

ARCHERFIELD AND YELLOWCRAIG

Management Plan 2017-2021



Management Plan prepared by East Lothian Council, Services for Communities in consultation with the Archerfield and Yellowcraig Advisory Group and with the approval of Scottish Natural Heritage.

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INTRODUCTION

This Management Plan sets out the management objectives and policies for this important coastal area in East Lothian. The Management Area to which this Management Plan pertains is defined in Figure 1, annexed.

The document defines roles and responsibilities for agreed actions. It is also an integral part of the Management Agreements.

East Lothian Council (ELC), Caledonian Heritable Ltd (CHL), Archerfield Estates Ltd (AE) (formerly known as Hamilton and Kinneil (1987)) and Renaissance Golf Club are involved in managing this area. The local authority has managed Yellowcraig for many years, while adjoining Archerfield was formerly a private estate. The two sites complement each other and this plan includes objectives and policies pertaining to both sites

The five parts of the Plan are:-

- I DESCRIPTION
- II EVALUATION
- III THE MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES - to specific targets or goals.
- IIII POLICIES - provide a directional framework for the fulfilment of the MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
- V DETAILED PRESCRIPTIONS are generated by MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES and are action orientated.

I DESCRIPTION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This plan has been drawn up in association with a Management Agreement in order to manage Yellowcraig and Archerfield.

Yellowcraig, owned and managed by ELC, is a recreational site with a history of public use and sensitive management.

“Archerfield” in this document refers to land owned by AE and CHL that is subject to the Management Agreements. Both sites have since 1999 developed golfing, commercial and residential property interests. Both Archerfield and Yellowcraig abut and interact with coastal and off-shore nature conservation interests. Appendix 1 shows the management area boundary.

There is also a Management Plan for a 3-hole extension to the Renaissance Golf Course which received planning permission in 2011.

Since 2005 a Countryside Ranger has been permanently based at Yellowcraig and Archerfield.

2.0 DESCRIPTION

Archerfield & Yellowcraig extend down to the foreshore and have a variety of sandy beaches, rocky shores, high dunes, dune grassland, scrub and woodland habitats. There are occasional rocky outcrops and cliffs. Woodland and scrub fringe the golf courses within Archerfield Estate and the associated housing and commercial developments.

Visitors primarily access the coast from the car park at Yellowcraig with the majority of visitors staying at Yellowcraig to sunbathe, walk, picnic, or dog walk, while the more energetic walk or cycle towards Gullane or North Berwick.

21. Location:

Archerfield and Yellowcraig are located on the coast of East Lothian between the popular resorts of North Berwick, to the east, and Gullane, to the west, while the village of Dirleton lies to the south.

Ordnance Survey maps, No. 66 (1:50,000), No. NT58 (1:25,000) and No. NT 48 SE, NW; NT58 NW (1:10,000) cover the area.

2.2 Present Ownership

ELC owns Yellowcraig . CHL owns the eastern section of Archerfield; the western section is owned by AE with much of this ground being leased by Renaissance Golf Club. Archerfield Links and Marine Villa are owned by CHL.

2.3 Adjacent Landowners/managers to Archerfield and Yellowcraig

- Archerfield Estates Ltd.
- North Berwick West Links Golf Course: ELC
- News Mains: Archerfield Estates Ltd.
- Ferrygate : private ownership
- Fidra : RSPB
- Eyebroughy: Private Ownership
- Muirfield – Royal Company of Edinburgh Golfers

Land ownership boundaries are shown on map 1.

2.4 Land Status/Legal Constraints

The following constraints apply:

Planning policy The draft East Lothian Local Development Plan 2016 defines policies that protect and control development on the site.

In general where development is permitted which affects any designated site of nature conservation value, appropriate mitigating measures may be specified to enhance and safeguard the remaining interest.

Policy DC6: Development in the Coastal Area

Development proposals in the coastal area will be assessed against the relevant qualities of the coastal area in addition to all other relevant Plan policies. Where it is proposed on the:

- Developed Coast it will be supported in principle if it complies with other relevant plan policies;
- Constrained Coast it will only be supported if it requires a coastal location;
- Largely Unspoiled Coast it will only be supported if there is an established need for the development and a specific need for that particular coastal location.

Where a development proposal has a likely significant effect on a Natura 2000 or a Ramsar site either alone or in combination with other plans or projects then proposals must be accompanied by project specific information to inform an Appropriate Assessment. This will allow the competent authority to complete and Appropriate Assessment to determine if there are any adverse effects on the integrity of a Natura 2000 or Ramsar site. The siting and design of

new development must respect the qualities of the particular coastal location.

Other relevant policies include:

Policy TOUR1: Archerfield Estate, Dirleton

Policy DC1: Rural Diversification

Policy DC9: Special Landscape Areas

Policy NH1: protection of Internationally Designated Site

Site of Special Scientific Interest Much of the northern section of Archerfield and Yellowcraig lies within the Firth of Forth SSSI, notified in 2001. The SSSI notification includes a list of operations likely to damage the features of special interest to which advance notice must be given to SNH.

SSSI history:

- First notified in October 1967 under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1947.
- Revised in 1978
- Renotified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 on August 15 1983, on account of the botanical, ornithological and geological importance.
- Amended in 2004 by the Nature Conservation Act.

Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar designations The Firth of Forth is a SPA as designated by the Birds and Habitats Directives and Ramsar site under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance.

Designed Landscape Part of the Archerfield Management Area lies within the area defined as the designed landscape of Archerfield House. Although the designed landscape was removed from the national register of "Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes

in Scotland” it is still included on the regional and local register. Council Policy CH 6: Gardens and Designed landscapes makes it clear that where developments or impacts would harm a local or regional garden or designed landscape they will not be permitted.

Gas pipeline. The gas pipeline running from St Fergus to Bishop Auckland passes along to the western edge of Archerfield. Its existence requires that any development proposal must be subject to consultation with Transco when it is within 460m of the pipeline, and with the Health & Safety Executive when it is within 100m of the pipeline.

3.0 HISTORY

Yellowcraig was donated to East Lothian County Council in 1944 by the late Colonel Grant of Biel and Dirleton Estates for the enjoyment of the public, and continues to be managed for recreation by ELC. Changes in patterns of use over the years have led to a car park and toilet block being provided inland from the coast; a nature trail created (no longer in existence); woodlands planted; a caravan site constructed, together with a regular programme of access related maintenance and conservation

Recreational use of Archerfield has been less significant as it is less accessible, further from the local resorts and historically part of a private estate.

