

# Coed Avens

(Plan period – 2021 to 2026)



WOODLAND  
TRUST

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## 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](http://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](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk)

or contact the Woodland Trust

[operations@woodlandtrust.org.uk](mailto: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

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5. Work Programme

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GLOSSARY

## 1. SITE DETAILS

### Coed Avens

Location:	Mynydd Eilian, Amlwch Grid reference: SH475923 OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 114
Area:	1.12 hectares (2.77 acres)
External Designations:	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Environmentally Sensitive Area
Internal Designations:	N/A

## 2. SITE DESCRIPTION

Coed Avens is new native woodland created from two fields of rough grazing gifted to the Trust in 1983 and 1996. It is situated on north-facing, gently sloping ground in an exposed location only one kilometre from the sea and with attractive seaward views. One field was planted with native trees by the Trust in 1984. Exposure resulted in poor establishment, but the whole site, including the more recently acquired field, was fully stocked in 1999 with native trees, using sycamore as a nurse. This has provided a valuable diverse habitat in an otherwise little treed landscape and provides a point of interest along the route of local publicised walks.

Coed Avens is quite remotely located in a rural area east of Amlwch; the entrance to the site is off a track (a public footpath now signposted as part of a local circular walk) 200m from the nearest public road. A caravan park adjoins the site to the west and is linked to it by another public footpath: the majority of visitors probably come from the immediate locality including the caravan park.

### 3. LONG TERM POLICY

Coed Avens is a small establishing woodland. Its canopy cover will be maintained and it will contain a variety of predominantly native tree species, some of which will reach maturity, as well as a developing woodland ground flora. Invasive species will be rare or absent. The woodland will be a low key recreational resource of primarily local interest, visited by local residents and caravan park visitors, with a basic but safe network of accessible paths.

## 4. KEY FEATURES

### 4.1 f1 New Native Woodland

<b>Description</b>
A new native woodland fully planted in 1999. Planted species are ash, sycamore (as a nurse), rowan, bird cherry and hawthorn, together with remnants of oak, birch, hazel, willow, alder and Swedish whitebeam (planted in error) from an earlier planting. Canopy closure has been achieved, despite the impacts of salt and canker (and in more recent years ash dieback) and the wood is maturing satisfactorily.
<b>Significance</b>
Creation of a native woodland in within a County having one of the lowest % tree covers in Wales will increase biodiversity in and enhance the landscape diversity of the immediate area. The site could be a stepping stone for woodland animals such as red squirrels which are expanding on the island.
<b>Opportunities &amp; Constraints</b>
Coastal exposure severely constrained the initial establishment of native trees, so that the planting scheme included a high proportion of sycamore as a nurse, however by the current plan period the woodland is well established, canopy robust and the field layer diverse. Several overhead lines will limit the area available for high canopy woodland.
<b>Factors Causing Change</b>
Coastal exposure as previously noted is limiting growth of some species. Himalayan balsam is present. The ash component, already weakened by cankers and exposure, may be susceptible to ash dieback.
<b>Long term Objective (50 years+)</b>
In the long term, the wood will develop into a mixed woodland, predominantly comprising native species, with some deadwood and a diverse understorey and field layer. Invasive species will be rare or absent.
<b>Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)</b>
Himalayan balsam will be controlled to limit its spread. Disease impacts will be monitored. A regime of limited intervention will allow some trees to reach full maturity, however, rideside coppicing and trimming of trees along powerlines (particularly where diseased ash is starting to reach early maturity) may be advised for safety, whilst also providing some structural diversity. Deadwood from any operations will be retained to add to the deadwood habitat component of the site.

### 4.2 f4 Informal Public Access

<b>Description</b>
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<p>A public footpath crosses the site and off it a path loop has been designed into the new woodland in each subcompartment. All paths are unsurfaced. There are attractive coastal and seaward views out of the site.</p>
<p><b>Significance</b></p>
<p>The public footpath links to the Anglesey coastal footpath network and other publicised local walks. There is evidence that the site is used by families staying at the adjacent caravan park.</p>
<p><b>Opportunities &amp; Constraints</b></p>
<p>There is no convenient car parking close to the site. The nearest car park is located c15 minutes away across public footpaths. In addition the site is rather remote and difficult to find, although walks publicised by the local authority pass the site.</p>
<p><b>Factors Causing Change</b></p>
<p>Health and safety requirements along boundaries, paths and overhead lines: the trees are getting close to the size where tree safety inspections will be warranted and a large area of the site is effectively a potential tree safety zone due to paths, boundaries and overhead lines . Tree disease impacts could result in greater volumes of standing deadwood.</p>
<p><b>Long term Objective (50 years+)</b></p>
<p>The woodland will be a useful recreational resource for the immediate locality, with an adequate basic but safe path network and comprise a feature of interest in the local landscape. Some seaward views will be maintained from the woodland in the long term, generally utilising maintained open space under the power lines.</p>
<p><b>Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)</b></p>
<p>Footpath and entrances will be maintained in a safe and tidy condition. Encroachment of tree growth onto power lines will be reported to the power company if it occurs.</p>

## 5. WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
2021	AW - Management Access Capital	Works associated with installing new or replacement management access infrastructure. Such as management access gates, vehicle bridges, fencing and surfacing works.	August
2021	WMI - Invasive Plant Control	Works associated with the initial phase of invasive plant control – such as rhododendron felling and mulching	October
2022	SL - Tree Safety Silviculture Work	Retrieving data. Wait a few seconds and try to cut or copy again.	December
2025	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	July

## APPENDIX 1 : COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
1a	0.82	Ash	1999	Min-intervention	No/poor vehicular access to the site, Services & wayleaves	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
<p>The northern section of the property, consisting of a field of previously semi-improved pasture on moderately sloping ground with northerly aspect and attractive seaward views. It was planted in 1984 with oak, ash, birch, hazel, hawthorn, willow, alder, (and Swedish whitebeam in error). Except for alder, willow, whitebeam, it did not thrive due to exposure and inadequate maintenance. The area was fully restocked in 1999 with ash, sycamore (as a nurse), rowan, bird cherry and hawthorn. By the current plan period a semi-mature woodland has been established with a robust canopy and a diverse field layer. The planting design created a path branching off the public footpath to form a circular loop partially determined by the position of the overhead powerlines.</p>						
2a	0.44	Ash	1999	Min-intervention	No/poor vehicular access to the site, People issues (+tve & -tve)	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
<p>The southern section of the property, consisting of a field of previously semi-improved pasture on moderately sloping ground with northerly aspect and attractive seaward views. It was planted in 1999 with ash, sycamore (as a nurse), rowan, bird cherry and hawthorn. By the current plan period a semi-mature woodland has been established with a robust canopy and a diverse field layer. A circular footpath route was left unplanted which took account of the position of the overhead powerlines. The area contains the grave of the land's donor.</p>						

### **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.

**Registered Office:**

**The Woodland Trust, Kempton Way, Grantham, Lincolnshire NG31 6LL.**

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