

Ecology Management Plan

**Trevor Basin,
Off Station Road,
Trevor,
Nr Llangollen,
Wrexham
LL20 7TY**

Provided for:

Canal and River Trust,
Building Consultancy Team,
Canal and River Trust,
Ellesmere,
Shropshire

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www.ecologyservice.co.uk

Chipping | Lancashire | PR3 2GH

T 01995 61492 E info@ecologyservice.co.uk

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Appendices

App 1 - Phase 1 Habitat Map

App 2 – Site plan

App 3 - Landscape plan (Issue v18, drawing number 2019 38 32)

App 4 – Planting plan (Issue v6, drawing number 2019 38 119)

App 5 – Wildflower meadow specification

1 Introduction

- 1.1** This is the first Ecology Management Plan for the Canal and River Trust site at Trevor Basin, Nr Llangollen, Wrexham.
- 1.2** This Ecology Management Plan was prepared by Ecology Services UK Ltd on behalf of Canal and River Trust in April 2022.
- 1.3** The Ecology Management Plan relates solely to the habitats as indicated on the landscape plan attached at Appendix 2.
- 1.4** This Ecology Management Plan has been produced to fulfil part of a planning condition, as follows:

No part of the development shall commence until a long-term Ecological Management Plan and Ecological Method Statement have been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the Local Planning Authority.

This information shall demonstrate how existing features of ecological / wildlife interest will be protected, identify any areas of compensation and demonstrate management in the long-term.

The recommendations as approved shall be fully implemented in accordance with timescales to be agreed in writing before any part of the development commences on site.

1.5 Proposed development

The Trevor Basin site landscape plan and planting plan are included in the appendices.

1.6 Scope of the Ecology Management Plan

This Ecology Management Plan is designed, amongst other things, to:

- Identify features of ecological value
- Describe how existing features of ecological / wildlife interest will be protected
- Outline management in the long-term

The Ecology Management Plan is a live document and may therefore be subject to review based on the findings of monitoring of the success of management.

1.7 Plan preparation.

The Ecology Management Plan was written by Pat Waring and Janette Gazzard of Ecology Services UK Limited.

Pat is a Chartered Environmentalist and a full member of the Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology.

Pat has been working as an ecological consultant for over twenty-four years, including over 17 years as Director of Ecology Services UK Limited. This work includes provision of expert advice and guidance to bodies such as Statutory Nature Conservation Organisations, Local Planning Authorities, National Park Authorities and Lancashire Police Authority.

Pat has recognised and extensive experience and knowledge of management plans and management planning relating to a variety of habitats, including the requirements and conditions necessary for habitats on and adjacent to development sites. Pat has written and helped to implement over 20 management plans, on a professional basis.

Janette is a full member of Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Management.

Janette has over eighteen years' experience working in ecology and nature conservation, including roles as a Senior Ecologist for a large multidisciplinary company and as a lead adviser for Natural England throughout the North West of England. She has a range of demonstrable skills relating to management plans and management planning, including habitat surveys, habitat assessments, compliance audits and monitoring of ecology features.

The capabilities of Pat and Janette as regards habitat and species management, monitoring, compliance audits, contractor management and professional reporting are evidenced in the following ways:

- Published documents, including management plans, guidance documents and reports.
- Provision of nationally recognised, professional training courses.

1.8 Site ownership

The area subject to the Ecology Management Plan lies wholly within the ownership of Canal and River Trust.

1.9 Responsibility for undertaking the work

Canal and River Trust will be responsible for management and maintenance of the Trevor Basin site from 2022 throughout development and after completion of the development.

1.10 Responsibility for funding

Canal and River Trust will be responsible for funding of all works associated with the Ecology Management Plan.

1.11 Advisory note

The information in this Ecology Management Plan represents the professional opinion of Ecology Services UK Ltd and does not constitute professional legal advice.