Sir John Nisbet purchased the Estate of Dirleton in 1633. Its attractive gardens were renowned in the early 19th century when the descendants of the 7th Earl of Elgin owned it. By 1921, Lieutenant Colonel J P Nisbet Hamilton Grant passed the estate, including its foreshore, to Jackson Russell. During the Second World War Archerfield House was requisitioned and occupied by soldiers. At the

end of the war George Mitchell purchased the estate, subsequently selling parts to the Secretary of State for forestry purposes and to Hamilton & Kinneil Estates.

In 1999 CHL purchased the ground to the east of the “spine road” of Archerfield Estate, including Marine Villa. This purchase resulted in the full restoration of Archerfield House, construction of two golf courses with clubhouse and parking, and residential property construction is ongoing.

Under lease from AE, The Renaissance Club opened its golf course on the north western region of the original Archerfield Estate in 2008. Construction of houses around the periphery of the golfing development is continuing,

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGY

The management area contains a number of known archaeological monuments ranging from Neolithic through to Second World War defences. There are a number of nationally designated remains including two scheduled monuments (SM 10352; SM5796) and 3 listed buildings (Archerfield House, Marine Villa and Marine Villa Cottage). Part of the management area was the Garden and Designed landscape associated with Archerfield House, however this has been removed from the national register but it is still designated as of regional/ local importance.

Prehistoric remains range from stray archaeological artefacts thorough to cist burials and standing stones. One of the upstanding prehistoric remains is White Knowe Cairn which is a Scheduled Monument (SM 5796). The potential for further Prehistoric remains to be present within the management area is considered high particularly for burials but other remains uncovered include

enclosures, individual pits and pit alignments (thought to be land division markers).

The most abundant archaeological remains are medieval in date with the deserted village of Eldbottle being located in the north western part of the management area. Part of the village is now a Scheduled Monument (SM 10352). Other medieval remains in the management area include Eldbottle Castle (known from documentary sources but as yet unidentified on the ground); a cistercian Nunnery and a coppice of ancient trees (thought to be in excess of 500 years old).

Archerfield House and its grounds are 17th century in origin. The house itself is 'A' Listed and although was renovated in the early 21st century there still exists elements of the original house along with some portions of the 18th century Robert Adam design (although the Adam interiors were removed in the 1960's). The grounds of the estate are no longer designated as a nationally important, however, they still retain a regional designation.

In the coastal section of the management area there are remains of the defence of Britain from both the first and second World Wars. A number of trenches, beach defences, bomb craters and gun and light emplacements are all evident along the dune system

There are also a number of natural caves and bays that are likely to have been utilised throughout history by humans for various purposes.

The potential for as yet unidentified items of archaeological interest to be discovered within the Management Plan area are considered to be high.

Further information on the Archaeological and Historic Assets of the management area can be obtained from the East Lothian Councils Historic Environment Record (HER) which is available online at www.johngraycentre.org. A list of all the known archaeological monuments and sites is included in Appendix VI.

5.0 GEOLOGY

The solid geology of Yellowcraig and Archerfield, hidden by raised beach and blown sand is only exposed as isolated outcrops or exposed bedrock along the coastal edge.

The "Yellowcraig" is part of the core of an ancient volcano which erupted in Carboniferous times some 340 million years ago. The extensive vent was filled with agglomerate prior to a vertical plug of hard black microporphyratic olivine-basalt intruding then cooling slowly to form a hard plug. The agglomerate has weathered away leaving this obvious landmark.

Outcrops of vent agglomerate, brown-grey tuff full of rounded bombs and baked angular blocks (markle basalt, mugearite, bedded tuff, mudstone, siltstone and large blocks of microporphyratic basalt) are exposed just to the east.

On the shore at Longskelly Point, the olivine-basalt is an intrusive sheet formed in the vent or on the flanks of the volcano. Off-shore, Fidra is of the same olivine-basalt.

Further west, the angular grey mugearite lava contrasts with the dark grey, crumbly and porphyritic markle lava. Exposed as a wave-cut platform it suggests a higher post glacial sea level. Among the lava a mini-intruded basalt plug can be seen.

Beyond the basalt boulders of the storm beach and close to Marine Villa, red solidified ash or tuff overlies the lava. A short distance to the west, the red tuffs are truncated by a small vent containing tuffaceous breccia and grey cement stone.

In the centre of the next bay to the west are the Hanging Rocks. These cliffs, with caves, are bedded volcanic rocks with outcrops of the angular and fragmented sedimentary breccia “hanging” against them.

Although not mentioned in the citation, Weaklaw is of particular importance for its palaeozoic palaeobotanical interest. Two other key areas are the pernio-carboniferous igneous interest and Cheese Bay.

On the shore, the low rock platform consists of gently folded cement stones, silt stones and mud stones with occasional hard dolomite bands.

Opposite the intrusive trachyte sill of Eyebroughy intrusive basalt forms the headland.

In the bay to the south, gently folded sediments, black and banded shales, mudstones and cement stones are found. The latter contains the fossil shrimp, *Tealliocaris loudonensis*, in abundance, as well as other fish and plant fossils.

The combination of sills, lava and sediments continues towards the west and Gullane Bay.

The site attains SSSI status as a result of its geological interests, notably a volcanic vent, vent agglomerates and associated contact zones.

6.0 GEOMORPHOLOGY

Within the local area are a complex range of rocky outcrops and platforms, blown sand dunes and raised beaches.

At Yellowcraig, the rock platforms close to the shore at the west end of the bay are exposed only at low tide but are absent along the Broad Sands section. Both beaches slope gently and are backed by a series of parallel dune ridges, highest at the eastern boundary. Farther west, the dunes are small and backed by a landward ridge.

Sand movement is much reduced by stabilising vegetation and only occurs where footpaths have dissected dunes.

Inland from the coast is an extensive raised beach existing as coastal links.

To the west of Yellowcraig, Longskelly Bay is protected by a wide inter-tidal rock platform. At its west end a bedrock cliff is exposed below Marine Villa.

Inland from the coast, high stable dunes lie parallel to the shoreline, fronted by a low marram clad foredune ridge. Blow-outs or erosion only occur where walkers are restricted to a narrow corridor through a dune, such as the east end of the bay

Further rock platforms and small sandy beaches are found at Archerfield. The former extends to Eyebroughy with a cover of sand exposed at low water.

Occasional high dunes back the sandy beaches and are undercut by storms, but the majority are inland and stable. Those at Archerfield form parallel-elevated old dunes separated by wide, flat-floored, grassland corridors. Three local farmers claim sand rights to the Yellowcraig foreshore.

7.0 BIODIVERSITY

The Management Area comprises some extensive areas of relatively undisturbed habitats compared to the agricultural hinterland and much of the East Lothian coastline.

