

Aldouran Glen

(Plan period 2024 to 2029)



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

Aldouran Glen

Location:

Leswalt, nr Stranraer Grid reference: NX007635 OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 82

Area:

13.11 hectares (32.40 acres)

External Designations:

Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Planted Ancient Woodland Site, Scheduled Ancient Monument

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2. SITE DESCRIPTION

Location, Altitude and Aspect

Aldouran Glen wood is located on the south-west coast of Scotland, on the Rhins of Galloway approximately 6km north west of Stranraer. Situated in a valley to the north of the B7043, the wood lies between the village of Leswalt (approximately 1/2km to the north-east) and Lochnaw (approximately 1km to the west). It has a predominantly eastern aspect. The altitude of the wood ranges from 40m above sea level in the south-east of the wood to 90m above sea level by the car park in the west.

Geography

The wood occupies the upper, flatter terraces as well as the steep slopes of Aldouran glen. The glen contains a small tributary to the Sole Burn, which runs west to east through the middle of the wood. The wood is also drained by means of several distinct, steep watercourses that flow from the higher land to the south and west into the burn. The area is underlain mainly by sediments of Ordovician and Silurian age, which give rise to brown earths, with some gleying. Soils in the wood are mainly complexes of brown earths and gleys but have also been influenced by later drift deposits. Ground vegetation suggests that soils range from moderately acid to neutral/slightly base rich over lower slopes, the valley floor and wet flushes associated with surface drainage from land to the south and west. Along the valley floor, soils are poorly draining. The MLURI climate map identifies the area as warm lowland, being exposed with extremely mild winters.

Description

Most of the glen woodland is ancient woodland however because it has been greatly modified in the past, by the planting of exotic conifers, rhododendron and laurel it is classified as a Planted Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS). North Aldouran Wood (the northern arm) is of more recent origin, although a part is classified as being Long Established Woodland of Plantation Origin (LEPO) and is therefore included in the Ancient woodland inventory. Much of the woodland has retained its characteristic ground flora, despite the planting of exotic broadleaves and conifers over the years. The woodland now contains a good mixture of old and mature broadleaves, dominated by sycamore and beech, but with a proportion of ash alder and elm. There are also occasional oak, cherry and sweet chestnut trees, as well as a few exotic conifers including Norway and Sitka spruce and Western hemlock. There is frequent regeneration of sycamore seedlings as well as occasional beech, but only few groups of more advanced regeneration. The upper, flatter terraces, such as the top slopes along the track to Glenhead Farm and North Aldouran Wood are now planted with mixed native broadleaves. Previous rhododendron control has been a success, but regrowth persists as a threat in certain areas. Where gaps in the canopy allow, there is occasional holly, elder, rowan, elm and hazel regeneration scattered through the broadleaved area along with juvenile sycamore trees.

The ground flora is at its most colourful in May, when the wood is carpeted with bluebells and ferns, greater woodrush and ramsons. Greater woodrush, bluebells, male fern and lady fern dominate upper and drier slopes. Wild garlic, dog's mercury and other associated species spread along the valley floor and wetter slopes of northerly aspect. Other commonly found species include lesser celandine, wood sorrel, wood anemone, wood avens, dog violet, enchanter's-nightshade, agrimony, wood ruff, hedge woundwort, golden saxifrage and the relatively rare muscatel. The shrub layer features honeysuckle, wild raspberry and bramble. Wetland and common meadow and hedgerow plants occur around boundaries and in wet hollows. Where there is sufficient light, bluebells and ferns grow strongly within and around the margins of conifer areas. Mature trees, veteran trees and deadwood habitats

support a range of mosses, including mouse-tail, forest star and Hypnum species on the tree trunks, as well as liverworts and lichens, some of which are relatively uncommon.

Other Habitats

The burn running through the glen provides an aquatic/ riparian habitat, which is heavily shaded in parts by dense conifer stands along the valley floor. It is thought that the burn may have at one time supported otter, hence the name Aldouran Glen - 'Glen of the Otter'.

