



## PROJECT PROFILE: Needingworth Quarry Restoration



Location	Needingworth Quarry. Site Area 50 hectares
Client	Hanson Aggregates
Value	£830,000
Duration	17 weeks
Quantities	65,000 cu m clay seals; 20,000 cu m excavate and haul mineral; 172,000 cu m topsoil and sub-soil and 450,000 cu m overburden strip and relay in restoration area
Description	<p>Hanson Aggregates, Barton Plant and the RSPB worked in partnership to restore part of this working sand and gravel quarry at Needingworth, Cambridgeshire. The works involve the creation of a 700 ha wetland haven for birds. The site is to be completed in phases over the next 30 years and will include the largest reed bed in the UK. Each phase being of 20-40 ha.</p> <p>Barton Plant are involved in stripping the overburden, sub-soils and topsoils off the next gravel extraction area and placing them, to carefully designed profiles, over the previous year's gravel extraction area. In doing so the proposed wetland habitat grows year on year and matures whilst the gravel works progress. This keeps the area in a tidy well maintained condition and allows the public access to a well managed, growing, wetland habitat that will be attracting wildlife as works progress. All in all a credit to Hansons management of their redundant quarry areas</p> <p>Works are constantly monitored by the RSPB and were initially delayed due to the presence of nesting sand martins. Further project complications include the high water content of the area due to the surrounding River Ouse.</p> <p>It has been some years since Barton Plant have undertaken restoration works in this quarry for Hanson Aggregates and because of the relationship fostered on site between Hansons and Bartons the project proved to be a huge success for all parties. Works were completed on time, to a very high specification, to the complete satisfaction of the RSPB.</p>

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