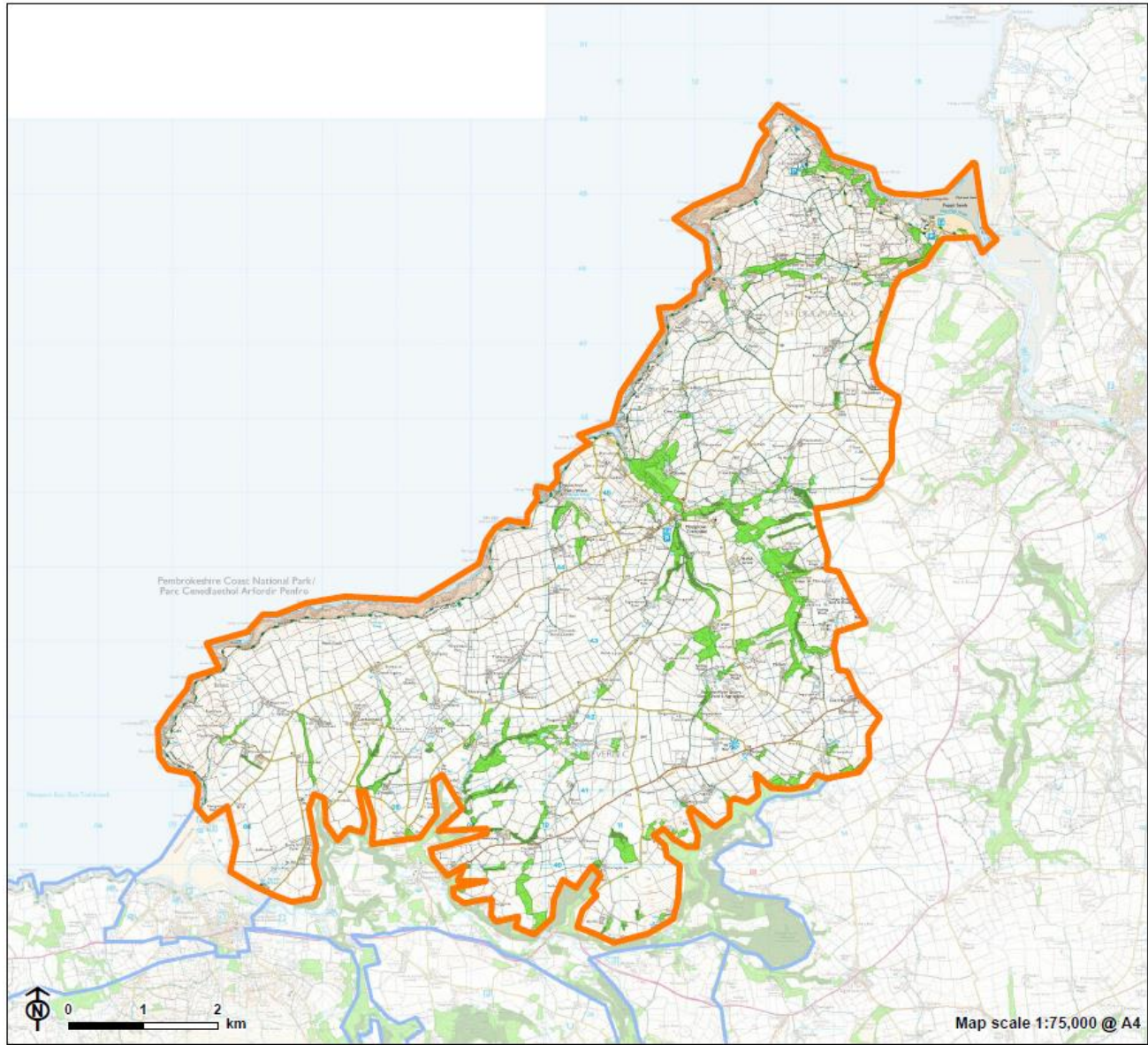


LCA 25: Cemaes Head



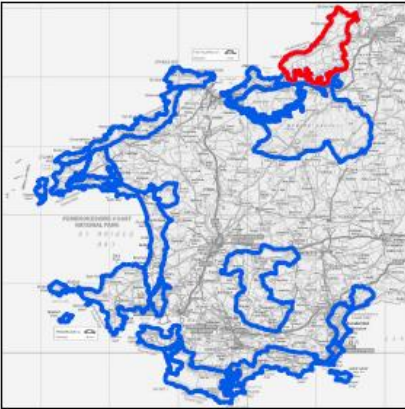
Trees and Woodland Siting and Design Guidance
Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority



