

Tytherington Quarry

Site Biodiversity Action Plan



Prepared: July 2008

**Updated: Mar 2014, Sept 2018,
Jan 2020, Jan 2024**

Site Information – Tytherington Quarry

Site Name and Location (incl. Grid Ref.)	Tytherington Quarry, Nr Thornbury, South Glos ST 657 888 (Plant Site)
HM Company	Heidelberg Materials UK – Aggregates BL
BAP(s) that will be targeted	South Gloucestershire BAP 2016-2026 and previous 06-2015 action plan still of relevance West of England Nature Partnership mapping UK BAP
Habitat(s) to be developed	Species rich hedgerows, Calcareous grassland, Broadleaved woodland, standing open water (on completion)
BAP species to be encouraged	Peregrine falcon, slowworm, bat spp, badger, bullfinch, song thrush, dormouse, white-clawed crayfish (on completion)
Designated National Character Area	Bristol, Avon Valleys and Ridges, NCA118
Background and site description	An important rail-linked 57ha carboniferous limestone quarry situated to the east of Thornbury in South Gloucestershire, the site comprises two separate excavations (Woodleaze and Grovesend) linked by a tunnel. There is a third excavation (North Face) to the north, however this is no longer within HMUK’s ownership. The village of Tytherington has a long history of quarrying with numerous old diggings, faces and excavations east of the M5. There is a range of habitats within the Company’s remaining landholding, including small pockets of calcareous grassland, hedgerows, small amounts of semi-natural woodland, young plantations and agricultural fields. Three pockets of retained land in Tytherington village are leased to the Parish Council as playground and amenity grassland public open space. The surrounding landscape comprises mainly agricultural fields, bordered to the south east by the M5 and to the north east by the A38.
National Designations (SSSI, SAC, NPs etc) within 500m	Tytherington Quarry (geological) SSSI situated in North Face excavation (outside of HMUK ownership)
Resource Requirements	Restoration earthworks, tree planting, grass seeding and management of existing restored areas will be covered within the site’s restoration budget.
Contribution to biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserving and improving existing calcareous grassland habitat fragments that have arisen by chance through historic quarrying activity. • Providing opportunities for long term temporary calcareous grassland on interim restoration quarry benches that will eventually be lost to final flooding • Creation of woodland habitat linkages with Tytherington Tunnel SNCI through new restoration planting • Improving habitats for target species such as dormice, bullfinch, song thrush and slow worm through habitat creation and management • Maintain newly created habitats such as 2022 artificial badger sett, in anticipation of future use

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve perimeter hedgerow network and linear habitat linkages
Partners and Local initiatives	Site is within Forest of Avon Community Forest. Tytherington Parish Council for the 3 plots of leased land within the village
Other documents supporting the site BAP	Approved concept reclamation plan T6m/86b South Glos SPD "Biodiversity and Planning" March 2023 Tytherington and Itchington Local Nature Action Plan March 2023

Site Layout



Action Plan

Item No.	Objective	Biodiversity Feature	Targets	Tasks	Assessing Indicator	Responsible Person	Timescale (Completion)
1	Implement beneficial new interim and permanent quarry reclamation	1a) Calcareous grassland creation	Create grassland habitats on long term temporary quarry benches	Form rock trap edge protection on completed benches from low fertility subsoil and hand-seed with suitable wildflower mix	Area of bench prepared and sown to calcareous grassland	Landscape manager	Ongoing
			Create grassland habitats on any completed areas of Grovesend Tip	Dress off batters beside new "badger haul road" with suitable soils and hand-seed with wildflower mix	Area of Tip seeded to wildflower	Landscape Manager	End Q2 2024
		1b) broadleaved woodland creation	Plant up final quarry benches in accordance with approved reclamation plans	Prepare and tree plant Level 1 and level 2 bench rock traps once faces excavated to final positions	No. of trees and shrubs planted	Landscape Manager	Level 1 by Q1 2024
			Design in significant woodland planting for future screenbanks for visual enhancement and habitat linkage for anticipated future planning applications	Input to consultants' designs for BNG and landscape mitigation	Area of woodland proposed	Landscape Manager, Lands & Planning Manager	Level 2 by Q1 2025 Q4 2025
2	Maintain and manage existing habitats	2a) calcareous grassland management; reptile habitat for slow worm	Maintain and enhance Grovesend Tip and "orchid strip"	Ecologist to undertake reptile survey at 3-year intervals Periodic scrub clearance within orchid strip 2022 slow	Reptile presence maintained Scrub cover <30%	Landscape Manager	Ongoing

				worm receptor area, use arisings to create hibernacula and habitat piles			
		2b) badgers	Maintain artificial badger sett and monitor for active use	Ecologist to undertake badger survey at 3 year intervals	Badger presence confirmed	Unit Manager	End Q1 2025
		2c) broadleaved woodland management	Implement active management of middle-aged tree plantations to improve woodland structure and encourage development of understorey	Complete selective thinning of M5 screenbank plantation in accordance with FC Felling Licence	Area thinned Monitor for presence of diverse ground flora and understorey structure	Landscape Manager Landscape Manager	End Q1 2025 Ongoing
		2d) hedgerow management	Improve habitat value of existing original and more recently planted hedgerows	Lay P2003 hedge beside Itchington road	Length of hedgerow laid	Landscape Manager	End Q1 2028
3	Partnership working	Village plots leased to PC	Develop partnerships with Tytherington Parish Council and their LNAP	Maintain contact with PC and local councillors Seek Company funding and support for local biodiversity projects	Evidence of active support and community engagement projects	AOM, Unit Manager	Ongoing