WOODLAND TRUST

# Trenant Wood

# Management Plan 2019-2024

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## MAPS

# 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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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:** | Trenant Wood |
| **Location:** | Trenant Cross nr Looe |
| **Grid reference:** | SX246543, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 201 |
| **Area:** | 91.03 hectares (224.94 acres) |
| **Designations:** | Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, County Wildlife Site (includes SNCI, SINC etc) |

## 2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

### 2.1 Summary Description

Situated on the peninsula of land formed by the convergence of the East and West Looe Rivers, this is now one of the Trusts most important Cornish sites. N.B. The woodland walk is generally only suitable for more capable walkers.

### 2.2 Extended Description

Trenant is situated on the peninsula of land formed by the convergence of the East and West Looe Rivers, just north of the town of Looe, on the south coast of Cornwall. It sits within the Cornish Killas National Character Area profile (No 152) which covers all on the county other than where granite outcrops rise through the sedimentary base rocks which have their own character profiles. The Killas are characterised by an undulating agricultural upper landform which is fairly devoid of trees and woods, but which are incised by steep sided often heavily wooded valleys that carry watercourses to the rugged coast. As such Trenant Wood and the West and east Looe River valleys are typical of this. The mature woodland element of Trenant is designated as Ancient semi-natural woodland. The wood now amounts to over 200 acres of land which has been acquired in a number of lots since 1992 when the Trust purchased a narrow strip of the valley slopes of each river. This land was made up of approximately half ancient woodland and half partly wooded grazing land. The latter area had been partly cleared of trees for agricultural grazing and was replanted to woodland in 1993 - 95. In 2002 the Trust acquired another 47 acres of rough grassland extending up the West

Looe River valley along with new access rights and an area of land for a car park. In 2004 approximately 95 acres of the agricultural land lying within the 'V' of the existing property was purchased and subsequently planted with native broadleaved species in phases between 2005 and 2008.

The soils within the wood areas are of an acidic clay loam type with shellat overlying sedimentary Lower Devonian rocks. Those in the ex-agricultural land are of a similar formation but have been altered somewhat through past management processes. Trenant forms a very important landscape feature; offers high ancient woodland and associated habitat conservation values and provides popular albeit currently low level public access. It is one of the Trusts most important Cornish sites. The wood contains one of the largest fragments of the estuarine Ancient semi-natural woodland in the Looe River's catchment and consists of predominantly stored oak coppice with patchy birch regeneration and mature specimens and regeneration of beech and sycamore. The mature secondary woodlands are of mixed predominantly non-native broadleaf species, and the woodland creation undertaken since acquisition is of a more general native species mixture incorporating open grassland areas. The planting of the new native woodland on the adjoining agricultural land restores a large area of native woodland to the catchment and helps link up with other woodlands and compliment the larger areas of Ancient woodland remaining on the southern sides of the two river valleys. The open grassland nearest the town is managed for landscape and that further away to allow it to naturally regenerate through succession to scrub woodland and rough grassland habitats.

Two, possibly prehistoric, enclosures, have been identified within the ex-agricultural 'plateau' land ad are thought to have contained early settlements. Neither is visible at ground level but both are visible as outlines showing up in aerial photographs of previous crops. These are recorded by the County Archaeological Department as potentially very important historic artefacts, but are not scheduled. As such the land above them was not planted with trees and will remain as open glades within the maturing woodland.

The wood provides fantastic views out across the river valleys, over the town of Looe and surrounding villages and out to sea. Due to the young nature of much of the woodland on the 'higher' levels these views are particularly extensive but will be lost somewhat as the trees mature, however viewpoints and vistas with benches have been added into the planting designs to retain the most important views for the future. Access is gained via a narrow high sided lane from Trenant Cross near Duloe to the hamlet of Polpever and then along farm tracks across Trenant Barton Farm. Public access is only possible from the informal car park near Polpever from where visitors must walk along the farm track to the entrance into the wood. A track then crosses the steep valley side grassland area and through the ancient woodland before 'splitting' into a number of looped routes around the woodland creation areas in the central and eastern area of the property. The farm track is stoned, but due to agricultural management can be muddy during wet weather. All tracks within the wood have a natural soil surface often with a mown grass sward but are sometimes bare under tree canopies. Most tracks follow contours and are quite level but there are occasional steep sections where tracks rise up the valley side slopes.

## 3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

### 3.1 Getting there

From Liskeard follow the A38 to Dobwalls, turn towards and through Duloe. At the next Junction turn right through the hamlet of Tredinnick and follow the lane to Trenant Cross. From there follow the No Through Road to Polpever and at the end of the highway follow the wood signs along a metalled farm track for approximately 200m to the entrance to the small car parking area. From the car parking area follow the farm track for approximately 600m to the woodland gate. Please note this farm track is often used by machinery and stock and can be muddy and spanned by puddles in wet weather

There is an hourly train service to Looe with regular links from Liskeard station. The nearest public car parking facilities are at Looe where there are a number of car parks as well as good services and facilities for holiday makers and visitors. Bus routes run hourly from Liskeard to Looe via Duloe, but stops at Tredinnick and Sandplace are both well away from the wood and require a walk of at least 2miles to get to the car park before the 3 mile walk around the wood.

## 3.2 Access / Walks

Trenant stands on the valley slopes and plateau of the peninsula of land lying between the West and East Looe rivers, 0.25miles north of the town of Looe, 6 miles south of the village of Duloe and 8miles south of Liskeard. Although it is so close to Looe the fact they are separated by the rivers means that access relies on travelling up one side of the river to a suitable crossing point and so it is not as easy to reach one from the other as may first appear. From Liskeard follow the A38 to Dobwalls, turn left towards and through Duloe. At the next Junction turn right through the hamlet of Tredinnick and follow the lane to Trenant Cross. From there follow the No Through Road to Polpever and at the end of the highway follow the wood signs along a farm track for approximately 200m to the car park. From the car park follow the farm track for 600m to the woodland gate. There are no public rights of way to or through the site and public access is only available as a legal right of access via the farm track, which is subject to agricultural activities and can be muddy during wet weather or times of high use and sometimes has stock on it.

From the entrance gate a grassy track then crosses the steep valley side grassland for 600m to the ancient woodland and then extends for another 600m before ‘splitting’ into a looped route of approximately 1.2km around an area of younger mixed woodland in the eastern valley slope of the property. These tracks then link to tracks and open spaces within the young woodland area on the upper ‘plateau’. This makes the distance from the parking area to the far end of the wood and back at least 5km (3 miles) long, but potentially longer. The tracks through the wood are grassy and naturally surfaced and can be wet, uneven and slippery at times. There are also some slopes of varying inclines and lengths. A number of benches are located close to the tracks around the wood to enable rest stops but the woodland walk is generally only suitable for more capable walkers. The Woodland Trust parking area near Polpever can accommodate 6-8 cars but is sometimes used for woodland management purposes and so some space may be occupied for that however visitor numbers are generally low so there should be adequate parking at all times.