LCA 25 location and existing woodland coverage

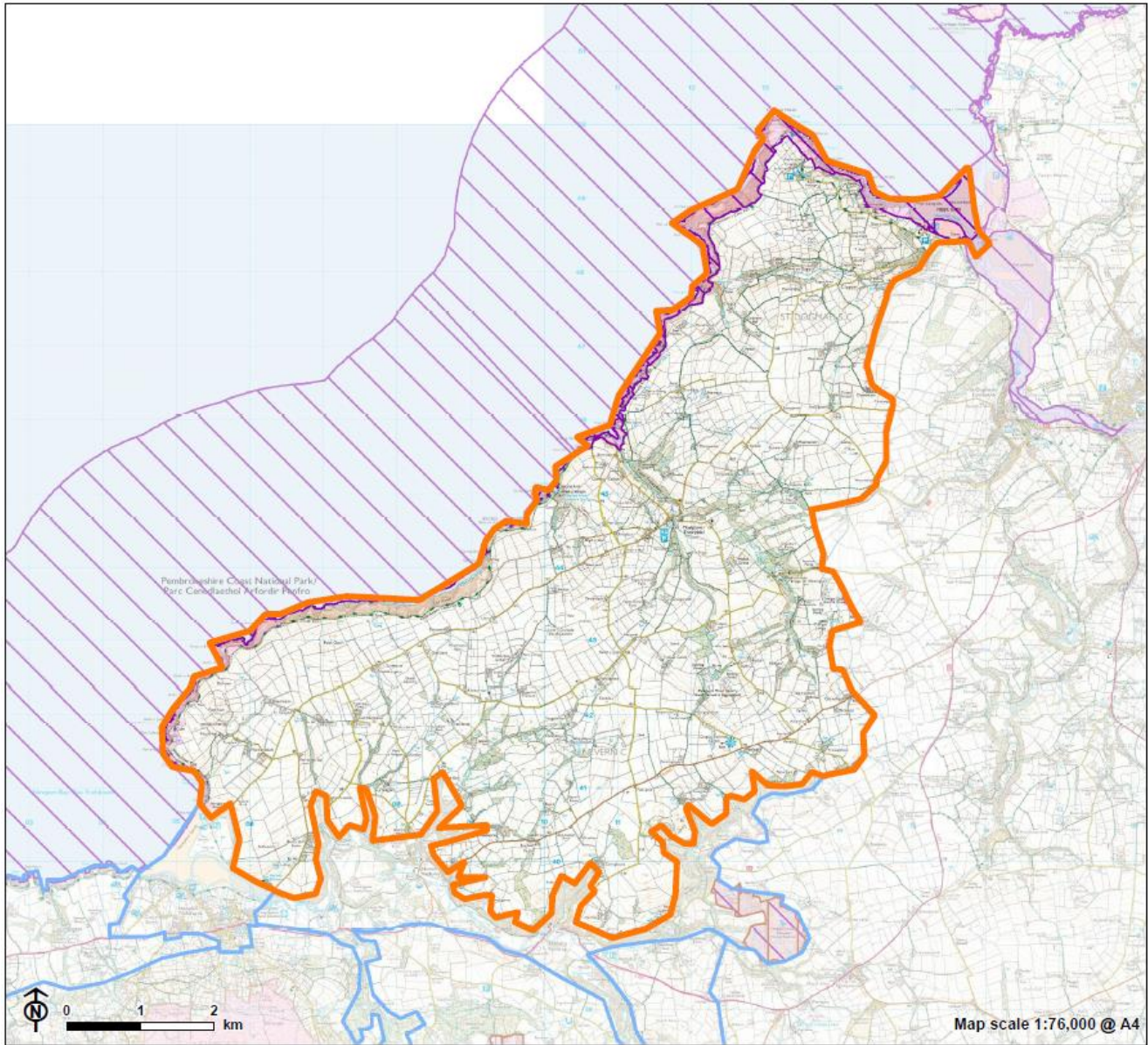
- LCA 25: Cemaes Head
- Neighbouring LCA
- Existing Woodland**
 - Ancient woodland
 - National Forest Inventory woodland*

