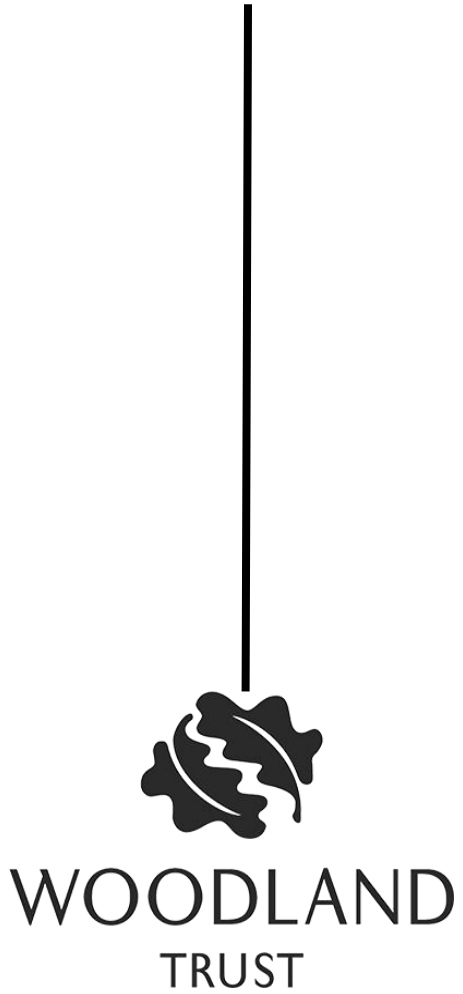
Anne's Wood, Cornwall

(Plan period – 2020 to 2025)



Management Plan Content Page

Introduction to the Woodland Trust Estate

The Woodland Trust owns and cares for well over 1,250 sites covering almost 30,000 hectares (ha) across the UK. This includes more than 4,000ha of ancient semi-natural woodland and almost 4,000ha of non-native plantations on ancient woodland sites and we have created over 5,000ha of new native woodland. We also manage other valuable habitats such as flower-rich grasslands, heaths, ponds/lakes and moorland.

Our Vision is:

"A UK rich in native woods and trees for people and wildlife."

To realise all the environmental, social and economic benefits woods and trees bring to society, we:

- **Create Woodland** – championing the need to hugely increase the UK's native woodland and trees.
- **Protect Woodland** – fighting to defend native woodland, especially irreplaceable ancient woodland and veteran trees; there should be no loss of ancient woodland
- **Restore Woodland** – ensuring the sensitive restoration of all damaged ancient woodland and the re-creation of native wooded landscapes.

Management of the Woodland Trust Estate

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.

The following principles provide an overarching framework to guide the management of all our sites but we recognise that all woods are different and that their management also needs to reflect their local landscape, history and where appropriate support local projects and initiatives.

1. Our woods are managed to maintain their intrinsic key features of value and to reflect those of the surrounding landscape. We intervene in our woods when there is evidence that it is necessary to maintain or improve biodiversity, safety and to further the development of more resilient woods and landscapes.

2. We establish new native woodland for all the positive reasons set out in our Conservation Principles, preferably using natural regeneration but often by planting trees, 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. Where possible, we pro-actively engage with people to help them appreciate the value of woods and trees.

4. The long term vision for all our 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 natural and cultural heritage value of sites is taken into account in our management and in particular, our ancient trees are retained for as long as possible.

7. Land and woods can generate income both from the sustainable harvesting of wood products and the delivery of other services. We therefore consider the appropriateness of opportunities 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 encourage our woods to be used for 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. We maintain a network of sites for long-term monitoring and trials leading to reductions in plastics and pesticides.

10. Any activities we undertake are in line with our wider Conservation Principles, conform to sustainable forest management practices, are appropriate for the site and balanced with our primary objectives of enhancing the biodiversity and recreational value of our woods and the wider landscapes.