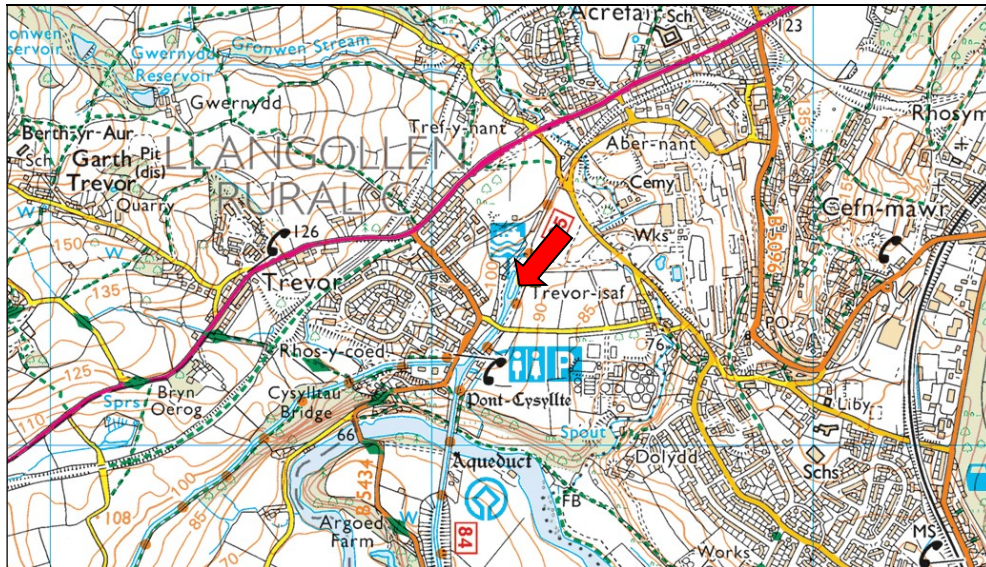
Ecology Services UK Ltd states that the information, opinion and advice which have been prepared are true, and have been prepared and provided in accordance with the CIEEM Code of Professional Conduct. Ecology Services UK Ltd confirms that the opinions expressed are our true and professional bona fide opinions.

This document has been produced in accordance with British Standard 42020:2013 “Biodiversity, Code of practice for planning and development”.

2 Site description and features of ecological value

2.1 The Ecology Management Plan site

The Ecology Management Plan site location (SJ 2722 4242) and context are shown below.



Map 1 - 1:25 000 map of site and context - location shown by red arrow to centre of map



Image 1 – View of western section including open water, grassland and woodland habitats (March 2022).

2.2 Existing features of ecological value

The information in this Ecology Management Plan has been drawn from the following sources:

1. Amenity Tree Care Ltd (2021) *Extended Phase One Habitat Survey (Preliminary Ecological Appraisal)*. Canal and River Trust
2. Landscape plan (Issue v18, drawing number 2019 38 32)
3. Planting plan (Issue v6, drawing number 2019 38 119)
4. Site survey by Ecology Services UK Ltd (March 2022)

4.2.1 Habitats

Woodland

Open and closed canopy broadleaved woodland at Trevor Basin has a canopy comprising ash, sycamore, silver birch and common alder. The woodland understorey is not continuous and includes hawthorn, ash saplings, sycamore, holly and hazel. There is a field layer throughout much of the woodland dominated by bramble and bracken, with additional species of nettle, teasel and raspberry. The ground flora, which indicates a long-established habitat, includes dog's mercury, wild garlic, ivy, herb Robert, primrose and red campion.



Image 2 – Wild garlic – an indicator of old woodland (March 2022)

Scattered trees

Individual broadleaved trees occur occasionally across the Trevor Basin site; these include ash, goat willow, hawthorn, sycamore and silver birch.



Image 3 – Stand of ash trees (March 2022)

Tall ruderal

A community of tall, robust plant species occurs in various places across the Trevor Basin site. The dominant species are teasel, nettle, rosebay willowherb and raspberry.



Image 4 – Female mandarin duck with tall herb (dominated by teasel) in background (March 2022)

Grassland

Grassland areas form a distinctive part of the Trevor Basin site. Dominant species include Yorkshire fog, creeping buttercup and red fescue and the habitat is likely derived from former formal gardens and managed grassland. Additional species include white clover, perennial rye grass, creeping bent, dandelion, broad leaved dock, nettle, tansy, field thistle and field woodrush.



Image 5 – Grassland area to south end of Trevor Basin (March 2022)

Open water

The canal is the only example of an open water habitat at Trevor Basin.



Image 6 – Canal habitat at Trevor Basin (March 2022)

Disturbed ground

Areas of bare ground, including paths and former parking areas are distinctive features at Trevor Basin.



Image 7 – Entrance track to Trevor Basin looking north. Unvegetated and partially vegetated ground are both clearly visible. (March 2022)

4.2.2 Species

There are no records of protected species presence at Trevor Basin to date. The site has potential to support otters, roosting bats and nesting birds.

Non-native invasive plant species occur throughout the Trevor Basin site, including garden daffodil, Spanish bluebell, lilac, spiraea, Stag's horn sumac, buddleja, cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster horizontalis*) and pampas grass.

Cotoneaster horizontalis is listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Section 14(2) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981(as amended) prohibits 'planting' or 'causing to grow' in the wild of any plant listed in Part 2 of Schedule 9.



Image 8 – Garden daffodil established in former garden area. (March 2022)