

Sam Till

From: Martin Hammond
Sent: 21 May 2019 12:21
To: Planning Control
Subject: NY/2019/0080/A27 Eggborough Sandpit Restoration Plan

Thank you for consulting the ecology team regarding the Restoration, Aftercare and Management Plan for Eggborough sand quarry. We can confirm that the content regarding habitat creation is broadly satisfactory but offer the following comments:

1. We would query the wisdom of including Elder in the shrub planting and hedgerow mixes (Tables 3 & 4) as this species often smothers others when planted in close proximity.
2. Wildflower seed (broad-leaved herbs included in Table 5) must be of British wild provenance and should not include agricultural cultivars
3. If Common Knapweed is to be included in Seed Mix no. 2 (Table 5), this should *not* be the 'rayed' form, which is more typical of chalk downland in southern England but is often the form supplied in commercial wildflower mixes.
4. Table 6 (woodland wildflower planting) includes species which are rare or absent in the Humberhead Levels National Character Area, e.g. Greater Woodrush, Yellow Archangel. We would consider it more appropriate to introduce species which are characteristic of the local area. Examination of records for nearby woodlands suggests that on acidic soils, Wood Sage, Foxglove and Wood Millet are characteristic; on base-rich soils, Dog's Mercury, Red Campion, Lesser Celandine and Wood False-brome are more typical. Wood Anemone and Bluebell occur in local woods on different soil types but these plants are indicative of long-established woodland and may be difficult to establish in immature plantations.
5. In Para 6.4.2, it is proposed to trim scrub areas on a 2 to 3 year, rotational cycle. We have no objection to this but it may be simpler to manage scrub as and when necessary to achieve the condition criterion set out in para 6.4.3

We cannot comment on the measures for establishing and managing agricultural grassland, which would require consultation with an agronomist. In Table 2 (agricultural pasture seed mix), the names of Smooth Meadow-grass and Rough Meadow-grass have been transposed but this is probably not of much consequence.

Regards,

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