The Public Management Plan

This public management plan describes the site and sets out the long term aims for our management and lists the Key Features which drive our management actions. The Key Features are specific to this site – their significance is outlined together with our long, 50 years and beyond, and our short, the next 5 years, term objectives for the management and enhancement of these features. The short term objectives are complemented by an outline Work Programme for the period of this management plan aimed at delivering our management aims.

Detailed compartment descriptions are listed in the appendices which include any major management constraints and designations. Any legally confidential or sensitive species information about this site is not included in this version of the plan.

There is a formal review of this plan every 5 years and we continually monitor our sites to assess the success of our management, therefore this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme.

Please either consult The Woodland Trust website

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk

or contact the Woodland Trust

operations@woodlandtrust.org.uk

to confirm details of the current management programme.

A short glossary of technical terms can be found at the end of the plan.

Location and Access

Location maps and directions for how to find and access our woods, including this site, can be found by using the following link to the Woodland Trust web-site which contains information on accessible woodlands across the UK

https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/find-woods/

In Scotland access to our sites is in accordance with the Land Reform Act (of Scotland) 2003 and the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

In England, Wales and NI, with the exception of designated Public Rights of Ways, all routes across our sites are permissive in nature and where we have specific access provision for horse riders and/or cyclists this will be noted in the management plan.

The Management Plan

1. SITE DETAILS

Anne's Wood, Cornwall

Location:	Lelant Grid reference: SW546371 OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 203
Area:	0.66 hectares (1.63 acres)
External Designations:	Tree Preservation Order
Internal Designations:	N/A

2. SITE DESCRIPTION

Anne's Wood is situated on the edge of the village of Lelant. Being close to the village, the St Erth to St Ives branch line railway station and the Saltings, an area of sand bank and salt marsh in the estuary, Ann's Wood is an important feature for locals and visitors. Sloping irregularly from almost water level to adjoin private houses on the west facing bank of the Hayle Estuary the wood also forms an important feature in the landscape and is visible from the A30 and B3301across the estuary. The wood lies within the Cornish Killas, National Character Area No152 and adjacent to the Hayle Estuary and Carrack Gladdens Site of Special Scientific interest (SSSI) and the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site

Despite its small size it is quite well used by local children and dog walkers. Access is provided via a hunter's gate in the stone boundary wall and then internally by a managed 'circular route'. Management access is limited within the site, with only a narrow track entering the site through a 2.7m gate at the eastern boundary. This track crosses the wood in a vaguely east-west direction and exits into adjoining private wood along the south-western edge. The Sustrans National Cycle Route No3 passes close by.

The wood consists of predominantly mature Beech with Sycamore and occasional Oak and Ash with a patchy understory of holly, sycamore and beech. The dense canopy and understory result in heavy shade, which limits the ground flora to ferns, ivy, dog's mercury and other shade tolerant species. In a few areas where trees have been blown over by gales or been felled as part of tree safety operations the open canopy has allowed light through and permitted the development of natural regeneration and bramble.

3. LONG TERM POLICY

Anne's Wood will be managed towards an attractive mixed broadleaf high forest with a diverse age and size structure, an understory of natural regeneration, minor tree species, woodland shrubs and a diverse ground flora. It will be managed within the requirements of its Tree Preservation Order but with the long-term objective of trees within the wood having lower and broader, more open grown type, crown structures. Tree canopies around the wood's boundaries will be lower, shrubbier and more stable in form. As such the wood will be more beneficial for conservation, amenity and safety. Felled and fallen trees and branches etc. will be retained to help create deadwood habitat and areas where the 'protection' from trampling this can deter will allow regeneration to occur. This will enhance the wood's conservation, landscape and amenity values. Management of the main 'circular' path around the wood will be undertaken as necessary to allow the current low, local access levels to continue. Desire lines and peripheral paths will not be managed and as a result of the reduction of erosion and compaction of the wood floor away from the approved access route ground flora and regeneration of tree and shrub species will be enhanced. Coppice and natural regeneration will be managed to form a varied age and structured woodland and provide a basis for the long-term retention of the woodland as the existing trees reach senescence or blow over in gales. Some unusual shrubs such as bay laurel and Butcher's Broom will be allowed to remain in the wood, but invasive non-native species will be controlled as and when they occur. Legal obligations relating to the wood such third party access rights, safety and highways clearances etc. will be managed as necessary. Anne's wood helps to fulfil two of the Woodland Trust's aims by protecting native woods, trees and their wildlife for the future and inspiring everyone to enjoy and value woods and trees.

