ABERDUNA QUARRY

Site Biodiversity Action Plan

Prepared: December 2010	Updated: December 2022

Site Information- Aberduna

Site Name and Location (incl. Grid Ref.)	Aberduna Quarry, Mold 320500 361800 (entrance)
Hanson Company	Hanson Aggregates
BAP(s) that will be targeted	UKBAP Denbighshire BAP
Habitat(s) to be developed	Broadleaved woodland Calcareous grassland Scrub, open mosaic, rock outcrop and scree Ponds
BAP species to be encouraged	**Mammals**: Bat species **Amphibians** : Great crested newt **Reptiles**: Adder, common lizard **Birds**: Bullfinch, Song thrush, Peregrine **Invertebrates**: Pearl-bordered fritillary, grizzled skipper
Designated Natural Area	None in Wales
Background and site description	Aberduna Quarry is located to the north of the village of Maeshafn, 2 miles to the west of Mold in Denbighshire. The quarry is located on a limestone ridge and within an area of high nature conservation value. Approximately 400m to the north is the Alyn Valley Woods Special Area for Conservation (SAC) and close to the south east there is Moel Findeg Local Nature Reserve (LNR) and county wildlife site. Immediately to the south west of the quarry there is Aberduna Nature Reserve run by North Wales Wildlife Trust
National Designations (SSSI, SAC, SPAs, RAMSARs and NPs) within 500m	Alyn Valley Woods & Alyn Gorge Caves SSSI Alyn Valley Woods SAC Chwarel Cambrian SSSI Clywdian range and Dee Valley AONB
Resource Requirements- comment on cost if appropriate	Funded via restoration budget.
Contribution to biodiversity	Increased habitat diversity for protected species listed on the UKBAP and the LBAP. Creation of woodland, grassland, open mosaic, scrub and aquatic habitats. Re-connection between sites of nature conservation value to the south west and south east and to the north
Partners and Local initiatives	North Wales Wildlife Trust manage the nature reserve with funding from Hanson until 2027
Other documents supporting the site BAP	Restoration plan updated in 2013

Site Layout


NORTH
Proposed calcareous grassland & scrub mosaic to encourage butterfly colonisation
Small ponds lined with conveyor matting
Aberduna Engine House Information Board
Preliminary Restoration Completed October 2008Drawings A106_26, 27 & 29
Preliminary Restoration Completed Febuary 1996 - Drawing no FWQ/08a
Office to be retained and converted into bat house
Existing pond near former office to remain insitu due to presence of great crested newts
Both site entrance bellmouths reduced and single agricultural gate installed
Ephemeral wet area
Screen Bund Planting Completed Feb /Mar 2003
Upper Bench Planting Completed, November '98
No planting in this area to prevent geological features being covered
Viewing Platform with Mineral Viewing Area (See Dwg: A109 / 47A)
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
Legend
The Limestone Trail
Eastern Footpath Link
Existing Viewing Platform & Seating area
Proposed Calcareous/Limestone Grass Seeding.
Proposed Tree and shrub seeding Blocks 5 and 7 (Block 1 to be planted)
Existing Woodland
Proposed Natural Regeneration
Existing Planting Areas
Proposed Scrub Planting
Planting Blocks 1 to 10
Proposed 100% Wildflower Seeding Area
Ephemeral Wet Area
Exposed Limestone Faces
Footpath to Mineral Viewing Area
Area of land north of the restored quarry with potential for public access, such as car parking and picnic areas. Detail of such access to be subject to land owners agreement. Provision of any public facilities to be funded by Hanson, as part of the quarry final restoration.
Hanson
HEIDELBERGCEMENT Group
Aberduna Quarry
Final Restoration & Aftercare Plan
1:1000
A3
GW
OCT 2013
AB
A109/58
A

Action Plan

Item No.	Objective	Biodiversity Feature	Targets	Tasks	Assessing Indicator	Responsible Person	Timescale (Completion)
1	Woodland creation	Broad leaved woodland based on NVC Classification W8 (Ash - field maple – dogs mercury woodland), the predominant woodland type in the local area.	Create areas of broad leaved woodland to act as visual screening for distance views of the quarry. Ensure connectivity between woodland blocks through creation of shelterbelts.	**1.**Woodland and shelterbelt planting programme including fencing **2.**Manage woodland as per S106 management plan	Area of trees planted and maintained. Annual works as per management plan and reporting.	Landscape Architect Landscape Architect	Completed Annually until end 2027
2	Limestone grassland creation	Limestone grassland areas and associated fauna e.g Butterflies	Achieve early establishment of grassland in visually prominent areas.	**1.** Prepare ground conditions, seed grassland and manage. **2**. Grazing programme to be initiated in conjunction with North Wales Wildlife trust or cutting.	Areas created and maintained. Annual reporting. Programme set up	Landscape Architect	Completed Annually until end 2027
3	Rough grassland and scrub creation	Areas of grassland and scrub	Create areas of rough grassland and scrub.	**1.** Prepare ground conditions to allow natural regeneration of wildflowers and planting of scrub. **2**. Assess need for annual autumn cutting programme with arisings from cuttings to be removed.	Areas planted and managed. Review annually Annual reporting.	Landscape Architect	Ongoing until 2027
4	Creation of wetland area and small ponds	Waterbodys with aquatic and marginal plant species.	Establishment of a waterbody with permanent aquatic and marginal vegetative features and ephemeral ponds Habitat creation for invertebrates, amphibians and birds.	**1.** Allow quarry waterbody to form; grade margins and encourage natural colonisation. Construct small artificially lined ponds in plant site. **2**. Aquatic and marginal vegetation may need to be introduced to assist development.	No. of ponds created. Aquatic and marginal plant cover and species diversity assessed annually. Annual reporting.	Landscape Architect Ecologist	Ongoing until 2027
5	Increasing	Great crested newt	Maintain ponds and open	**1.** Protect existing known	Increased reports	Ecologist	Ongoing until

	species diversity	Reptiles Bullfinch Skylark Song thrush Reed bunting Peregrine falcon Bat species Pearl-bordered fritillary Grizzled skipper Bats	water to create optimal habitat for great crested newt. Create limestone and rough grassland to improve habitats for invertebrates particularly butterflies. Create woodland and scrub to provide nesting for birds, foraging and commuting routes for bats and connectivity to other woodland blocks and site margins.	nests/habitats and limit disturbance on site through design of planting, fencing and landform. **2.** Create and manage habitats to become premium habitat for target species **3**. Create and manage habitats to become premium habitat for target species.	of presence of target species. Monitoring. Areas created and managed Areas created and managed Monitoring and reporting	Landscape Architect	2027
6	Habitat and species monitoring	Great crested newt Reptiles Bullfinch Skylark Song thrush Reed bunting Peregrine falcon Bat species Pearl-bordered fritillary Grizzled skipper Bats	Develop partnerships with local organisations to carry out surveys and/or external volunteers and consultants.	Monitor all target mammal; bird; amphibian; invertebrate and plant populations for 5 years following restoration. Monitoring to be agreed with LPA.	Annual monitoring and reporting	Landscape Architect Ecologist NWWT	Ongoing until 2027