hazel planted</p> <p>No. tree and shrubs planted</p> <p>No. tree and shrubs planted</p> <p>Links retained</p>	<p>Landscape Architect</p> <p>Site Manager</p> <p>Site Manager</p> <p>Landscape Architect</p>	<p>100 hazel planted 2012 Ongoing</p> <p>Q2 2015</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Q2 2016</p>