# 4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

All ancient, secondary and new native woodland areas throughout Trenant Wood (cpts 1, 2, 3 and 5) will be managed symbiotically via a Continuous Cover Forestry (CCF) approach through sympathetic selective thinning, felling and coppicing interventions to create and maintain an irregular woodland structure with a diverse range of predominantly native broadleaved tree and shrub species and woodland flora to help support high levels of biodiversity. Restocking or enrichment planting may be considered necessary to replace high levels of trees species lost during tree pest or disease outbreaks. This management will ensure that the river valleys retain their wooded character and the woodland compliments the landscape, historical and conservation values of the area.

Woodland boundaries and edges, and especially those close to tracks and other infrastructure will be managed via the same Continuous Cover Forestry (CCF) approach through selective thinning, felling and coppicing interventions moving stands towards a lower canopied woodland edge habitat to help develop more robust edges to improve long term tree safety

Deer populations and any damage caused will be regularly assessed and management options undertaken where necessary to enable natural woodland regeneration processes to occur successfully.

Permanent open space (cpts 2, 3, 4 and 5) within the woodland planting design for tracks, paths and vistas, for landscape and visual benefits to break up solid woodland edges and to retain longer fields of view from outside the wood as well as for historical benefits to prevent woodland structure developing over potential pre-historic enclosure areas will be maintained by mowing and management of the ground flora as appropriate to their individual needs. However edges of these areas will be managed via a phased rotational management system to create a varied, irregular and transitional scrub, shrub and wood-edge habitat.

Temporary open space such as those areas being managed to naturally regenerate woodland habitats (Cpts 2, 3 and 5) will be managed through mowing, topping and rolling of sward, scrub and bracken to promote the development natural regeneration. Where natural regeneration of tree and shrub species occurs it will be supported and protected as required towards establishing woodland. Should tree and shrub regeneration fail to occur then consideration will be given to tree planting to fulfil the intention to establish new woodland in these areas.

The shrub clump/woodland colonisation margin along the northern boundary of cpt 5 will be managed via CCF/coppicing to develop and maintain lower canopied woodland in order to increase wood-edge type habitat and shelter within the wood and to reduce the likelihood of future issues of shade, canopy overhang and tree safety affecting adjacent farmland.

Internal hedges will be managed towards inclusion within the woodland and associated habitat structure, in line with hedge management recommendations and towards development and support of outgrown coppice stems and maiden trees. Hedges will be maintained in the shorter term to support access and light for the secondary woodland and new native woodland areas

Boundary hedges and boundaries with adjacent properties will be managed as necessary to maintain a defined boundary line.

Hedges and trees along boundaries will be managed according to shared or legal responsibilities but with trees on hedges within WT responsibility being managed in line with the adjacent woodlands management regime as incorporated in high forest of shrub margin respectively. The woodland will be protected from intrusion from neighbouring stock and external agricultural pressures by undertaking or implementing legal rights and obligations as necessary. Woodland adjacent to Trenant Point property will be managed to maintain safety.

The long-term retention or removal of the deer fence (cpt5) will be reviewed according to pressures on the woodland within the fence and whether there is a direct need or additional conservation benefit to maintaining a deer free area

Woodland tracks will be managed by annual surface mowing and edge/bank flailing, tree safety and crown management to maintain clear and safe management and public access. Tracks surfaces will be repaired and upgraded as necessary to correct erosion, to prepare for future use and operations and reinstate damage after operations as necessary.

Existing and future veteran trees throughout the woodland areas as well as those remaining on internal and boundary hedges or in open spaces, will be actively managed using halo, selective thinning or selective felling as appropriate to support their development towards ancient tree status and conservation values.

Non-native invasive species will be managed towards eradication as and when they establish. Due to the location of the wood this is most likely via garden waste tipping in the car parking area or invasive species such as Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam being transported to the wood during river flooding events

The car parking/site management entry area will be managed to support visitor access and parking, machinery and timber loading via entrances and surface management

Public access will be managed according to needs. The distance the wood is situated from local communities, public highways, the constraints associated with the farm track access and the surface of the woodland tracks restrict access to able walkers Current low levels of public access will be catered for by work undertaken to maintain management access and annual mowing of tracks and open spaces but this will be enhanced if and as demands and use increases.

Access to the wood via farm tracks will be managed according to legal rights and obligations

This site fulfils all the Trusts aims by enabling the creation of native woodlands and places rich in trees; Protecting native woodlands, trees and their wildlife for the future and inspiring everyone to enjoy and value woods and trees.

# 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 Ancient Semi Natural Woodland

### Description

Uplands Oak Woodland (Cpt1a) predominantly representative of national vegetation classification (NVC) W17 but with elements of W11 and W10 in localised areas where soils conditions change Oak is the dominant species with most of that being of stored coppice, which was probably last felled in the early 1900s. It has remained largely unmanaged since and as a consequence the stems are tall and densely stocked with a closed canopy of small crowns and this has led to a rather suppressed and sparse ground flora population. Some thinning (1995-98) increased light levels and has allowed the development of coppice growth and natural regeneration, as well as other shrubs and ground flora to take place. Occasional 'maiden oaks or stored stems which have become singled to individual trees exist throughout with their age, size and form being relative to their status at the time of the last working. Isolated mature Beech and Sweet Chestnut specimens are present throughout the wood and were possibly planted for game feed and or timber. Individual mature Sycamores are also present throughout and the wood has a large clump of mature trees at its north western end. Following local consultation as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment a group of pinus radiata (Monterey Pine) was planted as part of the initial planting phase in 2005 to replicate the many historic hilltop clumps of pine that were planted around the county. The shrub layer consists of dense Holly clumps under the oak canopy, birch clumps where light levels permit with oak coppice and sparse hazel and rowan elsewhere under thinned canopies. Gorse, heather and broom frequent ride edges and open spaces. The ground flora varies according to localised soil and canopy changes with large areas of wood rush, bilberry and bluebells in places but often these mix more generally with bracken, bramble or ferns. Wood sorrel and cow wheat, wood anemone also frequent ride corridors.

### Significance

These woods are typical of the estuarine oak woodlands that used to line most Cornish river valleys and are identified as characteristic of the Cornish Killa's NCA profile. Those few sizeable areas remaining such as Trenant and Cornwall Council's Kilminorth Wood opposite are generally ASNW and offer a valuable refuge for ancient woodland flora and fauna species. Much of the original area of these woodland types has been clear-felled for agricultural or commercial forestry purposes. The changing agricultural climate and drive towards restoration of plantations on ancient Woodland sites (PAWS) now makes these steep valley-side grasslands a valuable resource for extending, linking and buffering remnant ancient woodland parcels especially with restoring PAWS. . It helps fulfil WT objectives of enabling the creation of native woodlands and places rich in trees; Protecting native woodlands, trees and their wildlife for the future and inspiring everyone to enjoy and value woods and trees as well as helping to achieve local, regional and National BAPS targets by enhancing woodland biodiversity and conserving ancient woodland.
The woodland, with the new additional of regenerating grassland and newly planted arable land provides a substantial wooded backdrop in the landscape for the residents of and visitors to Looe

## Opportunities & Constraints

Management access is limited to two single width agricultural tracks across the adjacent farm and to a single naturally surfaced central contour track through the woodland and therefore this limited accessibility within the wood combined with the steepness of the valley slopes restricts any access to the track corridor only. This leads to much of the wood especially along rivers edge being quite difficult to manage. The woodland is a valuable ASNW resource on the side of the valley that was largely cleared of woodland for agricultural purposes and will act as a reservoir of species which can migrate into adjacent secondary woodland and woodland creation areas.

