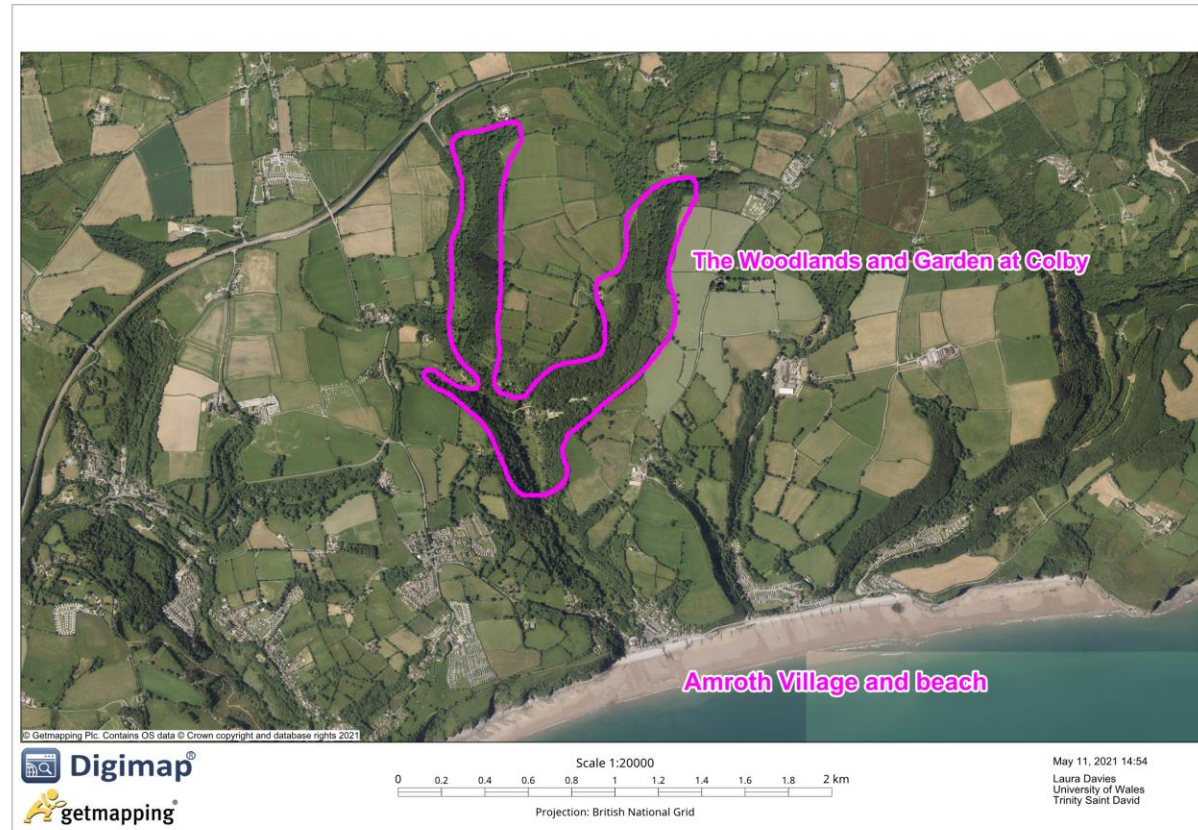


GIS Maps created to support Colby Habitat management plan

