

# Glen Auldyn

This is a ribbon of mature oak woodland along the middle section of the Glen Auldyn River. The oak is generally even-aged with the exception of recent seedlings, thus the site may well be of planted origin.

The site is well grazed and this disguises the vegetation differences, but W7, W8/9, W10/11 and W17 are all fairly equal in area at the site.

Like much woodland pasture, the boundaries of the site are indistinct, with some areas rapidly expanding into scrub and other areas reducing as windblow creates unfilled gaps in the canopy. Small plantations of conifers occur along and nearby the site. These are associated with game rearing and the abundance of species, such as chickweed, picks out feeding stations for game. Deadwood is rather scarce in this site too, no doubt locally utilized for domestic heating.

Part of the species richness comes at the upper end where the oak woodland is bounded by an upland stream entering the main river, thus accounting for records such as royal fern and bog asphodel.

Beyond this, a willow and birch scrub is gradually spreading upstream, though with grazing pressure confining the advance to marshy, steep or gorse dominated areas.

A little way down-stream of the oak woodland a large goat willow is growing and would have appeared to have sown itself locally into places such as Brookdale Plantation.

## Location:

Glen Auldyn  
(SC 423923).

## Size:

2.54 hectares

## Altitude:

70-100m

## Ownership:

Privately owned, with a public footpath

## Species Count:

96 species of vascular plants

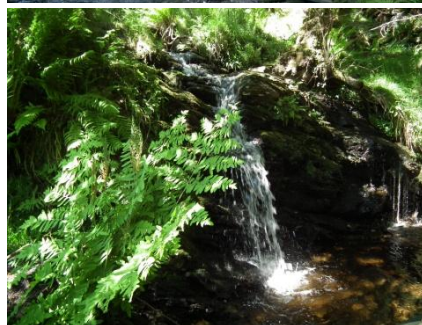
## Gallery:

Clockwise from top left:

- Lower section of site;
- Middle section with plantation on right;
- Natural regeneration into bracken;
- View from above site showing natural regeneration upstream;
- Royal fern by upland stream;
- River Auldyn fringed by mature oaks.

## Key Species

Aspen (*Populus tremula*)  
Hairy Woodrush (*Luzula pilosa*)  
Oak (*Quercus x rosacea*)



# Glen Auldyn: Ecological Map

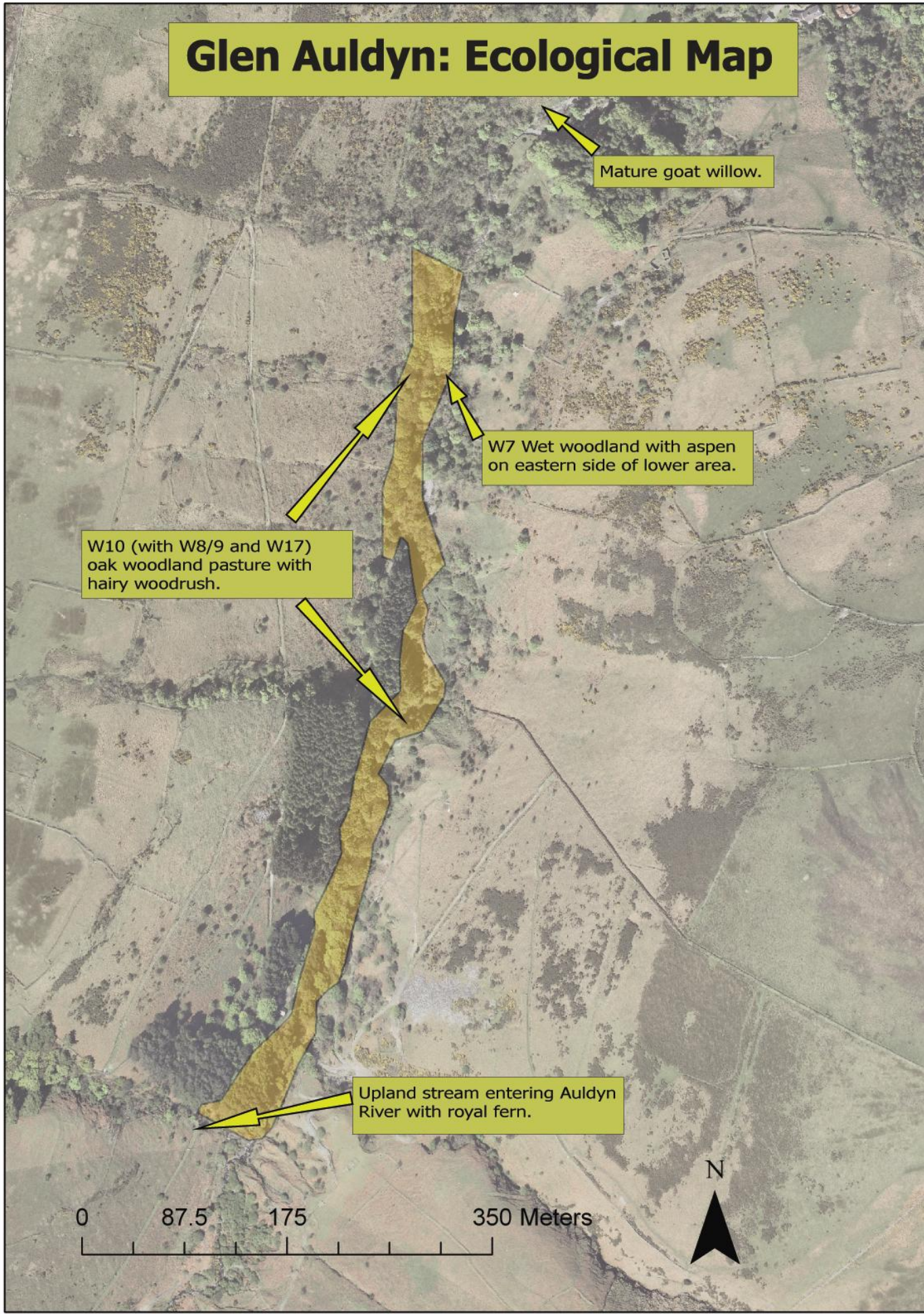
Mature goat willow.

