

Smiths Concrete Ltd Wolston Fields Farm

Site Biodiversity Action Plan

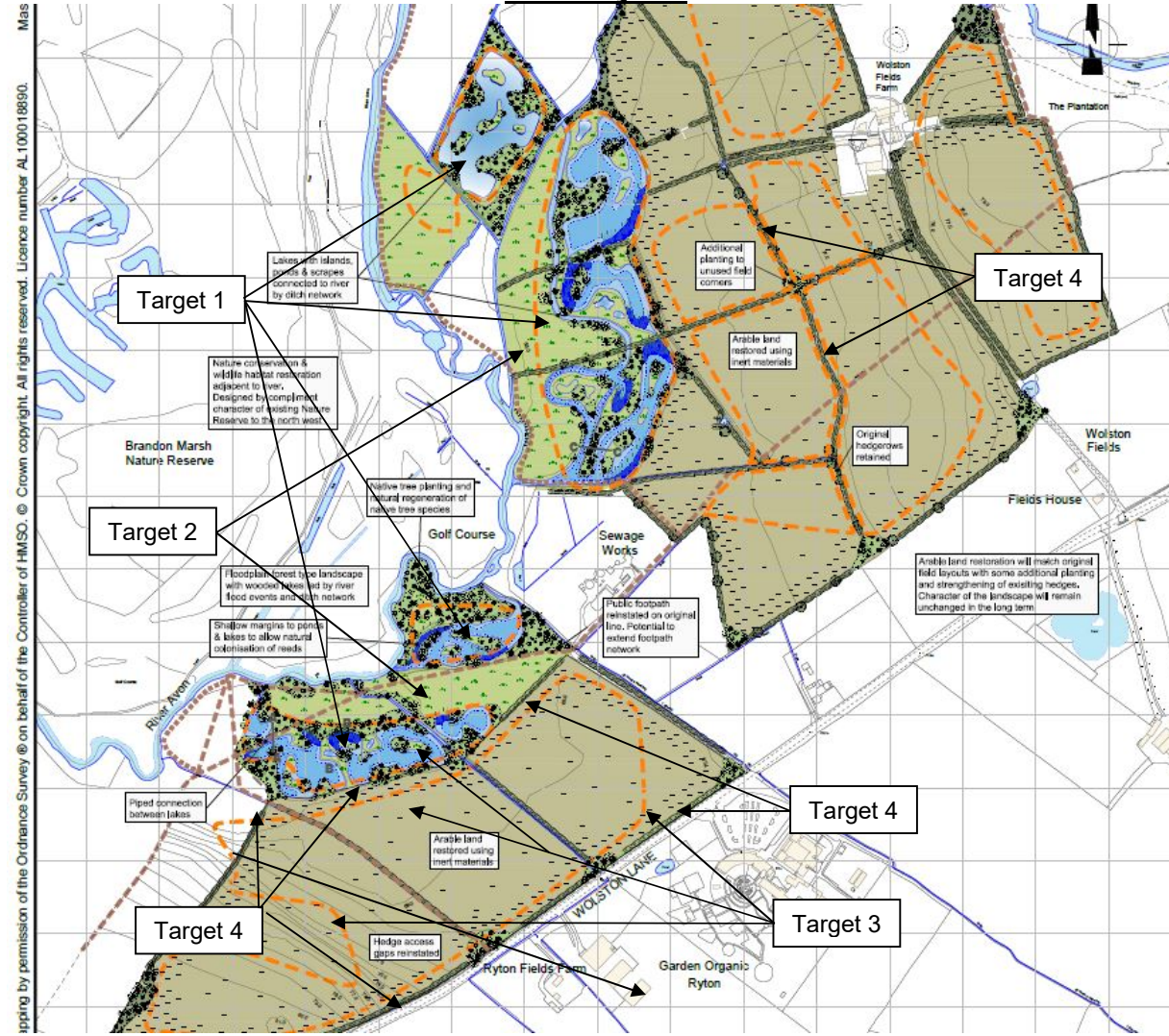


Site Information- Wolston Fields

Site Name and Location (incl. Grid Ref.)	Wolston Fields Farm, Wolston Lane, Wolston, Coventry CV8 3ES. Site entrance and weighbridge office Grid SP 395744
Heidelberg Company	Smiths Concrete (JV)
BAP(s) that will be targeted	Warwickshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan UKBAP
LBAP Habitat(s) to be developed	Wet woodland Lowland neutral grassland, Ponds, lakes and reservoirs Reedbed and Fen
BAP species to be encouraged	Wetland waders incl redshank and snipe; bats; willow tit; wetland invertebrates; otters,
Designated Natural Area	Just within the Midland Clay Pasture Natural Area and adjacent to the Midland Plateau. Now within NE's Natural Character Area 96 Dunsmore and Feldon
Background and site description	Sand and gravel pit extracting River Avon floodplain terrace deposits since 2015, as a satellite operation with material sent to Bubbenhall wash plant for processing. Restoration of c.80% of the site is proposed for backfilling with imported inert waste to roughly original ground levels in order to achieve original agricultural afteruse. Remaining phases 1, 2, 5 and 6, closer to River Avon, being restored to wetland Biodiversity afteruse using on-site overburden materials only. Restoration habitats will comprise a series of small lakes, ponds and scrapes, reedbed and fen, native wet woodland and low-key agricultural utilisation as grazed wildflower-rich rough grassland.
National Designations (SSSI, SAC, SPAs, RAMSARs and NPs) within 500m	Brandon Marsh SSSI former gravel pit wetlands, now Warwickshire Wildlife Trust nature reserve, within 500m to west, on far side of River Avon. Wolston Gravel Pit geological SSSI approx. 1km to east.
Resource Requirements- comment on cost if appropriate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most restoration earthworks, planting and aftercare costs already previously budgeted for as normal restoration expenditure required to implement approved restoration design. • Aftercare funds passed to WWT for implementation once tranches handed over on completion of restoration • Defra Countryside Stewardship scheme or any subsequent agri-environment scheme possibly available to WWT if work is over and above existing planning requirements. • Opportunities to enhance biodiversity value of agricultural restoration areas under BNG Offsetting schemes if appropriate for landlord's aspirations
Contribution to biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retention of entire original hedgerow network and bat foraging areas agreed with WCC planners in design of working plan for planning submission and EIA • Few opportunities for habitat creation within mainstream agricultural reclamation areas (subject to BNG possibilities above) • c.21Ha of wetland phases to be handed over to WWT which offer major biodiversity net gain compared to original poor quality arable landuse.
Partners and Local initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dunsmore Living Landscape Project (HLF-funded) operating within Warwickshire Wildlife Trust