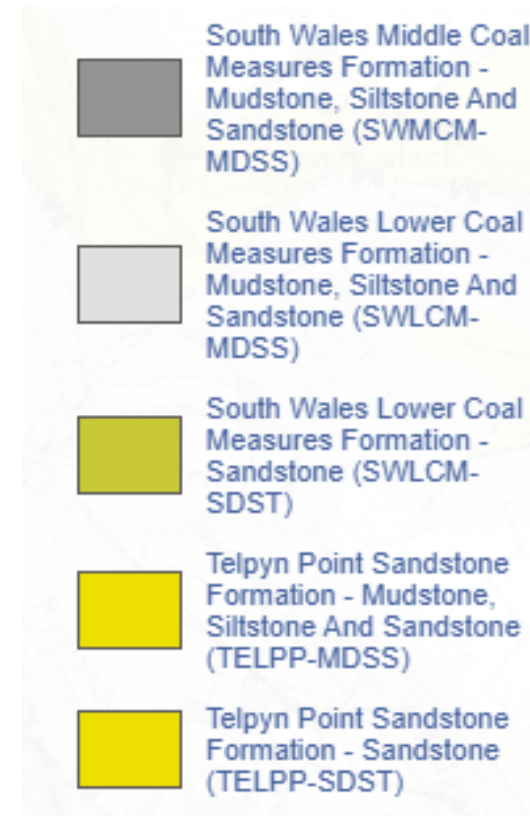
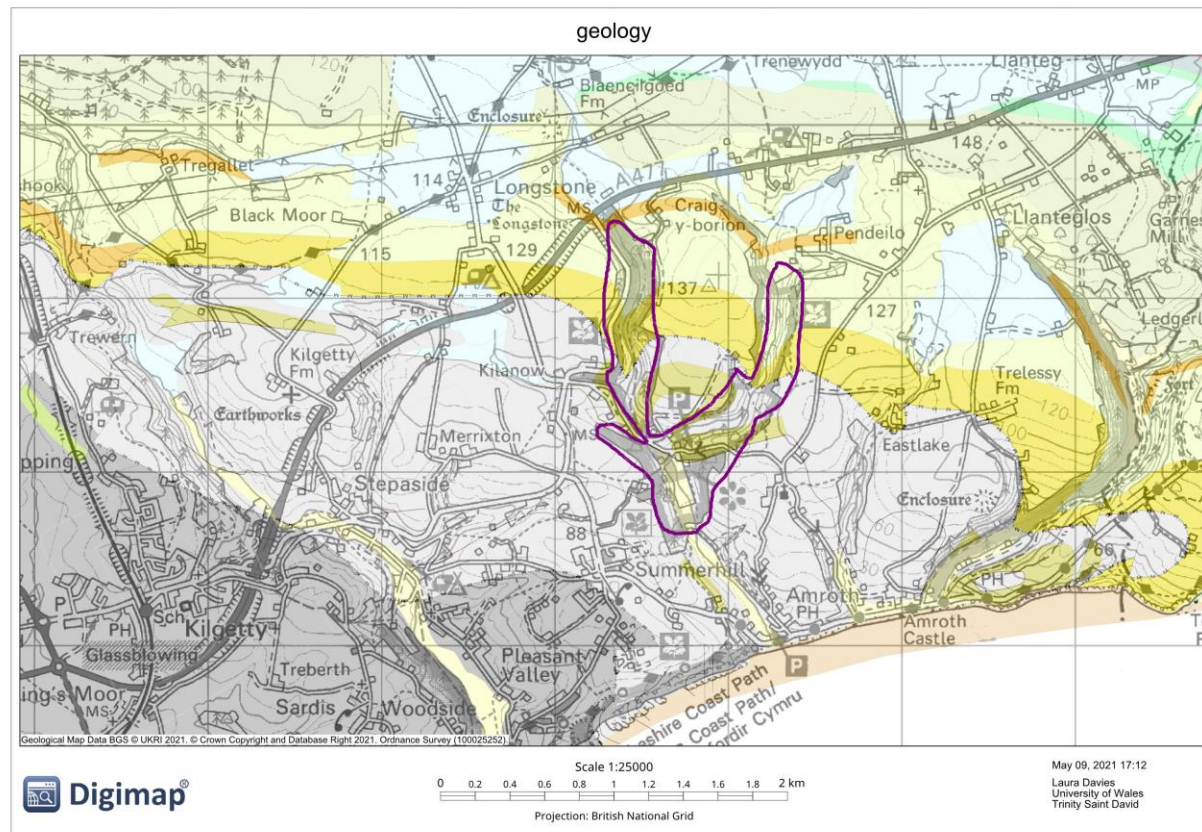
Laura Davies 1905575

