

Horton Quarry

Site Biodiversity Action Plan



Site Information - Horton

Site Name and Location	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
Habitat(s) to be developed	Upland calcareous grasslands Native broadleaved woodland and Juniper scrub
BAP species to be encouraged	<i>Mammals:</i> Bats <i>Birds:</i> Lapwing <i>Invertebrates:</i> Northern Brown Argus <i>Higher plants:</i> Juniper <i>Other species:</i> White clawed crayfish
Designated Natural Area	Yorkshire Dales
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 (<i>Alauda arvensis</i>); 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 500m	Ingleborough Complex Special Area of Concern (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.
Resource Requirements-comment on cost if appropriate	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



Action Plan

Item No.	Objective	Biodiversity Feature	Targets	Tasks	Assessing Indicator	Responsible Person	Timescale (Completion)
1	Maintain SSSI grassland and adjacent SSSI quality grassland until translocation.	Calcareous grassland	Maintain species diversity of existing grasslands. Annual grazing regime.	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 and translocation of calcareous grassland on floor and benches of quarry.	Calcareous grassland	To create calcareous grassland to replace that lost to quarrying. To translocate SSSI and SSSI quality grassland to be 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. Translocate remaining areas of 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	Broad leaved Woodland	Planting of Daleside woodland type along	Establish and manage woodland.	Land area maintained by	Landscape Architect	Ongoing as detailed in the

	Juniper mosaic with calcareous grassland	Juniper scrub	slopes and ridges. Reversal of decline in Juniper in short term through trial area and expand in longer term into quarry restoration.	Review trial in parcel 5 with view to expanding into restored areas. Encourage natural regeneration. Further planting dependant on whether <i>Phytophthora austrocedri</i> present on site.	NVC type (ha). Successful reestablishment of juniper.		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
7	Communications and publicity	Update leaflet to explain importance of Horton in Ribblesdale Quarry biodiversity. Encourage educational visits	Explain Horton Quarry biodiversity including species and habitats and best practice. Educational establishments regard and use site as educational resource	Produce updated BAP leaflet to highlight habitat, species and conservation/translocation work. Encourage educational visits. 1 or 2 visits per year.	Leaflet distributed and available at site. No of students visiting site.	Landscape Architect Site Manager	Leaflet to be completed by end 2021. Ongoing as detailed in the annual report.