W7 Wet woodland with aspen on eastern side of lower area.

W10 (with W8/9 and W17) oak woodland pasture with hairy woodrush.

Upland stream entering Auldyn River with royal fern.

0 87.5 175 350 Meters

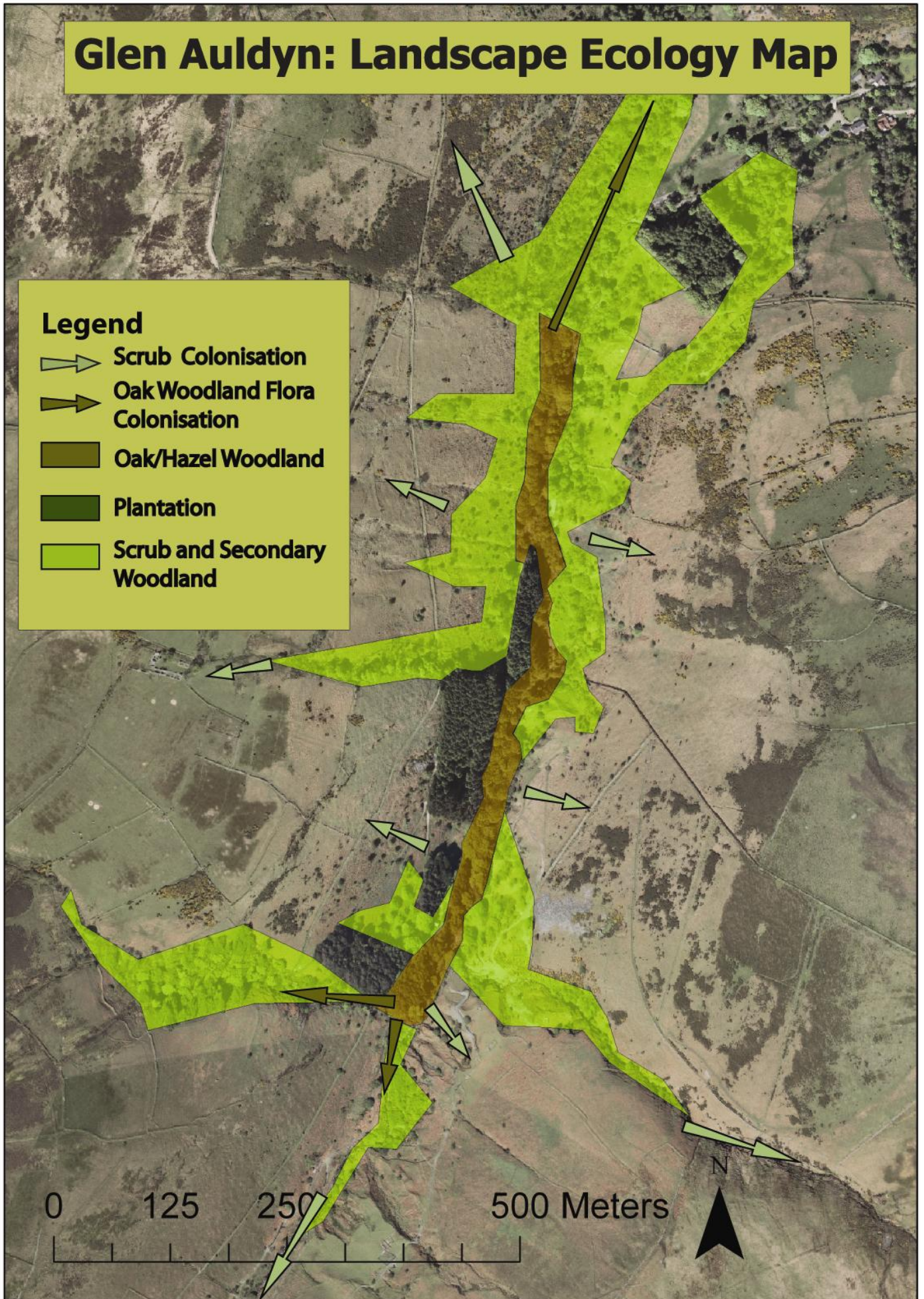


# Glen Auldyn: Landscape Ecology Map

## Legend

- Scrub Colonisation
- Oak Woodland Flora Colonisation
- Oak/Hazel Woodland
- Plantation
- Scrub and Secondary Woodland

0 125 250 500 Meters



# Glen Duff

Unusually the oak and hazel woodland occurs not in the glen but in the woodland flanking the glen. In Glen Duff this flanking woodland merges into a quarry and a transport maintenance depot. Indeed some of the best parts of the site are on the edges of the depot. The woodland is a mix of W8/9 and W10/11 vegetation types.