## Factors Causing Change

Deer browsing particularly natural regeneration, woodland creation and flora
Squirrel damage secondary woodland and advanced regeneration
Large scale tree loss caused by tree pests and diseases such as, Phytophthora ramorum (Pr), Sweet Chestnut Blight and particularly Chalara dieback of Ash where there may be a need for pre-emptive felling of trees to manage safety issues or heavy loss due to ash clump planting in woodland creation areas.
Invasive non-natives species colonisation particularly resulting from garden escapees tipped in parking area and imported by flood events along the river.
Extensive/progressive wind damage
Natural Succession of ASNW areas to sycamore and beech
Dense regeneration and colonisation of holly shading out extensive areas of ground flora
Fly tipping, Fire lighting, and abuse in car parking area
Unauthorised mountain bike and motor bike access,
Stock intrusion into site from adjacent agricultural land

## Long term Objective (50 years+)

All ancient woodland areas will be managed symbiotically with adjacent areas of secondary woodland throughout Trenant via a Continuous Cover Forestry (CCF) approach through selective thinning/singling, felling and coppicing interventions to create and maintain an irregular woodland structure with a diverse range of predominantly native broadleaved woodland with a diverse species, age and size structure with a good proportion of mature trees with large spreading ‘open grown’ type crowns supporting a rich under-storey of woodland shrubs and flora acting as a refuge for biodiversity in the wider landscape. Woodland edges and especially those close to boundaries, open spaces and adjacent properties will be managed via the same Continuous Cover Forestry (CCF) approach through selective thinning, felling and coppicing interventions moving stands towards a lower canopied woodland edge habitat to help develop more robust edges and to improve long term tree safety. Deer populations and any damage caused will be regularly assessed and management options undertaken where necessary to enable natural regeneration processes to occur.
Open space will be maintained through a network of rides and small glades promoting transitional woodland habitat and associated species. Existing and future veteran trees throughout the wood will be protected and actively managed as part of the adopted silvicultural strategy, using halo, selective thinning or selective felling as appropriate. Non-native invasive species, particularly once widespread laurel and rhododendron, as well as other species will be eradicated as and when they establish.

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

Implement a regular programme of selective thinning and/or coppicing as appropriate within Cpts1

and 2 removing an average of 20% basal area to open canopy, create more light reaching the ground, diversify stand structure and provide natural regeneration opportunities. Intensity of thinning will vary across the extent of the woodland leaving some areas of mature woodland un-thinned and under minimal intervention while thinning within areas of woodland adjacent to tracks, glades, will be of higher intensity to reduce canopy height and develop natural regeneration and coppice growth with the objective of creating a graduated wood edge habitat structure.

Manage margins of woodland adjoining all boundaries with dwellings and agricultural land ( Cpts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 by irregular thinning, coppicing and proactive tree safety operations to develop a lower crown height and shrubbier wood edge habitat where the canopy will graduate up to that of the mature woodland trees beyond. This will improve wood edge stability and reduce boundary tree safety liability and other boundary tree related issues. Coppicing and thinning most likely to be instigated by canopy development and structure etc. than on a set coppice regime.

Manage ride edge areas up to a maximum of 5% of woodland area during the next 10 years to enhance access by:-
Improving internal visibility and perceived safety of visitors by thinning wood edges along rides

Actively protect existing veteran and/or feature trees, veteran trees of the future, and culturally important trees such as remnant beech in Trenant Wood (Cpt1) and lone ash in valley (cpt5) by halo thinning around suppressed/threatened trees as part of the above selective thinning and coppicing process

Monitor holly understory for signs of over population and resultant detrimental effects of shading of ground flora and undertake control of clumps when they are too extensive and adversely affect ground flora.

Where appropriate manage and upgrade tracks (Cpts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5) to maintain existing and better facilitate future management activities and protect from waterlogging and damage by standing water by improving surfaces and drainage of wet, uneven and vulnerable areas .

Undertake regular deer damage assessments across all woodlands possibly working with organisations such as the Deer Initiative, neighbours and other landowners to, where necessary, identify ways of reducing damage levels and increasing the regenerative potential.

Allow natural regeneration of scrub and tree species to develop as it occurs to provide a more diverse spacing and give natural gradation between planting blocks, hedges, glades, open space and rides by reduced mowing (Cpts 1, 2, 3 and 5). Maintain and expand 2 zone track-side management (Cpts 1, 2,3 and 5) throughout all the woods in the cluster to promote transitional woodland edge habitat and permanent open space

Control any invasive species that may be introduced (Cpts1, 2, 3, 4 and 5) within the plan period.

Manage tree safety throughout the woods (Cpts1, 2) as and when necessary to maintain neighbour and visitor safety. This will enhance deadwood levels, improve light levels in localised areas and open the canopy sensitively and allow development of trees towards the ‘open grown’ form and ground flora. This may be particularly relevant regarding infection by tree diseases such as Phytophthora infection of Sweet chestnut and ash as well as beech and Chalara dieback of Ash

where pre-emptive felling of trees may be required to maintain both neighbour, visitor and operative safety

Manage boundaries where there is a legal responsibility to maintain.

Continue process to remove old stock fences within the woodland areas and what were agricultural fields to amalgamate all the areas of woodland cover, improve visual and conservation benefits.

## 5.2 Secondary Woodland

### Description

Secondary Woodland covers three main areas within Trenant: - Cpt 1b and Cpt 3b, which both consist of semi- mature trees and appear to have been retained or have reverted to woodland since the past conversion of the estuarine valley woodland to agriculture, and Cpt2 which was planted onto the cleared land in two phases between 1993 and 1995. These trees are now established as young woodland and therefore qualify as secondary rather than new native. Group planting will help ensure slower growing tree species survive the adjacent competition and remain to form a substantial component of the high forest. Approximately 20% open space was built into the design for landscape and conservation purposes, and will 'naturalise' as woodland associated grassland with encroaching gorse, broom and other shrub species. The mature areas of secondary woodlands (1b & 3b) tend to stand on some of the steeper and less accessible areas of the property and their inherent management difficulty may be the reason for their presence. They are of mixed broadleaf rather than mixed native species composition and contain a higher proportion of beech, sycamore and sweet chestnut than the ASNW in the area. They have also been subject to grazing pressures in the past and as such have limited understories and show signs of cross-slope ridging caused by movement of stock throughout. They offer structural diversity through age and size variation. They have helped to maintain localised populations of Ancient Woodland flora and maintain the woodland habitat which has allowed the Trust to link, extend and buffer the ASNW present. They also provide a seed source that may help with the expansion of the ancient woodland species and will facilitate the recreation of the estuarine woodlands along the valley slopes. Two areas in Cpt 1b that appear to have been used as a dump for the root plates removed during conversion to grassland offer some good deadwood habitat and conservation values while the piles of old stumps remain.
Compartment 2 of Trenant Wood was designated as a PAWS (Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site) due to its past management history of felling and conversion to agricultural grassland and subsequent replanting with a mixture of trees including non-native tree species, however as these are solely broadleaved, generally non-invasive and of species widely distributed locally they do not pose a high level of threat to the ancient woodland and therefore the wood is now considered to be 'restored' and requires no further restoration processes.