A number of special qualities of Archerfield and Yellowcraig are cited in the former Gullane to Broad Sands SSSI notification, relating specifically to unimproved dune habitats and the shore bird assemblage.

7.1 Wildlife

The Management Area comprises some extensive areas of relatively undisturbed habitats compared to the agricultural hinterland and much of the East Lothian Coastline.

The Firth of Forth supports nationally and internationally important concentrations of over-wintering wading birds and wildfowl. Many species depend on a network of key feeding and roosting sites around the estuary. Gullane to Broad Sands section of the Firth of Forth SSSI is a key site on the Lothian coastline, notably for turnstone and purple Sandpiper, which feed and roost on the inter-tidal area.

A proportion of the Forth's Eider population, which is of national significance, aggregate to moult on the inshore water alongside the

site. Wetland Bird Surveys (WeBS) reports indicate that the Forth Estuary holds one of the largest aggregation of Eider in Great Britain.

The creation of three golf courses within Archerfield has added to the diversity of habitat within the Management Area. Within Archerfield Links Golf Club this largely comprises a mixture of gorse and whin scrub surrounded on the edges by coniferous, broad leaved and mixed woodland. The golf course reservoir has also become established attracting a variety of breeding and feeding wetland birds.

A similar mixture of woodland types can be found at the Renaissance Club. The short fairway turf is interspersed with flower rich rough grassland, marram dominated lichen rich grasslands are found closer to the coast within the SSSI boundary. The coastal dune grasslands, particularly at the western end of the Management Area, hold the most extensive and developed 'reindeer' lichen communities within the Firth of Forth SSSI (Coppins & Coppins, 2008).

More details on the wildlife of Yellowcraig can be found in the East Lothian Council publication: ['Yellowcraig – Wildlife for all Seasons'](#)

7.2 Main Habitats:

7.2.1. Woodland

At Yellowcraig, the 1960 plantation is predominantly Scots pine with lodgepole pine, Corsican pine, Norway spruce, beech and elm planted in groups. Sycamore and ash have self-seeded in significant numbers, while oak and birch are occasionally found. It was selectively thinned in 1985 and 1991. Perhaps through late initial thinning and stressed conditions associated with sandy soils and dry summers, the beech

component has suffered from beech bark disease and the ganoderma fungus and is now much depleted. Dutch Elm disease has also affected mature elms within the plantation.

Around the perimeter, the older woodland displays a decline in vigour. Fine over-mature sycamores, beech, elm and Scots pine specimens still survive but are stag-headed as a result of hot summers, drought conditions, salt-laden winds and their considerable age.

New plantings and natural regeneration have produced a well-stocked sycamore and ash under-storey which will ensure a wooded element in the landscape for hundreds of years to come.

The woodland flora is somewhat influenced by human intervention, with plants such as greater burdock and yellow figwort present. Typical woodland plants, such as hogweed, hedge woundwort, nettle and red campion are abundant, whilst colonies of woody nightshade and male fern are easily found.

Fungi have been little recorded but earth stars are present.

Roe deer hide up in the quieter parts of the woodland using the adjacent fields to feed. Surveys conducted in 2011 by SNH identified 52 roe deer present within the Management Area and Dirleton New Mains farm.

The abundance of molehills suggest that these animals are reasonably prevalent and grey squirrels continue to breed. Bats have also been recorded on site and are likely roosting in suitable trees within the woodland.

The estate woodland and shelterbelts, planted as early as c. 1780 were designed to afford protection to arable land from sea winds and sand. Extensive planting, including the boundary belts, which define the estate landscape took place during the 19th century. These have been supplemented by dense, mostly coniferous, planting c. 1950, by the Forestry Commission. Of particular prominence is Eldbottle Wood, which appears as ancient woodland on SNH's Ancient Woodland Inventory but has been replanted in recent years with conifers.

7.2.2 Scrub

Isolated clumps, windbreaks and woodland edge colonies of sea buckthorn form the major scrub element. Hawthorn, rose species, wild privet and elder are also present.

Sea buckthorn was introduced in the eighteenth century, perhaps into local fields to provide shelter, and has spread substantially. Its invasive habit has been well documented. Colonies at Yellowcraig have been managed over a number of years, particularly throughout the dunes and grasslands. Nevertheless, it provides a valuable habitat for blackbirds, thrushes, warblers and tits for either winter or summer feeding; the large flocks of fieldfares in winter are a feature of this coast. Isolated hawthorn bushes in the open grassland, most notably at Yellowcraig, are important for reed buntings. Much of the flora associated with the scrub is typical of the woodland edge. The alien spring beauty thrives around the edge of sea buckthorn clumps, whilst woody nightshade, ground ivy and hemlock are common. Rabbits burrow and hide in the more open scrub area, while mice, compared to open grassland, prefer the edges.

Since the start of development, CHL Ltd have planted buckthorn, broom, gorse and marram in and around the new golf courses. This

has provided new habitats for an array of wildlife present in and around the development.

7.2.3 Fixed Dune Grassland

Inland from the influence of blown sand, the fixed dune grassland forms extensive areas. In places the dry sward of meadow grasses has high species diversity and is maintained by trampling and rabbit grazing. It is particularly attractive in summer with, in places, wild thyme, eyebright, birds-foot trefoil, common centaury and purple milk-vetch.

Within Yellowcraig, dune slack communities (with a high water table and where enrichment occurs through base minerals in the ground-water) are particularly rich in lichens and rarer plants, such as frog orchid, bog pimpernel, lesser clubmoss, variegated horsetail, quaking grass, butterwort and grass of Parnassus. There is some concern that these small and isolated dune slack areas are declining through a lowering water table and encroachment/succession. The relatively species poor, tall, neutral grassland fringing the shorter areas is abundant away from the shore.

Rest-harrow, hawkweed species, vipers bugloss, greater knapweed, marjoram, basil, thyme and twayblade are commonly found.

Damper hollows among the rougher grassland allow populations of meadowsweet and common spotted, heath spotted and northern marsh orchid to survive.

Amongst the grassland rough surfaced agglomerate rock outcrops provide a locally important habitat for lichens, mosses and higher plants, such as spring vetch, early forget-me-not, fairy flax, doves-foot cranesbill and chickweed species. The stone dykes surrounding the

plantation have a similar, though damper, habitat, which also encourage stoat and weasel.

Meadow pipits and skylark nest in the grasslands and it is a good feeding area for passerines, thrushes, gulls and crows.