Away from the edge of the depot the woodland becomes increasingly less semi-natural with more planted or recent secondary woodland.

Glen Duff is notable for its frequency of wild strawberry and dominance of silver birch over much of the quarry area.

**Location:**

(SC879942)

**Size:**

2.57 hectares

**Altitude:**

40-100m

**Ownership:**

Isle of Man Government (Department of Infrastructure)

**Species Count:**

Not surveyed

**Gallery:**

Large mature oak tree in depot

## Key Species

Hairy Woodrush (*Luzula pilosa*)

Hazel (*Corylus avellana*)

Oak (*Quercus x rosacea*)

Sanicle (*Sanicula europaea*)

Wild Strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*)



# Glen Duff: Ecological Map

Veteran oak tree within highways depot.

Quarry with silver birch woodland on rock-faces.

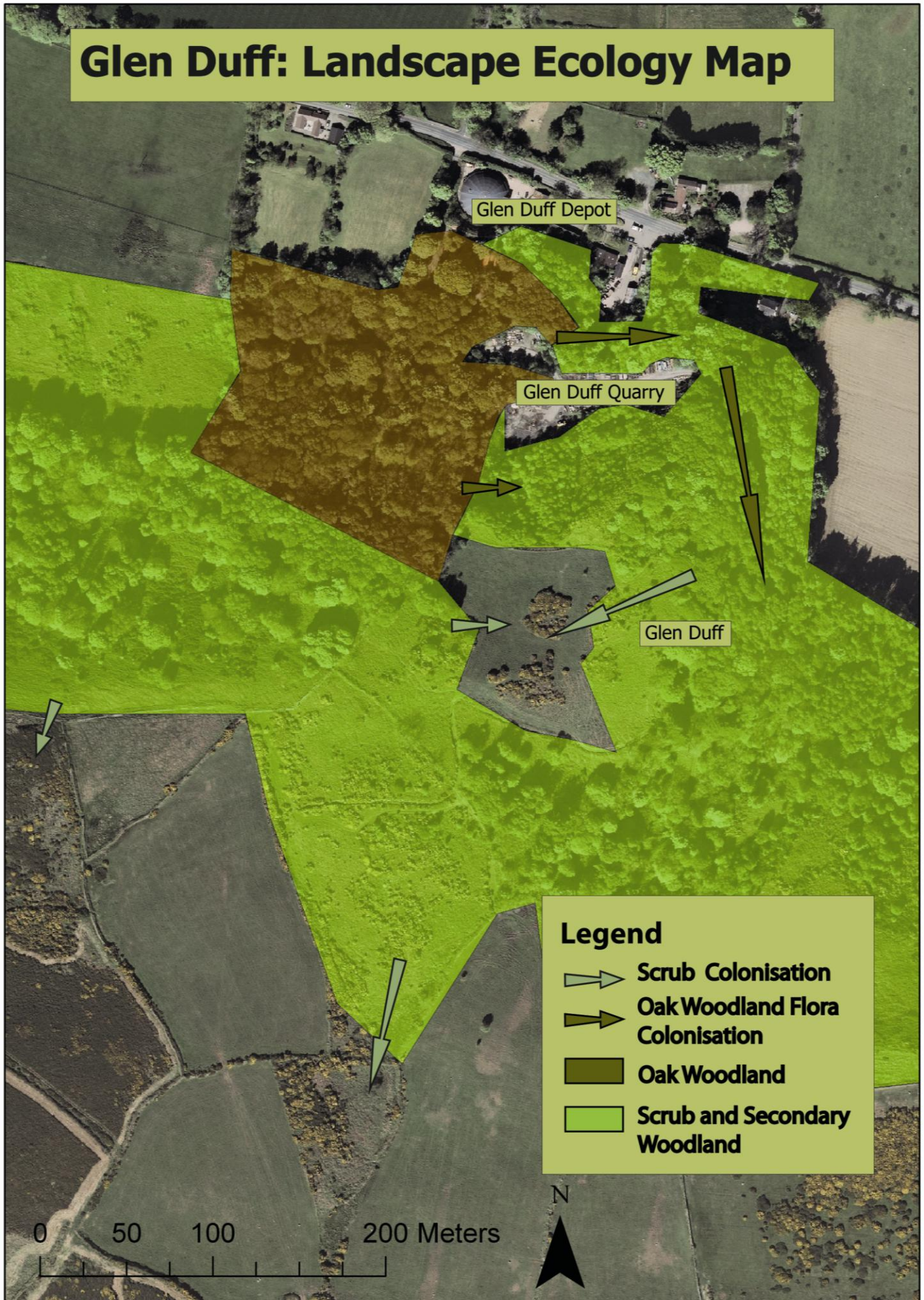
Ancient semi-natural woodland grading into planted and secondary woodland.

Core species rich area with oak, hazel, sanicle, hairy woodrush and wild strawberry.