### Significance

These woodlands have been recreated on land cleared for agricultural purposes and form small woodland pockets that can be used to link with the ASNW via woodland creation on adjacent agricultural land and hence re-establish the estuarine woodland along the river valleys. The woodland provides a valuable woodland habitat resource on the valley side that compliments the ASNW close by and will act as a reservoir for species to migrate from into adjacent secondary woodland and woodland creation areas. It helps fulfil WT objectives of enabling the creation of native woodlands and places rich in trees; Protecting native woodlands, trees and their wildlife for the future and inspiring everyone to enjoy and value woods and trees as well as helping to achieve local, regional and National BAPS targets by enhancing woodland biodiversity and conserving ancient woodland.

### Opportunities & Constraints

Steepness of slope restricts off track movement throughout.
Management access is non-existent to Boninny Wood however as this is secondary woodland and lies within open grassland/woodland creation, access could be created in the future
Access to ASNW is facilitated only by a single access track but access is also possible from edges of Cpt 5 however limited accessibility to some areas may be used to develop specific limited intervention areas esp. along rivers edge where wildlife habitats can develop undisturbed.
Cross site woodland management strategy to facilitate diversification of woodland and habitat structures (ASNW (1900s), Secondary woodland (1b, 3b - 1960s), 2a (1990's), Woodland Creation Cpt5 (2005-08), natural regeneration (2010 -)

## Factors Causing Change

Deer browsing particularly natural regeneration, woodland creation and flora
Squirrel damage of secondary woodland and advanced regeneration
Large scale tree loss caused by tree pests and diseases such as Phytophthora ramorum (Pr), Sweet Chestnut Blight and particularly Chalara dieback of Ash where there may be heavy loss due to ash clump planting in woodland creation areas etc.
Invasive non-natives species colonisation particularly resulting from flood events along the river.
Utility companies undertaking maintenance works to services through
Extensive/progressive wind damage
Dense regeneration and colonisation of holly shading out extensive areas of ground flora
Unauthorised mountain bike and motor bike access,
Stock intrusion into site from adjacent agricultural holdings

## Long term Objective (50 years+)

All secondary woodland areas will be managed symbiotically with adjacent areas of ancient woodland and new native woodland throughout Trenant via a Continuous Cover Forestry (CCF) approach through selective thinning/singling, felling and coppicing interventions to create and maintain an irregular woodland structure of predominantly native broadleaved woodland with a diverse species, age and size structure with a good proportion of mature trees with large spreading 'open grown' type crowns supporting a rich under-storey of woodland shrubs and flora and acting as a refuge for biodiversity in the wider landscape. Woodland edges and especially those close to boundaries, open spaces and adjacent properties will be managed via the same CCF approach but moving stands towards a lower canopied woodland edge habitat to help develop more robust edges and to improve long term tree safety. Deer populations and any damage caused will be regularly assessed and management options undertaken where necessary to enable natural regeneration processes to occur. Open space will be maintained through a network of rides and small glades promoting transitional woodland habitat and associated species. Existing and future veteran trees throughout the wood will be protected and actively managed as part of the adopted silvicultural strategy, using haloing, selective thinning or selective felling as appropriate. Non-native invasive species will be eradicated as and when they establish

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

Continue to develop and enhance the woodland's age and size structure, shrub and ground flora and levels of deadwood and increase light levels reaching the woodland floor via a CCF approach.

Allow riverside edges of the wood, and other inaccessible areas, to be managed under non-intervention regimes as 'refuges' for wildlife.

Monitor Sweet Chestnut, ash,holly and vaccinium as sporulating species and beech as an affected species in wood for signs of Phytophthora infection.

Remove all trees shelters in Cpt 2 by 2020 or as soon as ground flora is suppressed enough to permit easy access/removal.

Open grassland areas will be retained but allowed to 'naturalise' via a two or three stage rotational management preventing succession to woodland, but allowing scrub development to take place particularly around edges with adjacent woodland

Woodland adjoining boundaries with dwellings and agricultural land will be managed by irregular thinning, coppicing and proactive tree safety operations to develop a lower crown height and shrubbier wood edge habitat where the canopy will graduate up to that of the mature woodland trees beyond. This will improve wood edge stability and reduce boundary tree safety liability and other boundary tree related issues. Coppicing and thinning most likely to be instigated by canopy development and structure etc. than by a set coppice regime.

Manage ride edge areas up to a maximum of 5% of woodland area via a two or three stage rotational management and by irregular thinning, coppicing and proactive tree safety operations to develop a lower crown height and shrubbier wood edge habitat where the canopy will graduate up to that of the mature woodland trees beyond. This will improve wood edge stability and reduce boundary tree safety liability and other boundary tree related issues. Coppicing and thinning most likely to be instigated by canopy development and structure etc. than by a set coppice regime.

Actively protect existing veteran and/or feature trees, ancient trees of the future, and culturally important trees such as remnant beech in Trenant Wood (Cpt1) and lone ash in valley (cpt5) by halo thinning as part of the CCF thinning and coppicing process

Where appropriate manage and upgrade tracks (Cpts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5) to maintain existing and better facilitate future management activities and protect from waterlogging and damage by standing water by improving surfaces and drainage of wet, uneven and vulnerable areas .

Undertake regular deer damage assessments across all woodlands possibly working with organisations such as the Deer Initiative, neighbours and other landowners to, where necessary, identify ways of reducing damage levels and increasing the regenerative potential of WTs and other woods in the city.

Allow natural regeneration of scrub and tree species to develop as it occurs to provide a more diverse spacing and give natural gradation between planting blocks, hedges, glades, open space and rides by reduced mowing (Cpts 1, 2, 3 and 5). Maintain and expand 2 zone track-side management (Cpts 1, 2,3 and 5) throughout the woods to promote transitional woodland edge habitat and permanent open space

Control any invasive species that may be introduced (Cpts1, 2, 3, 4 and 5) within the plan period.

