

# Mercaston

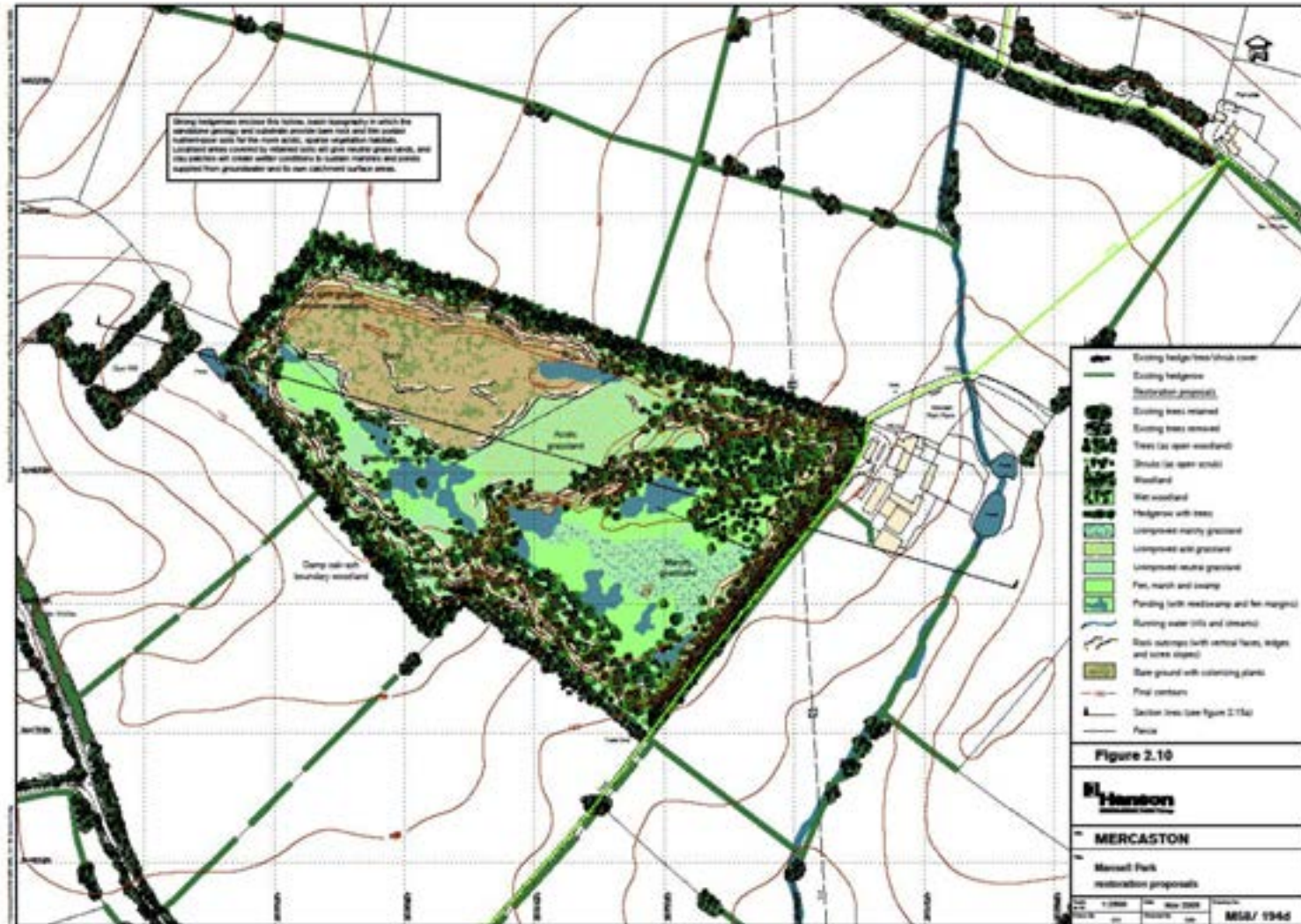
## Site Biodiversity Action Plan



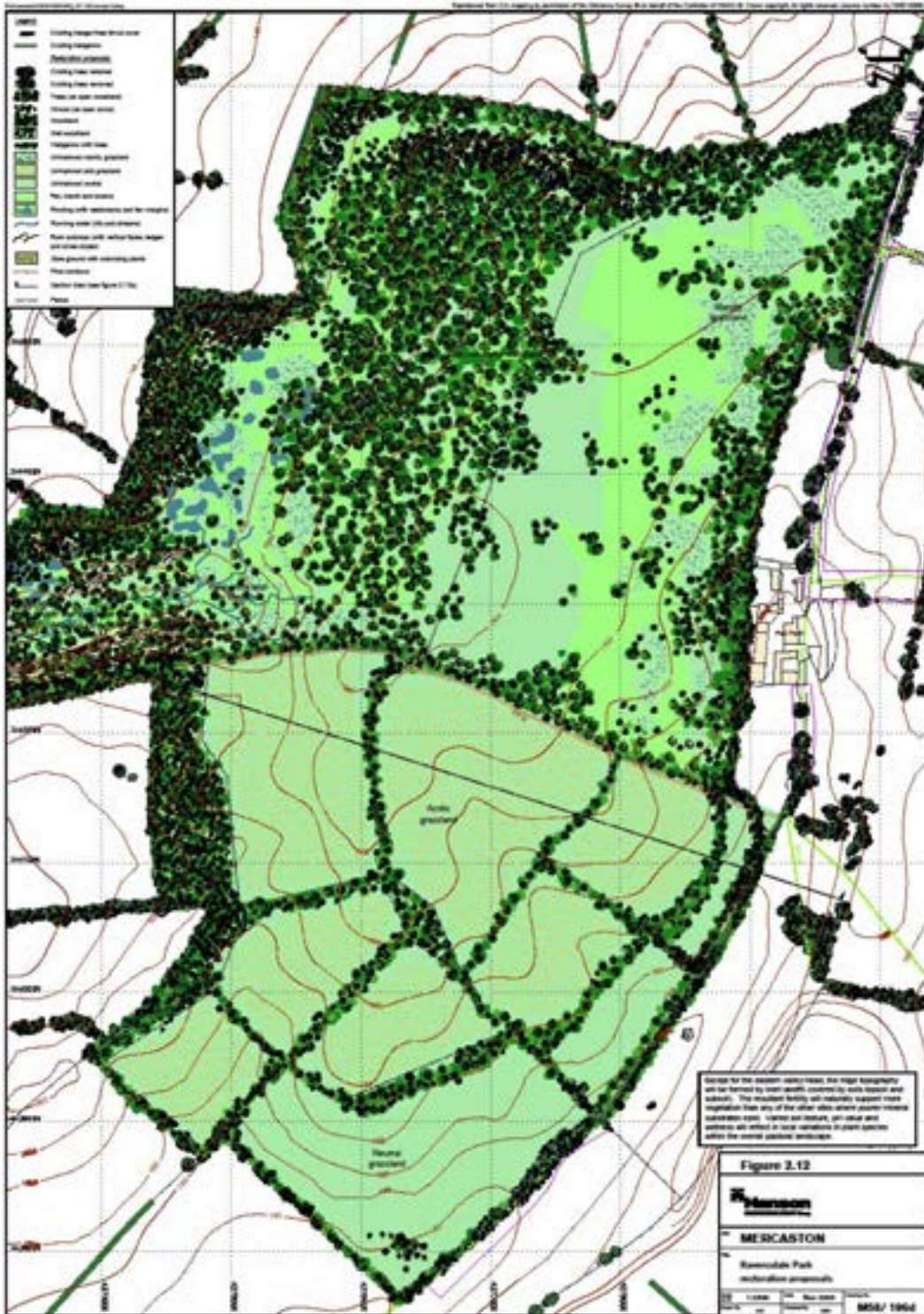
### Site Information- Mercaston

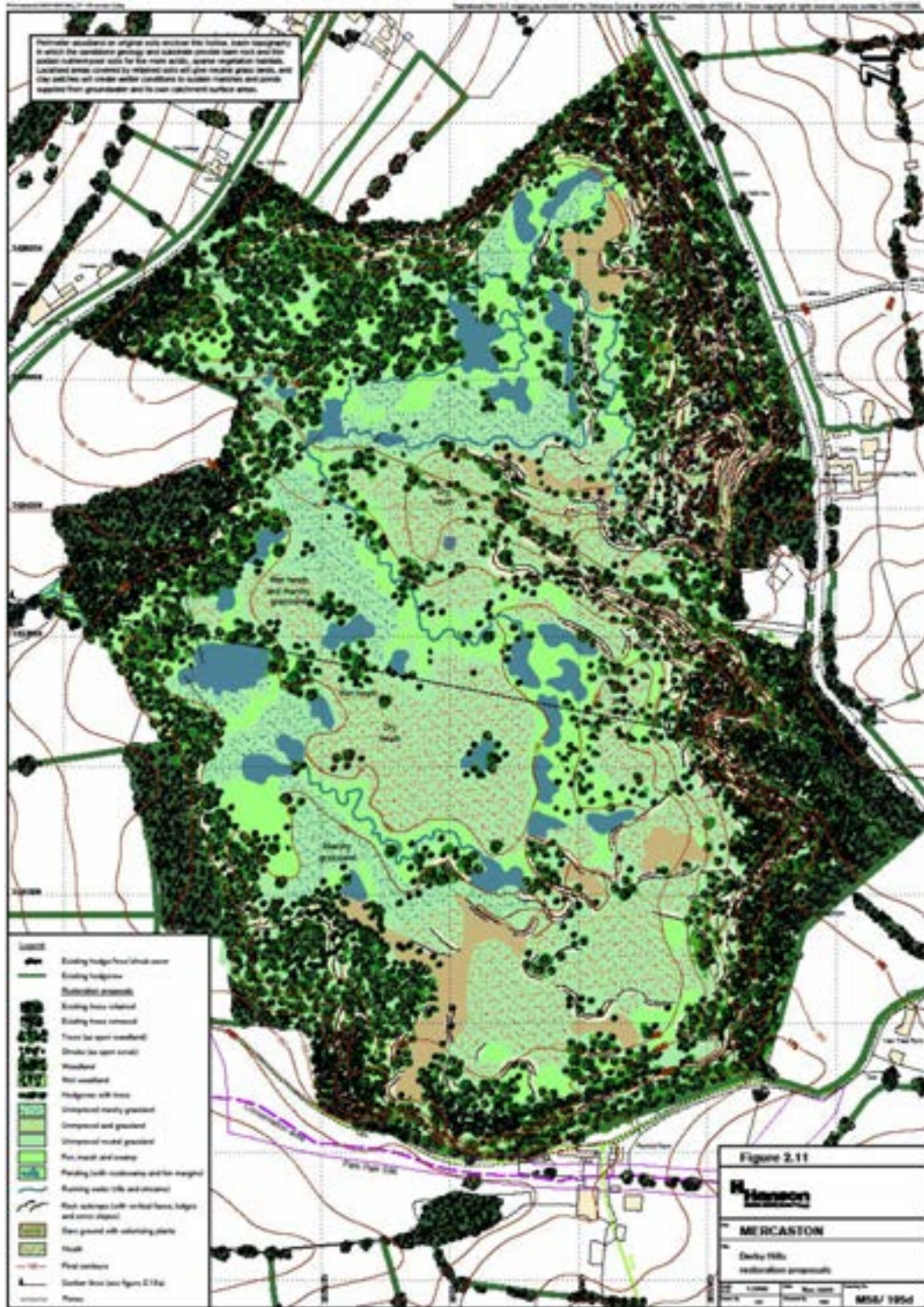
<b>Site Name and Location (incl. Grid Ref.)</b>	Mercaston Quarry, Derbyshire (SK 260240)
<b>Hanson Company</b>	HANSON AGGREGATES – CENTRAL
<b>BAP(s) that will be targeted</b>	National BAP Derbyshire BAP
<b>Habitat(s) to be developed</b>	Broadleaved and Mixed Woodland
<b>BAP species to be encouraged</b>	Great Crested Newt Badger
<b>Designated Natural Area</b>	The Peak Fringe/Claylands
<b>Background and site description</b>	Mercaston is a 60 hectare sand and gravel quarry complex, working a deposit of the Sherwood Sandstone group. The site