



Jenny's Wood

Management Plan 2015-2020

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THE WOODLAND TRUST

INTRODUCTION

The Trust's corporate aims and management approach guide the management of all the Trust's properties, and are described on Page 4. These determine basic management policies and methods, which apply to all sites unless specifically stated otherwise. Such policies include free public access; keeping local people informed of major proposed work; the retention of old trees and dead wood; and a desire for management to be as unobtrusive as possible. The Trust also has available Policy Statements covering a variety of woodland management issues.

The Trust's management plans are based on the identification of Key Features for the site and setting objectives for their management. A monitoring programme (not included in this plan) ensures that these objectives are met and any necessary management works are carried out.

Any legally confidential or sensitive species information about this site is not included in this version of the plan.

PLAN REVIEW AND UPDATING

The information presented in this Management plan is held in a database which is continuously being amended and updated on our website. Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations. Please either consult The Woodland Trust website www.woodlandtrust.org.uk or contact the Woodland Trust (wopsmail@woodlandtrust.org.uk) to confirm details of the current management programme.

There is a formal review of this plan every 5 years and a summary of monitoring results can be obtained on request.

WOODLAND MANAGEMENT APPROACH

The management of our woods is based on our charitable purposes, and is therefore focused on improving woodland biodiversity and increasing peoples' understanding and enjoyment of woodland. Our strategic aims are to:

- Protect native woods, trees and their wildlife for the future
- Work with others to create more native woodlands and places rich in trees
- Inspire everyone to enjoy and value woods and trees

All our sites have a management plan which is freely accessible via our website

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk. Our woods are managed to the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS) and are certified with the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) under licence FSC-C009406 and through independent audit.

In addition to the guidelines below we have specific guidance and policies on issues of woodland management which we review and update from time to time.

We recognise that all woods are different and that the management of our sites should also reflect their local landscape and where appropriate support local projects and initiatives. Guidelines like these provide a necessary overarching framework to guide the management of our sites but such management also requires decisions based on local circumstances and our Site Manager's intimate knowledge of each site.

The following guidelines help to direct our woodland management:

1. Our woods are managed to maintain their intrinsic key features of value and to reflect those of the surrounding landscape. We intervene when there is evidence that it is necessary to maintain or improve biodiversity and to further the development of more resilient woods and landscapes.
2. We establish new native woodland using both natural regeneration and tree planting, but largely the latter, particularly when there are opportunities for involving people.
3. We provide free public access to woods for quiet, informal recreation and our woods are managed to make them accessible, welcoming and safe.
4. The long term vision for our non-native plantations on ancient woodland sites is to restore them to predominantly native species composition and semi-natural structure, a vision that equally applies to our secondary woods.
5. Existing semi-natural open-ground and freshwater habitats are restored and maintained wherever their management can be sustained and new open ground habitats created where appropriate.
6. The heritage and cultural value of sites is taken into account in our management and, in particular, our ancient trees are retained for as long as possible.
7. Woods can offer the potential to generate income both from the sustainable harvesting of wood products and the delivery of other services. We will therefore consider the potential to generate income from our estate to help support our aims.
8. We work with neighbours, local people, organisations and other stakeholders in developing the management of our woods. We recognise the benefits of local community woodland ownership and management. Where appropriate we allow our woods to be used to support local woodland, conservation, education and access initiatives.
9. We use and offer the estate where appropriate, for the purpose of demonstration, evidence gathering and research associated with the conservation, recreational and sustainable management of woodlands. In particular we will develop and maintain a network of long-term monitoring sites across the estate.
- 10 Any activities we undertake will conform to sustainable forest management principles, be appropriate for the site and will be balanced with our primary objectives of enhancing the biodiversity and recreational value of our woods and the wider landscapes.

SUMMARY

This public management plan briefly describes the site, specifically mentions information on public access, sets out the long term policy and lists the Key Features which drive management actions. The Key Features are specific to this site - their significance is outlined together with their long (50 year+) and short (5 year) term objectives. The short term objectives are complemented by a detailed Work Programme for the period of this management plan. Detailed compartment descriptions are listed in the appendices which include any major management constraints and designations. A short glossary of technical terms is at the end. The Key Features and general woodland condition of this site are subject to a formal monitoring programme which is maintained in a central database. A summary of monitoring results is available on request.

1.0 SITE DETAILS

Site name:	Jenny's Wood
Location:	Hartland, Clovelly
Grid reference:	SS282243, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 190
Area:	1.09 hectares (2.69 acres)
Designations:	

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Summary Description

A small mixed broadleaf woodland on a narrow strip of moderately steeply sloping ground. It offers a small island of woodland in a poorly wooded and very exposed area of the county. It has public access from the B3248. A small set of steps over the hedge bank allows access on foot, but parking is very difficult as cars left outside the wood restrict the road and there are few, if any, routes locally that make good circular walks.