Manage tree safety throughout the woods (Cpts1, 2) as and when necessary to maintain neighbour and visitor safety. This will enhance deadwood levels, improve light levels in localised areas and

open the canopy sensitively and allow development of trees towards the ‘open grown’ form and ground flora. This may be particularly relevant regarding infection by tree diseases such as Phytophthora infection of Sweet chestnut and ash as well as beech and Chalara dieback of Ash where pre-emptive felling of trees may be required to maintain both neighbour, visitor and operative safety

Manage boundaries where there is a legal responsibility to maintain.

Continue process to remove old stock fences within the woodland areas and what were agricultural fields to amalgamate all the areas of woodland cover, improve visual and conservation benefits.

Manage and maintain public accessibility and management access routes across adjoining farmland within legal rights and agreements

## 5.3 New Native Woodland

### Description

New Native woodland in two areas: –
Compartment 3a – An area of steep valley side rough grassland probably converted for agriculture during the last century. Despite its slope the area had been grazed, topped and fertilised in the past and considered to be semi-improved. The low intensity allowed the area to colonise with large areas of bramble, bracken and gorse which latterly supported the establishment of the Occasional thorn, ash, sycamore and scrubby oaks which are dotted around the slope and these have started the processes of succession towards natural woodland. Since acquisition the cessation of grazing has led to the development of a strong, but localised, amount of predominantly oak natural regeneration, with some hazel, sycamore and thorn appearing, mostly along the lower slope, but occasionally up to 100m away from seed trees. Presumably mostly planted by Jays and/or squirrels only 50-60% of the slope remains as open grassland.
Compartment 5 – A 95 acre area of predominantly ex-arable land with one area of steep improved grassland acquired in 2004. This was planted in phases between 2005 and 2008 as new native woodland that will reflect the W17 type (predominantly Sessile oak and Downy birch with rowan and holly) on the western side where it is adjacent to ancient woodland (Cpt1) and W10 (similar main species, but with amounts of ash, wild cherry, hazel and other shrubs) to the east where it is closer to the secondary woodland blocks (Cpt2). The boundary with the woodland edges was left unplanted to facilitate management of the hedges in the shorter term but with the intention of treating them as temporary open space, allowing them to regenerate and succeed to woodland as species migrate out from the adjacent woodland edges. Similarly a 50m wide strip along the northern boundary was planted with shrubs in an open and irregular clumpy/group matrix to replicate colonising woodland and which being close to the boundary against the adjacent farmland will create a wide wood-edge habitat, reduce canopy height, shade and tree safety issues.

### Significance

The rough grassland across the two areas offers good woodland associated habitat and conservation benefits but as the remaining woodland matures shade and other pressures will gradually reduce its value and it will therefore be largely temporary in nature. Retained permanent open space within Cpt 2and 5 as well as open space in Cpt 2 which will take much longer to develop as woodland due to its natural regeneration processes and will continue to provide adequate open grassland habitat well into the future. An area of open grassland dominated by heath and bracken is also retained near the northeast corner of Cpt5. This was not planted as the landscape impact assessment of the site suggested that dwellings opposite this area had enjoyed views of open space, evening light and grassland for many years and therefore planting trees in their views would be inadvisable. The grass cover provides winter cover for some bird species and perch poles erected at planting allow raptors to predate on the increased vole population. The establishment of woodland in Cpt5 has greatly increased the wood's core area and adds a substantial buffer to the adjacent agricultural management. It helps fulfil WT objectives of enabling the creation of native woodlands and places rich in trees; Protecting native woodlands, trees and their wildlife for the future and inspiring everyone to enjoy and value woods and trees as well as helping to achieve local, regional and National BAPS targets by enhancing woodland biodiversity and conserving ancient woodland

### Opportunities & Constraints

Manage the open space sensitively to encourage natural regeneration of flora as well as trees and then monitor whether some should be retained permanently for floristic reasons
Cross site woodland management strategy to facilitate diversification of woodland and habitat structures (ASNW (1900s), Secondary woodland (1b, 3b - 1960s), 2a (1990's), Woodland Creation Cpt5 (2005-08), natural regeneration (2010 -)
Two large glades in Cpt 5 were left unplanted due to historical records suggesting there are two prehistoric enclosures located below ground level. While there are no plans to excavate and investigate these sites it was felt necessary to leave unplanted and avoid future damage through tree roots and wind damage.

## Factors Causing Change

Deer browsing particularly natural regeneration, woodland creation and flora
Squirrel damage secondary woodland and advanced regeneration
Large scale tree loss caused by tree pests and diseases such as Chalara dieback of Ash where there may be heavy loss due to ash clump planting in woodland creation areas etc.
Invasive non-natives species colonisation in Cpt 3 resulting from flood events along the river.
Utility companies undertaking maintenance works to services through Cpt3
Extensive/progressive wind damage
Dense regeneration and colonisation of gorse, bramble and bracken reducing opportunities for natural regeneration to occur
Unauthorised mountain bike and motor bike access,
Stock intrusion into site from adjacent agricultural holdings

## Long term Objective (50 years+)

All new native woodland areas will be managed symbiotically with adjacent areas of ancient woodland and secondary woodland throughout Trenant via a Continuous Cover Forestry (CCF) approach through selective thinning/singling, felling and coppicing interventions to create and maintain an irregular woodland structure of predominantly native broadleaved woodland with a diverse species, age and size structure with a good proportion of mature trees with large spreading 'open grown' type crowns supporting a rich under-storey of woodland shrubs and flora acting as a refuge for biodiversity in the wider landscape. Woodland edges and especially those close to boundaries, open spaces and adjacent properties will be managed via the same CCF approach moving stands towards a lower canopied woodland edge habitat to help develop more robust edges and to improve long term tree safety. Deer populations and any damage caused will be regularly assessed and management options undertaken where necessary to enable natural regeneration processes to occur. Non-native and invasive species such as rhododendron/laurel growth will be controlled.
Temporary and permanent open space will be maintained through a network of rides and glades promoting transitional woodland habitat and associated species. Existing and future veteran trees throughout the wood will be protected and actively managed as part of the adopted silvicultural strategy, using halo, selective thinning or selective felling as appropriate. Non-native invasive species, particularly once widespread laurel and rhododendron, as well as other species will be eradicated as and when they establish.

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

To establish a healthy broadleaf woodland area with integrated areas of temporary and permanent

open grassland, hedgerows and shrub clumps and a naturalising ground flora sward

Continue to develop and enhance the woodland's age and size structure, shrub and ground flora and levels of deadwood and increase light levels reaching the woodland floor via a CCF approach.

Allow riverside edges of the wood, and other inaccessible areas, to be managed under non-intervention regimes as 'refuges' for wildlife.

Remove all tree guards from trees in Cpt5 and advanced regeneration (Cpt 3&5) by end of plan period unless they are still essential for protection of stunted trees

Identify new regeneration and where necessary fit protection to promote growth and establishment grow through coarse vegetation and to avoid browsing damage.

Permanent open grassland areas will be managed towards a semi-natural sward and flora mix by annual mowing but with a reduced and irregular cut close to woodland planting to create a natural gradation between grassland and trees.