*The NFI definition of woodland is a minimum area of 0.5 hectares



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CB:AHB EB:Collins_N LUC FIGX_11664_r0_LocationAndWoodland_A4L 09/11/2021
Source: OS, FC, NRW

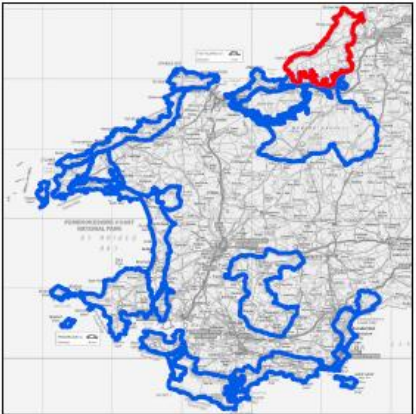


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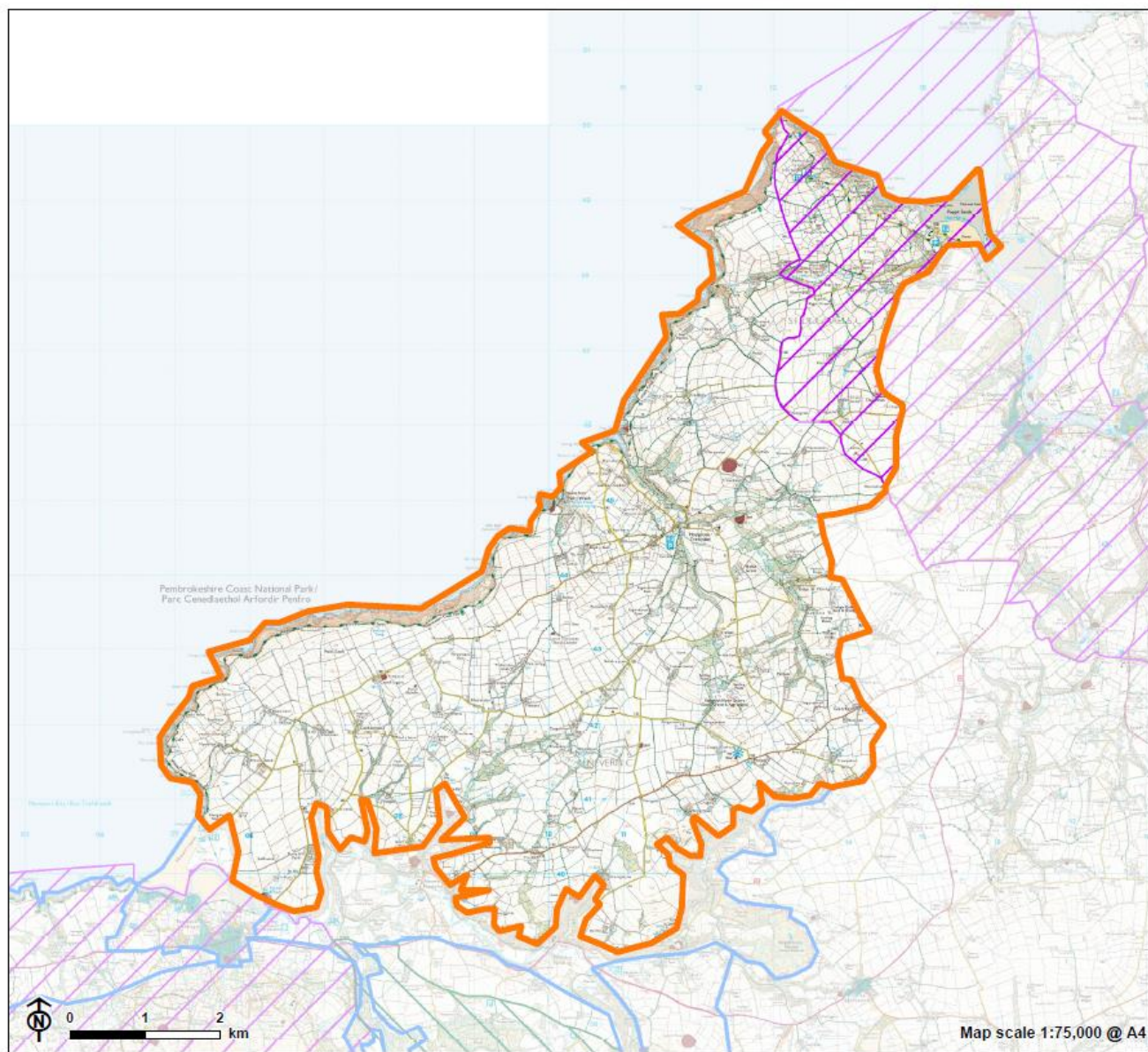
LCA 25 nature conservation designations