0 50 100 200 Meters



# Glen Duff: Landscape Ecology Map



# Glen Helen

A large ravine woodland on the rivers Neb and Blaber, part of a much longer riparian woodland that extends nearly the entire length of the River Neb and many of its tributaries. The Glen and its waterfall is an important visitor attraction.

The size of the woodland and the good species count give an unfairly good impression of the importance of the site as an oak/hazel woodland. Note should also be made that of the key species listed, sanicle (found recently but not in this survey) and wild strawberry are a little downstream of the oak/hazel area. Indeed oak and hazel are rather minor components in a site dominated by planted and self-sown beech and sycamore, with semi-natural ash, elm, birch and alder all more common as well. The boundaries within the site between secondary woodland and older relic woodland are impossible to delimit with semi-natural ground flora consistently well developed in a W10/11 community and smaller W8/9 strip along the river.

While perhaps not in the top rank of Manx oak/hazel woodlands, it contains extremely rich W7 alder carr woodlands in the upper Blaber River section and W4 acid carr woodland intruding into flushes along the north slope of the ravine, which bring a rich moss flora to the path edge in these sections. A large grove of oak woodland in a W17 community around the waterfall would appear to be of old coppice origin, though much of the remainder of the oak is probably planted.

As the planted mature beech stands begin to fail in wind-throw events, the replacement natural regeneration would appear to be a more ecologically interesting mixed broadleaf and conifer community. Buried seed banks may potentially return long lost species to the site.

An ecological problem for the site is invading cherry laurel and, to a lesser extent, rhododendron. These are beginning to be controlled and this will be important to continue for the long term security of biodiversity on the site.

## Location:

2 miles north of  
St Johns  
(SC 295843)

## Size:

15 hectares

## Altitude:

80-150m

## Ownership:

Isle of Man  
Government (DEFA)

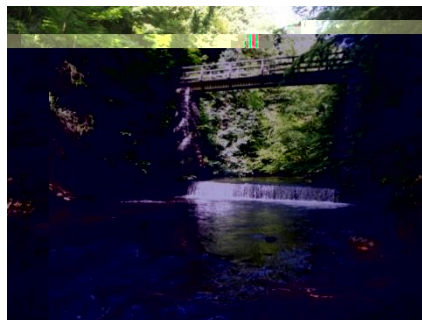
## Species Count:

149 species of vascular plants

## Gallery:

Clockwise from top left:

- a) W10/11 bluebell woodland at top of ravine;
- b) & c) Mature planted beech;
- d) One of several small pockets of W17 bilberry dominated areas;
- e) The stone bridge;
- f) W8/9 flora on the forest ride above the ravine.



## Key Species

Hairy Woodrush (*Luzula pilosa*)

Hazel (*Corylus avellana*)

Oak (*Quercus x rosacea*)

Sanicle (*Sanicula europaea*)\*\*

Smooth-stalked Sedge (*Carex laevigata*)

Wild Strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*)

Woodruff (*Galium odoratum*)

\*\*Not recorded in this survey

# Glen Helen: Ecological Map

Oak coppice area above waterfall.

W4 carr woodland in several sections with downy birch and purple moorgrass.

Sanicle and wild strawberry recorded outside of oak/hazel area.

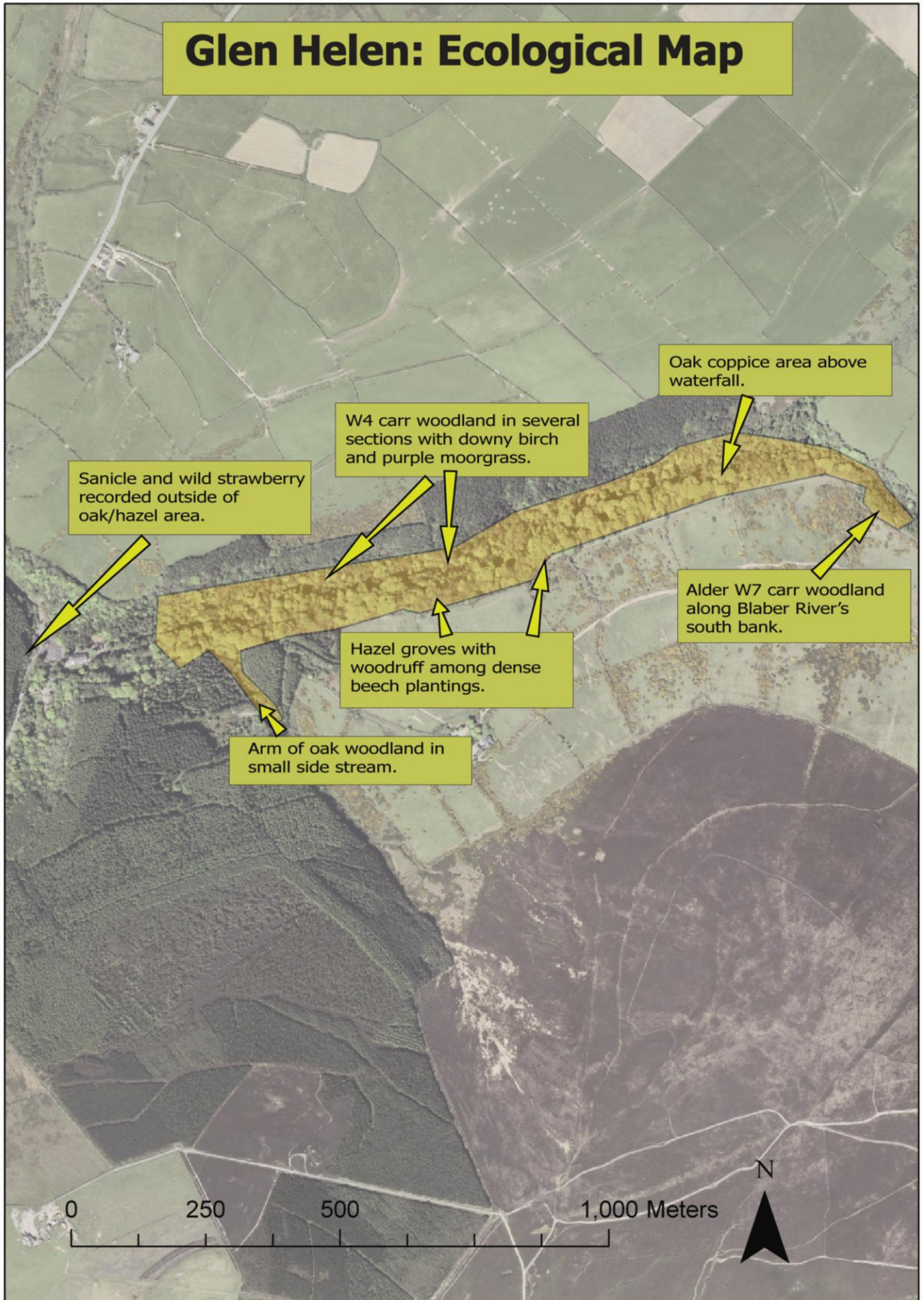
Alder W7 carr woodland along Blaber River's south bank.