Temporary open grassland will be managed similarly to permanent open grassland but will be more irregular to help suppress coarse vegetation and to encourage tree regeneration.

Cpt 3 will be allowed to colonise and succeed towards natural woodland. Some control of dense bracken and bramble and grass sward may be necessary to encourage natural regeneration by reducing the density.

Continue to manage new native woodland towards secondary woodland high forest controlling weed growth and deer/rabbit damage as necessary to ensure full establishment. Open space for viewpoints, vistas wide rides and paths will be managed annually to allow links to the existing woodland areas.

Land over the potentially prehistoric boundary areas to be left unplanted and managed so as not to be of any detrimental effect on them. Areas of land directly adjacent to the ancient woodland left unplanted to allow natural regeneration to occur.

Monterey pines will be maintained to form a hilltop clumps as historically planted in the county.

Monitor vaccinium and holly in wood for signs of Phytophthora infection.

Woodland adjoining boundaries with dwellings and agricultural land will be managed by irregular thinning, coppicing and proactive tree safety operations to develop a lower crown height and shrubbier wood edge habitat where the canopy will graduate up to that of the mature woodland trees beyond. This will improve wood edge stability and reduce boundary tree safety liability and other boundary tree related issues. Coppicing and thinning most likely to be instigated by canopy development and structure etc. than by a set coppice regime.

Manage ride edge areas up to a maximum of 5% of woodland area via a two or three stage rotational management and by irregular thinning, coppicing and proactive tree safety operations to develop a lower crown height and shrubbier wood edge habitat where the canopy will graduate up to

that of the mature woodland trees beyond. This will improve wood edge stability and reduce boundary tree safety liability and other boundary tree related issues. Coppicing and thinning most likely to be instigated by canopy development and structure etc. than by a set coppice regime.

Actively protect existing veteran and/or feature trees, ancient trees of the future, and culturally important trees such as remnant beech in Trenant Wood (Cpt1) and lone ash in valley (cpt5) by halo thinning as part of the CCF thinning and coppicing process.

Where appropriate manage and upgrade tracks (Cpts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5) to maintain existing and better facilitate future management activities and protect from waterlogging and damage by standing water by improving surfaces and drainage of wet, uneven and vulnerable areas .

Undertake regular deer damage assessments across all woodlands possibly working with organisations such as the Deer Initiative, neighbours and other landowners to, where necessary, identify ways of reducing damage levels and increasing the regenerative potential of WTs and other woods in the city.

Allow natural regeneration of scrub and tree species to develop as it occurs to provide a more diverse spacing and give natural gradation between planting blocks, hedges, glades, open space and rides by reduced mowing (Cpts 1, 2, 3 and 5). Maintain and expand 2 zone track-side management (Cpts 1, 2,3 and 5) throughout the woods to promote transitional woodland edge habitat and permanent open space

Control any invasive species that may be introduced (Cpts1, 2, 3, 4 and 5) within the plan period.

Control noxious weed populations in woodland areas where they may be considered to be having adverse effects on adjacent agricultural land.

Manage tree safety throughout the woods (Cpts1, 2) as and when necessary to maintain neighbour and visitor safety. This will enhance deadwood levels, improve light levels in localised areas and open the canopy sensitively and allow development of trees towards the ‘open grown’ form and ground flora. This may be particularly relevant regarding infection by tree diseases such as Phytophthora infection of Sweet chestnut and ash as well as beech and Chalara dieback of Ash where pre-emptive felling of trees may be required to maintain neighbour, visitor and operative safety.

Manage boundaries where there is a legal responsibility to maintain.

Continue process to remove old stock fences within the woodland areas and what were agricultural fields to amalgamate all the areas of woodland cover, improve visual and conservation benefits.

## 5.4 Informal Public Access

### Description

Despite being little more than 100m from the main Millpool car park in the seaside town of Looe, Trenant wood is separated from the town by the West and East Looe Rivers and there are no highway crossing points for several miles upstream of each river. Because of this access to the wood requires a journey of several miles to reach the wood's parking area and main entrance. Similarly its isolated location away from other villages limits the opportunity to access the wood via public transport. Public access is gained from Trenant Cross, near Duloe along the lane to Polpever and just beyond to a small area of land used as an informal parking area. Public access rights, and the land on which the parking area is constructed, were secured in 2001 from the car park for 600m along the farm track across the Trenant Park property to the main entrance into Cpt 3 From the entrance a central track then crosses the steep valley side (Cpt3) and through the ancient woodland (Cpt1) before 'splitting' into a looped route around the secondary woodland (Cpt2) and woodland creation area (Cpt5) to provide walks of up to 4-5 miles. There is no public access from Cpt 5 out along the track across the neighbouring farm land.
Due to the distance from the highways, the agricultural condition of the farm track, and gradients and the natural surfaces of the tracks within the wood access is generally only suitable for very able walkers.

### Significance

Trenant wood was acquired in stages since 1992 and local walkers have been keen to visit the wood since then, but the distance by road to reach the wood often deters locals for visiting. The wood does however provide a very significant visual 'backdrop' to the town and provides very picturesque wooded valley views from the roads approaching the town. It helps fulfil WT objectives of inspiring everyone to enjoy and value woods and trees.

### Opportunities & Constraints

Isolated location requiring long journeys, access along agricultural tracks and long challenging walks within the wood make it a site accessible to active walkers only.

### Factors Causing Change

Cattle roaming on the track from the car park to the wood, making its muddy and awkward can deter visitors.
Misuse and abuse of parking area
Litter and fly-tipping
Large scale tree loss caused by tree pests and diseases such as Chalara dieback of Ash where there may be heavy loss due to ash clump planting in woodland creation areas etc.
Unauthorised mountain bike and motor bike access,
Stock intrusion into site from adjacent agricultural holdings

### Long term Objective (50 years+)

An attractive and serviceable network of tracks and paths through the variety of types of woodland and open ground that provide views and vistas of the local landscape and encourage the appreciation of the woodland both on the site and in the locality. The access will be maintained at a low level until the demand increases beyond local resident and holiday maker requirements.

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

Accessible network of naturally surfaced and grassy tracks and paths through ancient woodland, new native woodland and secondary woodland areas that will maintain the present low level local access currently considered being access category B for its potential rather than present use.

Grade, level, drain and improve track and path surfaces, where required to maintain accessibility and improve track network if demand increases.

Repair and renew estate furniture, benches, stiles, gates, kissing gates and other infrastructure to maintain user safety and to enhance the visitor experience through the wood.

Manage track and path side woodland to create structural diversity, reduce overhang, encroaching growth and shade etc. to help path surfaces dry more quickly and to create lighter and brighter and more attractive access routes.

