

Company: McGrath Group
Location: Cong, County Mayo, Ireland

Objective To keep ongoing restoration and protection of biodiversity in progress -tree planting, tree nursery, amenity walks at canal, mounding, habit for feral goats, etc.
The protection of salmonoid rivers, lakes and of all fauna on site by creating protected habits.

Context McGrath Group's Cregaree Quarry at Cong, County Mayo is located on an isthmus between Lough Mask and Lough Corrib in a very sensitive ecosphere.
The quarry is a leading supplier of all types of aggregates, ready-mix concrete, blocks, surfacing material and high purity agricultural lime. It has been in operation since early 1950s.

Solution A water treatment plant was installed to ensure highest quality in discharged ground water to protect salmonoid rivers and lakes.
Walkways are planned to run the perimeter of the site along by the dry canal.
A nursery was planted in 2004 and here many species of trees are grown to facilitate the restoration scheme.
The increased depth of the buffer zone around quarry will allow more habitat for feral goats.

Result The quarry still produces ground limestone and has produced it for the past fifty years. It currently produces in the region of 500,000 tons annually with a range of 50 products.