comprises the former Mansell Park and Derby Hills Quarry sites. Mercaston Quarry is now occupied by the mineral washing and grading plant, weighbridge and site facilities. The site is being restored to recreate an area of semi-natural broadleaved woodland to augment existing neighbouring ancient semi-natural woodland in the area with open water, wetland and lowland heathland
<b>National Designations (SSSI, SAC, SPAs, RAMSARs and NPs) within 500m</b>	Mercaston Marsh & Muggington Bottoms SSSI- Ref: 1002103 <a href="http://www.sssi.naturalengland.org.uk/special/sssi/unit_details.cfm?situnt_id=1011151">http://www.sssi.naturalengland.org.uk/special/sssi/unit_details.cfm?situnt_id=1011151</a>
<b>Resource Requirements-comment on cost if appropriate</b>	Pre-stripping ecological surveys and protected species monitoring reports, which are planning and legislative requirements. Protection of existing habitat features. Creation of woodland, ponds, lakes, heathland and wetland features are all part of the approved restoration scheme
<b>Contribution to biodiversity</b>	Woodland and Lowland wet grass/heathland creation is both a local and national BAP habitat target. The restoration of the site will augment an existing conservation value and will create a significant wildlife resource in the area.
<b>Partners and Local initiatives</b>	Derbyshire Wildlife Trust.
<b>Other documents supporting the site BAP</b>	Mercaston Quarries Environmental Statement [ROMP]. Protected species reports (confidential).