Prior to development, the land within Archerfield was managed as arable land with several grass leys. All of the fields had low plant diversity, with the driest arable fields containing common arable weeds. Several of the fields have damp areas, with hard rush present in patches. Today the golf courses with surrounding scrub and woodland strips provide suitable habitats for a variety of wildlife.

Insect activity associated with grassland is worthy of note, with cinnabar caterpillars feeding on ragwort, burnet moths pupating on the grasses; mining bees feeding on the wild thyme and burrowing into the sandy turf. Small heath, dark-green fritillary, meadow brown and common blue butterflies occur in this habitat.

7.2.4 Foreshore and Mobile Dunes

Dry blown sand gathers and builds, usually around an obstacle, to form a sand dune. It will be mobile and move appreciable distances until colonised by pioneering vegetation or artificially stabilised by planting (e.g. sea buckthorn, Scots pine) and subsequent growth to eventually form a stable and static dune.

The complete sequence of dune succession is represented at Yellowcraig/Archerfield.

The foredune is typically vegetated with sand couch and sea lyme grass; the latter planted to encourage dune formation to protect the

foredune. These dunes are susceptible to trampling, high tides and winds. The shore flora at Yellowcraig is rarely abundant but sea rocket and orache species occur most years.

Inland, marram grass replaces the sea lyme grass and meadow grasses start to compete when the humus content is increasing and the nutrient supply reducing. Here, the associated flora and fauna is less diverse than other habitats. A few interesting coastal plants, such as kidney vetch, blue fleabane and Scots lovage, survive, whilst creeping thistle and rosebay willowherb colonise disturbed areas. The invasive non-native pirri-pirri bur can also be found within the dunes. Small open sand areas warm up quickly and are particularly useful to insect life.

Further west, the Archerfield section of sand dunes is more extensive and higher with a rich botanical diversity and occasional blow-out areas. In the main no dune planting or management has taken place. In 2011 The Renaissance Club extended into the SSSI following planning permission being granted to H&K for the creation of three golf holes. This area is subject to a specific Management Plan aiming to conserve the SSSI and control sea buckthorn.

7.2.5 The Seashore and Coastal Waters

Archerfield and Yellowcraig is particularly rich, with Yellowcraig benefiting from the shelter of Fidra and being close to the deeper water of the North Sea.

The wildlife associated with the shore varies considerably. The times of year, state of tide, presence, or absence of people, proximity to islands, influence of factors out with the site and type of shore areas are particularly important.

Inshore waters are important feeding and moulting areas for eider duck. During their moult they cannot fly and, therefore, use the relatively undisturbed low shelving rocks, as well as rafting offshore. It is thought that the Archerfield stretch may provide a sanctuary that eider can use at vulnerable periods or when disturbance or weather affects them elsewhere. Large crèches of eider ducklings occur along this section of coast in early summer.

The feeding, roosting and moulting wildfowl and waders constitute an important population in the context of the Forth Estuary. Waders often use the rocky outcrops and offshore islands as a high tide roost. It is to be appreciated that these species move from site to site and the populations at Archerfield & Yellowcraig must not be viewed in isolation.

Grey seals are common and have bred on Eyebroughy. Pups are regularly ashore during November and December, whilst common seal adults also turn up.

Kelps and brown wrack seaweeds are well represented. Both are cast up and exposed at low tides and in rock pools. The green *Enteromorpha* covers rocks and shallow sand areas high up the shore. Red and brown seaweeds, typically *Halidrys*, *Chondrus*, *Gigartina*, *Corallina* and *Lithophyllum* species, are abundant in the range of deep and shallow rock pools. Seashore animals include green shore crabs, brittlestars, hermit crabs, beadlet anenomes, sponges, periwinkles, limpets, dogwhelks and barnacles.

8.0 LANDSCAPE

The shelter belts and other areas of woodland located on undulating land are important, both as local features and in the wider landscape. The tree belts on the boundaries and the wooded Eldbottle Hill are

particularly important visually as they give the area the impression of being remote and undeveloped.

Archerfield forms an important landscape feature within the otherwise predominantly open agricultural character of the coastal plain. The shelter belts and other areas of woodland on undulating land have great presence in the East Lothian countryside not only as local features but as a setting for Dirleton and in the wider landscape

The landscape character of the coast is in stark contrast to that of the estate. The inter-tidal area, dunes and woodland backdrop give an impression of a remote undeveloped area punctuated only by Marine Villa and the Kings Cairn development (CHL). The variety of experiences created by the landscape character of the area are greatly valued by visitors.

8.1 Designed Landscape

The Management Area lies adjacent to Archerfield Estates Designed Landscape, with part of its southern portion (area to the south of Duncan's plantation) actually falling within the local/ regional designation.

Archerfield Estate is recorded as a local or regional importance designed landscape and is centred on the Category A Listed Archerfield house with the remainder of the designed landscape aspect of the estate comprising the immediate shrubbery around and to the north of the house; the parkland surrounding and to the west of the house; the walled gardens at Home Farm and further to the east, and; the woodlands to the north.

The designed landscape was laid out in its present form c.1780 (although the beech avenue was designed c.1730) to plans attributed

to Robert Robinson. The wood forms part of the entire enclosure of Archerfield by a framework of woodlands, which is the unifying feature of the designed landscape.

The majority of the older broadleaved planting in Eldbottle and the adjoining woods had been cut down during World War II or prior to 1960. They were subsequently replanted by Hamilton & Kinneil Estates mainly as commercial coniferous woodland under Forestry Commission dedication schemes and for game cover.

On Archerfield Links south of Eldbottle Wood, a 13-hole golf course was laid out c. 1828 and became the Dirleton Golf Club. From 1869 it became known as the Archerfield Golf Club. In 1885 the course was extended to 18 holes and was maintained until it closed in 1939 at the start of World War II. The area was subsequently replanted with mainly Corsican pine, partly in chequer board pattern.

A golf course was also present on Dirleton Common at Yellowcraig, which extended over the area of the car park, football pitch and land around the Ware Rd., with holes on the course being looked after by local families.

Following various ownership and management changes in the early part of the 20th century, Archerfield estate ceased to be maintained as an entity after the 1930's. Since then the designed landscape generally declined, buildings fell out of use and features were lost or became ruinous.

9.0 RECREATION

Yellowcraig is an important site managed historically for coastal recreation. It is one of a series of coastal destinations, which gives

East Lothian such a variety of recreational opportunities. The site provides a wider range of experiences than other sites with similarly high level of use.

It gives access in the west to the Archerfield coast and in the east to the high dunes of Broad Sands. Dune conservation has been carried out over a number of years and the dunes are protected with sea-lyme grass above the high water mark.

