

APPENDIX 18 - THREESTONE BURN FOREST NEW ROAD DESIGN, LOCATIONS AND QUARRYING REQUIREMENTS

NEW ROADING REQUIREMENTS

To facilitate the harvesting of the conifers from Threestoneburn Forest it will be necessary to carry out road improvements. The attached map identifies the 6419 metres of existing forest road which will need to be upgraded to service the timber lorries and the 1568 metres of new road to be constructed.

Where the road requires upgrading ca. 30cm of stone will be laid on the existing surface and where a new road is required `Terram` will be laid and ca. 90cm of stone laid.

QUANTITIES OF STONE REQUIRED

Based on the lengths of road described above it will be necessary to quarry ca. 27500 tonnes of stone. This will be quarried, crushed and graded on site.

QUARRY EXTENSIONS

There are two existing quarries within the forest boundary, both established by the Forestry Commission when the forest was established and the road formation built. It is intended to re-open and extend both of these sites.

The larger quarry is located at NT967203. It is intended to extend it to the west, which will necessitate redirecting the road. This will be the main source for road stone and the extension will cover 0.76 ha.

The smaller quarry site is on the edge of the main woodland access at NT 978198. This site will be utilised for additional stone for this access road as well as for constructing the lay-bys on the track leading to the forest from Ilderton Dodd. This proposed extension amounts to 0.23 ha.

RESTORATION

Once the quarrying and road construction is completed it is intended to re-profile the quarries to aid the process of vegetation recovery.

The botanical interest survey (See Appendix 3) identified species of interest in parts of the existing quarries as well as on some of the road sides. These features have been mapped and marked on the ground. During the operational phase they will be protected by the erection of barriers.



Above; Site of main quarry within Forest



Above; Site of secondary quarry within the forest. It is on the left of the photograph and has been re-colonised by heather.

SUMMARY

The road improvements and related quarrying that are required to facilitate the deforestation operations at Threestoneburn are almost identical to those proposed by the FC if the forest had remained in public ownership and harvesting and restructuring had commenced as per the Forest Design Plan.

Areas with a sensitive ground flora have been avoided and the requirement for new roads has been kept to a minimum.