Wildlife

Numerous bird species inhabit and visit Aldouran Glen wood, including wren, long-tailed tit, coal tit, robin, treecreeper and chaffinch.

Dragonflies have been observed in more open, sunny clearings.

Known mammals to frequent the wood include; roe deer and occasionally otter. Red squirrels are often spotted from the community wildlife hide adjacent to the wetland. There is a badger sett flanking the north eastern slope of the glen.

Other Features

Compartment 2b contains a small quarry (disused), with a 30ft high cliff at one point and a wet swampy interior.

In the centre of the wood, the earthworks of an iron-age hill fort 'Kemps Grave' (probably dating from 500BC to 300AD) occupy a promontory overlooking the glen from the north. The fort is a scheduled monument, protected under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.

Site History

The neighbouring village is Leswalt, an odd name with unsure origins. Possible derivations for its name include 'llys gwellt' (Welsh) meaning 'grass court' or perhaps 'lios uillt' (Gaelic) meaning 'fort of the glen'.

The presence of non-native trees, rhododendron and laurel suggest that the glen was extensively landscaped at some point in its recent history, perhaps by Sir Andrew Agnew of Lochnaw in the early to mid-19th century.

The wood was acquired by the Woodland Trust in 1994 from the Forestry Commission. Since then, 4 ha of non-native conifers have been clear felled and replanted in 2002 with mixed native broadleaves with additional areas of conifers thinned. In addition, rhododendron has been cleared and the footpath network throughout the wood has been improved and extended.

Access Information

Although Dumfries and Galloway, in general, have an abundance of accessible woodland, the Rhins does not. Aldouran Glen is one of the few woodlands in the area where access is welcomed. The woodland is often quiet. The majority of users being local residents, and school children of the neighbouring Leswalt village and outlying communities.

There are four entrances to the wood, one in the south-east corner, off the B7403, the second from the car park at the western end of the wood at the top of the hill and the third off the private track to the north of the wood. The fourth entrance provides direct access to the village over the Community wetland area between Leswalt and the wood.

Within the wood there is a network of almost 2km of trodden bare earth path with steps at either end and up to the hill fort from the south.

The car park can hold up to 4 cars.

Management access to the site is on good on foot. As well as the public road along the southern boundary and the vehicle track along the eastern boundary there is also the right of vehicular access along the private track along the northern boundary. However, within the site, vehicular access is difficult. There are no internal vehicle tracks, but flatter terraces including sub-compartments 1c and 2b and the extreme eastern end of 1a are accessible to forestry machinery from road- or track-side. Other areas can only be worked manually with any timber extraction using winches, whilst steep slopes and watercourses at the glen-head effectively mean it is inaccessible for machine working purposes.

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3. LONG TERM POLICY

The long-term aim is to restore this Ancient Woodland Site by removing threats to the ancient woodland features. Continuous cover of broadleaves and natural regeneration will be favoured, and where appropriate replanting within gaps of sufficient size. The threat of over shading from remaining non-native conifer stands or dense beech patches will be gradually thinned to preserve the remnant ground flora. *Rhododendron ponticum* and any invasive woody regeneration will continue to be actively controlled. The threat of Ash dieback will slowly change the composition of species throughout Aldouran Glen. Ash is scattered throughout the woodland and often intimately mixed alongside other trees. It is anticipated that several tree species will take advantage of the reducing ash component within the woodland canopy and colonise vacant areas as they occur. Aside from safety works and intervention to control invasives the long-term policy will be to manage the woodland by minimum silvicultural intervention. As sycamore and beech already constitute a major proportion of the woodland canopy, they will largely be retained, except where they pose a threat to the ancient woodland plant communities. Tree species which support similar ecological communities to ash will be encouraged to regenerate to provide a suitable alternative host.

Invasive non-native species, such as *Rhododendron ponticum* and laurel, will be eradicated across the site.

