

Coed Cwr y Pwll

(Plan period – 2022 to 2027)



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

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

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GLOSSARY

1. SITE DETAILS

Coed Cwr y Pwll

Location:	Llanfaelog, Rhosneigr Grid reference: SH339731 OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 114
Area:	6.62 hectares (16.36 acres)
External Designations:	Environmentally Sensitive Area
Internal Designations:	Woods on Your Doorstep

2. SITE DESCRIPTION

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

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

The key features of the site are:

- New Native Woodland
- Informal Public Access
- Open Ground Habitat

3. LONG TERM POLICY

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

4. KEY FEATURES

4.1 f1 New Native Woodland

Description
Several fields of former improved grassland were planted during 2000, with local community involvement in design and planting under the "Woods On Your Doorstep" project. Planted species are sessile oak, sycamore, ash, rowan, hazel, hawthorn, elder, blackthorn, holly, crab apple and willow.
Significance
New native woodland will provide habitat for a range of species, potentially in future including the red squirrel, which is expanding across the island and has recently been reintroduced at the Dingle at Llangefni (roughly 7 miles distant). The establishment of Coed Cwr y Pwll contributes to increasing woodland cover on Ynys Mon, the least-wooded county in Wales.
Opportunities & Constraints
Two overhead power lines run across the site: these routes were excluded from planting in the original woodland plans. Establishment of certain species has been restrained, probably due to strong maritime south-westerlies, which constrain the exposed site's ability to grow tall straight timber trees. A lack of other local woods/ old hedgerows may mean that woodland species' colonisation is very slow.
Factors Causing Change
Strong coastal winds and potentially increasing extreme storm events may carry heavy salt loads, which can change soil and water chemistry and may impact on wood establishment. Tree diseases may also alter the composition of the wood from that originally intended, especially in areas dominated by planted ash. Neighbouring land use may change over time, impacting negatively (intensification of management including chemical usage) or positively (further woodland and hedgerow creation) on the woodland's health and connectivity. Rabbit browsing may increase, damaging young trees and preventing future regeneration or hampering future management choices.
Long term Objective (50 years+)
Over the coming decades, Coed Cwr y Pwll will develop into a native broadleaved woodland with a diverse shrub understorey, capable of regenerating naturally. Woodland ground flora will begin to establish under canopy cover and a deadwood component will gradually build over time.

Public access routes and infrastructure are to be maintained in a welcoming and safe condition. The site will be well presented with a minimum of litter. Third parties such as AONB volunteers will be facilitated to undertake appropriate activities on the site subject to demand and suitable licence agreements.

4.3 f3 Open Ground Habitat

Description

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

Significance

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

Opportunities & Constraints

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

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

Factors Causing Change

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

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

Long term Objective (50 years+)

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

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

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

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

5. WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
2022	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of management access infrastructure and tracks Such as repairs to vehicle entrance points, maintaining vehicle bridges and repairing / reinstating surfaced management access routes.	August
2022	WMM - General Site Management	Works associated with maintaining conservation and physical features within the sites such as boundary ditches, fences and walls, hedges,	October
2022	WMI - General Site Restoration Work	Works associated with initial or restoration phases to conservation and physical features within the sites such as boundary ditches, fences and walls, hedges, infield and boundary trees	November
2022	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.	November
2024	WMM - Secondary Silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within secondary woods to meet our primary aims of conserving woodlands and encouraging public enjoyment– such as the removal of non-natives, thinning and promotion of native trees and shrubs, creating and managing view points and providing welcoming sites for visitors	February

APPENDIX 1 : COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
1a	3.43	Oak (sessile)	2000	Wood establishment		
<p>The principal areas of former improved permanent pasture planted with broadleaved trees and shrubs during 2000. Species planted were sessile oak, sycamore (as a nurse), ash, rowan, hazel, hawthorn, elder, blackthorn, holly, crab apple and willow.</p>						
1b	0.43	Hazel	2000	Wood establishment		
<p>Areas of former improved permanent pasture planted with broadleaved shrubs during 2000. These areas are situated on the edges of retained open ground and bolster existing shrubby areas, including gorse banks. Species planted were hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn and elder.</p>						
1c	2.76	NULL		Non-wood habitat	Mostly wet ground/exposed site, Services & wayleaves	
<p>Areas of former improved permanent pasture retained as open ground and since managed as meadows and rides. Includes two extensive view corridors along the south-western side of the site as well as areas beneath overhead powerlines and around the spring / pond area. Seeding of yellow rattle has been undertaken and this is now established in many areas, along with other wildflowers.</p>						

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:

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