2.2 Extended Description

Jenny's Wood is a small mixed broadleaf woodland standing on a narrow strip of moderately steeply sloping ground between agricultural grassland and a stream in an exposed part of the North Devon coast near Hartland. With predominantly beech with bluebells in the northern end and oak, hazel and dense bramble to the south Jenny's Wood, and woodland on private land across the stream help to link up areas of woodland to the north and south forming a larger woodland habitat in a poorly wooded and very exposed area of the county. Natural regeneration of the beech is frequent and will be useful in the long-term regeneration of the woodland. A narrow stream flows along the wood's eastern boundary and forms, along with areas of wet ground adjacent to it, additional and complimentary habitats to help boost the local conservation values, especially as adjacent agricultural land is primarily improved grassland or arable and therefore offers less habitat value than if semi-natural.

It has management and public access from the B3248 with a small hard standing area inside the locked gate with a squeeze gap alongside it, which then links to a short management track down into the wood. This is terminated by a hedge bank preventing vehicular access beyond that point. A small set of steps over the bank allow access on foot, but due to low access requirements of the site there is very little need to maintain the path beyond there. Parking is very difficult as cars left outside the wood restrict the road and there are few, if any, footpaths locally that make good off road circular walks.

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

Jenny's wood is a small block of woodland that lies to the south of the B3248 that runs to and from the town of Hartland from Higher Clovelly in North Devon. Access in the wood is available, but very limited. Access off the road is via a squeeze gap alongside the management gate and onto an area of hard standing. From here the linear path slopes gradually down to the adjacent stream from where it rises up a short flight of steps and along the stream edge again for approximately 75m. It is naturally surfaced and tends to get boggy in wet weather. It is generally unmanaged other than to clear fallen branches and to maintain the steps. There is no parking at the wood.

Buses run from Hartland to Higher Clovelly and along the A39 however there appears to be no stops closer to the wood than Hartland Methodist Chapel which leaves a 1mile walk to get to the wood

Public transport information obtained from www.travelinesw.com.uk or via 0870 608 2 608.
Information collected February 2015

3.2 Access / Walks

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

Jenny's Wood is one of a number of small properties which together comprise the Trust's 'wild spaces'. These are largely left to nature to take its course with only minimal management input, usually to ensure public safety or to meet legal obligations.

The woodland will be allowed to develop as a broadleaf high forest with the structural diversity provided by scrub, natural regeneration that develops when occasional wind damage to the mature beech in the wood or tree safety works enable additional light to reach the woodland floor and increase ground flora in the wood.

Felled, fallen and broken trees will be retained to form deadwood habitat. The paths and entrance facilities will be managed annually as required to maintain safe levels of access already present and in line with its access category D. This will help meet the Trusts aims of protecting native woods, trees and their wildlife for the future and inspiring everyone to enjoy and value woods and trees. It will also compliment the conservation values of the adjacent woodland and the amenity and aesthetic values of the wood in the landscape and to visitors.

5.0 KEY FEATURES

The Key Features of the site are identified and described below. They encapsulate what is important about the site. The short and long-term objectives are stated and any management necessary to maintain and improve the Key Feature.

5.1

Description
Significance
Opportunities & Constraints
Factors Causing Change
Long term Objective (50 years+)
Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)

6.0 WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type of Work	Description	Due By
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APPENDIX 1: COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Key Features Present	Designations
1a	0.52	Beech	1920	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site, No/poor vehicular access to the site, No/poor vehicular access within the site		
<p>The northern most sub compartment of the wood is closest to the road and management access point. The land slopes moderately from the agricultural land to the west down to the stream on the eastern boundary. Almost predominantly mature beech with occasional mature oak, all of approximately 80-100 years of age, with sycamore around the edges. The trees are generally all stunted to a height of approximately 15m due to the exposure and salt winds coming off the nearby coast. Due to the heavy shade cast by the dense beech canopy ground flora is typically sparse other than in a few patches of bluebells and clumps of bramble closer to the edges of the wood where lateral light allows. There is often patchy beech and some holly natural regeneration and this should be sufficient to gradually regenerate the wood in the future. Access is generally poor as the adjacent road is narrow and unclassified. An informal path runs from the narrow gate through the wood but a short track of only 100m is maintained annually</p>							
1b	0.58	other oak spp	1920	High forest	No/poor vehicular access within the site		
<p>At the southernmost section of the wood the land similarly slopes from the agricultural land to the west down to the wetter ground adjacent to the stream on the eastern boundary. The woodland is very different with mature oak, again of approximately 80-100 years, as the predominant species with occasional sycamore. The lighter canopy shade allows greater ground flora development although this is mainly dense bramble. Hazel and holly form the bulk of the shrub layer present. The managed path from the entrance along the eastern boundary stops shortly after it reaches this area, but the informal path extends through it to the southern boundary.</p>							

