SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: WHITEHALL QUARRIES

SITE CODE: 000855

Whitehall Quarries consists of two disused shale/slate quarries and are situated 5km west of Bagnelstown, in Co. Kilkenny. The quarry tips and the floors of the old working areas now provide a rich variety of dry acidic habitats, the substrate varying in stability and particle size. These have been colonised to a greater or lesser extent by a variety of plants typical of such dry habitats such as Bilberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*). Although degraded by recent management, the vegetation has the potential to recover.

The flora of this area presents a sharp contrast to the flora of the surrounding region and as such is of ecological interest. Raptors nest in the quarry cliffs.

12.11.2009