4. KEY FEATURES

4.1 f1 Informal Public Access

Description
A relatively small wood, but one used by the local community and especially dog owners and children. Pedestrian access is via a hunter's gate in the stone wall at the north-east corner of the wood at the point where The Saltings and Station Hill roads meet and opposite Lelant Station and its car park. The wood contains an extensive network of unauthorised desire lines despite attempts to limit it to an approved 'circular' route around the wood by maintenance and improvement to that path only. Due to ground and soil conditions the paths have numerous steep and undulating sections, which can get slippery in wet weather. The two steepest of these are fitted with steps. The heavy shade borne by the mature trees limits recovery of trampled ground flora and the paths are steadily becoming wider bare strips. The Sustrans National Cycle Route No3 passes close by.
Significance
Despite its small size it is one of only a small number of publicly accessible woods in the area and is in easy reach of the village. It is very prominent in the local landscape and is held in much importance by many locals. The wood lies within the Cornish Killas, National Character Area No152 and adjacent to the Hayle Estuary and Carrack Gladdens Site of Special Scientific interest (SSSI) and the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site. As such it helps achieve the Trust's aim of inspiring people to enjoy and value woods
Opportunities & Constraints
Limiting access to the 'circular route' and reducing access elsewhere within the wood will allow regeneration of ground flora and understory and improve conservation and amenity value of the wood itself.
Factors Causing Change
Public creating too many paths and desire lines which are detrimental to the ground flora. Children using uneven ground in wood for slides and mountain biking activities etc. which are detrimental to the ground flora. Neighbours tipping garden waste and creating wicket gate access into wood. Invasive garden escapees. Ash Dieback causing the death and removal of a number of mature ash trees in the wood. Wind damage and future wind blow of larger trees in the wood causing a loss of high forest structure.
Long term Objective (50 years+)
An attractive and serviceable 'circular' route through the woodland that provides views and vistas of the local landscape and encourages the appreciation of the woodland both on the site and in the locality. The circular access route will be managed to maintain the current level of demand by the local community and as a result help reduce pressure throughout the rest of the wood which will help create better ground flora populations and a more conservationally and aesthetically valuable woodland.

Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)
Easily accessible and well maintained woodland access facility for the local community and visitors to enjoy. Entrances, steps, estate works and footpaths will be maintained at a level appropriate for the type of use and in line with the wood's access category C. Carry out annual maintenance of approved access route only. Manage entry points, signs, steps and path surface and cut roadside verge annually. Undertake tree safety checks and any required safety works in line with WT tree safety policy Undertake safety inspections and any required safety works in line with WT safety policy. Manage legal obligations as necessary

