Horton Quarry

Site Biodiversity Action Plan

Prepared: November 2011	Updated: December 2025

Site Information – Horton Quarry

Site Name and Location (incl. Grid Ref.)	Horton in Ribblesdale Quarry located approximately 0.5km to the west of the village Horton-in-Ribblesdale within the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Grid Ref – SD795724
Hanson Company	Hanson Aggregates - North
BAP(s) that will be targeted	UK BAP Yorkshire Dales BAP - Nature in the Dales:2020 Vision
BAP habitats and species to be encouraged	*Mammals:* Bats *Birds:* Lapwing *Invertebrates:* Northern Brown Argus *Higher plants:* Juniper *Other species:* White clawed crayfish Upland calcareous grasslands Native broadleaved woodland and Juniper scrub
Background and site description	Within the boundary of the site, habitats include calcareous grassland, acid flushes, springs, heathland, limestone pavement (both undisturbed and disturbed), bracken and stands of juniper. Species recorded on the site include Skylark *(Alauda arvensis)*; butterflies including Northern Brown Argus, High brown and Pearl Bordered Fritillary. Much of the calcareous grassland is dominated by Blue Moor Grass and there are stands of juniper.
National Designations (SSSI, SAC, SPAs, RAMSARs and NPs) within 1km	Ingleborough Complex Special Area of Conservation (SAC); Ingleborough Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Ingleborough National Nature Reserve (NNR). All adjacent to the western boundary of the site. The SAC is designated for its Annex 1 habitats including Juniper formation on heaths, calcareous grassland and alkaline fens. The SSSI and NNR are designated for many of the same features as the SAC and occupy much of the same area as the SAC. Yorkshire Dales National Park
Resource Requirements- comment on cost if appropriate	HMUK/Hanson has contributed funds and land to a juniper regeneration project. Restoration budget
Contribution to biodiversity	Provide features/manage habitats to complement the adjacent SAC/SSSI/NNR.
Partners and Local initiatives	Natural England
Other documents supporting the site BAP	Juniper re-introduction programme Horton Management Plan Restoration Plan

Site Layout

NOTE

- GENERALLY SCREE SLOPES WOULD BE CREATED ALONG QUARRY BENCHES TO REDUCE VISUAL IMPACT OF QUARRY FACES & REPLICATE NATURAL SCREE & CALCAREOUS SCRUB HABITAT.
- AVAILABLE RESTORATION AND SOILS FORMING MATERIALS TO INITIALLY BE USED TO FULLY RESTORE ALL UPPER QUARRY FACES.
- RESTORATION WOULD BE TO SCREE SLOPES, CALCAREOUS SCRUB AND GRASSLAND HABITAT.

Legend

- The mineral site
- Freehold boundary
- Designated protection areas unworked
- Designated protection areas to be worked
- Exposed Limestone face & Limestone scree (max slope 1 in 1)
- Restoration blasting to replicate regionally typical Headwall, Scree & Butress landform
- Dry stone wall
- Stock proof fence & Gate
- Access track
- Calcareous grasslands
- Juniperus communis scrub within calcareus grasslands
- Extraction consent Ref YD/SE491. Dated 03/05/1965
- Proposed seasonal wetland areas
- Unworked or previously restored quarry/ Existing pature
- Existing / proposed vegetation
- Water bodies
- Permitted reserves within SAC area to remain unworked

Fig 2.4

Client: Hanson HEIDELBERGCEMENT Group

Project: HORTON QUARRY

Title: Restoration Plan

Project No.	9514540036	Checked	BG	Scale	As Shown
File No.		Approved	BG	Status	Planning
Created By	AM/ CD	Date	April09		
Drawing No.	HA-104			Revision	A

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Action Plan

Item No.	Objective	Biodiversity Feature	Targets	Tasks	Assessing Indicator	Responsible Person	Timescale (Completion)
1	Maintain translocated SSSI to improve quality and attain favourable condition.	Calcareous grassland	Maintain/enhance species diversity of existing grasslands. Annual grazing regime. Management of undesirable species	Monitor grazing regime as part of management plan.	Annual walkover and reporting as part of management plan using NE standard Condition Site Monitoring methods	Ecological Consultant	Annually June/July as detailed in the annual report
2	Creation of calcareous grassland on floor and benches of quarry.	Calcareous grassland	To create calcareous grassland to replace that lost to quarrying.	Liaise with Natural England For provision of hay/seed from nearby NNR to establish species diverse grassland. Conserve suitable soil material to establish calcareous grassland.	Annual walkover to assess establishment success	Ecological Consultant	Annually June/July as detailed in the annual report
3	Large open water body and smaller ponds	Open water Ponds	To create smaller waterbodies in addition to large lake to provide habitat for amphibians and invertebrates	Create shallow ponds and a larger waterbody on final restoration	Successful establishment of ponds with aquatic, emergent and marginal flora.	Site Manager Landscape Architect	Ongoing as detailed in the annual report. New habitats created on final restoration

4	Creation of woodland Juniper mosaic with calcareous grassland	Broad leaved Woodland Juniper scrub	Planting of Daleside woodland type along slopes and ridges. Reversal of decline in Juniper in short term through trial area and expand in longer term into quarry restoration.	Establish and manage woodland. Review trial in parcel 5 with view to expanding into restored areas. Encourage natural regeneration. Further planting dependant on whether *Phytophthora austrocedri* present on site.	Land area maintained by NVC type (ha). Successful reestablishment of juniper.	Landscape Architect	Ongoing as detailed in the annual report.
5	Species conservation and management	Northern brown argus White clawed crayfish Butterfly species and other invertebrates.	Create suitable habitat for the species. Potential for waterbodies on site to be“ark” site for species. Range of conditions for invertebrates including scrub/grassland mosaics as above.	1.Habitat management to create suitable conditions 2. Liaise with Natural England and others to establish feasibility. 3.Active management to create mosaic of habitats	Species present in restored areas and undisturbed fringes. Meetings as and when required. Periodic walkover surveys to assess species present.	Site Manager Landscape Architect Ecological Consultant	Ongoing as detailed in the annual report