Hazel groves with woodruff among dense beech plantings.

Arm of oak woodland in small side stream.

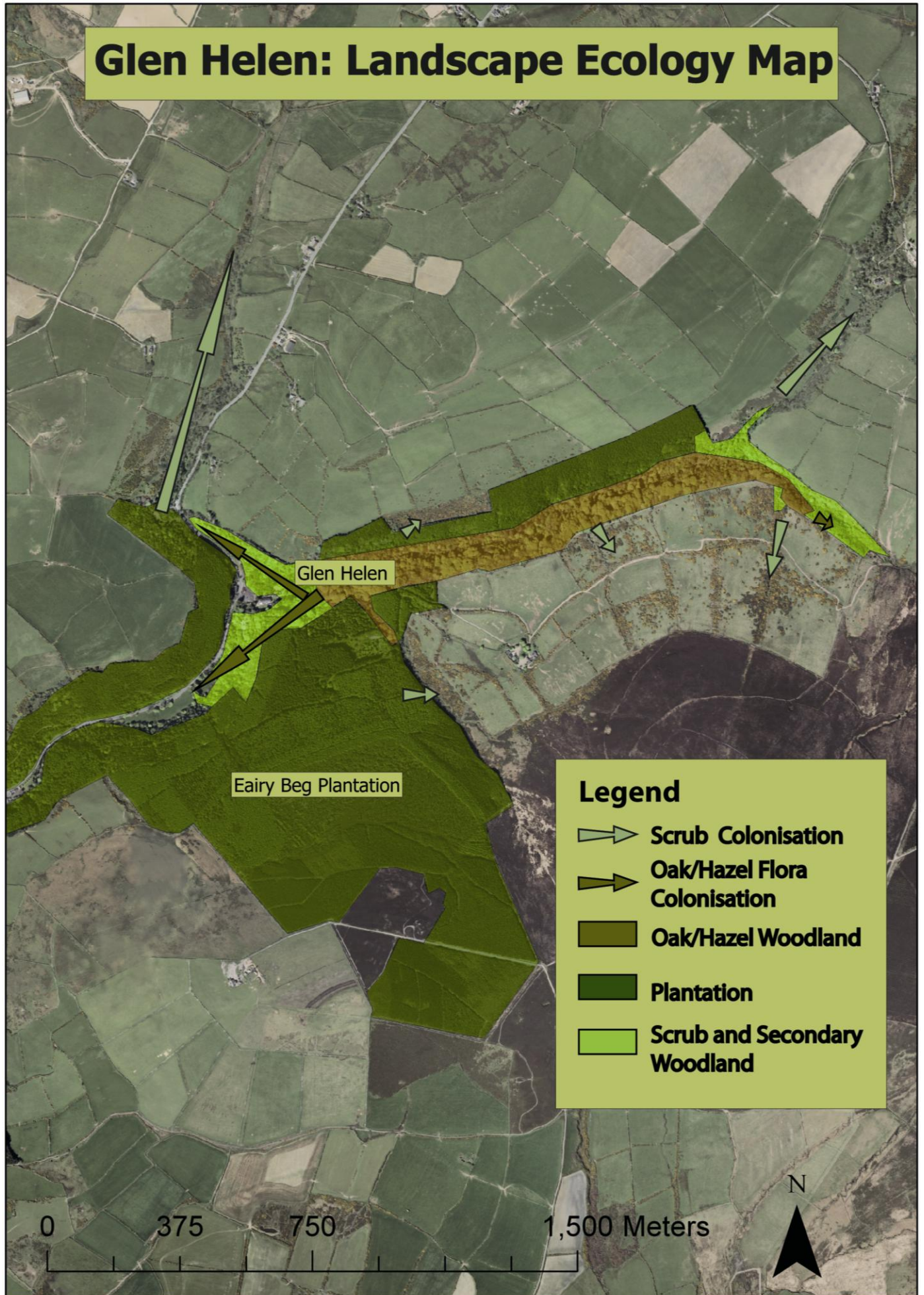
0 250 500 1,000 Meters

N





# Glen Helen: Landscape Ecology Map



# Glen Killey

An oak and sweet chestnut mature coppice woodland with frequent mature elm, sycamore, ash and grove of birch. The site comprises a narrow, steep ravine within a conifer plantation and a flanking broadleaf woodland on the east. Most of the site is on acid soils with W10/11 and W17 vegetation types. While a good proportion of the trees are clearly planted, the site has a good semi-natural character, especially in the glen that is increasing as windthrown trees are replaced by the natural regeneration of natives such as birch and ash.

At the bottom of the Glen, richer soils with lots of introduced exotics, such as winter heliotrope, support a small W8/9 wild garlic dominated area that permeates out of the woodland into the churchyard and surrounding area.

The most species-rich part of the site is at the top where a W7 carr woodland provides the first station for alder west from its curious absence around Ramsey and Glen Auldyn. Beneath the alder trees, heath spotted orchid, tufted hair-grass and many other wet woodland species grow with a significant patch of sphagnum.