The grass car park was laid out in 1956 and vehicular access to the dunes barred. The feu charter originally forbade camping but once superiority was acquired an agreement was entered into with the Caravan Club to establish a site for touring vans.

Yellowcraig has been a popular East Lothian coastal site used by educational groups as it offers both a variety of experiences and facilities. Use by these groups peaks during late May to mid-June.

At Yellowcraig, facilities include a bookable barbeque site, childrens play area and public toilets. Orienteering use of Yellowcraig is supported by the provision of mapped courses, available from ELC Outdoor Learning department.

Apart from the occasional walking/natural history group, recreational use of the Archerfield site, outwith that for golf, tends to be informal and passive.

Preventing occupiers and visitors to Archerfield gaining direct access to the coastal section is the fundamental aim of the Management Agreement and this Management Plan. In order to achieve this an impenetrable barrier of sea buckthorn is to be established and maintained in perpetuity.

II EVALUATION

Assessing information in order to define aims and objectives.

1. DESIGNATIONS

a) Ramsar

The Firth of Forth is designated as a Ramsar site under the Ramsar Convention of Wetlands of International Importance. Under this Convention the United Kingdom has agreed to promote the conservation of these areas.

b) Special Protection Area (SPA)

The Firth of Forth Special Protection Area is a complex of estuarine and coastal habitats in south east Scotland, stretching from the mouth of the river Forth at Alloa north east to Anstruther on the Fife coast and south east to Tyninghame on the East Lothian coast. The site includes extensive invertebrate-rich intertidal flats, which provide important feeding and roosting areas for waterfowl. Areas of rocky shore, which are again important feeding and roosting areas for waterfowl.

European legislation (the EC Wild Birds Directive) is the principal factor that effects the management of the SPA.

It requires that:

- Special conservation measures are taken to ensure the survival and reproduction of Annex 1 species.
- Special protection measures are taken to ensure the conservation of the habitat of regularly occurring migratory species
- Appropriate steps are taken to avoid defined habitats

c) Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

Archerfield and Yellowcraig are part of the Firth of Forth Site of Special Scientific Interest (2001) designated for its extensive mosaic of intertidal and coastal habitats. Extensive mudflats make up much of the intertidal area with areas of sand, shingle, rock and boulders. Associated coastal habitats include saltmarsh, grassland and sand dunes.

Owners and/or managers are obliged to notify SNH of any potentially damaging operations, which may be undertaken.

d) Special Landscape Area (SLA)

These are defined by local authorities with a view to safeguarding areas of local landscape importance from inappropriate development. Yellowcraig Archerfield lies within the Port Seton to North Berwick Coast SLA and is recognised as the least developed section of this coastline and where infrastructure should be avoided.

e) Designed Landscape

The Eldbottle Wood area of Archerfield lies within the north part of the Designed Landscape of Archerfield house as defined in the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes In Scotland.

f) Scheduled Ancient Monuments.

White Knowe burial mound and Eldbottle Medieval village are Scheduled Ancient Monuments.

2. MANAGEMENT

There are several key items that affect and define the management of the site.

- International, European and UK legislation supporting the above designations.
- Management Agreements between SNH, ELC, CHL & AE (formerly H&K).
- The support of Advisory Groups.
- ELC strategies, policies and resources.

The Management Agreements with respective landowners requires the parties to manage the area in accordance with a defined aim and objectives (i.e. those in this Management Plan).

The main Advisory Group consists of representatives from SNH, ELC, CHL and AE. ELC would seek advice from the Advisory Group prior to determination of a policy, action or decision, which could in any way affect the site.

3. RECREATIONAL IMPORTANCE

There are between 250,000 and 300,000 visits to Yellowcraig each year. Throughout the year there is a steady flow of regulars from North Berwick and Dirleton who visit the site several times a day to walk their dogs. These regulars make up the majority of visits throughout the winter, whereas throughout the summer a larger proportion of visitors come from other areas within East Lothian as well as Edinburgh and the surrounds.

The main attraction for visitors is the diversity of experiences that they can have, from seeing the view, to hiding in the woods on a windy day, to having a family experience.

Yellowcraig offers the visitor a wide range of recreational opportunities. It is particularly popular for walking, picnicking and sunbathing and has wheelchair access to a viewing platform close to

the beach. Other activities include bird watching, visiting the adventure playground, horse riding, surfing and sea kayaking. The John Muir Way long distance route passes through the site.

The low-lying landscape with its gently undulating landforms, the rocky foreshore and the wide coastal views attract the interest of visitors. Visitors value the landscape features, especially the sandy beach and paths, combined with the peaceful and remote character of the site.

4. ACCESSIBILITY

Yellowcraig is readily accessible for those walking, riding or cycling. The nearest public transport links are in Dirleton. A large grass parking area is available for car-borne visitors. This surface suffers from wear and tear during the busy summer months and regularly requires maintenance.

5. EDUCATIONAL

The site offers a range of educational and research opportunities much of it based on the variety of habitats and geomorphological features. Groups include self-led school and university groups as well as events run by East Lothian Countryside Ranger Service.

Since the introduction of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 the public have access rights to carry out relevant educational activity and consequently permission is not needed from the landowner or manager. Research, which has the potential to damage the SSSI requires SNH consent.

6. BIODIVERSITY AND WILDLIFE

One of the most important habitats in Archerfield and Yellowcraig are the dune system and neutral grassland covering about 15 hectares and 10 hectares respectively. As these habitats tend to be small or fragmented along the East Lothian coast, those at Archerfield and Yellowcraig are significant in themselves but also act as a link to similar habitats to the east and west.

The figures above are based on the Phase I Habitat Survey carried out for East Lothian in 1998. Since then, some conifer plantations in Archerfield have been felled and converted to grassland or scrub for golf courses. Arable fields have also been converted to golf course. There is the potential, if it has not already happened, that these new grasslands will adopt a neutral or coastal character. It is likely, therefore, that the area of neutral grassland in particular will increase.

Archerfield and Yellowcraig is a significant site for birdlife. Many of the species mentioned in section 7 are listed as Priority Species in the East Lothian Biodiversity Action Plan, including turnstone, purple sandpiper, shelduck, skylark and fieldfare. The Archerfield and Yellowcraig coast is significant for its eider duck population. Eiders, part of the species assemblage of the SPA, traditionally moult along the Archerfield coast.

Thanks in part to historic land management, the dune slack and grassland habitat of the area formerly used by North Berwick West links golf course as a turf nursery comprises a rich diversity of flora. Species found here include frog orchid, grass of Parnassus and variegated horsetail. The area is currently managed by ELC assisted by funding and advice from Scottish Natural Heritage.

