

Penmaenmawr Quarry

Site Biodiversity Action Plan



Prepared: Dec 2013

Updated: December 2025

Site Information – Penmaenmawr Quarry

Site Name and Location (incl. Grid Ref.)	The quarry is located on the mountain between the towns of Penmaenmawr to the east and Llanfairfechan to the west. Grid ref: SH 705 755
Hanson Company	Hanson Aggregates - North
BAP(s) that will be targeted	UK BAP Natur Gwynedd LBAP
BAP habitats and species to be encouraged	Chough Adder Ring ouzel Newts Upland oakwoods Upland dry heathland Maritime cliffs and slopes
Background and site description	There is a very long history of quarrying at Penmaenmawr. The mineral extraction area is located on top of the mountain, with offices at the base. There are variously aged woodland habitats on the lower sections of the site, whilst towards the top of the mountain there is heathland and acid grassland. Many of the older workings and tips have naturally re-vegetated and provide the locus for a distinct flora. Areas of scrub provide additional habitat. The quarry currently has permission to 2042 and restoration of any scale is several years away. However, ongoing restoration of the previously hydroseeded slopes and tips is taking place alongside woodland management.
National Designations (SSSI, SAC, SPAs, RAMSARs and NPs) within 1km	Traeth Iafan SSSI, SPA Liverpool Bay SPA Y Fenai a Bay Conwy SPA, SAC, European Marine Site
Resource Requirements- comment on cost if appropriate	Restoration budget.
Contribution to biodiversity	A number of BAP species to be targeted and habitats managed accordingly.
Partners and Local initiatives	RSPB
Other documents supporting the site BAP	5 yearly quarry development and restoration plans

Site Layout



Action Plan

Item No.	Objective	Biodiversity Feature	Targets	Tasks	Assessing Indicator	Responsible Person	Timescale (Completion)
1	Woodland maintenance.	Upland oak woodland	To identify replacement planting or fencing if necessary, on an annual basis. To maintain existing blocks removing old tree tubes and stakes on a rotation each year. To undertake thinning works as required	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Annual check and maintenance of required. 2. Continue to remove non-natives where possible. 3. Commence removal of tree tube and stakes undertaking blocks each year until all removed. 4. Assess need for thinning as tubes and stakes are being removed. 	Ha maintained. Details in 5 yearly plan and report.	Landscape Architect	Ongoing to 2030
2	Heathland creation	Upland heath	To accelerate heathland creation on the previously hydroseeded slopes and tips. To ensure vegetation and soils are stripped off any future strip areas and placed in a thin layer on restoration areas.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Undertake trials to ascertain the most effective method including seeding/ brashings/ planting & natural regeneration. 2.Grow heather on site from locally sourced seed. 3.Plant heather on site starting with the previously hydroseeded slopes and Tips. 4. Place stripped soils directly into restoration. 	Amount successfully established. Details in 5 yearly plan and report.	Landscape Architect	Trials completed. Plug planting commenced in 2018 and has been ongoing annually. Ongoing

3	Maintain mosaic habitat with upland grassland	Mosaic habitat of scrub and grassland	To maintain the current proportions in areas of mosaic habitat to maximise potential for reptiles and invertebrates.	1. Periodic walkover and reduction in scrub as required.	Ha maintained. Details in 5 yearly plan and report.	Landscape Architect	Ongoing
4	Habitat maintenance and enhancement for choughs	Choughs	To maintain and extend suitable foraging habitat and at least maintain current numbers around quarry. To continue to provide suitable nesting sites.	1. Maintain areas of grassland short (<5cm) through grazing. 2. Maintain contact with RSPB and Chough specialist. 3. Identify suitable areas away from current working and keep disturbance in these areas to a minimum. 4. Control gorse to extend foraging habitat.	Height of grass sward. Ongoing contact with RSPB and Chough specialist. Continued presence of nesting choughs. Extent of gorse controlled.	Landscape Architect	Ongoing
5	Habitat maintenance for ring ouzel	Ring ouzel	To maintain current numbers around quarry	1. Identify areas of suitable habitat and introduce appropriate management regime.	Continued use of the area by the species.	Landscape Architect	Ongoing
6	To prevent poisoning of raptors	Raptors	To reduce incidence of poisoning	1. Report any illegal activity to the local wildlife crime officer	Continued use of the area by the species.	Site manager	Ongoing