## Site Layouts









## Action Plan

Item No.	Objective	Biodiversity Feature	Targets	Tasks	Assessing Indicator	Responsible Person	Timescale (Completion)
1	Restore important habitats.	Lowland wet and dry Heathland/grassland.	Create 5 ha of heath/grassland mosaic.	In compliance with proposed restoration scheme, seed areas with acid grassland mixture and encourage heather establishment by brash-laying and transplanting of stock, utilising existing heather stands on site as brash and transplant resource. Protect existing heathland by on-going management of trees and scrub.	Land area restored (ha). Successful establishment of planted species (report). Land area cleared of competing vegetation (ha).	Landscape Architect.	Annual report for life of site (40 years).
2	Restore important habitats.	Broadleaved woodland.	Create 25 hectares of broadleaved woodland (including open areas and glades).	Restore to extensive areas of broadleaf woodland with open areas (approx 20% area) allowing natural regeneration and increasing biodiversity potential. Woodland establishment will be by planting of native tree and shrub species to compliment the woodland in the surrounding area.	Area of woodland planted (ha).	Landscape Architect.	Report on woodland planting as it occurs throughout life of site.
3	Protect species.	Great Crested Newt, Badger, Sand Martin.	Minimise disturbance to existing site populations. Monitor protected species at least once every two years.	Protect existing known nests/habitats and limit disturbance on site by making site staff aware of habitat areas. Monitor site for development of new nests/habitats	Bi-annual species monitoring reports. Site Manager and Landscape architect to inform site staff and contractors working close to habitat areas.	Landscape Architect. Site Manager.	Every two years for life of site.