Archerfield and Yellowcraig coastlines are also important for marine mammals. Both grey and common seal are listed as Priority Species in the East Lothian Biodiversity Action Plan (ELBAP).

III **MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES**

1. **The Aim** - the overall management aspiration.

The conservation and enhancement of the natural and historical heritage of the Management Area, via the joint workings of ELC, CHL, AE, RGC, and SNH.

The management of visitors within the Management Area is designed to prevent, so far as is reasonably practicable, direct access from CHL and AE land to the SSSI and generally to minimise disturbance to the immediate and wider SSSI.

2. **Objectives** - clarify the Aim into attainable goals.

- a) To conserve and enhance, where appropriate, the species habitats and communities, geological and geomorphological features of the Area.
- b) To prevent visitors accessing the coastal section directly from Archerfield by maintaining an impenetrable barrier and directing visitors towards Yellowcraig.
- c) To protect the important features of the Yellowcraig and Archerfield coast.
- d) Continue to provide appropriate facilities which will enhance visitor enjoyment and understanding at Yellowcraig.
- e) To conserve and enhance the specific landscape character and quality of the area.

- f) To preserve the archaeological and historical interests of the area.
- g) To manage golf and developments in accordance with the above objectives.

IV POLICY

The Policy provides a directional framework for the fulfilment of the Aim and Objectives.

1. Administration

A management structure has been detailed in the Management Agreement and will continue through the Management Plan. ELC, AE, CHL and RGC manage their respective land units within the agreed parameters of this plan and the deliberations of an Advisory Group. SNH are also members of the Advisory Group.

The Advisory Group will consider the merits of inclusion within the Management Plan of current or future development within, or bordering, the Management Area.

2. Countryside Ranger Service

A Countryside Ranger is fundamental to ensure the fulfilment of the Management Aim, Objectives, Policies and actions.

The aim of the East Lothian Countryside Ranger Service is: 'To promote an awareness and understanding of the countryside; enhance the variety of experiences provided by East Lothian's countryside and coastal sites and to ensure these sites are managed in a sustainable manner.'

The objectives of the East Lothian Countryside Ranger Service are:

1. To welcome the local community and visitors to East Lothian's countryside and coastal sites and enhance their enjoyment of the sites.

2. To assist and advise on countryside access issues, including rights of way.

3. To provide an experience and promote understanding of the countryside through environmental interpretation and education for the community of East Lothian and its visitors.

4. To ensure the countryside and coastal sites owned or managed by East Lothian Council that have the potential for leisure, information recreation or nature conservation, are managed in a sustainable manner.

3. Documentation

An adequate recording system is necessary in order to formulate proposals timeously and on a sound basis. Such documentation should include:

- a) Regular revisions of the Management Plan.
- b) Biological recording, including survey and monitoring records.
- c) The Countryside Ranger's annual report, to be approved by the Advisory Group.
- d) Monitoring and survey work of visitor numbers and activity by the Countryside Ranger.

4. Habitat Management

Habitats will be managed effectively in the area to approved programmes either as prescribed in the Plan or with reference to the Advisory Group with the following constraints.

- a) Pesticides and fertilisers should only be used under very special circumstances in areas of nature conservation value and only after careful consideration, other than on the fairways, greens and tees of the golf courses.
- b) Trees and woodlands should be managed to an approved plan.
- c) There should be no deliberate introduction of animal species to the site unless the use of domestic stock is deemed necessary for grassland management.
- d) Management of habitats of nature conservation and archaeological value will be monitored.

5 Research

The area will provide, under approved conditions and controls, the opportunity for research and survey into all aspects of the flora and fauna, history, and the physical conditions of the area. Following the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003, the public have access rights and may undertake certain research/educational activities if it is undertaken in a responsible manner.

6 Emergency Procedures

Procedures will be maintained for managing pollution, fires and strandings etc. in line with approved emergency plans and responses.

Liaison will be maintained with all key organisations that may be involved in the emergency. See III - Fire Contingency Plan.

7 Promotional

In order that the area is managed in accordance with the Objectives, publicity should seek to concentrate visitors to Yellowcraig (as owned

by ELC). There should be no reference to the Archerfield section of coast or the walk between Yellowcraig and Gullane.

8 Access

a) General

The SSSI of the Management Area has a visitor capacity beyond which the Management Objectives would be prejudiced. This capacity cannot be defined in absolute terms but in the following paragraphs some general guidelines are outlined. The Advisory Group will monitor visitor numbers and their effects.

b) Vehicular

- i) At Yellowcraig the car park size (1.69ha) and capacity (870 vehicles maximum) should be used to regulate visitor numbers.
- ii) Vehicles within Yellowcraig should be restricted to the car park and access roads. Vehicle access is also required for management purposes such as timber extraction, beach cleaning and for emergency purposes.
- iii) Access by vehicles to all parts of the CHL and AE land will be limited to golfers, guests and residents along controlled roadways identified in the Full Permission save for:
 - Golfing vehicles and vehicles required to maintain the golf courses or facilitating the playing of golf.
 - Vehicles carrying out the development works and
 - Vehicles required for management purposes and in emergencies.

c) Pedestrian

Human disturbance to sensitive areas will be minimised by:-

- i) Creating and maintaining an impenetrable barrier in the form of sea buckthorn or other scrub as agreed by the Advisory Group reinforced by fencing where necessary.

- ii) Activity encouraging visitors wishing to visit the coast to go to Yellowcraig and thereafter stay at Yellowcraig.
- iii) Identifying areas which should be closed to visitors during specified times of the year when their presence may conflict with the Objectives, without prejudice to public rights of access.
- iv) Encouraging visitors to use the sign-posted route from Archerfield through Yellowcraig.

d) Bye Laws

Bye Laws will be promulgated as soon as practicable.

e) Horses and Dogs

- i) Following the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 the public has access rights and may ride if done so responsibly as defined in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. Riders will be directed to robust routes.
- ii) Dogs are welcome on site however as per guidance within the Scottish Outdoor Access Code, they should be kept under close control. Owners must also remove their dog waste on all areas across Yellowcraig and Archerfield as defined by the Dog Fouling (Scotland) Act 2003.