- LCA 25: Cemaes Head
- Neighbouring LCA
- National Nature Reserve
- Special Area of Conservation
- Site of Special Scientific Interest



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 Source: OS, NRW



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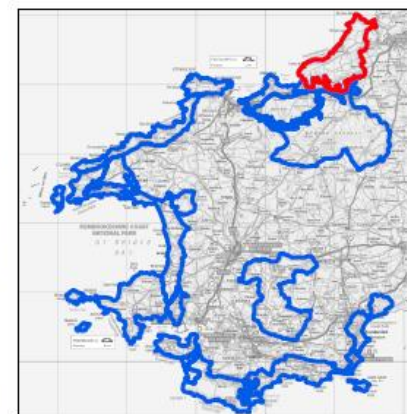
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Source: OS, Cadw

Trees and Woodland Siting and
Design Guidance
Pembrokeshire Coast National
Park Authority



LCA 25 Historic Environment Designations

- LCA 25: Cemaes Head
- Neighbouring LCA
- Outstanding Historic Landscape
- Special Historic Landscape
- Gardens and Kitchen Gardens
- Registered Historic Parks and Gardens
- Scheduled Monument
- Conservation Area



Existing woodland coverage within the LCA



View north-west across pastoral fields towards wooded in Cwm Trewyddel and Ceibwr Bay.

This Landscape Character Area (LCA) is characterised by gently rolling farmland incised by stream valleys. The agricultural landscape is interspersed by areas of unenclosed heathland and grassland along the coast. Dramatic cliffs form the northern boundary of the LCA which stretches along the coast between the Teifi and Nyfer river estuaries.

Woodland comprises 5.6% of the total land cover, the majority of which (81.7%) is broadleaved species (predominantly ash, sycamore and hazel), with some mixed or coniferous planting. Medium scale linear woodland occurs in the most sheltered stream valleys, particularly the wooded valley around Moylegrove and those extending along tributaries of the River Nyfer. This woodland, some of which is of ancient origin, is associated with smaller areas of dense scrub and bracken. Permanent pasture fields are divided by traditional hedgebanks, some of which have been replaced by post and wire fencing. Further inland, fields are interspersed with small woodland blocks (often less than 0.5 hectares), and hedgerows are more overgrown and contain bracken and gorse with mature hedgerow trees.