Existing on-site access facilities will be maintained in line with demand. Access and interpretation will be maintained and enhanced as required.

The Scheduled Ancient Monument, Kemps Grave will continue to be protected from damage.

4. KEY FEATURES

4.1 f1 Planted Ancient Woodland Site

Description

Aldouran Glen consists of both Ancient Semi Natural Woodland and Long Established Plantation Origin. A host to a rich array of habitat niches, being in a glen it offers both Northern and Southern aspects. The ground flora is of particular interest throughout the site offering a variety of NVC classifications. The description below has been split into the AWR zones as per the WT AWR approach and cross-referenced with the sub-compartment numbers. The information below is from the most recent AWR assessment undertaken in 2024.

Zone 1 (compartments 1a & 1c):

A long stretch of a compartment from top North-West along the Southern boundary and through to the South-Eastern side of the woodland. This area is classified as ancient semi-natural woodland (ASNW) although much of this area has been planted with exotics in the early to mid-19th century. Where broadleaved cover has remained, the ground flora is indicative of this continuity of woodland cover with many ancient woodland indicator species, wood sorrel, greater woodrush and bluebells present. There are good levels of dead wood within these areas due to the difficulties in gaining machine access. Rhododendron is frequent throughout this zone.

(AWR Category: Threatened)

Zone 2 (compartment 1b):

Compartment 1b contains more recent spruce planting and is considered Plantation on Ancient Woodland (PAWS) / Ancient Woodland Restoration (AWR). The ground flora here was previously sparse, but after some light thinning of the conifers over the previous plan periods it has seen wood sorrel and bluebell begin to gradually re-colonise these areas. A small compartment - 0.28ha – still comprising 52 conifers along the valley floor with a mix of native species around the edge of the conifer block. Rhododendron is occasional here.

(AWR Category: Threatened)

Zone 3 (compartment 2a):

Middle compartment rising steeply from the stream up to a high point where a Scheduled Monument rests at the top. This compartment is included in the ASNW area which again is demonstrated by the rich ground flora assemblages. A small tributary to the Sole burn flows through the middle of the wood which adds to the floral diversity of the site with ramsons and dogs mercury spreading outwards from the burn edge to carpet the lower slopes of the glen. NVC classification - W9/W10 (lowland mixed broadleaved woodland) with W7 (wet alder ash woodland) along the valley floor. W9 type occurs over wet flushes/lower slopes of northern aspect and grades into W10 (upper slopes and terraces and slopes of southern aspect). Rhododendron is frequent to abundant.

(AWR Category: Critical)

Zone 4 (compartment 2b):

To the north of the ASNW, up on the flatter terraces a small area (<1ha) is classified as Long Established Woodland of