The historical records of wood melick by the late Dr Larch Garrad indicate the site was once somewhat more open than it is today and the majority of trees are of coppice origin.

An 1800's record of beech fern exists for the site. Described as 'glen behind Ash Hill, Lezayre', Ash Hill is a house below the Glen that has been renamed.

## Location:

Churchtown, Lezayre  
(SC423940)

## Size:

5.4 hectares

## Altitude:

50-160m

## Ownership:

Isle of Man  
Government (DEFA)

## Species Count:

75 species of vascular plants

## Gallery:

Clockwise from top Left:

- a) Sphagnum and mixed marsh vegetation;
- b) Alder carr;
- c) Fallen oak sprouting fresh growth from trunk;
- d) ravine stream;
- e) Natural regeneration of birch within Glen;
- f) Silver birch grove.

## Key Species

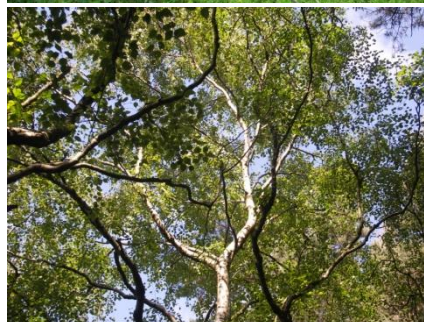
Beech Fern (*Phegopteris connectilis*) \*/\*\*

Hairy Woodrush (*Luzula pilosa*)

Oak (*Quercus x rosacea*)

Wood Melick (*Melica uniflora*) \*/\*\*

\*Schedule 7 Species \*\*Not recorded in this survey



# Glen Killey: Ecological Map

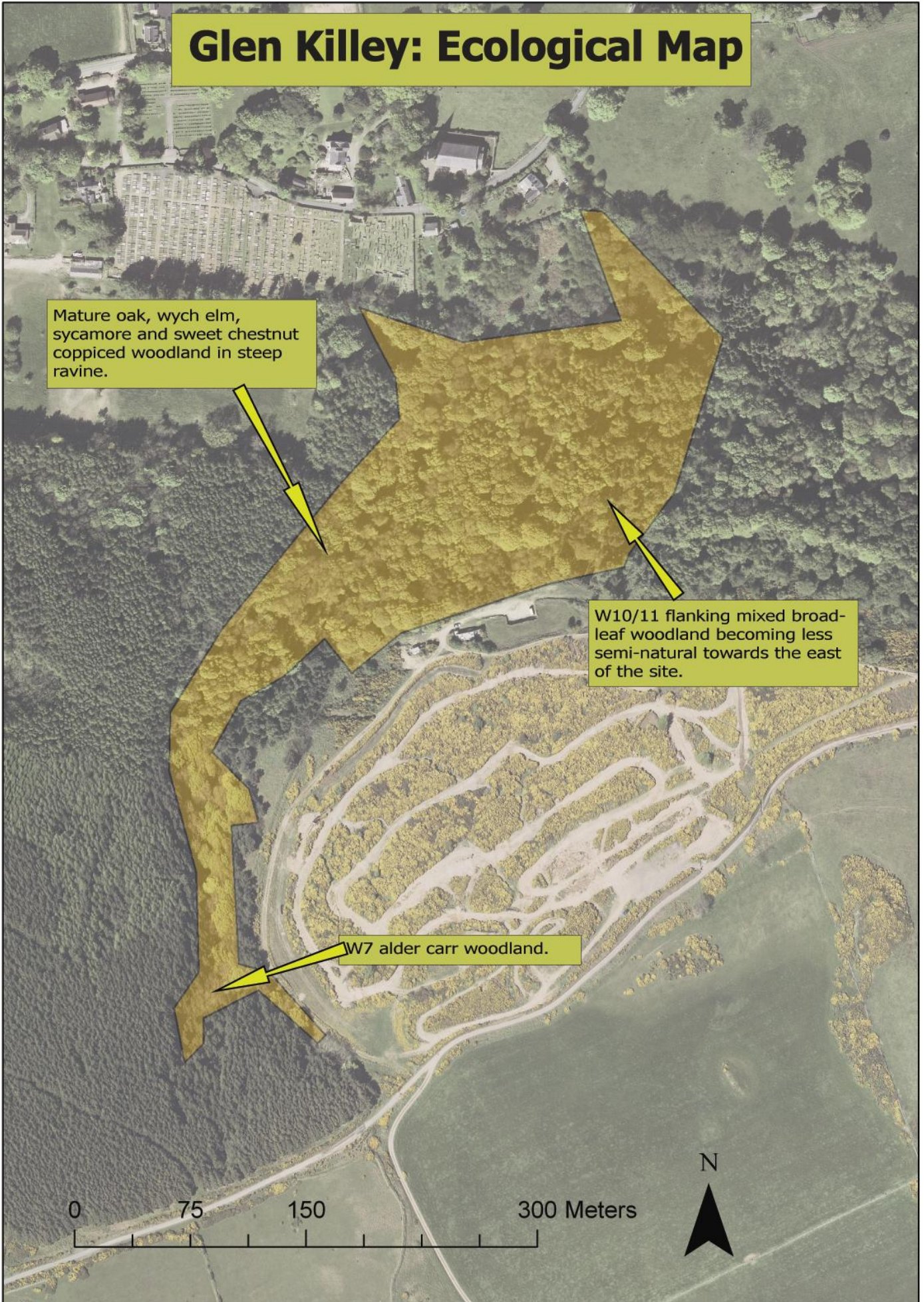
Mature oak, wych elm, sycamore and sweet chestnut coppiced woodland in steep ravine.