GLOSSARY

Ancient Woodland

Ancient woods are defined as those where there has been continuous woodland cover since at least 1600 AD. In Scotland ancient woods are defined strictly as sites shown as semi-natural woodland on the 'Roy' maps (a military survey carried out in 1750 AD, which is the best source of historical map evidence) and as woodland all subsequent maps. However, they have been combined with long-established woods of semi-natural origin (originating from between 1750 and 1860) into a single category of Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland to take account of uncertainties in their identification. Ancient woods include Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland and plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (see below). May support many species that are only found in ancient woodland.

Ancient Semi - Natural Woodland

Stands in ancient woods defined as those consisting predominantly of native trees and shrubs that have not obviously been planted, which have arisen from natural regeneration or coppice regrowth.

Ancient Woodland Site

Stands in ancient woods that have been converted to plantations, of coniferous, broadleaved or mixed species, usually for timber production, including plantations of native species planted so closely together that any semi-natural elements of the understorey have been suppressed.

Beating Up

Replacing any newly planted trees that have died in the first few years after planting.

Broadleaf

A tree having broad leaves (such as oak) rather than needles found on conifers (such as Scots pine).

Canopy

The uppermost layer of vegetation in a woodland, or the upper foliage and branches of an individual tree.

Clearfell

Felling of all trees within a defined area.

Compartment

Permanent management division of a woodland, usually defined on site by permanent features such as roads. See Sub-compartments.

Conifer

A tree having needles, rather than broadleaves, and typically bearing cones.

Continuous Cover forestry

A term used for managing woods to ensure that there are groups or individual trees of different ages scattered over the whole wood and that some mature tree cover is always maintained. Management is by repeated thinning and no large areas are ever completely felled all at once.

Coppice

Trees which are cut back to ground levels at regular intervals (3-25 years).

Exotic (non-native) Species

Species originating from other countries (or other parts of the UK) that have been introduced by humans, deliberately or accidentally.

Field Layer

Layer of small, non-woody herbaceous plants such as bluebells.

Group Fell

The felling of a small group of trees, often to promote natural regeneration or allow planting.

Long Term Retention

Discrete groups of trees (or in some cases single trees) that are retained significantly past their economic felling age. Operations may still be carried out within them and thinning is often necessary to maintain stability.

Minimum Intervention

Areas where no operations (such as thinning) will take place other than to protect public safety or possibly to control invasive exotic species.

Mixed Woodland

Woodland made up of broadleaved and coniferous trees.

National vegetation classification (NVC)

A classification scheme that allows an area of vegetation to be assigned to the standardised type that best matches the combination of plant species that it contains. All woodlands in the UK can be described as being one of 18 main woodland types (W1 - W18), which principally reflect soil and climatic conditions. For example, Upland Oakwoods are type W11, and normally occur on well drained infertile soils in the cooler and wetter north and west of Britain. Each main type can be subdivided into numerous subtypes. Most real woods contain more than one type or sub-type and inevitably some woods are intermediate in character and can't be properly described by any sub type.

Native Species

Species that arrived in Britain without human assistance.

Natural Regeneration

Naturally grown trees from seeds falling from mature trees. Also regeneration from coppicing and suckering.

Origin & Provenance

The provenance of a tree or seed is the place where seed was collected to grow the tree or plant. The origin is the geographical location within the natural range of a species from where seeds/tree originally derives. Thus an acorn collected from a Turkey oak in Edinburgh would have an Edinburgh provenance and a southern European origin.

Re-Stocking

Re-planting an area of woodland, after it has been felled.

Shrub Layer

Formed by woody plants 1-10m tall.

Silviculture

The growing and care of trees in woodlands.

Stand

Trees of one type or species, grouped together within a woodland.

Sub-Compartment

Temporary management division of a compartment, which may change between management plan periods.

Thinning

The felling of a proportion of individual trees within a given area. The remaining trees grow to fill in the space created.

Tubex or Grow or Tuley Tubes

Tubes placed over newly planted trees or natural regeneration that promote growth and provide protection from animals such as rabbits and deer.

Weeding

The control of vegetation immediately around newly planted trees or natural regeneration to promote tree growth until they become established. Either by hand cutting or with carefully selected weed killers such as glyphosate.

Windblow/Windthrow

Trees or groups of trees blown over (usually uprooted) by strong winds and gales.