

Bulls Lodge Quarry

Site Biodiversity Action Plan



Prepared: October 2009

**Updated: December 2013
August 2018
January 2024**

Site Information- Bulls Lodge

Site Name and Location (incl. Grid Ref.)	Bulls Lodge Quarry, Chelmsford TL 74596 10710 (site office)
Heidelberg Materials Company	Aggregates
BAP(s) that will be targeted	Essex Integrating Biodiversity in to Development Chelmsford Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan UK BAP
Habitat(s) to be developed	Broadleaved woodland, hedgerows, open water, Reedbeds, grassland and scrub
BAP species to be encouraged	Brown hare Bat sp Great crested newt
Designated Natural Area	London Basin
Background and site description	<p>Bulls Lodge Quarry is a sand and gravel producing operation located on an old airfield and farmland. The site comprises several parcels including the current extraction area on the old Boreham airfield which is surrounded by 65ha of restored land used for arable farming, the plant site is situated to the south of the Airfield, Park Farm future extraction area is to the west and Brick House Farm future area is to the south east.</p> <p>Extraction is currently progressing in a southerly direction down the centre of the Airfield.</p> <p>Advance tree planting operations took place prior to commencement of extraction, along the western and northern boundaries of the Airfield, to the west of Park Farm and to the east of Brick House Farm in order to build up a visual screen to benefit properties located in the area.</p> <p>The landlord of the Airfield requires, where possible for restoration to comprise agriculture and on completion of 5 years of statutory aftercare, Hanson are obliged to hand over responsibility and management of the restored land to the them.</p> <p>The most recent planning application to amend the phasing of working the Airfield and moving to Park Farm has secured extended aftercare on the wetland and grassland habitat creation on site as well as a detailed Landscape and Ecological Management Plan that provides the detailed actions and timeframes that this BAP refers to..</p> <p>The site sits within a rapidly changing environ as a result of the continued housing and infrastructure development of Chelmsford up to the quarry boundaries that will also see a new bypass created across the Airfield as well as housing on Park Farm as soon as mineral extraction is completed.</p>
National Designations (SSSI, SAC, SPAs, RAMSARs and NPs) within 500m	None
Resource Requirements-	Restoration and biodiversity works will be paid for from the restoration and stripping budgets.

comment on cost if appropriate	
Contribution to biodiversity	Management of existing and restored woodland planting and the further creation of woodland, hedgerow and aquatic habitats to include reed beds will add to national and local biodiversity goals and improve habitat linkage in the local area.
Partners and Local initiatives	Essex County Council
Other documents supporting the site BAP	Revised restoration design (S73 applicaton) Ecological reports Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) 2023 Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) 2023

Site Layout



Action Plan

Item No.	Objective	Biodiversity Feature	Targets	Tasks	Assessing Indicator	Responsible Person	Timescale (Completion)
1	Improve and increase the extent of native broadleaved woodland	Broadleaved woodland and associated flora and fauna e.g. bats	<p>Improve quality of existing woodland SNCI copse and quarry plantations by:</p> <p>a) Improving age-class and structural diversity b) Increasing open space Improving groundflora c) Installing wildlife boxes Increasing deadwood habitat d) Remove non-native species e) Manage the impacts of ash die back (ADB)</p> <p>Increase extent of woodland cover</p>	<p>1. Implement management requirements and the timescales associated with them as laid out in the LEMP</p> <p>2. Provide written reports and evidence of progress to Essex County Council</p> <p>3. Carry out planting in first available season following completion of restoration</p>	<p>Management requirements carried out</p> <p>Reports submitted</p> <p>No. plants planted</p>	<p>Landscape Architect</p> <p>Landscape Architect</p> <p>Landscape Architect</p>	<p>Ongoing for life of permission</p> <p>Every 3 years from 2025</p> <p>Ongoing 2ha planted 2017</p>
2	Improve and increase the extent of species rich hedgerows	Great crested newt, hedge bottom groundflora, bat sp	<p>Introduce suitable hedgerow management e.g. laying and gapping up to maximise biodiversity potential</p> <p>Increase extent of hedgerow habitat</p>	<p>1. Implement management requirements and the timescales associated with them as laid out in the LEMP</p> <p>2. Provide written reports and evidence of progress to Essex County Council</p>	<p>Management requirements carried out</p> <p>Reports submitted</p>	<p>Landscape Architect</p> <p>Landscape Architect</p>	<p>Ongoing for life of permission</p> <p>Every 3 years from 2025</p>

				3. Plant restoration hedgerows within 2 years of completing restoration phase	Metres of hedge planting	Landscape Architect	Ongoing 2.5km planted since 2005
3	Improve and maintain the existing resource mosaic of wetland, grassland and scrub	Bird sp Reptiles	Ensure a balance of open grassy banks and scrub by: a) Rotationally coppicing willows that shade grassy banks or encroach on wetland features b) Control scrub encroachment that impacts rights of way	1. Implement management requirements and the timescales associated with them as laid out in the LEMP 2. Provide written reports and evidence of progress to Essex County Council	Management requirements carried out Reports submitted	Landscape Architect Landscape Architect	Ongoing for life of permission Initial phase of willow coppicing in Silt Lagoon LNR completed 2021 Every 3 years from 2025
4	Safeguard current population of Great Crested Newt	Great Crested Newt and associated ponds and foraging habitat	Ensure no detrimental impact on GCN population from ongoing quarry workings	1. Conduct surveys, stripping and habitat clearance and mitigation in accordance with Natural England (NE) licencing requirements	Successful implementation of NE licences and no net loss of GCN population	Site Manager	Ongoing