W10/11 flanking mixed broad-leaf woodland becoming less semi-natural towards the east of the site.

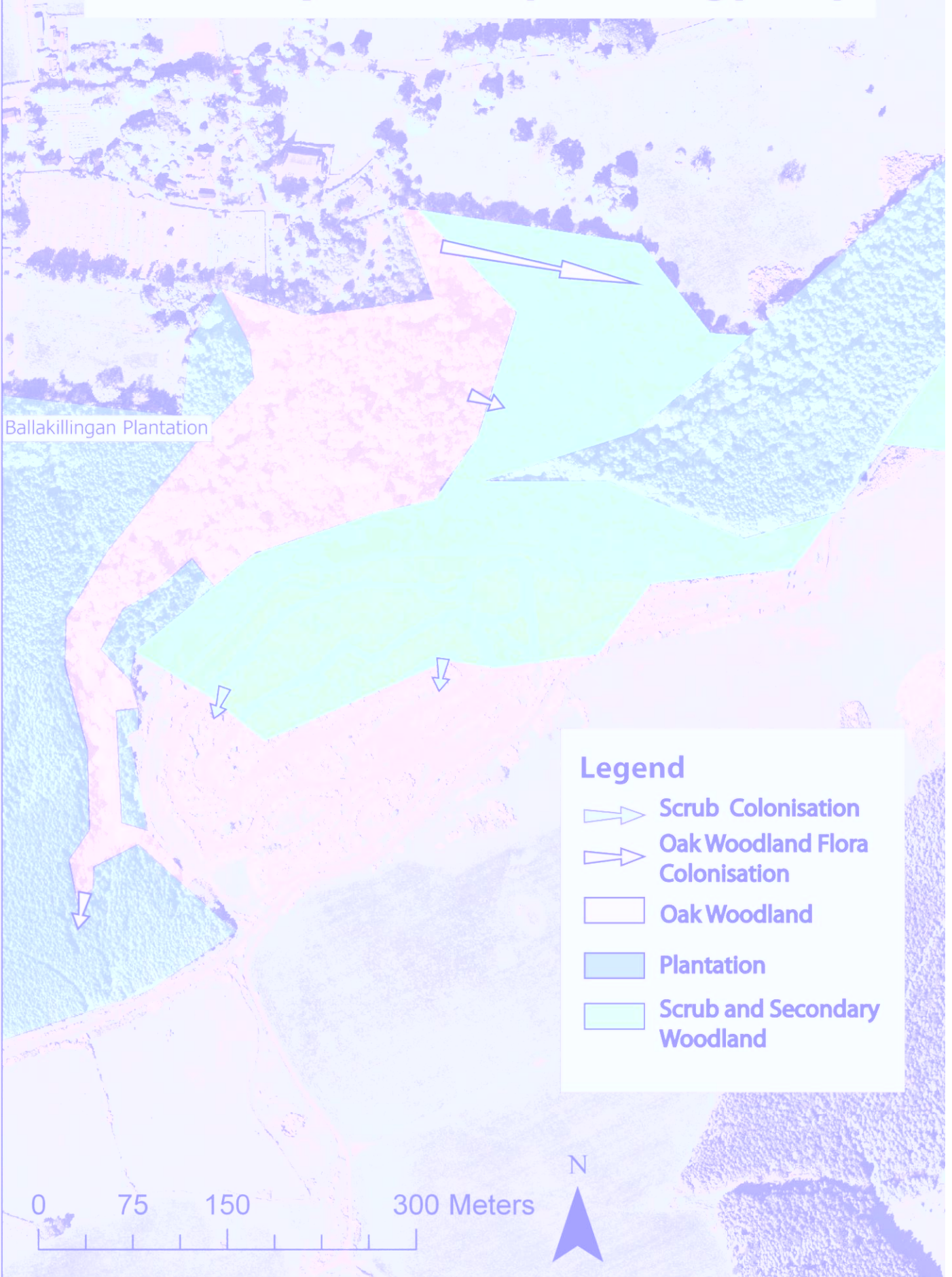
W7 alder carr woodland.