9 Recreation

Passive recreational use of the Yellowcraig area will be encouraged.

a) Natural History

- i) Enhancing the enjoyment and experience of visitors by interpreting the natural history of the area will be promoted.
- ii) The collection of geological specimens, plants or animals, etc, will be considered with regard to relevant code of conduct and legislation.

b) Fishing

All bait digging, fishing and shellfish gathering, for commercial reasons are to be discouraged.

c) Aquatic pursuits

Except in the case of emergency or in connection with approved scientific work, access for the vehicular launching of craft associated with sailing, motorboats, jet skiing; water skiing, hovercraft, etc, is to be prohibited.

d) Aerial pursuits

The flying of kites is permitted. Flying of unmanned ('drones') and model aircraft can be conducted provided it does not cause disturbance to other users or wildlife and are undertaken in line with Civil Aviation Authority guidelines. E.g. No drone flights permitted within 50m from the nearest person or property; or less than 150m outwith the outer boundary of the car park, playground and caravan park.

Except in the case of emergency or in connection with approved scientific work, all aerial pursuits such as microlite, aircraft, etc, are to be discouraged.

e) Camping and fires

Wild camping, and fires as described in the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 and the Scottish Outdoor Access Code will be managed to minimise the impact on the Management Area and to promote responsible use of the outdoors.

f) Metal detecting

Metal detection and associated excavations will be permitted when carried out responsibly as defined by the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

g) Orienteering Use

of the site for orienteering events is permitted provided organisers do so outwith sensitive areas.

10 Visitor Facilities

All visitor facilities should be directly connected with activities consistent with the Management Aim and Objectives.

The level and location of these facilities should be consistent with:

- i) The ability of the area to withstand all aspects of each proposal.
- ii) The managerial and rangering resources available.
- iii) The ability to substitute, modify or withdraw in the light of experience.

11 Interpretation/Education

Interpretative facilities are a means of:

- i) Managing visitor use of the area
- ii) Increasing visitor enjoyment of the area

Provision should consider the various means of delivering interpretation and to provide that appropriate to the site.

12 Litter

Visitors should be encouraged to take their litter home. ELC will be responsible for litter management of Yellowcraig.

13 Landscape

The “Gardens and Designed Landscapes” relating to the land owned by CHL and AE shall be managed to restore the character and quality of the historic planting in conjunction with its development for golfing.

New planting, buildings and other features in the landscape are to be designed to conserve and enhance the historic designed landscape

and the landscape generally, including its scenic, nature and golf links values.

14 Coastal Protection

This is only required where erosion leads to serious loss of amenity. Natural erosion is accepted in most areas.

The area lies within 2 management units of the East Lothian Shoreline Management Plan:

Unit 10 – Archerfield and Yellowcraig The preferred option for MU10 is No Active Intervention.

Unit 11 Broad Sands and West Links Limited Intervention is the preferred management option for MU11.

15 Archaeology

In order to preserve and/or conserve areas of archaeological significance or interest:

Any ground breaking disturbance in areas identified as having an archaeological significance should be discussed with ELC Archaeology Service. Ground breaking includes excavation, building, ploughing, sub soiling, tree removal, drainage etc.

b) Any development in or in close proximity to a Scheduled Ancient Monument requires approval of Historic Scotland. Development includes ground breaking work as defined above plus any flooding, tipping, repair, alteration. Any works affecting a Scheduled Monument, however minor, should be discussed with Historic Scotland

c) Metal detecting is not permitted in or in close proximity to a Scheduled Ancient Monument or in areas identified as archaeologically significant.

d) Under Scottish Treasure Trove/bona vacantia law, any archaeological artefact found must be reported to the Queen's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer (via the Treasure Trove Advisory

Panel Secretariat, Archaeology Department, National Museum of Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1JF or alternatively via East Lothian Council Archaeology or Museum services).

V DETAILED PRESCRIPTIONS

Summary of main projects

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Update sea buckthorn Management Plan and implement thereafter					
Install seating at BBQ site					
Conduct phase 1 habitat survey					
Define and implement habitat management plan for Dirleton Common					
Trial and review Green Dog Walker Scheme					
Conduct scrubland breeding survey					
Install information board at Archerfield common strip vennel					
Define seashore habitat quality survey and implement					
Improve steps on Yellow Craig					
Undertake rabbit survey within SSSI at Yellowcraig					
Report on the condition of dune slack communities at Yellowcraig					
Conduct visitor survey					
Conduct analysis of monitoring data					
Draft Management Plan 2022 - 2026					

OBJECTIVE	SUMMARY OF POLICY	SUMMARY OF PRESCRIPTION	ACTION	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	RESPONSIBILITY	RESOURCES
1. To conserve and enhance the wildlife habitats and the associated flora and fauna, geological exposures and geomorphological features of the Management Area and SSSI.	A. To manage woodland and scrub consistent with other objectives	i) Continue to manage Yellowcraig woodlands and scrub to a programme advised by the Advisory Group	a) Undertake woodland management						ELC	Landscape & Countryside
			b) Stabilise woodland boundary wall						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
	B. To manage dune grassland	i) Sustain integrity and diversity of dune grasslands at Yellowcraig	a) Update sea buckthorn control plan and implement thereafter.						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
			b) Restrict vehicular access						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
			c) Monitor distribution and impact of people and report to the Advisory Group						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
			d) Reinstate worn/bare path/edges within ownership						ELC,CHL	CHL Employees/ELC
			e) Monitor rare or important species as identified in the species list						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
			f) Undertake programme of dune conservation as required						ELC	Part of general ranger duties

C. Manage seashore		g) Eradicate pirri pirri bur						ELC, CHL	Landscape & Countryside and CHL employees
		h) Monitor pirri pirri						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
		i) Undertake rabbit population survey and undertake management as required						ELC	Landscape & Countryside
	i) Maintain tideline habitat	a) Selective use of mechanical beach cleaning equipment						ELC	Landscape & Countryside
	ii) Manage as per Shoreline Management Plan							ELC	Part of general ranger duties
	iii) Control oil pollution	a) Action based on Oil Pollution Contingency Plan						ELC	ELC
	iv) Monitor wildfowl and wader population	a) Undertake monthly WeBS counts at both Archerfield and the coast between Eil burn and Eyebroughy						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
		b) Low water counts: Wader and duck roosting/feeding - in line with national census.						ELC	Part of general ranger duties

Objective 1 (continued)			c) Monitor moult flock and breeding success of Eider (May - July)						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
			d) Report on a), b) and c) annually						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
		v) Monitor rock/ground nesting birds	a) Make skylark, meadow pipit, tern and wader breeding observations						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
			b) Report on a) annually						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
			c) Monitor breeding birds on Eyebroughy						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
		vi) Minimise human disturbance	a) Monitor all aquatic activities and report on annually.						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
			b) Monitor distribution and impact of people						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
			c) Monitor condition of access paths and undertake action thereafter						ELC	Part of general ranger duties