<p>Plantation Origin (LEPO). This forms part of cmpt 2b, which was restocked in early 2002 with mixed native broadleaves (oak, ash, birch, rowan, hazel, hawthorn and occasional yew) following clear felling of the spruce crop. NVC classification - W10/W11 (lowland mixed broadleaved woodland). A gently undulating area located on the north of the Glen, atop a steep south facing slope. Some semi-mature trees were left standing, mostly sycamore, as well as beech and ash. Understorey consists of thick brambles, broom and gorse in places. Naturally regenerated sycamore and birch occurs in some areas. The restock site buffers the area of ASNW to the south and provides the opportunity for gradual expansion of native ground flora. (AWR Category: Threatened)</p>
<p>Significance</p>
<p>In a local context, while there are two or three larger isolated pockets of LEPO woodland, Aldouran Glen is one of only five small (<10ha), scattered Ancient Woodland Sites on The Rhins and is the only one shown on the 1750 maps with the other four first shown on the 1860 maps. It is therefore a very important local habitat.t.</p>
<p>Opportunities & Constraints</p>
<p>Opportunities: To remove Rhododendron, reducing the threat of over shading. To free up and give space to native broadleaves to receive more light. To replenish the woodland floor with more deadwood.</p> <p>Constraints: Steep slopes create difficulties for management access, particularly to the head of the glen, which is inaccessible to machinery. Deer presence is high throughout the woodland and surrounding area and browsing pressure is seen to be high.</p>
<p>Factors Causing Change</p>
<p>Ash dieback-which is widespread throughout the UK, infection by other tree diseases e.g. Dutch Elm’s Disease, invasive non-native tree species, invasive Rhododendron ponticum, and occasional wind damage. Climatic changes such as wetter weather, erratic storms and fluctuations in average temperatures will also have an impact on various species and their ability to thrive/regenerate. Deer browsing pressure is causing change within the woodland, limiting the regeneration of new saplings to establish.</p>
<p>Long term Objective (50 years+)</p>
<p>To restore and secure the ancient woodland habitat and enhance existing AW communities by removing threats. Due to the intimate mixture of ash throughout the site, and the impact of ash dieback, non-native tree species (sycamore and beech) will be tolerated, where they do not impact upon Ancient Woodland plant communities. Develop a healthy ground flora with established ancient woodland characteristics throughout the wood. Eradicate invasive non-native Rhododendron and laurel.</p>
<p>Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)</p>
<p>(a) Reduce the presence of R. ponticum from frequent to rare in this plan period. Following the 2024 survey of Rhododendron on site,. 2024-2025 will focus on compartment 2a and 2b. 2025-2027 – 1a, 1b. This will be achieved through drilling holes in the stem and filling them with systemic herbicide. Larger shrubs will then provide deadwood</p>

habitat as they decay in situ. In 2027-2028 a follow up survey will determine areas of regrowth and these will be re-treated similarly. For the plants that cannot be successfully drilled and filled a targeted overspray of foliage will be used.

(b) No other silvicultural intervention in this plan period.

4.2 f2 Connecting People with woods & trees

Description

Although the woodland is fairly isolated, it is used regularly by local residents. The development of Aldouran Wetland Garden (a community-owned set of trails to the east of the glen (aldouran.org)) has led to increased use of the woodland and wetland sites for school visits and locally organised events. There are approximately 2km of existing internal soft paths, with internal views along the glen and to small waterfalls including a bridge over the burn and steps up to the northern leg of the wood and hillfort. The wood is accessed from various directions but the majority of visitors enter from the eastern entrance by the Wetland Garden. The car park at the western entrance has room for 4 cars. The paths are narrow and slippery in places and regular heavy rainfall means they can become very muddy at times.

A bird hide is located to the east of the site, bordering onto Aldouran Wetland Garden, which provides an excellent opportunity to rest and observe the surrounding nature and wildlife. A children's environmental Arts Trail is also to the east of the site. The trail starts at the gate leading into Aldouran Wetland Garden and provides a short circular connecting route through the wetland area and the woodland. The trail has been designed especially for children and families. After a few hundred metres the trail links up with the existing path network. The current level of public use is defined as WT Access Category B (Regular usage: 5-15 people per day).

The Iron Aged Hillfort provides a point of interest for visitors as does the beautiful and extensive ground flora throughout the glen. Admirers of the rich carpets of bluebells and ramsons can be seen enjoying the site in the springtime. Aldouran Glen has a local woodland volunteer warden that along with other regular users of the woodland reports on any changes or issues within the woodland to the Site Manager.

Significance

The woodland path provides an attractive walk in an area where there are few other opportunities. The woodland entrance is roughly 0.5km from the centre of the village of Leswalt. A walk from the village around the woodland and back to Leswalt in a loop is around 3km. Providing public access to woods contributes to the Trust's objective of increasing peoples enjoyment and understanding of woodland.

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities:

Continue working in partnership with Aldouran Wetland Garden and Leswalt Community Association regarding the management of visitor access and experience.

Constraints

The steep sided glen and narrow path makes access difficult.

Parking on site is limited to max 5 vehicles at the western entrance.

