

Guidance on Biodiversity and Minerals English Nature, the Quarry Products Association and the Silica & Mouldings Sands Association

Whether planning new mineral development, operating existing sites or managing other land holdings, there are opportunities for the mineral industry to contribute to the conservation of the UK's biodiversity. Against this background, English Nature, the Quarry Products Association and the Silica & Mouldings Sands Association established the 'Minerals and Nature Conservation Forum' and signed a statement of intent aimed at achieving environmentally sustainable development in the mineral industry. The statement of intent sets out a series of joint objectives relating to biodiversity and the mineral industry. The Minerals and Nature Conservation Forum

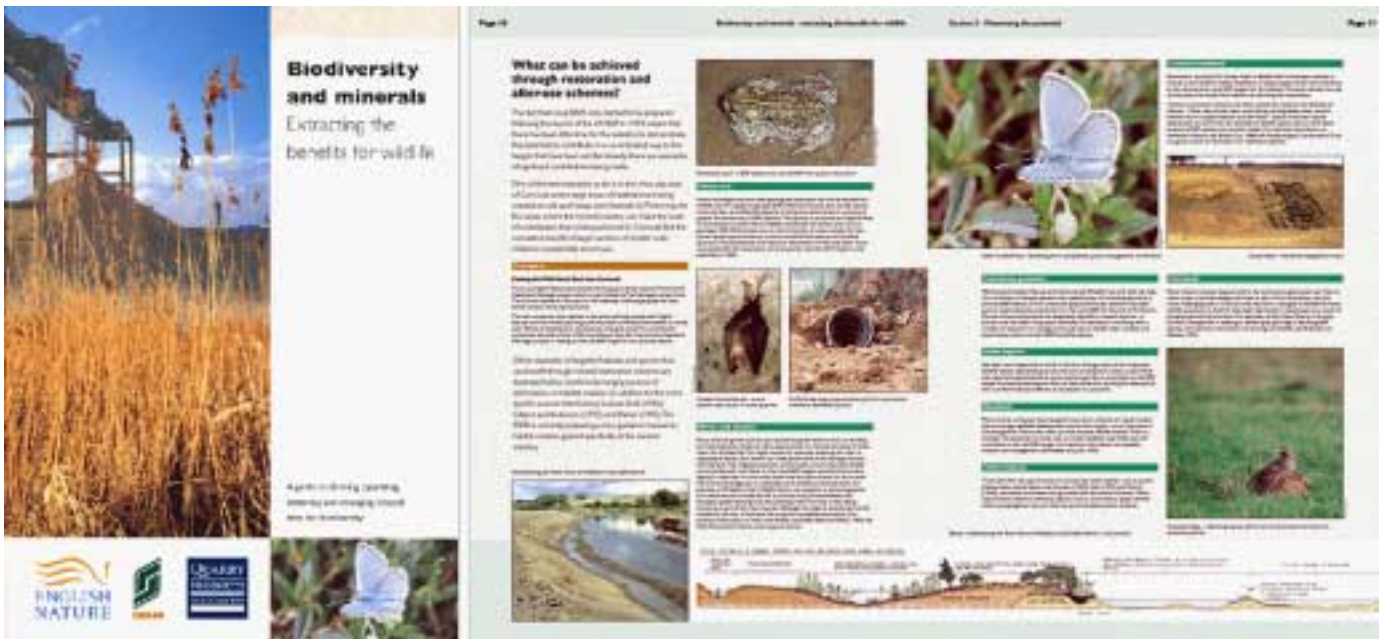
has progressed various actions towards the achievement of these objectives.

One of the Forum's early initiatives was to commission research into the opportunities for mineral companies to contribute to the achievement of targets in the UK and local biodiversity action plans. This research demonstrated the scale of the industry's potential contribution but highlighted the need for guidance to be provided to the industry if this potential was to be met.

Entec was commissioned to prepare this guidance, drawing on not only the previous research but also the experience of leading practitioners in the industry, and of English Nature's and Entec's staff.

Written in plain English, the report seeks to encourage those involved in the industry (from senior management to strategic planners and operational quarry staff) to modify their operations to benefit biodiversity. It addresses strategic considerations relating to planning future mineral developments, as well as more detailed issues relating to operating, restoring and managing mineral sites.

The guidance can be accessed at www.qpa.org/pdf/en.pdf



*A guide to planning,
operating, managing
and restoring mineral
sites for biodiversity*

