



COED CADW
WOODLAND
TRUST

Coed Cwr y Pwll

Management Plan 2017-2022

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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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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:	Coed Cwr y Pwll
Location:	Llanfaelog, Rhosneigr
Grid reference:	SH339731, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 114
Area:	6.62 hectares (16.36 acres)
Designations:	Environmentally Sensitive Area

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Summary Description

An area of new native woodland a short distance from the coast. Wildflower meadows, a small pond and an attractive carved bridge over the stream add to the charm of this easily accessible wood situated on the Isle of Anglesey.

2.2 Extended Description

Coed Cwr y Pwll is a new native woodland created on a gently sloping parcel of improved permanent pasture. It is situated just a mile from the sea on the edge of the village of Llanfaelog and is now one of the largest woodlands in that community, lying within a largely open agricultural and coastal landscape. The fields were planted under the Woods On Your Doorstep project in 2000, with participation from the local community. Rocky outcrops and existing gorse scrub have been retained unplanted, as have extensive areas of open ground, in order to preserve views from and throughout the property.

Two 'Millennium Features' were established after consultation with local people: a wet area fed by an underlying spring was excavated in 2001 to create a small pond, and a new footbridge was installed over a stream with a handrail carved with a commemorative Welsh couplet composed by the local poet Cen Williams ("Hen gerdd sydd yn y merddwr / A'n doeau oll dan y dwr"). The site abuts the A4080, and three new entrances have been created from this road, linking to an extensive footpath network which provides access to an area previously not open to the public. The site's name is taken from the name of a small farmstead that used to be located on the land and whose eponymous water supply now feeds the pond.

The key features of the site are:

New Native Woodland
Informal Public Access
Open Ground Habitat

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

General location

Coed Cwr y Pwll is in the village of Llanfaelog, 1 mile east of Rhosneigr. Take the A4080 north-eastwards from shop at the village centre, past the church, and the wood is reached in less than 200m on the right hand side.

Overview of paths and entrances

Coed Cwr y Pwll is on slightly undulating ground and the paths within the trees are all grassy and unmade. There are 3 pedestrian entrances into the site off the A4080: the one nearest the village is via a field gate with a restricted opening width; the central and furthest entrances are both via squeeze posts. There is an information panel at the gated entrance. A footpath follows a circular route around the site and there are attractive views out from the site seawards and towards the mountains of Snowdonia and the Llyn peninsula. A short alternative route from near the start crosses the streamlet flowing from the pond by an oak footbridge with a Welsh couplet carved in the handrail.

Parking

Parking is available in the community centre car park opposite the church on the Bryn Du road in Llanfaelog. It is about 200m to the wood: from the car park cross the Bryn Du road and follow the pavement around the church and past the cemetery and then walk on the road verge to the first entrance into Coed Cwr y Pwll on the right hand side. Please do not park in the lay by at the cemetery entrance.

Public transport

Train stations at Rhosneigr and Ty Croes on the Bangor to Holyhead main line are both equidistant at about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile from Llanfaelog. The walking route from Rhosneigr station follows the largely unpaved A4080, whilst that from Ty Croes takes the quieter road through Bryn Du with pavements for much of the way. Bus service 21 travels between Holyhead and Aberffraw via Rhosneigr and passes through Llanfaelog.

For up to date and more detailed information about public transport, please see the Traveline website www.traveline-cymru.org.uk or phone 0871 200 22 33.

Public toilets

The nearest public toilets are in Rhosneigr, including a RADAR accessible toilet.

3.2 Access / Walks

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

Over the coming decades, Coed Cwr y Pwll will develop into a native broadleaved woodland with a diverse shrub understorey. Woodland ground flora will begin to establish under canopy cover. Meanwhile, existing open rides and meadows will provide open vistas and the grassland habitat will gradually become more species-rich over time through management as meadow. Local people will continue to enjoy visiting the site, with a safe and welcoming network of paths provided for their use.

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 New Native Woodland

Description

Several fields of former improved grassland were planted during 2000, with local community involvement in design and planting under the "Woods On Your Doorstep" project. Planted species are sessile oak, sycamore, ash, rowan, hazel, hawthorn, elder, blackthorn, holly, crab apple and willow.

Significance

New native woodland will provide habitat for a range of species, potentially in future including the red squirrel, which is expanding across the island and has recently been reintroduced at the Dingle at Llangefni (roughly 7 miles distant). The establishment of Coed Cwr y Pwll contributes to increasing woodland cover on Ynys Mon, the least-wooded county in Wales.

Opportunities & Constraints

Two overhead power lines run across the site: these routes were excluded from planting in the original woodland plans.

Establishment of certain species has been restrained, probably due to strong maritime south-westerlies, which constrain the exposed site's ability to grow tall straight timber trees.

A lack of other local woods/ old hedgerows may mean that woodland species' colonisation is very slow.

Factors Causing Change

Strong coastal winds and potentially increasing extreme storm events may carry heavy salt loads, which can change soil and water chemistry and may impact on wood establishment.

Tree diseases may also alter the composition of the wood from that originally intended, especially in areas dominated by planted ash.

Neighbouring land use may change over time, impacting negatively (intensification of management including chemical usage) or positively (further woodland and hedgerow creation) on the woodland's health and connectivity.

Rabbit browsing may increase, damaging young trees and preventing future regeneration or hampering future management choices.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Over the coming decades, Coed Cwr y Pwll will develop into a native broadleaved woodland with a diverse shrub understorey, capable of regenerating naturally. Woodland ground flora will begin to establish under canopy cover and a deadwood component will gradually build over time.

Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)

Canopy closure will be achieved in all main planting blocks. Coarse vegetation may be locally abundant but will be patchy and nowhere will it overtake young trees. Rabbit damage will be occasional and not impact on the overall stocking density of the stands or prevent natural regeneration. Species such as red campion, celandine and the occasional bluebell should continue to be recorded in the ground layer. Any deadwood will be retained wherever safe to do so.

Potential harmful factors such as browsing and loss of establishing trees to disease will be monitored.

5.2 Informal Public Access

Description

Three public entrance points provide access from the road along the northern boundary and over 1000m of unsurfaced linking paths have been created. A footbridge over the pond outlet has a handrail carved with a Welsh couplet composed by local poet Cen Williams ("Hen gerdd sydd yn y merddwr / A'n doeau oll dan y dwr"). The planting design allowed for the retention of many open vistas within and from the site.

A dedication bench was installed in the furthest meadow in 2016.

Significance

Increased and improved accessibility afforded by Trust ownership extends public enjoyment of the area and the site appears to be used regularly by walkers from the village. The footbridge was a Millennium Feature selected by the community. The wood is probably the largest accessible woodland within the community.

Opportunities & Constraints

Whilst adjacent parking is not possible, restricted parking is available in the village. There is a pavement to the first gate from the cemetery, although other entrances lead directly off the main road. Most visitors are local: there is little scope to attract non-local visitors.

Local councillors at one point suggested developing a car park, however, this was not taken forward due to a lack of wider on-going community involvement in the site.

Factors Causing Change

Periodic minor issues with vandalism, litter and dog waste occur but are unlikely to increase significantly unless vehicular access to the site is made easier.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Local people will continue to enjoy visiting the site, with a safe and welcoming network of paths provided for their use.

Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)

Public access routes and infrastructure are to be maintained in a welcoming and safe condition. The site will be well presented with a minimum of litter.

5.3 Open Ground Habitat

Description

The design of the new woodland aimed to retain three locally-valued views, which can be enjoyed both within the wood and from the A4080/ properties along the A4080 to the west of the wood: a view south-westwards (to the sea and the prehistoric feature Barcloddiad y Gawres) from the junction of the Bryngwran road (and also along the A4080 in that vicinity); views southwards (towards Yr Eifl); and views south-eastwards (to the mountains of Snowdonia). Therefore a large area of the site was retained as open ground: sub-compartment 1c comprises a network of wide mown rides and grassland managed as a meadow by annual cutting. A small pond was also excavated on an existing ditch line as a feature of interest for visitors and now supports a variety of water and wet grassland plant species.

Significance

Retention of open areas was identified as important during community consultation and is part and parcel of visitors' enjoyment of the site. The pond is a 'Millennium Feature' chosen by the community. The pond and grassland also add to the internal landscape and habitat diversity of the site.

Opportunities & Constraints

Retained open ground has the potential to develop in floristic interest with a sustained mowing regime. The small nature of the site and use by dog walkers, as well as the woodland establishment objective, militate against grazing as a management tool for the meadows.

Pond management work must be planned to avoid spreading invasive water plants such as *Crassula*, however, eradication of this species is not felt to be feasible in this context and the cost of any attempt is likely to outweigh any conservation benefit.

Factors Causing Change

Without management, the meadows are likely to succeed rapidly to blackthorn scrub and coarse vegetation. Natural succession and invasive species such as *Crassula helmsii*, present in the pond, will over time reduce the area of open water habitat, although the pond is spring fed so is likely to stay as wetland in the long term.

In the long term, a reduced nutrient regime and the spread of hay rattle in the grassland should encourage colonisation by native wildflowers and a reduction in the vigorous species of improved grassland.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

In the long term, the meadow areas will remain at their current extent (compartment 1c) and develop characteristics of semi-natural neutral grassland through on-going management, with an annual display of colourful herb species. They will be bounded by scrub and shrubs, grading into woodland at the margins. The pond feature will be maintained with at least a quarter open water.

Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)

An annual cutting and baling of the meadows will continue to reduce nutrient inputs and the floristic interest of the meadows will slowly increase over time: this will be evidenced by the presence of a mix of grassland indicator species. There will be no reduction in area and shading impacts at the woodland margin will be monitored. Invasive species and noxious weeds will not be allowed to establish in the grassland.

The pond will maintain a minimum of 1/4 open water and the ditch will have some through-flow. The wetland area will support some native water and wetland plant species.

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	3.43	Oak (sessile)	2000	Wood establishment		Informal Public Access	
<p>The principal areas of former improved permanent pasture planted with broadleaved trees and shrubs during 2000. Species planted were sessile oak, sycamore (as a nurse), ash, rowan, hazel, hawthorn, elder, blackthorn, holly, crab apple and willow.</p>							
1b	0.43	Hazel	2000	Wood establishment		Informal Public Access	
<p>Areas of former improved permanent pasture planted with broadleaved shrubs during 2000. These areas are situated on the edges of retained open ground and bolster existing shrubby areas, including gorse banks. Species planted were hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn and elder.</p>							
1c	2.76	NULL		Non-wood habitat	Mostly wet ground/exposed site, Services & wayleaves	Informal Public Access	
<p>Areas of former improved permanent pasture retained as open ground and since managed as meadows and rides. Includes two extensive view corridors along the south-western side of the site as well as areas beneath overhead powerlines and around the spring / pond area. Seeding of yellow rattle has been undertaken and this is now established in many areas, along with other wildflowers.</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.