WLGS 27 Rifle Range Quarries (Mixed SSSI — Petershill, Proposed RIGS) [NS 9890 7087] (Figure 91), (Figure 92), (Figure 93), (Figure 94)

WLC site description

Part of the Clackmannan Group sites

Other designations: HPWG (Petershill); AGLV

These quarries are situated approximately 1 km north-north-east of Petershill Quarries and south- west of The Knock. They also expose the Petershill Limestone of the Lower Limestone Formation, though a more nearshore and turbulent environment is interpreted, as the fauna is not as well-preserved as in the Petershill Quarries. The site is a GCR (Dinantian of Scotland) site.

The site is a mixed SSSI designated for the largest area of species rich limestone grassland in Lothians. Grassland of this type is a very scarce habitat in the region, and this site is the only example of any size in West Lothian. Woodland, scrub pools and marsh add to the diversity of habitat within the site. The limestone rocks support one of the richest assemblages of bryophytes in the district.

(Figure 91) Looking south-west in the Rifle Range Quarries [NS 9890 7087] (WLGS 27). Petershill Limestone, Lower Limestone Formation.

(Figure 92) Main quarry face in the Rifle Range Quarries [NS 9890 7087] (WLGS 27). Petershill Limestone, Lower Limestone Formation.

(Figure 93) Fossiliferous Limestone from the Rifle Range Quarries [NS 9890 7087] (WLGS 27). Petershill Limestone, Lower Limestone Formation.

(Figure 94) Gigantoproductid brachiopod fossils from the Rifle Range Quarries [NS 9890 7087] (WLGS 27). Petershill Limestone, Lower Limestone Formation.



(Figure 91) Looking south-west in the Rifle Range Quarries [NS 9890 7087] (WLGS 27). Petershill Limestone, Lower Limestone Formation.



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(Figure 93) Fossiliferous Limestone from the Rifle Range Quarries [NS 9890 7087] (WLGS 27). Petershill Limestone, Lower Limestone Formation.



(Figure 94) Gigantoproductid brachiopod fossils from the Rifle Range Quarries [NS 9890 7087] (WLGS 27). Petershill Limestone, Lower Limestone Formation.