

# Horton Quarry

## Site Biodiversity Action Plan



### Site Information - Horton

<b>Site Name and Location</b>	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
<b>Hanson Company</b>	Hanson Aggregates - North
<b>BAP(s) that will be targeted</b>	UK BAP Yorkshire Dales BAP - Nature in the Dales:2020 Vision
<b>Habitat(s) to be developed</b>	Upland calcareous grasslands Limestone pavements Native woodland
<b>BAP species to be encouraged</b>	<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
<b>Designated Natural Area</b>	Yorkshire Dales
<b>Background and site description</b>	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.
<b>National Designations (SSSI, SAC, SPAs, RAMSARs and NPs) within 500m</b>	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.
<b>Resource Requirements- comment on cost if appropriate</b>	Hanson is providing land and grants for a juniper regeneration project. Restoration budget
<b>Contribution to biodiversity</b>	Provide features that complement the adjacent SAC/SSSI/NNR.
<b>Partners and Local initiatives</b>	Natural England
<b>Other documents supporting the site BAP</b>	Juniper re-introduction programme Horton Management Plan Restoration Plan



## 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.  Grassland to be within a stewardship scheme.	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 as detailed in the annual report
2	Creation and translocation of calcareous grassland on floor 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.  Source topsoil material to recreate calcareous grassland in area of disturbed pavement and translocate grassland	Walkover to assess establishment success during 5-year aftercare period	Ecological Consultant	Annually 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 as well as 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	Establish and manage woodland.  Follow trial at south end of	Land area maintained by NVC type (ha). Successful	Landscape Architect	Ongoing as detailed in the annual report.

			Juniper in short term through trial area and expand in longer term into quarry restoration.	quarry with view to expanding into restored areas.	reestablishment of juniper.		
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	Ongoing as detailed in the annual report
7	Communications and publicity	Produce Leaflet that explains importance of Horton in Ribblesdale Quarry biodiversity. Encourage educational visits	Explain importance of Horton Quarry biodiversity including flagship species.  Local schools regard and use site as educational resource	Produce BAP leaflet to highlight habitat, species and conservation work.  Encourage educational visits. 1 or 2 school visits per year.	Leaflet distributed No of students visiting site.	Site Manager	Ongoing as detailed in the annual report, Leaflet completed.