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Aerial view of site drawn on Digimap



Site in relation to South Wales coal field using DigiMap with key



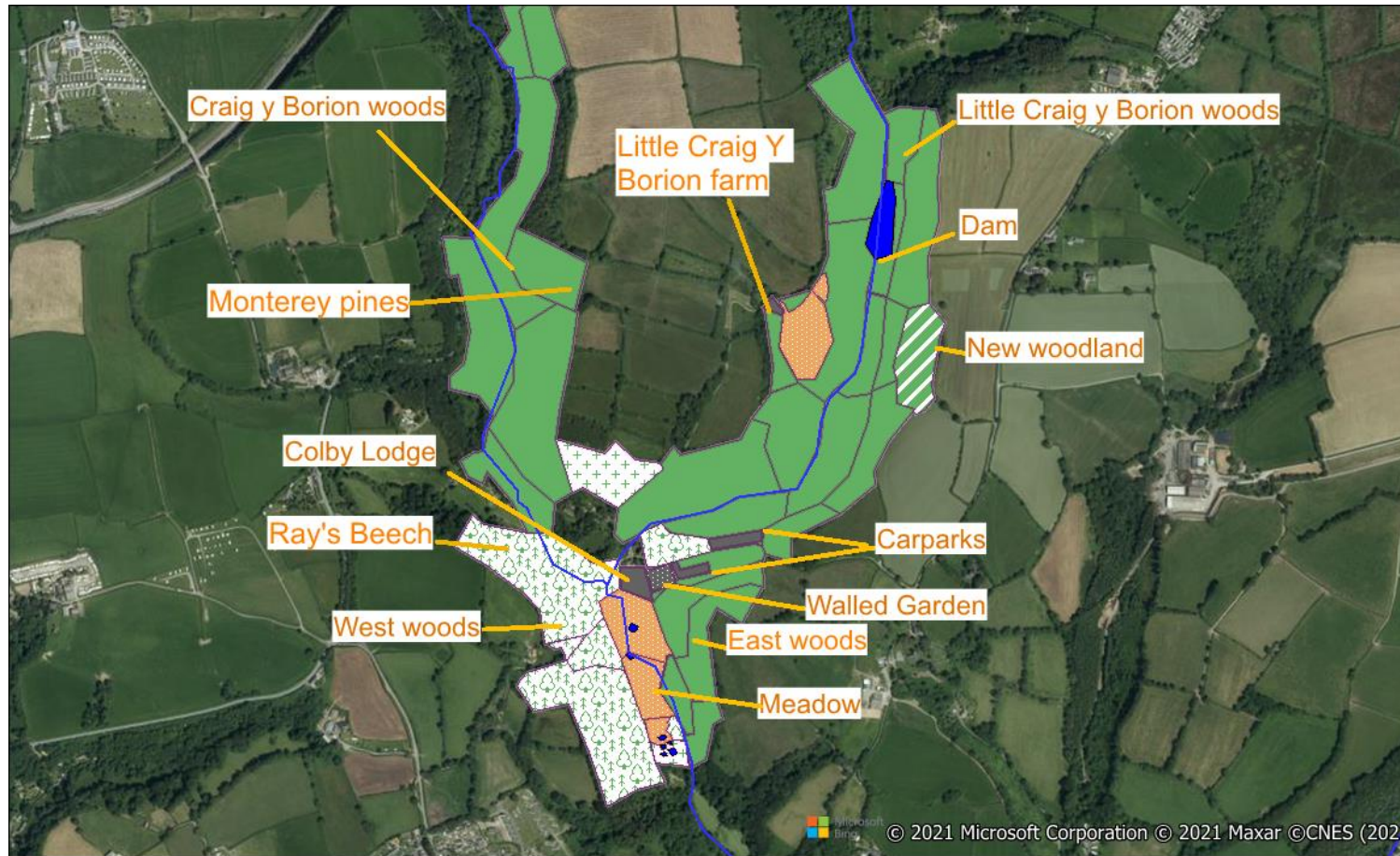
Land and water polygons generated on Mapinfo
(additional polygons created to represent ponds and
reservoir)



