

Company: Aggregate Industries
Location: Forfar Quarry, Angus, Scotland, United Kingdom

Objective Restoration of a sand and gravel quarry to a number of lakes, each creating a different habitat.

Context Wading birds and wetland systems are part of the UK BAP. Creating new habitats is particularly difficult as an excavated area is often needed. The potential of Forfar Quarry, providing a large land area with the correct profile, was recognised for wetland restoration.

Solution Since decommissioning the site in 2000 Aggregate Industries has worked with various parties to create numerous lakes for nature and local communities. The two areas, Murton and Fledmyre, both have been restored to a high standard attracting visitors and nature.

Careful construction of the lake edges and profile has led to the creation of the ideal habitat for wading birds. Different parts of the site have been focused on a different subject; from education to wildlife or flora.

Result The lakes now provide habitats for many wading birds and water fowl including geese, redshank, ducks, coots and sand martins that nest round the area. A small holding has been built into the site to educate children about organic agricultural skills and countryside skills.

The site also won the Quarry Product Association Cooper Heyman Cup in recognition of its achievements.

Partners BCTV, Natural England and Leicester and Rutland Wildlife Trust