Factors Causing Change
Deterioration of steps and wooden railings are exacerbated by the wet humid climate of the glen. The narrowing of paths due to leaf litter and soil erosion. Occasional wind damage resulting in trees over paths Fly tipping along the roadside.
Long term Objective (50 years+)
The site will provide safe, welcoming and well-maintained access to primarily allow local people to enjoy this special ancient woodland.
Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)
(a) To keep the site safe and welcoming. This will be achieved by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keeping paths clear and free from encroaching vegetation (annually) - Ensuring that paths are reasonable well-drained and that boardwalks and steps are maintained (as required) - Update signage at 3 entrance points into the wood - Carrying out regular safety checks on trees and other structures, as per the site risk assessment. (b) To engage with the local community by liaising with Aldouran Wetland Garden and Leswalt Community Association (at MP reviews and as opportunities arise).

4.3 f3 Archaeological Feature

Description
Promontory Fort, known as Kemps Graves, Glenhead of Aldouran. The fort measures approximately 50m NW-SE by 60m NE-SW. Later prehistoric defended settlement dating from the period c. 500BC-AD 400.
Significance
Scheduled Ancient Monument. The arrangement of the ramparts and ditches is unlike that of any of the prehistoric fortifications on the Rhins.
Opportunities & Constraints
Opportunities: To maintain the Scheduled Ancient Monument with a fairly open character Rhododendron is particularly abundant at this area of the woodland and requires consistent and concerted action. Constraints: No heavy machinery should be used in this part of the site to avoid damage to the hill fort
Factors Causing Change
Natural regeneration of trees and rhododendron
Long term Objective (50 years+)

To maintain archaeological feature in line with Historic Scotland guidance, which currently states that regeneration of trees and shrubs should be controlled.

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

Inspect fort every 5 years (last inspection 2024). If greater than 30 stems/ha over monument greater than 50cm tall, then clear regeneration. Monitor for potentially harmful Rhododendron, and other large woody tree growth.

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APPENDIX 1 : COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
1a	6.92	Sycamore	1850	Min-intervention	Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/Rocky ground, Mostly wet ground/exposed site, People issues (+tve & -tve), Very steep slope/cliff/quarry/mine shafts/sink holes etc	Planted Ancient Woodland Site
<p>A dense stand of mature and semi-mature trees, mostly sycamore, with elm, ash, alder, horse chestnut and beech. A small group of mainly Sitka spruce is located at the eastern end of the compartment with occasional other conifers scattered throughout including dawn redwood. Within the sparse shrub layer there is occasional hazel and juvenile ash and sycamore regeneration. There is occasional Rhododendron ponticum scattered throughout. Along the eastern boundary there is a dense stand of laurel. There is occasional tree regeneration; mixed but predominated by sycamore. A burn forms the northern boundary of the compartment, whilst a track and road form the western and southern boundaries, respectively. The ground flora varies, from wood sorrel, greater woodrush, ramsons and dog's mercury- which fan out along the banks of the burn and smaller water courses, to ferns and bluebells in the more open areas. Ferns including; broad buckler fern and scaly male fern are concentrated towards the centre of the compartment. Other species are often found these include; wood anemone, lesser celandine, wood stitchwort, opposite leaved golden saxifrage and woodruff. Fallen and standing dead trees provide deadwood habitat. On the eastern boundary there is a community managed wildlife hide, red squirrel feeding station, a small informal out door teaching area and a children's Environmental Art Trail- which is accessible to all. The wildlife hide has views over the community wetland and up into the wood-a good area for spotting red squirrel, Odonata species, amphibians and birds.</p>						
1b	0.37	Norway spruce	1960	PAWS restoration	Archaeological features, Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/Rocky ground, Mostly wet ground/exposed site, No/poor vehicular access within the site	Planted Ancient Woodland Site
<p>Situated to the northwest of compartment 1, this small patch of drawn up, mature Norway spruce trees lies on flat ground near the burn. A rare understorey of hazel with juvenile sycamore exists, and there is occasional sycamore regeneration. Felled trees, brash and old stumps provide deadwood habitat for; insects, birds; such as wrens and woodpeckers, and sustain abundant and varied mosses (10 species noted), including Eurhynchium praelongum, Thuidium tamariscinum and Isothecium myosuroides. Ground flora consists partly of ancient woodland species such as; wood-sorrel, ramsons, dog's mercury, yellow pimpernel, opposite leaved golden saxifrage, herb Robert and bluebells, as well as opportunist plants such as: nettle and cleaver.</p>						