4.2 f2 Local Woodland Habitat

Description
A small woodland of predominantly densely grown mature broadleaved trees of tall small crowned form throughout and often extending right up to boundaries with adjacent properties and roads and power-lines passing through the wood. Tree species consist of predominantly large Beech and sycamore with occasional oak and clusters of Ash, interspersed with limited advanced and ash regeneration. The dense canopy results in limited understory, often of only shade tolerant species and occasional non-invasive garden species retained for colour and diversity, and a patchy ground flora again of mostly shade tolerant species. Past wind damage and boundary tree safety works has resulted in some open spaces in the canopy and these have given rise to bramble patches. The combination of both has resulted in a 'Cathedral' type structure to the wood. Despite its small size it offers woodland habitat and shelter to wildlife that frequent the adjacent saltmarsh and river estuary. Public access pressures tend to cause desire lines and eroded and compacted areas of the woodland which reduces the amount of ground flora and regeneration present or possible. Maintaining a single 'circular' path route, increasing light during tree works and retaining deadwood helps to 'exclude' areas from access and helps to encourage flora regeneration to establish. Areas of denser understory also offer nesting sites for local bird populations. Standing on land sloping up from the Hayle estuary it is also very prominent in the landscape, especially from the main roads 'feeding' the area and for many residential properties in the locality.
Significance
Highly visible woodland in the local landscape that provides woodland habitat and shelter to local wildlife that frequent the adjacent Hayle Estuary and Carrack Gladdens Site of Special Scientific interest (SSSI). The wood lies within the Cornish Killas, National Character Area No152 and adjacent to the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site and the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site. Because of this it helps deliver the Trust's aim of protecting native wood, trees and their wildlife for the future
Opportunities & Constraints
Restructure the woodland to improve its long term sustainability and safety. Undertake low key enrichment planting to help establish some younger trees for woodland regeneration in areas where canopy breaks allow. Use bramble/coarse vegetation that colonises in the light areas as protection for young trees and to reduce extent of accessible area. Logs left after undertaking tree safety works for deadwood are quickly taken by locals for firewood so not great opportunity to develop fallen deadwood.

Factors Causing Change
Public creating too many paths and desire lines which are detrimental to the ground flora. Children using uneven ground in wood for slides and mountain biking activities etc. which are detrimental to the ground flora. Neighbours tipping garden waste and creating wicket gate access into wood. Invasive garden escapees. Ash Dieback causing the death and removal of a number of mature ash trees in the wood. Wind damage and future wind blow of larger trees in the wood causing a loss of high forest structure.
Long term Objective (50 years+)
A healthy broadleaf woodland with a diverse age and size structure and a good proportion of mature trees with large spreading 'open grown' type crowns to maintain its 'cathedral-like' character, but with lower wood-edge type habitat around the boundaries. It will have a rich and attractive understory of woodland shrubs flora. As such it will provide and sustain a good resource of woodland species as well as being an attractive place to visit.
Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)
A healthy mixed broadleaf woodland with diverse age and size structure with developing understory to replace mature trees as they senesce and a robust ground flora layer. Limit public access as far as possible to approved circular route to encourage continued development of natural regeneration and ground flora by twice annual management of public access route only. Manage regeneration towards broadleaf high forest by protection if necessary. Plant low numbers of whips in areas of broken canopy to establish young trees where regeneration is not occurring. Undertake tree safety works as necessary but particularly around boundaries and along power-line margins, but within the TPO consents process.

APPENDIX 1 : COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
1a	0.8	Sycamore	1900	High forest	No/poor vehicular access within the site, Services & wayleaves	Tree Preservation Order
Anne's wood is reminiscent of a mining, spoil tipping site and the ground levels are very irregular with frequent slopes, dips and gullies and soils tend to be of clay-loam over shellat but in places have a sandy texture similar to that in the estuary. The wood consists of predominantly mature Beech with Sycamore and occasional Oak and Ash. The dense canopy results in a patchy understory and ground flora of shade tolerant species such as holly, sycamore, beech, ferns and other shade tolerant spp. This is also compounded by visitors creating desire lines away from the maintained paths and children playing on steeper banks which results in loss of existing flora. In areas where trees have blown over and have allowed light through the canopy the development of natural regeneration and bramble is quite marked. Access for the public is via a squeeze gap at the northeast corner of the wood, a network of paths, which remain bare due to the heavy use compounded by the heavy woodland shade and clay soils. Management access is limited within the site, to a narrow track entering the site through a 2.7m gate off The Saltings at the eastern boundary. This track crosses the wood in a vaguely east-west direction and provides third party access to an adjoining private wood along the south-western edge.						

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.

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