Designated features and valued attributes within the LCA		
<i>The focus of this Guide is on the sensitivity and opportunities for woodland creation in relation to landscape character. It can only play an advisory role in the weighing of potential benefits of woodland creation against likely impacts on non-woodland habitats and cultural heritage assets, which should be considered in more detail at site level. Please refer to the main report for more detail.</i>		
Natural heritage	SAC, SPA, SSSI, NNR, LNR (including Wildlife Trust/ RSPB reserves) Ancient woodland RIGS.	There are three SAC within the LCA, covering 286.4 ha (5.5% of the LCA). There are three SSSI in the LCA which cover 280.9 ha (5.4% of the LCA). There are six RIGS within the LCA, which cover 28.6ha. Ancient woodland amounts to 47.2 ha (0.9%).
Cultural heritage	National Park Register of Historic Landscapes	The Lower Teifi Valley Landscapes of Special Historic Interest covers 656 ha (12.5% of the LCA).

	Scheduled Monuments, Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings and HER data	LCA 25 Cemaes Head includes 437 HER assets which cover a range of archaeological and historical features, including scheduled and undesignated monuments, listed and non-listed historical buildings and locations of finds. These features date from prehistory up to recent times.
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Landscape sensitivity to new woodland planting					
Key sensitivities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ The dramatic coastal landforms, including high sea cliffs and sandy bays.■ Coastal habitats of national and international importance, including grassland, heathland, cliff top bracken and sea cliffs (designated as the Aberarth - Carreg Wylan SSSI, Newport Cliffs SSSI and Cardigan Bay SAC).■ The irregular pattern of small-medium pastoral fields bordered by traditional hedgebanks which provide a strong texture to the landscape.■ The presence of nationally important prehistoric remains including the burial mounds and tumuli on the high point at Crugiau Cemmaes.■ The cultural importance of the landscape around the estuary mouth, designated as part of the Lower Teifi Valley Registered Landscape of Special Historic Interest.■ The open and exposed character of the landscape particularly along the coast, resulting in extensive views along the coast, across the estuary and out to sea, as well as to the Preseli Hills on the southern skyline.■ The remoteness of the farmed landscape, with its sparse settlement pattern of scattered farmsteads and isolated hamlets. The perceptual qualities of the coastal strip are directly influenced by conditions at sea.				
Overview	<p>The coastal parts of the LCA are highly sensitive to woodland creation of any scale due to the dramatic coastal landforms of cliffs and sandy bays, open windswept character and valued habitats.</p> <p>Farmland inland from the coast is less sensitive to woodland creation, where new small or small-medium scale woodlands could form part of a mosaic of farmland and woodland habitats.</p> <p>The steep sided stream valleys have a low sensitivity to new broadleaved woodland (up to small-medium scale) with moderate sensitivity to carefully sited medium-scale woodland creation and could provide the opportunity to link with more extensive woodlands in the Nyer valley to the south.</p> <p>Landscape sensitivity to all scales of mixed woodland for this LCA is high.</p>				
Landscape Sensitivity Scores					
Small-scale broadleaved woodlands (≤5ha)	Low				
Small-medium scale broadleaved woodlands (>5- 15ha)	Low				
Medium-scale broadleaved woodlands (>15-30ha)			Moderate		
Large-scale broadleaved woodlands (>30ha)					High

Opportunities for future tree and woodland coverage within the LCA

- Extend existing broadleaved woodland and establish new woodlands (up to and including medium scale) in the steep-sided stream valleys to increase woodland connectivity and reinforce their enclosed wooded character. This would also benefit water quality downstream, reduce agricultural run-off and to help prevent soil erosion.
- Small to small-medium scale woodlands offer the opportunity to create a habitat mosaic within the farmed landscape and to increase the connectivity of existing broadleaved woodland and provide links to other valued semi-natural habitat such as coastal grassland and heathland.
- There are opportunities for the creation of wood pasture to integrate more trees into the agricultural landscape.
- There are opportunities to regenerate traditional hedgerows and plant new hedgerow trees to increase habitat connectivity across the farmed landscape and reinforce the landscape pattern.
- Woodland creation could strengthen links to woodlands in adjacent landscapes, particularly the wooded valley of River Nyfer and the Pengelli Forest in LCA 26, to improve habitat connectivity and contribute to nature recovery networks.
- Small-scale woodland could provide the opportunity to screen small-scale tourism developments/infrastructure (such as the car park at Cemaes Head and Poppit Sands) to minimise their visual impact.
- Consider the opportunities for the regeneration and extension of traditional orchards using heritage varieties.
- Any new planting should follow principles of good design as set out in the UK Forestry Standard.
- Choose appropriate native species suited to local conditions (e.g. climate, soil, hydrology, existing vegetation) to achieve a diverse woodland mosaic character.