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
1c	0.2	Oak (sessile)	2002	Wood establishment		Planted Ancient Woodland Site
<p>This flat area, at the head of the glen, is a small area of established native mixed broadleaves, planted in early 2002. Some semi-mature and mature native trees were left standing, mainly at the perimeter of the site. These include; sycamore, sweet chestnut, ash and elm. Apart from the new planting, juvenile sycamore and sweet chestnut make up the understorey and there is also occasional natural regeneration of this species. Ground flora is prolific in this often sunny, open area, consisting mainly of bluebells, red campion, herb Robert and to a lesser degree rushes, grasses, foxgloves, broom and brambles. Dragonflies frequent the area.</p>						
2a	2.04	Beech	1850	Min-intervention	No/poor vehicular access within the site, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site, Very steep slope/cliff/quarry/mine shafts/sink holes etc	Planted Ancient Woodland Site, Scheduled Ancient Monument
<p>Most of this compartment is a steep bank to the north of the burn, rising to a plateau of relatively flat ground. There are mature and semi-mature mixed broadleaves, mainly sycamore, with frequent beech and some elm, oak, sweet chestnut, alder, birch and ash. There are sporadic clumps of younger, natural regenerated, trees; predominately comprised of birch and sycamore. Rhododendron ponticum, of varying size, is scattered in small clumps and singletons throughout. The cover of ground flora varies depending on canopy cover. Dominant species include broad buckler and male ferns, greater woodrush, grasses and bluebells. There is a currently unused badger sett, which spreads north into 2b. A SAM hill fort is located in the centre of the compartment at the top of the slope. Within the boundary of the hillfort is a veteran rowan coppice.</p>						
2b	3.83	Birch (downy/silver)	2002	Wood establishment	Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Planted Ancient Woodland Site
<p>A relatively flat area, to the north of the glen, this restock site was planted in early 2002 with mixed native broadleaves. Some semi-mature trees were left standing, mostly sycamore, as well as beech and ash. Understorey consists of thick brambles, broom and gorse. There is abundant natural regeneration in some places consisting mainly of; sycamore and birch. Rhododendron ponticum, of varying size, is scattered in occasional small clumps and singletons throughout, especially near to the Hill Fort. There is a variety of sporadic ground flora, dominated by: honeysuckle, grasses, brambles and rushes, with rare bluebells, herb Robert, ground ivy and red campion. Over ten mosses were identified, including; Polytrichum commune, P. formosum, and Mnium hornum. Abundant brash and some fallen trees provide deadwood habitat. The south eastern border has some semi-mature and mature trees as well as a drystone dyke. The northern boundary consists of a leggy, semi-mature hedge of a variety of trees and</p>						

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
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shrubs. There is a disused quarry to the northeast of the site. The disused badger sett in 2a extends into the south of this sub-compartment.