Habitat types classified using JNCC Phase 1 habitat survey codes by creating a 'habitattype' condition in tables. Polygons were divided creating new ones where they covered different habitats (bottom section of table)

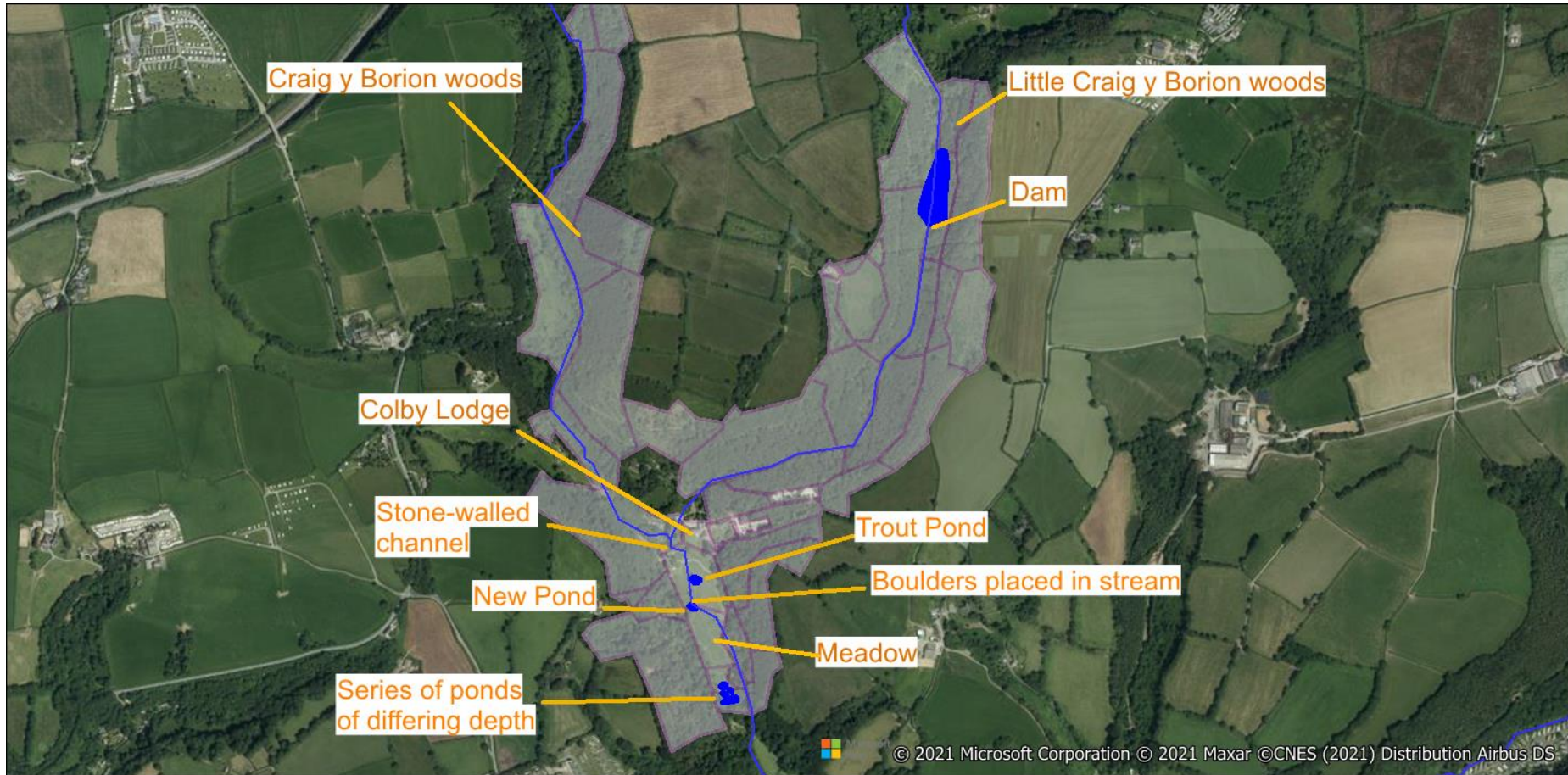
[illegible]