Manage and maintain public accessibility and management access routes across adjoining farmland within legal rights and agreements

Maintain grass tracks and glades by bi-annual mowing and flailing on a 2/3 year rotational regime as applicable to promote floral and structural diversity.  Include trackside banks to cut back overhanging growth and to prevent nettle, bramble and coarse growth encroaching to maintain management,  3rd party and visitor access

Inspect trees along the tracks according to zoning (currently zone B due to level of usage) and maintain tree safety,

Maintain the Woodland Trust ‘Welcome’ to the wood.

Manage car park annually to provide clear and safe access

# 6.0 WORK PROGRAMME

| Year | Type of Work | Description | Due By |
|---|---|---|---|

# APPENDIX 1: COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

| Cpt No. | Area (ha) | Main Species | Year | Management Regime | Major Management Constraints | Key Features Present | Designations |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1a | 15.46 | Oak (sessile) | 1900 | High forest | Housing/infrastructure, structures & water features on or adjacent to site, Landscape factors, Legal issues, No/poor vehicular access to the site, No/poor vehicular access within the site, People issues (+tve & -tve), Site structure, location, natural features & vegetation | Informal Public Access | Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, County Wildlife Site (includes SNCI, SINC etc) |
| Sub compartment 1a is comprised of Trenant wood and is predominantly a stand of stored oak coppice, which has now begun conversion to high forest through past thinning and on-going natural singling of stems. Predominantly Oak the stand is estimated to have been last coppiced around 1900-1920. Other species abundant enough to make up a proportion of the main canopy composition include mature beech and sycamore mainly in areas at either end of the wood and slightly more abundantly silver birch. Birch is quite prominent in places where canopy has remained open enough to provide higher light levels possibly where fire or wind damage has occurred in the past. It is of multi age but the oldest is estimated to have established since 1960. Rare sweet chestnut stems are also scattered throughout the stand. Understory consists of occasional oak and hazel coppice especially where thinning and singling has taken place in the past and dense patchy holly of which a number of the stems have become quite large. Ground flora consists of patchy moss, bilberry, bracken, fern, sedge, swathes of bluebell, wood rush, gorse and bramble. The main portion of sub compartment has a south-westerly aspect. | | | | | | | |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1b | 4.52 | Beech | 1940 | High forest | Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/ Rocky ground, Housing/infrastructure, structures & water features on or adjacent to site, Landscape factors, Legal issues, No/poor vehicular access to the site, No/poor vehicular access within the site, People issues (+tve & -tve), Site structure, location, natural features & vegetation | Informal Public Access | County Wildlife Site (includes SNCI, SINC etc) |
| Sub compartment 1b comprises the smaller mature woodland areas that remains or has re-established since the clear felling in the early 60s of the ancient wood that extended up the East Looe River valley. Higher levels of beech exist with birch, sycamore and holly. Understory is poorer due to heavier shade but consists of occasional hazel coppice especially where canopy is thinner and patchy holly of which a number have become quite large. Ground flora is again sparse but where it exists consists of patchy moss, bracken, fern, sedge, gorse and bramble. Sub compartment 1b has an easterly aspect. Some remnant clumps of trees in the Cpt have piles of old decaying tree stumps and root plates around them after they were dug out and tipped during conversion to grassland. | | | | | | | |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2a | 13.04 | Mixed broadleaves | 1994 | High forest | Housing/infrastructure, structures & water features on or adjacent to site, Landscape factors, Legal issues, No/poor vehicular access to the site, No/poor vehicular access within the site, People issues (+tve & -tve), Site structure, location, natural features & vegetation | Informal Public Access | |
| First of two phases of tree planting (1993-94) on the area of Trenant woods clear felled during the early 60s. Site was covered by TPO, but restocking failed to happen and was not enforced. Land was used for agriculture from then till WT acquired site. Restocked at 3.0m spacing of ash, S/oak, birch, hawthorn, wild cherry, beech, hazel and woody shrubs. 20% open ground left to develop into woodland associated grassland sward and allow some diversity and variety in the landscape which is very prominent from Looe across the river | | | | | | | |
| 3a | 17.05 | Open ground | | Wood establishment | Housing/infrastructure, structures & water features on or adjacent to site, Landscape factors, Legal issues, No/poor vehicular access to the site, No/poor vehicular access within the site, People issues (+tve & -tve), Services & wayleaves, Site structure, location, natural features & vegetation | Informal Public Access | |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| An area of steep mainly semi improved rough grassland extending from Trenant wood west up the West Looe river valley with a south-westerly aspect. The grassland offers little in conservation value other than as woodland associated grassland. Areas of gorse and bramble had developed in past years due to a low level grazing and management and approx. 50% of the area has become colonised in a fairly centrally located clump. Ruins of an old farm building remain and the area is crossed by a number of high voltage power cables. The grassland area is naturally regenerating to woodland with an increasing number of thorns, hazel, sycamore and stunted oaks growing internally and a line of predominantly mature oak and sycamore along the river edge boundary. A band of bluebells extending for several hundred metres runs through the middle of the slope and possibly persists under the bracken and gorse cover as a remnant of past woodland | | | | | | | |
| 3b | 2.40 | Sycamore | 1960 | High forest | Housing/infrastructure, structures & water features on or adjacent to site, Landscape factors, Legal issues, No/poor vehicular access to the site, No/poor vehicular access within the site, People issues (+tve & -tve), Services & wayleaves, Site structure, location, natural features & vegetation | Informal Public Access | |
| Boninny Wood - An area of secondary woodland in the north-western corner of Cpt 3. Standing on very steep land on the lower half of the slope adjacent to the river the wood is generally inaccessible for machinery having no tracks to it or in it. Stocked with predominantly oak, sycamore and birch of approximately 40years old, the wood is very uniform in appearance and has little in the way of age, size or structural diversity. Its isolated location and lack of management does make it a valuable area of woodland habitat especially as it is surrounded by the semi-improved grassland of Cpt 3a and the river. | | | | | | | |
| 4a | 0.19 | Other | | Wood establishment | Legal issues, People issues (+tve & -tve), Site structure, location, natural features & vegetation | Informal Public Access | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A small triangular area of land situated close to the end of the dead-end highway near Polpever. Gently sloping from the edge of the agricultural track that forms the new public access route to the wood, the area has been turned into an informal stacking area/car park. | | | | | | | |
| 5a | 5.28 | Oak (sessile) | 2006 | Wood establishment | Diseases, Housing/infrastructure, structures & water features on or adjacent to site, Landscape factors, Legal issues, No/poor vehicular access to the site, People issues (+tve & -tve), Site structure, location, natural features & vegetation | Informal Public Access | |
