



## WOODLAND CREATION PLANNING

### BACKGROUND

The National Trust has committed to planting 20 million trees across their land holdings by 2030. Woodhuish Farm has been identified as a suitable site to contribute to the delivery of this objective and will aim to connect and increase the size of existing habitats through tree planting.

The proposed planting site is currently permanent pasture, which has a history of sheep grazing in spring, and succeeds into gorse and scrub at the field edges. Bordered by broadleaf trees to the east and west and sitting entirely within the landscape character type coastal slopes and combes, where broadleaf woodland dominates in places across South Devon, the site presents the perfect opportunity to meet tree planting targets and benefit biodiversity.

### WOODLAND DESIGN

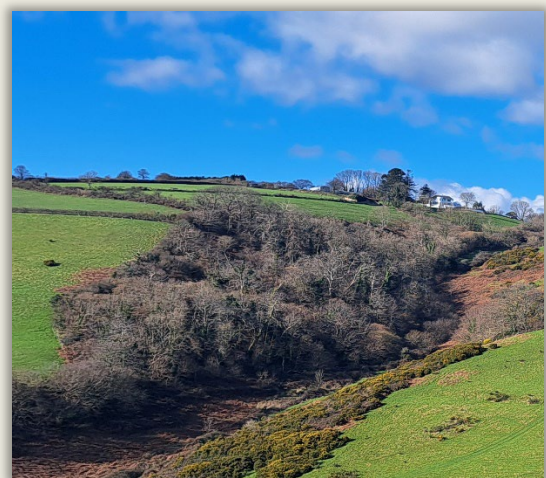
Woodland design has been dictated by species already present in the area, such as bats, waxcap fungi and cirl bunting.

The location has been carefully considered and the woodland designed sympathetically with the aim to allow known cirl buntings to continue to transit and forage through the landscape to habitat that is suitable for nesting.

The wider landscape has a significant amount of suitable habitat and designs have been constructed specifically to keep line of sight and suitable forage and shelter available for cirl bunting and other farmland birds.

Open space has been conserved in places where grassland has the greatest potential for waxcaps, and these areas will be buffered by scattered planting of low-growing scrub and understory tree species to prevent future shading.

The site is known to be used by Greater Horseshoe Bats for commuting, feeding and foraging. The proposed woodland creation is thought to benefit bat species because it will enlarge and link existing woodland, providing more roosting habitat and creating additional foraging habitat.



New permissive paths will be established and maintained as part of this woodland creation proposal. Circular walks will offer opportunities for the public to enjoy green space within easy access of nearby Hillhead and Brixham, whilst opening-up spectacular views towards Man Sands.

# WOODHUISH FARM

## DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

- ❖ The proposed design aims to be sympathetic to existing and potential flora and fauna, as well as the local landscape on a wider scale.
- ❖ Woodland planting will be focussed on areas of deep soil with bracken, optimally suited for trees.
- ❖ Open space will be left at strategic locations to maintain views.
- ❖ Existing gorse and grassland will be retained for bird and plant conservation.
- ❖ Blossoming and fruiting trees will be planted in areas of the former orchard.
- ❖ Areas of low-density planting will utilise irregular spacing to help keep natural looking vistas and facilitate public access.
- ❖ The site is on a steep south-facing slope, and other nearby forests, including ancient woodlands, can be found on similar slopes.
- ❖ Public access will be encouraged from footpaths bordering the site, with the inclusion of a new access point and grassy rides available for walkers to use.

## CONSULTATION & FEEDBACK

Part of new woodland planning is to contact statutory bodies, neighbours and any other local interested parties to establish potential sensitivities, constraints or opportunities that could influence the future design, development and management of the woodlands.

The Forest Context Plans and maps are available for viewing and download on our website: [fwforestry.co.uk/woodhuish](https://fwforestry.co.uk/woodhuish)

F&W Forestry would value your input into this process and welcomes your feedback on these woodlands and the future proposals. A feedback form can be accessed via the QR code:



<https://forms.office.com/r/qCBAkjuPtM>

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