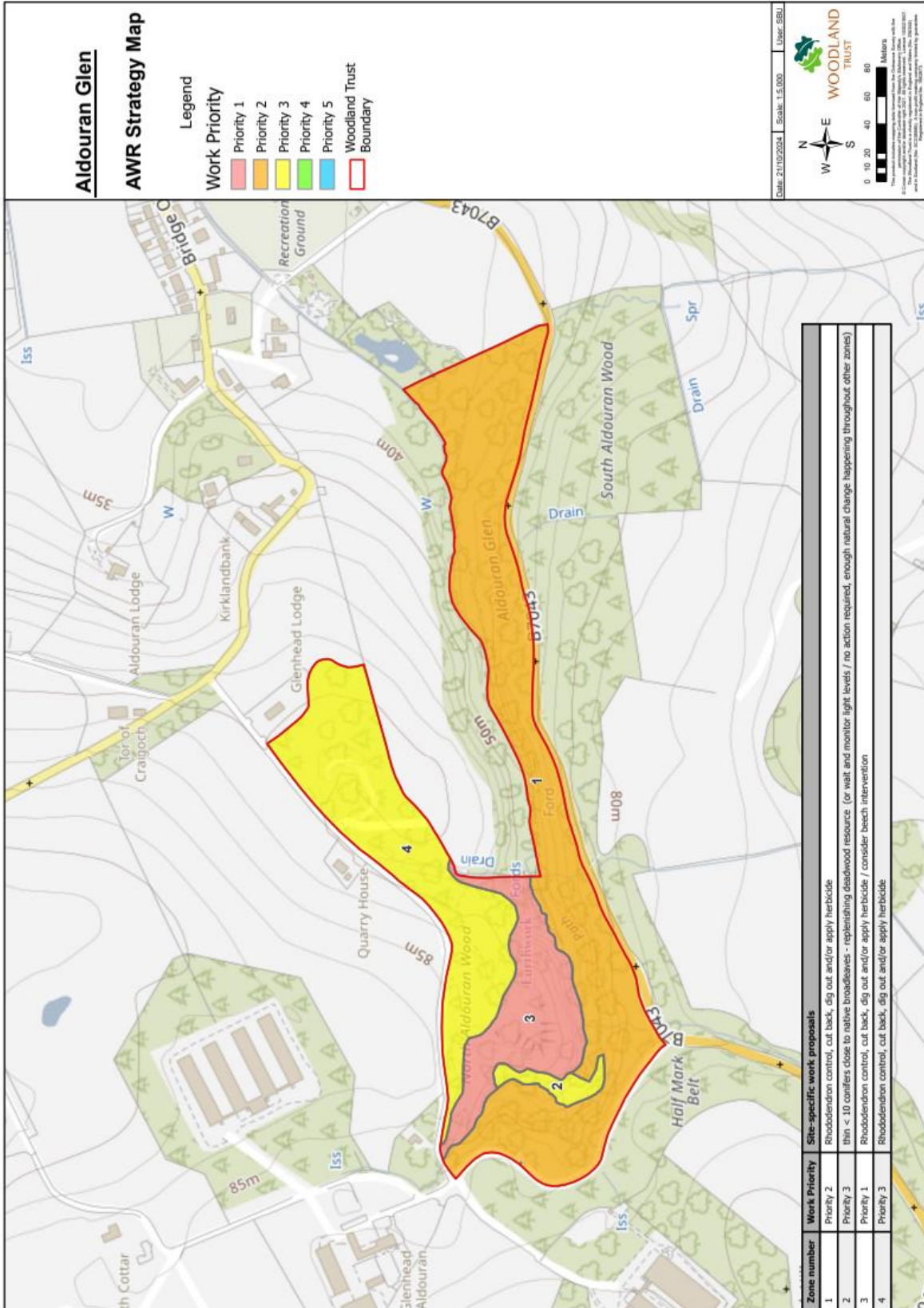
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Appendix 2: Harvesting operations (20 years)

No harvesting operations are planned for this site within the next 20 years (2024-2044)

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Appendix 3: Maps



Aldouran Glen AWR Assessment Map

- Legend
- Woodland Trust Boundary
- Scheduled Monuments
- Critical
- Secure
- Threatened
- Threatened-Declining
- Threatened-Recovering
- Permissive-Footpath
- Other routes with public access
- Watercourses/GB
- Remnant archaeological
- Remnant biodiversity features

