



Anne's Wood

Management Plan 2015-2020

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THE WOODLAND TRUST

INTRODUCTION

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

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

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

PLAN REVIEW AND UPDATING

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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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

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

WOODLAND MANAGEMENT APPROACH

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

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

All our sites have a management plan which is freely accessible via our website www.woodlandtrust.org.uk. Our woods are managed to the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS) and are certified with the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) under licence FSC-C009406 and through independent audit.

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

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

The following guidelines help to direct our woodland management:

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

SUMMARY

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

1.0 SITE DETAILS

Site name:	Anne's Wood
Location:	Earby
Grid reference:	SD906470, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 103
Area:	0.77 hectares (1.90 acres)
Designations:	

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Summary Description

A young woodland created as part of the 'Woods on Your Doorstep' project and named Anne's wood in memory of a local lady. An avenue of lime trees leads from the entrance to a central yew grove. Used mainly by local people for quiet recreation.

2.2 Extended Description

The young woodland was planted on a small, square pasture field that slopes very slightly, facing west. It is on the northern edge of the village of Earby which is between the heavily built up and industrial areas of Nelson and Colne, and the rural Pennines. There are allotments immediately to the south, a disused railway line (now used for public recreation) to the west, and houses and gardens to the north and east.

The whole site was planted in 2000 with a mix of 1,293 native trees and shrubs, of British provenance. Species planted were ash, English oak, common alder and wild cherry, with shrubs of goat willow, rowan, hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn, and guelder rose. An avenue of 25 lime trees lines the path from the entrance to the central glade, where a grove of 25 yews cluster around 2 seats. A dense shrub belt of hawthorn and blackthorn was planted along the eastern bound to screen property. New native woodland is the sites first key feature. Areas of open grassland have been left to form the paths and glade. There are a few mature trees on the boundaries of the site consisting mainly of sycamore and ash.

Pendle Borough Council gifted the site on a lease to the Woodland Trust in December 1999. The wood was created as part of the Trust's 'Woods On Your Doorstep' project. Prior to acquisition the site was used as a pony paddock. Local people and the parish council were very involved with the acquisition, design, and actual creation of the wood. It was named Anne's Wood in memory of a local lady, Anne Duffield.

The wood can be accessed from School Lane, which leads east off the main road the A56 in the northern part of Earby. Pedestrian access heads north from School Lane, first passing along a short strip of metalled road between house numbers 2 & 4, and then along a stoned track that passes between gardens and the allotments to a small management gate which leads into the wood. On site there is a circular path, and a path to the central glade that has seats and an information board. Parking is available on nearby local roads but may be limited. The wood is used mainly by local people who arrive on foot, for quiet informal recreation and informal public access is the woodlands second key feature.

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

Anne's Wood is located on the northern edge of the village of Earby which is between the heavily built up and industrial areas of Nelson and Colne and the rural Pennines. The wood can be accessed from School Lane, which leads east off the main road the A56 in the northern part of Earby. Pedestrian access heads north from School Lane, first passing along a short strip of metalled road and then along a stoned track that leads from between house numbers 2 & 4, and then passes between gardens and the allotment to a small management gate which leads into the wood, this is the woods only entrance. On site there is a short circular path which is around 200 metres in length. The paths are not surfaced and consist of unmodified grass and earth surface; they can get muddy & slippery when it is wet.

Parking is available on nearby local roads such as School Lane but may be limited.

Nearest public toilet: The nearest public toilet is located at Victoria Road bus station which is approximately 300 metres away from the wood. Toilets are suitable for disabled users with a RADAR key and are open from 8am-6pm. Information provided by Pendle Borough Council. www.pendle.gov.uk.