Habitat features labelled and colours assigned to codes within table.



	A1.1.1	Woodland, broad-leaved, semi-natural
	A1.1.2	Woodland, broad-leaved, plantation
	A1.3.2	Woodland, mixed, plantation
	A2.2	Scrub, scattered
	B2.2	Neutral grassland, semi-improved
	G.1	Water feature
	J.5	Other habitat, trees, shrubs, herbs, grass
	J3*6	Built-up areas, buildings, carparks

Cosmetic layer used to label features



Riparian Habitat Management at Colby

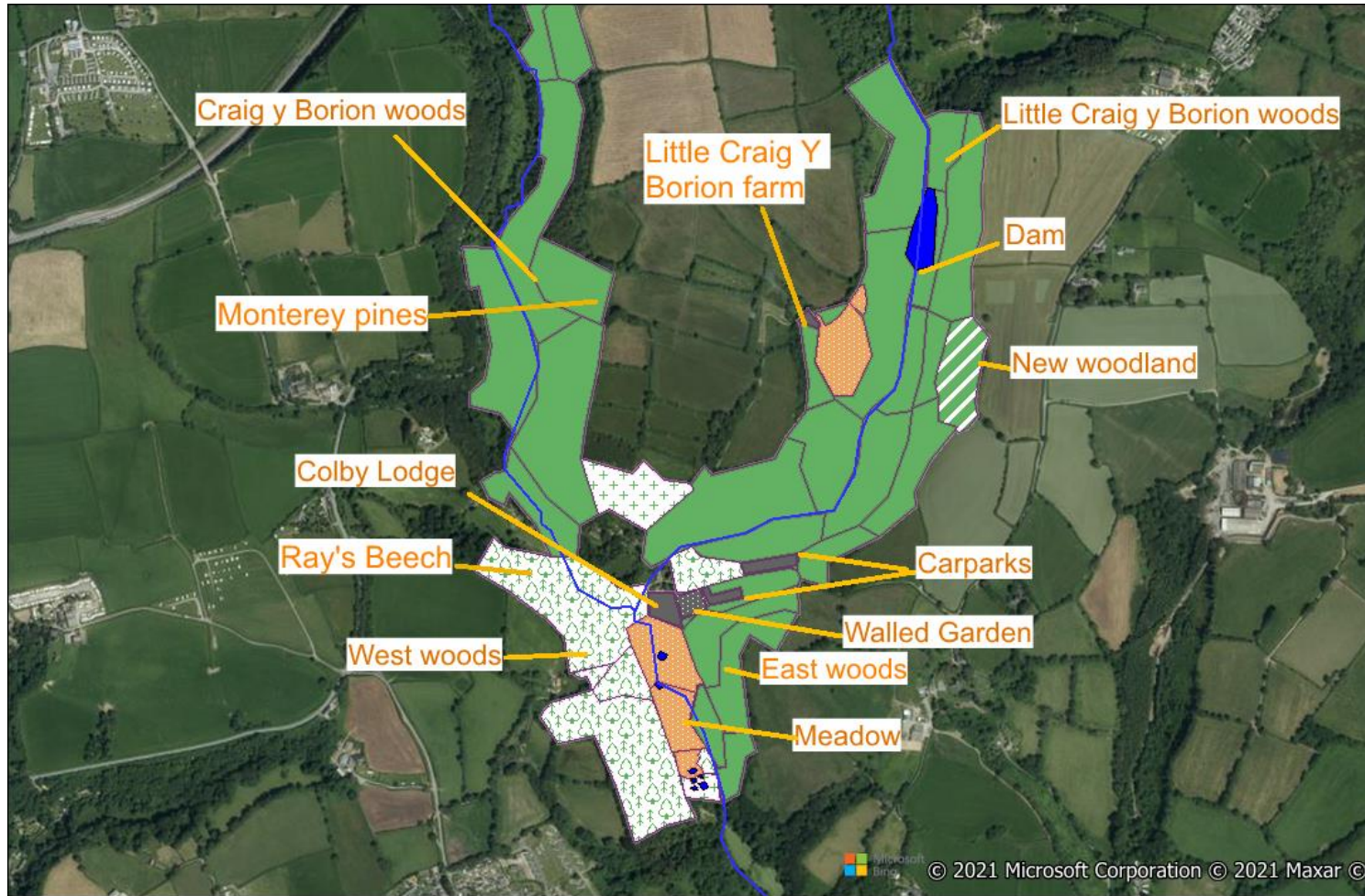


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Location of Colby



Habitat Types and Features



- A1.1.1 Woodland, broad-leaved, semi-natural
- A1.1.2 Woodland, broad-leaved, plantation
- A1.3.2 Woodland, mixed, plantation
- A2.2 Scrub, scattered
- B2.2 Neutral grassland, semi-improved
- G.1 Water feature
- J.5 Other habitat, trees, shrubs, herbs, grass
- J3*6 Built-up areas, buildings, car parks

Semi-natural woodland Concerns

Coniferous
plantation

Rhododendron
ponticum

Uneven age profile
of native trees and
lack of veterans



Management Strategies

Retention of deadwood,
woodland planting on
slopes, digging of scrapes
on steep paths, removal
of Rhododendron



Meadow Issues

Improving
biodiversity
Invasives and
vigorous grasses
Access



Meadows - management strategies



Use of yellow
rattle and hay
cuts



Mown paths
Habitat creation



Water

Features

Concerns

Eutrophication from
field run off

Silting

Invasive plants



Water Features - Management strategies

Fallen trees and
boulders used to slow
and divert flow
Creation of additional
ponds
Removal of invasives



Recommendations

- ▶ Planting birch to replace failures in new woodland
