



## The Rescuing Rocks & Overgrown Relics Project

This project is one of three within our Scraping beneath the surface programme, all of which are linked to the mining and quarrying heritage of the local area.

The RROR project is funded by WREN (Waste Recycling Environmental), one of the Landfill Tax administering bodies, under their Biodiversity Action Fund. This programme funds projects which enhance biodiversity by supporting the expansion, recovery and conservation of Biodiversity Action Plan habitats and their dependent species through specific improvements. Projects must be sited at specified sites of local, regional or national importance, and should achieve conservation at a landscape scale, for example through reducing the effects of fragmentation.

The project is focused on restoration of three BAP habitats across six sites in the northern part of the Scheme area. The chosen habitats are 'Inland rock outcrop and scree', 'Calaminarian grassland' and 'Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land'. There will also be benefits to 'Broadleaved woodland', 'Lowland dry acid grassland' and 'Ponds'.

The sites include former quarries, mine sites and natural rock outcrop and scree and are linked not only by their habitats and history, but by their importance in supporting, or having the potential to support, some of Shropshire's rare and notable flora and fauna.

The project is managed by the Landscape Partnership Scheme but is a partnership project with the site owners including Shropshire Council, Shropshire Wildlife Trust and the Forestry Commission.

The project is worth £223,817 over four and a half years and this money will fund:

- external Project management
- a suite of professional ecological surveys to inform habitat works
- significant habitat restoration and management work across all sites
- training, expenses, tools and protective clothing for volunteers

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*The Stiperstones and Corndon Hill Country Landscape Partnership Scheme is managed by a Partnership of professional and community representatives from Shropshire and Powys, who are listed at [www.stiperstonesandcorndon.co.uk](http://www.stiperstonesandcorndon.co.uk). The lead organisation for the Scheme is the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Partnership, hosted by Shropshire Council.*



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## The RROR Project Sites

### The Bog mine site

Ownership	Shropshire Council
Designations	County Wildlife Site
UKBAP Habitats	'Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land', 'Calaminarian grassland' and 'Ponds,' all in declining condition.
Species which will benefit	Butterfly spp inc Greyling and Dingy Skipper, dragonflies, damselflies, invertebrates
Work programme	Scrub clearance, removal and follow-up treatment of seedlings to prevent re-encroachment. Wetland management to clear ponds of willow scrub.

### Snailbeach mine site

Ownership	Shropshire Council
Designations	Site of Special Scientific Interest (part), County Wildlife Site (part), Scheduled Ancient Monument (part)
UKBAP Habitats	'Inland rock outcrop and scree' and 'Calaminarian grassland', both in declining condition.
Species which will benefit	Butterfly spp such as Greyling, Dingy Skipper, Wall, Forester Moth, and Latticed Heath
Work programme	Work will clear spoil heaps and mineral deposits of encroaching trees and scrub to restore areas of open ground and sparse grassland favoured by spp such as Greyling.

### Earl's Hill

Ownership	Shropshire Wildlife Trust
Designations	Site of Special Scientific Interest, SWT Local Nature Reserve
UKBAP Habitats	'Inland rock outcrop and scree' in a unfavourable and declining condition.
Species which will benefit	Butterfly spp inc Greyling, Dormouse, lichens, bryophytes (Sun Grimmia), plant spp such as Maiden Pink, Bloody Crane's-bill, Upright Chickweed, Smooth Cat's-ear and Autumn Crocus
Work programme	Restore areas of rock outcrop/scree and create transitional habitat mosaic of high ecological value between these and adjacent high-value habitats inc. 'Upland mixed ashwoods' and 'Lowland dry acid grassland'.



## Poles Coppice

Ownership	Shropshire Council
Designations	County Wildlife Site, Local Nature Reserve
UKBAP Habitats	'Inland rock outcrop and scree', 'Lowland dry acid grassland', 'Open habitat mosaics on previously developed land' and 'Broadleaved, mixed and yew woodland', all in a declining condition.
Species which will benefit	Dormice, bat spp, butterfly spp inc. Greyling and Wood White, plants such as Common and Heath spotted-Orchid, Betony and Common Centaury.
Work programme	Restoration of quarry faces to mosaic of habitats of greater ecological diversity through scrub clearance. Complementary woodland management work inc ride creation and management of understorey.

## Nills Hill Quarry

Ownership	Shropshire Council
Designations	Local Nature Reserve
UKBAP Habitats	'Inland rock outcrop and scree', 'Lowland dry acid grassland' and 'Broadleaved, mixed and yew woodland', all in a declining condition.
Species which will benefit	Slow worm, Bumblebee ( <i>Bombus rupestris</i> ), Cranefly ( <i>Antocha vitripennis</i> ), Wood White, Grayling, Dormouse, bat spp.
Work programme	Restoration of habitat mosaics to restore areas of 'Lowland dry acid grassland' and 'Inland rock outcrop and scree'. Woodland management to increase structural and ecological diversity.

## Roman Gravels mine site

Ownership	Forestry Commission
Designations	County Wildlife Site
UKBAP Habitats	'Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land' and 'Calaminarian grassland', both in a declining condition.
Species which will benefit	Greyling butterfly
Work programme	Felling of plantation conifers by FC followed by restoration to mosaic of open heath, bare ground and acid grassland.