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under Tripartite agreement between Smiths, Landlords and WWT, the 25-Year Aftercare programme on wetland phases will be managed by WWT under a separate lease.
Other documents supporting the site BAP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annual wildlife survey reports provided by ecology consultant Ian Tanner, WWT reports and surveys across Phase 2 (tranche 1 already handed to WWT)• Approved Restoration plan W179/23 or subsequent revisions• Aftercare Management Plan/table as submitted by planning consultants Landesign

Site Layout



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Action Plan

Item No.	Objective	Biodiversity Feature	Targets	Tasks	Assessing Indicator	Responsible Person	Timescale (Completion)
1	Habitat creation through approved restoration	Wetland: reedbed and fens; wet woodland otter	Create 21Ha biodiversity -focussed wetland restoration within Phases 1, 2, 5 and 6 Ensure new habitat accessible to otters	1. Restore lakes and wetland lake margins in accordance with Restoration concept plan 2. cut otter-friendly gaps in stock fences as necessary	Area of wetland restored per year Number of ponds and scrapes created Evidence of site use by otters	Landscape Manager, Quarry Manager WWT volunteers	Ongoing as progressive excavation, backfilling and landforming proceeds Gaps cut around Phase 1 fence 2017, ongoing
2	Enhance rough grassland	Species rich neutral grassland; floodplain grazing marsh	Increase biodiversity value of rough grassland within wetland restoration phases by over-seeding with green hay. Erect perimeter fencing to allow access by grazing livestock as aftercare progresses and once wet woodland and reedbed established	1. Agree suitable source for next phase of green hay collection (Draycote Meadows WWT reserve or Phase 2?) 2. Implement green hay collection and spreading 3. Erect stockproof fencing and gates	Area of green hay strewing completed Fence length erected	Landscape Manager Quarry Manager	2.5Ha of Phase 2a and 2b over-seeded August 2018. Phase 5&6 on completion of restoration earthworks Prior to handover of each tranche to WWT. (Tranche 1 fencing completed Q1 2018, cattle grazing underway 2022)
3	Wildflowers and nectar sources	Neutral grassland wildflowers for foraging bees and invertebrates	Establish wildflowers on roadside screenbank opposite Ryton Organic	1. Seed roadside screen bank with UK-provenance native wildflower mix,	Presence of appropriate wildflower species	Quarry Manager	Bund seeded Q3 2015 with Emorsgate

			Gardens Enhance agricultural grassland where possible as part of Aftercare programme	2. Over-seed agricultural grassland with GS4 herb-rich ley mixture and manage in conjunction with grazing tenant Stewardship or other agri-environment scheme	Presence of appropriate grass and wildflower species	Quarry Manager	meadow mix. GS4 overseeding undertaken Oct 23. Maintenance ongoing
4	Habitat connectivity	Hedgerows; Bat foraging and commuting corridors	Plant new hedges where necessary to divide wetland phases from agricultural restoration areas Gap up all existing hedges during operational lifetime and on completion of restoration	1. Plant new hedgerows between Phases 2 and 3 2. Plant up all existing hedge gaps 3. Plant up gaps created for haul road access points on completion of restoration earthworks	Linear metres of hedge planted per year	Landscape Manager	400m hedge planted along boundary with Phase 2a/2b 2017-18 270m advance roadside hedge gapping 2015-16, 150m internal hedge gaps 2019-22 By end of first winter after completion of restoration
5	Partnership working	Support Warwickshire Wildlife Trust	Handover of wetland restoration areas from Smiths Concrete to WWT to implement Aftercare	1. Handover Tranche 2 on completion 2. Liaise with WWT reserves manager during wetland restoration earthworks in Phase 5&6 and Phase 1 3. Pay agreed lump sums to WWT as contribution to Aftercare and management costs	Completion of handover in tranches Agreement with WWT re earthworks programme Tranche 2 £30K lump sum paid	Lands and Planning Manager Quarry Manager and Landscape Manager Lands & Planning Manager	Tranche 1 handed over in 2018 Tranche 2 handover within 1 year of completion of restoration earthworks, fencing and planting