- ▶ Use of green hay to increase biodiversity of grasslands and later hay cut
- ▶ Increase in interpretation to explain 'Untidiness'
- ▶ Formal surveys to measure change
- ▶ More communication/enforcement with neighbouring farmers
- ▶ Reseeding of arable land before re-leasing
- ▶ Creating clearings around Wild Service trees
- ▶ Collection of acorns and planting in clearfell areas with low oak re-gen

SWOT Analysis of Colby Habitat Management

Strengths	Weaknesses
National Trust commitment to habitat conservation and enhancement. Motivated, knowledgeable staff with long term experience of site. Willingness to experiment and try new techniques. Ability to plan for the long term. Good use of soft engineering solutions to flooding.	Lack of consistent surveying/monitoring. Reliance on volunteers for Rhododendron control. Lack of resources and staff means some areas receive minimal attention. Lack of control over adjacent agricultural land. Lack of interpretation and information for visitors.
Opportunities	Threats
Sharing good habitat management practice with landowners and visitors. Increasing onsite biodiversity and reversing species decline and loss locally. Creation of new habitats and reintroducing species. Carbon capture of woodlands and soil mitigating against climate change.	Further loss of funding. Impact of charging change. Loss of key staff and site-specific knowledge. Climate change driving increased flooding, damage and species loss. Change in NT strategy. Change in visitor numbers both increase and decrease impacting on finances or maintenance. Resentment caused and barrier to access to local walkers by change for car-parking. Spread of future plant pathogens.