| Part of the land acquired in 2004 compartment 5 consists of 30.53 ha (75.45 ac) ex-arable and 8.17ha (20.02 ac) rough pasture. Lying on the upper 'plateau' of the land it 'fills' the 'U' shape of the existing valley side property and links the woodland to another area of fragmented ancient woodland further up the east Looe river and greatly extends and buffers the exiting ancient and secondary woodland areas. Sub Cpt 5a comprises the field at its most southerly end right in the crook of the woodland. Part of its western boundary lies adjacent to the ASNW area while the south and eastern hedges lie adjacent to the secondary woodland in Cpt 2. It has a gentle south westerly aspect. Soils are a clay loam containing good levels of small shellat that facilitates drainage. As arable land it was intensively managed | | | | | | | |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5b | 6.66 | Oak (sessile) | 2007 | Wood establishment | Archaeological features, Diseases, Housing/infrastructure, structures & water features on or adjacent to site, Landscape factors, Legal issues, No/poor vehicular access to the site, People issues (+tve & -tve), Site structure, location, natural features & vegetation | Informal Public Access | |
| Part of the land acquired in 2004 compartment 5 consists of 30.53 ha (75.45 ac) ex-arable and 8.17 (20.02 ac) rough pasture. Lying on the upper 'plateau' of the land it 'fills' the 'U' shape of the existing valley side property and provides the potential to link the woodland to another further up the east Looe river and to greatly extend and buffer the exiting ancient and secondary woodland areas. Sub Cpt 5b lies adjacent to the ASNW area of Cpt 1. Soils are a clay loam containing good levels of small shellat that facilitates drainage. It is bounded on its north and east sides as well as on its southern boundary with sub cpt5a by hedge banks topped predominantly with thorn. This sub Cpt and 5c to the north appear to contain a prehistoric boundary bank spanning their shared boundary hedge. As nothing lies above ground level it is only visible as crop circles on aerial photos but in order to maintain its integrity and potential historic importance the land around them will remain as open space incorporated into the planting design. | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5c | 7.93 | Oak (sessile) | 2007 | Wood establishment | Archaeological features, Diseases, Housing/infrastructure, structures & water features on or adjacent to site, Landscape factors, Legal issues, No/poor vehicular access to the site, People issues (+tve & -tve), Site structure, location, natural features & vegetation | Informal Public Access | |
| Part of the land acquired in 2004 compartment 5 consists of 30.53 ha (75.45 ac) ex-arable and 8.17 (20.02 ac) rough pasture. Lying on the upper 'plateau' of the land it 'fills' the 'U' shape of the existing valley side property and provides the potential to link the woodland to another further up the east Looe river and to greatly extend and buffer the exiting ancient and secondary woodland areas. Sub Cpt 5c lies adjacent to the ASNW area of Cpt 1 and the northern boundary with the adjacent farmland. It also links, at its westerly corner, with Cpt 3. It has a gentle south-westerly aspect Soils are a clay loam containing good levels of small shellat that facilitates drainage. It is bounded on its north and east sides as well as southern boundary with sub Cpt 5c by hedge banks topped predominantly with thorn, but with some sycamore and ash. This sub Cpt and 5b to the south appear to contain a prehistoric boundary bank spanning their shared boundary hedge. As nothing lies above ground level it is only visible as crop circles on aerial photos but in order to maintain its integrity and potential historic importance the land around them will remain as open space incorporated into the planting design. | | | | | | | |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5d | 5.15 | Mixed native broadleaves | 2008 | Wood establishment | Archaeological features, Diseases, Housing/infrastructure, structures & water features on or adjacent to site, Landscape factors, Legal issues, No/poor vehicular access to the site, People issues (+tve & -tve), Site structure, location, natural features & vegetation | Informal Public Access | |
| Part of the land acquired in 2004 compartment 5 consists of 30.53 ha (75.45 ac) ex-arable and 8.17 (20.02 ac) rough pasture. Lying on the upper 'plateau' of the land it 'fills' the 'U' shape of the existing valley side property and provides the potential to link the woodland to another further up the east Looe river and to greatly extend and buffer the exiting ancient and secondary woodland areas. Sub Cpt 5d lies adjacent to the secondary woodland areas of Cpt 2. It has a gentle south-easterly aspect. Soils are a clay loam containing good levels of small shellat that facilitates drainage. It is bounded on its west and south east sides by hedge banks topped predominantly with thorn, but with some sycamore and ash. Its northern boundary lies adjacent to the rough grassland area. This sub Cpt appears to contain a second and larger prehistoric boundary bank than sub Cpt b&c. As nothing lies above ground level it is only visible as crop circles on aerial photos but in order to maintain its integrity and potential historic importance the land around them will remain as open space incorporated into the planting design. | | | | | | | |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5e | 7.20 | Mixed native broadleaves | 2008 | Wood establishment | Diseases, Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/ Rocky ground, Housing/infrastructure, structures & water features on or adjacent to site, Landscape factors, Legal issues, No/poor vehicular access to the site, No/poor vehicular access within the site, People issues (+tve & -tve), Site structure, location, natural features & vegetation | Informal Public Access | |
| Part of the land acquired in 2004 compartment 5 consists of 30.53 ha (75.45 ac) ex-arable and 8.17 (20.02 ac) rough pasture. Lying on the upper ‘plateau’ of the land it ‘fills’ the ‘U’ shape of the existing valley side property and provides the potential to link the woodland to another further up the east Looe river and to greatly extend and buffer the exiting ancient and secondary woodland areas. Sub Cpt 5e lies in the middle western half of the compartment partly adjacent to the secondary woodland areas of Cpt 2. It contains a deep and steep valley that extends east to the river. This valley is open and visible from dwellings opposite the wood and therefore some areas of 5e were left unplanted to form open space and retain a more open mosaic when viewed from outside the wood. Planted areas in the valley are in larger 'groups while those on the steeper south facing slopes are more contiguous with the adjacent 5f. Soils are a clay loam containing good levels of small shellat that facilitates drainage. | | | | | | | |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5f | 6.17 | Mixed native broadleaves | 2008 | Wood establishment | Diseases, Housing/infrastructure, structures & water features on or adjacent to site, Landscape factors, Legal issues, No/poor vehicular access to the site, People issues (+tve & -tve), Site structure, location, natural features & vegetation | Informal Public Access | |
| Part of the land acquired in 2004 compartment 5 consists of 30.53 ha (75.45 ac) ex-arable and 8.17 (20.02 ac) rough pasture. Lying on the upper 'plateau' of the land it 'fills' the 'U' shape of the existing valley side property and provides the potential to link the woodland to another further up the east Looe river and to greatly extend and buffer the exiting ancient and secondary woodland areas. Sub Cpt 5f lies adjacent to the ASNW in Hall Wood in the neighbouring property and the adjacent farmland to the north and the steeper rough grasslands of 5e to the south. It has a gentle to moderate southerly aspect. Soils are a clay loam containing good levels of small shellat that facilitates drainage. It is bounded on its north and east sides by hedge banks topped predominantly with thorn and ash. | | | | | | | |

## Appendix 2: Harvesting operations (20 years)

| Forecast Year | Cpt | Operation Type | Work Area (ha) | Estimated vol/ha | Estimated total vol. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2021 | 1a | Thin | 0.50 | 20 | 10 |
| 2022 | 2a | Thin | 0.50 | 20 | 10 |
| 2025 | 1a | Thin | 0.50 | 20 | 10 |
| 2026 | 2a | Thin | 0.50 | 20 | 10 |

# 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.