Strategic guidance for new woodland / tree planting

Landform and scale

- Avoid masking distinctive landform features including the high sea cliffs along the coastline and the wide sandy bays at Poppit Sands and Newport Sands.
- Avoid the loss or damage of significant geological or geomorphological features, particularly the sea cliffs (Newport Cliffs SSSI).
- Design woodland to align along existing contours and undulations of the landscape, such as the minor stream valleys which flow to the coast or the River Nyfer.

Landcover (including semi-natural habitats)

- Avoid adversely affecting existing areas of non-woodland semi-natural habitats, directly or indirectly, and consider new woodland in the context of other opportunities for nature recovery. This includes coastal grassland, heathland and scrub along the coastal strip (designated as the Aberarth - Carreg Wylan SSSI, Newport Cliffs SSSI and Cardigan Bay SAC).

Field pattern

- Restore and reinforce the existing pattern of pastoral fields by conserving and restoring existing hedgerows and hedgerows.
- There is opportunity to recreate field boundaries which have been lost through intensification in the past century. Promote less intensive management of traditional hedgerows.
- Conserve existing mature hedgerow trees and encourage the planting of further (climate-resilient) specimens, to ensure the future presence of these valued landscape features.

Existing tree and woodland character

- Conserve and restore existing semi-natural broadleaved woodlands and trees in the landscape, including field boundaries, to improve connectivity and strengthen the landscape framework.
- Protect, and where appropriate, extend the existing woodland along the minor watercourses which flow to the coast and to the wooded river valley of the Nyfer, to provide habitat networks and ecosystem services including flood prevention and reducing agricultural run-off.
- Promote the re-stocking of existing woodlands with broadleaved species, replacing small coniferous stands.

- Protect areas of ancient woodland, including replanted areas, along the stream valleys near Moylegrove (e.g. Trewyddel Valley and Nant Ceibwr) and along the tributaries of the River Nyfer. Buffer ancient woodland by establishing fringing areas and encourage natural regeneration.
- Encourage a diverse range of native species to build resilience to the impact of pathogens, pests and diseases, e.g. *Phytophthora*, *Chalara* (ash dieback), acute oak decline, bronze birch bore.

Historic character

- Avoid adversely affecting, directly or indirectly, the cultural heritage of the area, particularly the numerous archaeological remains, such as the burial mounds and tumuli at Crugiau Cemmaes. Consider the impact of woodland creation on the setting of historic features.
- The east of the LCA lies within the Teifi Valley Registered Landscape of Special Historic Interest and the cultural importance of the landscape around the estuary mouth, should be carefully considered when designing and siting new woodland.

Visual Character

- Conserve the extensive coastal views and views across the Nyer and Teifi estuaries, particularly from the Wales Coast Path/Pembrokeshire Coast Path. When designing and siting woodland, ensure that it does not obscure these important views which provide a distinct sense of place.

Perceptual and scenic qualities

- Explore potential for new access opportunities linked to new woodland creation.
- Have regard to the cumulative impact of woodland creation and tree planting, ensuring it does not lead to a change of landscape character, particularly in the more open and exposed parts of the LCA along the coast.



The village of Moylegrove nestled within woodland, including that of the Ceibwr Valley.



Patchwork of rectilinear hedgerow bound fields on slopes above the Cwm y Esgyr (to the west of Cippin), with coniferous plantation on the valley slopes.



Woodland on the valley slopes to the south-west of Poppit Sands beach.



View west across wooded stream valley and hedgerow-bound pastoral fields south of Moylegrove.