

LEGACY

• Habitat Management Limited •

Legacy Habitat Times

The Newsletter of Legacy Habitat Management

Issue 1



Early Purple Orchids, Cressbrook Dale, Derbyshire
Photo: John Houlihan

Welcome

Welcome to issue one of Legacy Habitat Times, the quarterly newsletter for Legacy Habitat Management.

The early to mid parts of 2007 have offered a hugely productive start to what promises to be an exceptional year for Legacy. Building on successful exclusion fencing contracts fulfilled during 2006 on the M3 and in the Lake District we have recently completed one of our most ambitious projects to date in rural Oxfordshire, where we laid over 49,000 m of semipermanent newt fencing. *For more news on this see the full article below.*

Moving closer to our base in Sheffield, we are continuing to care for the uplands on Blacka Moor Nature Reserve through the construction of dry-stone wall boundaries and fences to allow for the introduction of highland cattle to provide some much needed grazing on this important SSSI. *Read more on page 2.*

It is important to Legacy that our clients share in the benefits of our success. We will be making substantial investments in our people and our equipment during 2007 (more details below). This will result in improved working processes and even better value for money – thus ensuring that Legacy Habitat Management continues to be the leading provider of *quality, care and expertise* in the field of habitat management.

Leading the Way in Wildlife Mitigation

Legacy completes over 49,000m of Newt Fencing in Oxfordshire

This summer Legacy Habitat Management completed a substantial project between Hardwick in Buckinghamshire and Marsh Gibbon in Oxfordshire. Over 49,000m of semipermanent newt fencing, along with 45+km of stock and demarcation fence, was laid for Laing O'Rourke Infrastructure PLC by our experienced team of 13 men. In spite of a number of logistical challenges that were identified in our survey, including the nationwide shortage of sawn timber and a relatively short lead in time, the project was completed well on time and within budget. 7000 pitfall traps allowed for the monitoring, capture and translocation of Great Crested Newts, a species protected under both UK and European law as well as other amphibians and reptiles native to the site. The entire fence will be removed from the construction site this month and the fencing materials will either be reused or recycled within the course of other wildlife mitigation projects.

'Laing O'Rourke Infrastructure had been commissioned to install 21km of gas pipeline across the Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire country side. To protect the high local newt population, Legacy Habitat Management were contracted to install newt fencing for the entire pipeline corridor. Legacy demonstrated a high level of workmanship and flexibility throughout the project. The quality of the fencing material has meant that minimal repairs have been necessary, even with a moderate level of abuse. The overall professional approach and friendly manner of Legacy impressed us all and we will have no doubts about offering them further work.'

Greig Higham
Environmental Manager
Laing O'Rourke Infrastructure



Main Photo: Legacy at work at Silverdale Colliery Site, Staffordshire.
Top Right: A view of the redevelopment site.

Legacy Habitat Management Case Study Newt Exclusion Works at Former Silverdale Colliery Site, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire

The former Silverdale Colliery site has been acquired by the Telford based National Regeneration Agency English Partnerships. The site has been acquired for redevelopment into a mixed use residential and recreational area.

As part of the regeneration scheme two large pools are being developed, one as a recreation area and the other as a wildlife sanctuary. As part of the mitigation strategy to avoid unfavourable impact on any Great Crested Newts that might inhabit the site, six receptor ponds have been constructed to be used as holding ponds while restoration work is in progress. A containment fence has been erected around the six ponds to prevent the movement of relocated newts and an exclusion fence with traps has been erected around the two pools to exclude and capture newts.

Additional drift fencing with traps has also been erected within the old colliery Void and Pithead sites to assist the survey and capture of migrating newts. In all Legacy Habitat Management have erected 5,000m of Newt Fencing, set 750 pitfall traps and cleared a hectare of scrub vegetation - all on time and on budget.



Photo: John Houlihan

Legacy Habitat Management

caring for the present and investing in the future

With a very successful 1st, 2nd and 3rd quarter of 2007 under our belts, we have found ourselves able to invest in a number of new items of equipment including trenching and excavating machinery. Legacy is a certificated Employer of Excellence and all of our staff have recently received health and safety training; *competent persons* first aid training and up to date *EUSR* accreditation (Energy and Utility Skills Register - qualifying holders to work on pipelines throughout the EU). Legacy has also received a research and development grant through Business Links South Yorkshire.

Blacka Moor

moorland with heritage

From a vantage point high on Blacka Moor it is possible to see the whole of the City of Sheffield spread out below you. The moorland, a Site of Special Scientific Interest, was given to Sheffield City Council by the Graves charitable trust in 1933 on condition that it remains "*in its present natural state, with such pathways to be provided in accord with the character of the Estate as will make the moor accessible to all who desire to visit it for health-giving exercise and pleasure*" (Sheffield Daily Telegraph, Feb. 1933) Legacy have worked closely with Sheffield Wildlife Trust over the last four years, providing habitat solutions (including 1000m of stock fencing; dry-stone walling; gates and scrub control) within the management plan in sensitive and difficult terrain.

The Habitat Management Calendar

As we enter the Winter, it's time to get all those projects booked in so that site work is not affected in the Spring by GCN movement and nesting birds. A lot of mitigation and exclusion work can be done at this time and we are offering favourable discounts to companies that order work to be completed before the end of February 2008.

The Winter is an ideal time for scrub management and invasive species such as Rhododendron are ideally removed during this season as well.

New(t) E-commerce Site

In April Legacy launched it's e-commerce web site www.wildlifefencing.co.uk. This site gives customers easy access to reliable supplies of cost effective Wildlife Fencing materials through our efficient on-line ordering system. *New products on the site include Weldmesh Badger Netting and One Way Permanent Newt Fencing.*

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Newt Fencing
Badger Fencing
Water Vole Fencing