Nearest bus stop: Located at Victoria Road, which is approximately 300 metres away from the wood. Victoria Road is a suburban road with a pavement. Further information about public transport is available from Traveline- www.traveline.org.uk or phone 0870 608 2608

3.2 Access / Walks

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

Our long term intention for Anne's Wood is to create and maintain high forest of mixed (predominantly native broadleaves -at least 85% native). The wood will be managed primarily as a recreational and landscape feature. This will involve maintaining the current mix of species but diversifying the age structure as the wood matures, by intervention if necessary. The aim of this work will be to promote stand stability in this urban fringe and exposed location. Regeneration of both natives and non-native species will be accepted, although when selecting trees native species will take precedence. Public access will be maintained at least its current level with one entrance point and approximately 300m of maintained paths. Consultation and involvement of local people will continue to be important.

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

This young woodland was planted in December 2000 with a mix of 1,293 native trees and shrubs including oak, ash, birch, alder, willow, hawthorn, hazel, blackthorn and guelder rose. The trees were of British provenance and were planted at 3m spacing (1100 trees/ha) and protected with 0.6m Tubex sleeves which have since been removed. Areas of open grassland have been left to form the paths and glade. There are a few mature trees on the boundaries of the site consisting mainly of sycamore and ash.

Significance

This is a small native broadleaved wood in an area with very little woodland at all and certainly very little native woodland, and hence this woodland is of local importance as a habitat.

Opportunities & Constraints

Initial tree growth has been rapid and the basic structure of the woodland will develop quite quickly. The close proximity of housing on the boundaries is a management constraint. The site was a small pasture field with rank and common plant species before planting, and it is not connected to other woodland or other semi-natural habitats all of which must limit its conservation value. However, it does link with a disused railway line, which has trees and scrub developing along its length and hence links with another secondary habitat.

Factors Causing Change

Growth of young trees, tree diseases particularly ash dieback.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

The aim is to create a high forest of mixed predominantly native broadleaves (at least 85% native). The wood will be managed predominantly as a recreational and landscape feature. Regeneration of both natives and non-native species will be accepted, although when selecting trees native species will take precedence.

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

Thinning work will be carried out in 2019 to promote age & species diversity on site.

5.2 Informal Public Access

Description

Informal public access consists of a circular grass path that leads to a central glade which has a seating area. Parking is available on nearby local roads but may be limited. The wood is well used mainly by local people who arrive on foot, for quiet informal recreation.

Significance

Anne's Wood is adjacent to the village of Earby, and within easy walking distance of many people. It is a pleasant peaceful area to spend some time, and gives people the opportunities to easily get away from the urban environment.

Opportunities & Constraints

Access is limited to 1 entrance and the small wood is tucked away. However, there is a little pleasant little network of paths around the site with seats that will encourage people to linger. The woodland is also adjacent to a former railway line which has now been converted into a footpath and cycleway and hence links into a wider recreational path network.

Factors Causing Change

Changes in level of use.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Public access will be maintained at least its current level with 1 entrance point and approximately 300m of maintained paths. Consultation and involvement of local people will continue to be important.

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

Paths continue to be cut as necessary (2 times per year in 2015) to maintain easy public access. Other facilities such as welcome signs at the entrance, information board and the 2 seats will be maintained annually.

6.0 WORK PROGRAMME

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

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Key Features Present	Designations
1a	0.76	Ash	2000	High forest	No/poor vehicular access to the site, Site structure, location, natural features & vegetation	Informal Public Access, New Native Woodland	
<p>0.76 hectares (1.88 acres) of establishing native woodland planted in 2000, with scattered mature sycamore and ash along the site boundaries. Situated on a small, gently sloping, west facing former pasture field on the northern edge of the village of Earby and bounded by allotments immediately to the south, a disused railway line (now used for public recreation) to the west, and houses and gardens to the north and east. The unsurfaced circular path is accessed via a stoned track from School Lane.</p>							

Appendix 2: Harvesting operations (20 years)

Forecast Year	Cpt	Operation Type	Work Area (ha)	Estimated vol/ha	Estimated total vol.
2016	1a	Thin	0.50	6	3
2019	1a	Thin	0.74	11	8

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.