0 75 150 300 Meters

N



# Glen Killey: Landscape Ecology Map



# Glen Kylliey

A small fragment of relic woodland comprising three old (veteran) oak coppice stools and a single hazel bush above an old cliff on the River Kylliey, just before it feeds into the Lagg River.

Downy birch, wych elm, ash and sycamore make up much of the remainder of the canopy in the area, but a large grove of Dutch elm dominates the lower end of the site. The flora is a mix of W8/9, W10/11 and W17.

The site is small and surrounded by conifer plantation, but is relatively species-rich and pristine, thus deserving some modest expansion with planted native oak and hazel at the next plantation crop rotation.

## Location:

Dalby (Kerroodhoo Plantation)  
(SC224768)

## Size:

0.3 hectares

## Altitude:

100m

## Ownership:

Isle of Man Government (DEFA)

## Species Count:

Not surveyed

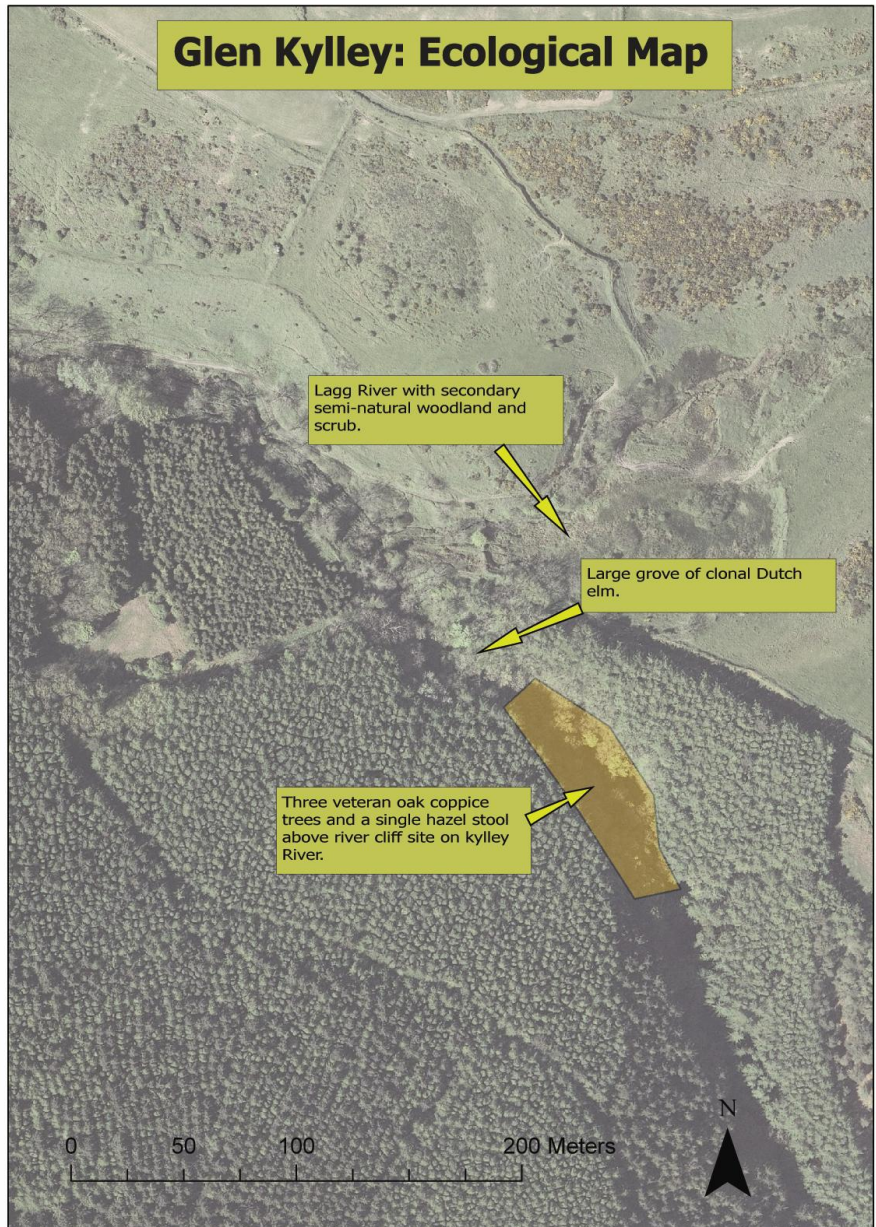
## Key Species

Hairy Woodrush (*Luzula pilosa*)

Hazel (*Corylus avellana*)

Oak (*Quercus x rosacea*)

\*Schedule 7 Species \*\*Not recorded in this survey



# Glen Kyllay: Landscape Ecology Map