Date: 21/10/2024 | Scale: 1:5,000 | User: SBU

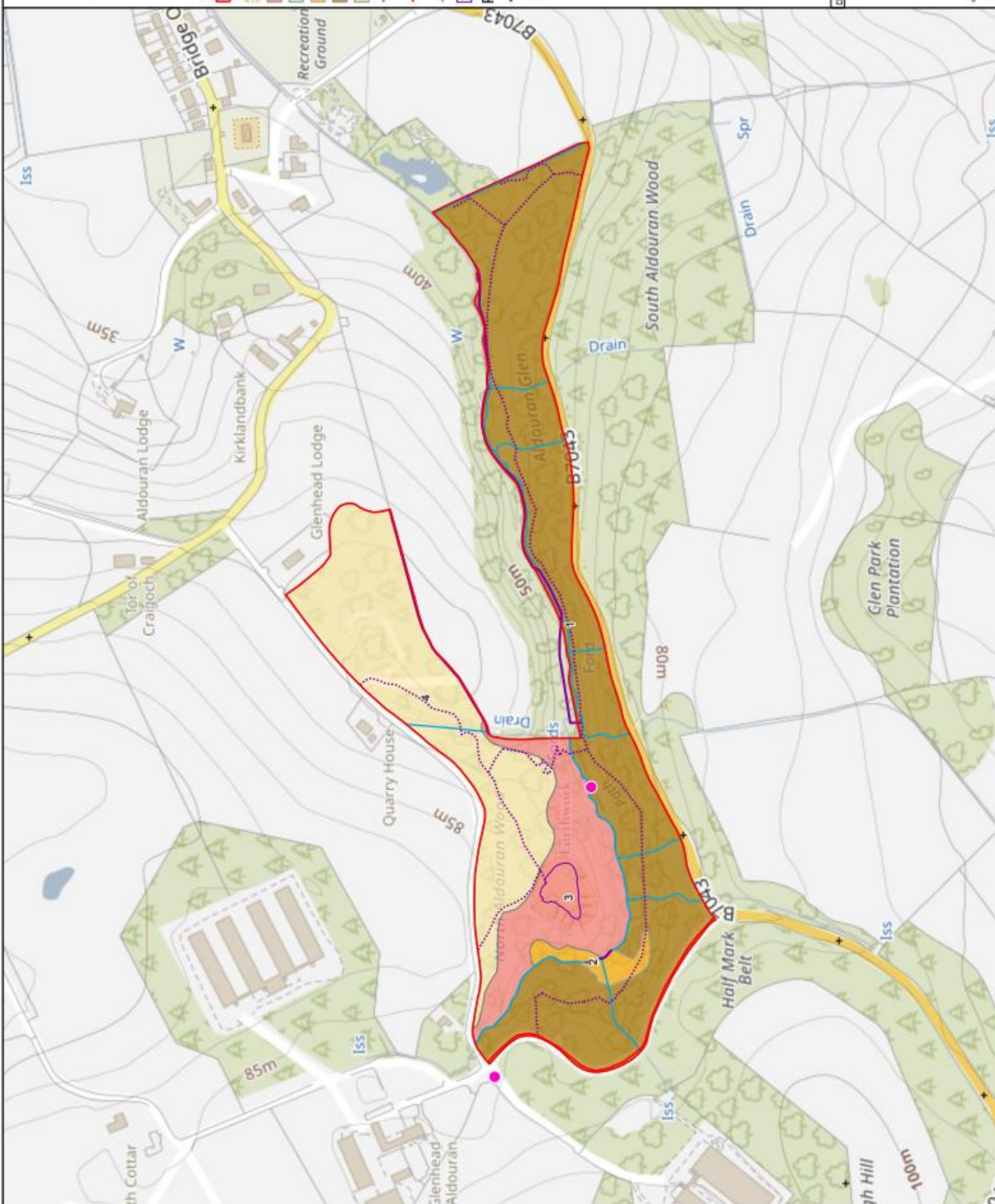


WOODLAND TRUST



0 10 20 40 60 80 Meters

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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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