

Penderyn Quarry

Site Biodiversity Action Plan



Prepared: November 2011

Updated: Dec 2013, Nov 2018,
November 2023

Site Information- Penderyn Quarry

Site Name and Location (incl. Grid Ref.)	Penderyn Quarry, Nr Hirwaun SN 95194 09021 (plant site)
HM Company	Heidelberg Materials UK – Aggregates BL
BAP(s) that will be targeted	Brecon Beacons National Park, Wales BAP, UK BAP
Habitat(s) to be developed	Acid grassland and upland heathland, Calcareous grassland Purple moor grass and rush pastures, Upland woodland, Wet woodland, Cliff, rock and scree sites
BAP species to be encouraged	Peregrine falcon, Curlew, Common lizard, slowworm Small heath, marsh fritillary, grayling, wall brown butterflies
Designated Natural Area	N/A
Background and site description	<p>Penderyn covers a 50ha carboniferous limestone quarry landholding within the Brecon Beacons National Park. The quarry lies within an upland landscape of incised valleys and broad ridgelines. The landscape character of the area is strongly influenced by the pattern of topography.</p> <p>The quarry excavation (approx 25ha) has since 2021 reached its full extraction limits on all four sides. The plant site (approx 8ha) lies to the west of the extraction area.</p> <p>Restoration concept comprises a relatively deep water body in flooded quarry floor with woodland proposed through mainly natural regeneration on generally narrow, north facing quarry benches. Shallow placement of soil-forming-material will support calcareous grassland restoration on south facing quarry benches, haul roads and on the plant site floor, on completion.</p> <p>Following 2021 approval of SE extension, remaining west end of Twyn-y-Glog ridge is now retained, restored and managed as per approved Landscape and Ecological Restoration and Management Plan (LERMP)</p> <p>The Company owns a small portion of the Cwm Cadlan SSSI/SAC to the north of the quarry, with its supposed hydrological requirements limiting approved quarry working depth.</p>
National Designations (SSSI, SAC, NPs etc) within 500m	Whole site within BBNP. Cwm Cadlan SSSI and SAC, designated because of its marsh grassland, species-rich fen and purple moor-grass pasture
Resource Requirements	Restoration earthworks, tree planting and grass seeding will be covered within the site restoration or stripping budgets.
Contribution to biodiversity	Positive management of SSSI/SAC wet grassland, riparian woodland and ridgeline acid grassland. Habitat creation of wooded strips, screes and calcareous grassland through timely bench and quarry waste tip restoration.
Partners and Local initiatives	Brecon Beacons National Park Authority CCW
Other documents supporting the site BAP	Quarry development and restoration plans; ecological surveys/reports from 2010 ROMP and ES. 2022 approved LERMP

Site Layout



Action Plan

Item No.	Objective	Biodiversity Feature	Targets	Tasks	Assessing Indicator	Responsible Person	Timescale (Completion)	
1	Positive management of existing woodland habitats and middle-aged plantations	Wet woodland and its associated flora and fauna	To assess and implement appropriate management of wet riparian woodland areas (stockyard screenbank conditions 7&8)	<p>1. Carry out assessment of existing woodland, agree and draw up suitable management regime</p> <p>2. Arrange NRW Felling Licence and contract for thinning and coppicing.</p> <p>3. Implement appropriate management regime with arisings left as dead wood habitat piles, implement LERMP for woodland below telecoms mast</p>	<p>Assessment carried out and report produced</p> <p>Felling Licence in place</p> <p>Area coppiced and thinned</p> <p>Number of bird and bat boxes erected</p>	<p>Landscape Architect</p> <p>Landscape Manager</p>	<p>Assessment complete 2012</p> <p>First phase of coppicing complete by Q1 2025</p> <p>Bird and bat boxes erected by end 2024</p>	
		Broadleaved woodland and associated flora and fauna e.g. barbastelle bat	Improve the quality of restoration plantations to promote long-lived native tree species, varied canopy structure and increased ground flora diversity					
2	Reinstatement of un-quarried western end of Twyn-Y-Glog ridgeline	Upland Heathland and acid grassland;	Restore acid grassland and heathland on disturbed but retained sections along west end of ridge in accordance with approved LERMP	<p>1. Re-grade ridgeline haul road and replace stripped acidic soils from store onto disturbed areas</p> <p>2. establish acid grassland and heathland by natural regeneration and/or using locally collected material</p> <p>3. Maintain reptile hibernacula and open glades in west end woodland and</p>	<p>Soil replacement completed</p> <p>Acid grassland and heather establishing and visible from fixed point photograph locations</p> <p>Hibernacula in place - rock piles on ridge</p>	<p>Landscape Manager</p> <p>Consultant ecologist</p> <p>Unit Manager</p>	<p>Complete 2022</p> <p>Heather collection and spreading Oct 2023.</p> <p>Monitor for Heather presence/ absence by end 2026</p> <p>Hibernacula in place by end 2024</p>	
		reptiles (slow worms and common lizards)	Manage remaining retained TyG vegetation					

				grassland below telecoms mast	and log piles in woodland		
3	Improve and maintain Cwm Cadlan marshy grassland	SAC purple moor grass communities, amphibians, marsh fritillary	To secure appropriate management to maintain/achieve favourable status of designated areas	<p>1. Maintain grazing regime</p> <p>2. Management to be carried out in conjunction with advice from NRW on SAC fragment within Heidelberg control, to reduce current scrub encroachment.</p>	<p>Grazing ongoing</p> <p>Advice sought and % scrub cover reduced as guided</p>	Landscape Manager	<p>ongoing</p> <p>Advice sought by Q3 2024</p> <p>First phase of clearance complete by Q1 2026</p>
4	Maintain current quality and extent of diverse grassland habitats and increase through ongoing quarry reclamation	<p>Acid grassland and heathland (Twn Y Glog southern ridge);</p> <p>calcareous and neutral grasslands on northern ridgeline;</p> <p>associated fauna e.g. small heath, grayling, wall, common lizard</p>	<p>Manage existing resource to prevent decline of quality and extent and to encourage associated fauna</p> <p>To provide and restore further areas of open grassland habitat during bench, Tip and Plant Site terminal reclamation</p>	<p>1. Monitor grassland condition periodically throughout life of site</p> <p>2. Take opportunities to increase extent through progressive restoration of quarry benches and tips in line with ROMP restoration design (though N-facing benches intended as predominantly woodland)</p>	<p>Monitoring records available</p> <p>Linear metres or plan area of face/bench complex restored</p>	<p>Landscape Manager/ Consultant ecologist</p> <p>Site manager</p>	<p>Czech research student visit June 23</p> <p>Ongoing</p>