D. Monitor species habitats	i) Monitor species and habitats	a) Survey, evaluate and report on all habitats						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
		b) Maintain species list						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
		c) Define criteria for and identify the special habitats, communities or species						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
		d) Define criteria for seashore survey based on Cooast national survey methodology, implement thereafter						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
		e) Monitor barn owls						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
		f) Conduct weekly butterfly transects (April - Sept)						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
		g) Monitor and report on scrubland breeding birds within management area						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
		h) Undertake amphibian survey						ELC	Part of general ranger duties

		i) Monitor and report on turf nursery management						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
		j) Conduct Phase 1 habitat survey on 5 year cycle						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
E. Prevent damage to geological and geomorphological features	i) Seek compliance with Code of Conduct / byelaws	a) Monitor						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
		b) Prevent/control sand removal						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
F. Promote biodiversity enhancements	i) Undertake agreed enhancement works as per planning consent	a) Implement						CHL, ELC, SNH	CHL Employees
		b) Monitor						CHL, ELC, H &K	CHL, ELC, AE
	ii) Undertake enhancements as agreed by advisory group	a) Define habitat improvement to Dirleton Common as suggested in ELC 2016 report, instigate thereafter.						ELC/AE	Part of general ranger duties
		b) Consider management of dune slacks and make recommendations for improvement						CHL	Part of general ranger duties

2. To prevent visitors accessing the SSSI directly from Archerfield by maintaining impenetrable barrier and directing visitors towards Yellowcraig	A. To retain effective sea buckthorn barrier along SSSI, as defined in Appendix X		c) Consider options for sand martin habitat creation						ELC	CHL/ELC Countryside
		iii) Align with ELBAP process	a) Act on ELBAP output						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
		i) Control distribution, age and species of scrub as barrier and/or habitat, as agreed in advance by the Advisory Group.	a) Where thin coppice/plant/beat up as required to maintain barrier						CHL	CHL Employees
			b) Thereafter maintain security fence to protect sea buckthorn						CHL	CHL Employees
			c) Report annually on status of Sea Buckthorn barrier						CHL	CHL Employees/ general ranger duties
			d) Undertake annual check of barrier and agree works for coming year						ELC	Advisory group

		e) Undertake agreed reinstatement works on sea buckthorn barrier between high dune and Marine Villa						CHL	CHL employees
B. Visitor Management	i) Define path network	a) Manage path network to direct visitors away from coastal section						CHL and AE	CHL and AE Employees
		b) Maintain path network						CHL	CHL Employees
		c) Link network of paths into The John Muir Way						CHL, ELC, AE	CHL, ELC, AE
C. To direct visitors towards Yellowcraig	i) Monitor visitor activity	a) Patrol path network						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
	ii) Promotion policy	b) Enforce non-promotion of SSSI area						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
		c) Promote access to coast via Yellowcraig for on site visitors						ELC	Part of general ranger duties

3. To provide the appropriate facility which will enhance visitor enjoyment and understanding of Yellowcraig and encourage visitors to remain at Yellowcraig	A. To encourage passive recreation at Yellowcraig	i) Manage children's playground	a) Maintain						ELC	Landscape & Countryside
			b) Control access by dogs						ELC	Landscape & Countryside
		ii) Provide barbeque site	a) Maintain BBQ site						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
			b) Install seating around BBQ site						ELC	Landscape & Countryside
		iii) Provide interpretation and associated on-site interests and facilities	a) Encourage interpretation of the management area where appropriate.						ELC	Landscape & Countryside
			b) Promote Yellowcraig booklet.						ELC	Landscape & Countryside
			c) Maintain car park surface.						ELC	Landscape & Countryside
			d) Install interpretation board for residents of Archerfield, at the easterly vennel on the common strip.						ELC	Landscape & Countryside

	e) Seek where possible to restrict signage and infrastructure within the SSSI area.						ELC	Landscape & Countryside
iv) Monitor site use and dispersal	a) Monitor, analyse and report on levels of use from available data						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
	b) Map and monitor visitor distribution						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
	c) Visitor survey on a 5 year cycle						ELC	Landscape & Countryside
	d) Upgrade path network and maintain thereafter including signage						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
	e) Monitor horse use						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
	f) Maintain car counter						ELC	ELC
	g) Improve steps on Yellowcraig.						ELC	Landscape & Countryside

vi) Manage effectively active recreational/event-use of Yellowcraig	a) Monitor and report on event use.						ELC	Landscape & Countryside
	b) Support existing use of site for taxi day out						ELC	Landscape & Countryside
	c) Restrict all camping other than wild camping as defined by the Scottish Outdoor Access Code						ELC	Landscape & Countryside
vii) Manage effectively environmental/educational interpretation	a) Monitor and manage use of site by school/educational groups						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
	b) Promote Management obligations to occupiers and users of Archerfield						ELC, CHL & SNH	CHL
	c) Develop research register and develop links with researchers						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
ix) Promote byelaws and other site based legislation	a) Promote byelaws and management rules						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
x) Encourage active community stakehold in site management	a) Maintain and develop Friends of Yellowcraig volunteer scheme						ELC	Part of general ranger duties

		xi) Externally audit standards of on site provision	a) Seek to maintain beach award status						ELC	ELC
		i) Manage restoration plan	a) Maintain restored landscape						CHL, AE	CHL and AE Employees
4. To conserve and enhance the specific landscape character and quality of the area, including the remains of the Archerfield designed landscape having regard to the development proposed	A. To maintain the integrity of the part of the Designed Landscape that is on CHL and AE land	i) The provision of information boards, signposts, artefacts etc in accordance with the policy	a) Continue to apply existing policies						ELC/CHL/AE	CHL and AE
	B. Ensure that all artefacts are designed in sympathy with the areas landscape character	i) Manage litter	a) Enforce litter legislation						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
			b) Educate visitors						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
			c) Undertake litter clearance projects with schools, voluntary groups etc. at Yellowcraig						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
			d) CHL to manage litter bins on JMW under CHL ownership, including the Common Strip						CHL	CHL

			e) Consider options for litter management						ELC	Landscape & Countryside
		ii) Undertake beach cleaning	a) Clean Yellowcraig beach regularly by hand (May-Sept)						ELC	Landscape & Countryside
			b) Conduct mechanical beach cleaning if deemed necessary						ELC	Landscape & Countryside
		iii) Maintain cutting regime	a) Ensure grass is cut in car park						ELC	ELC
	C. Ensure dog management	i) Ensure compliance by dog owners	a) Enforce dog fouling legislation rules at Yellowcraig						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
			b) Ensure dogs are kept under close control at all sites						ELC	Part of general ranger duties
			c) Remove dog fouling from specified areas						ELC	Landscape & Countryside
			d) Trial and review green dog walker scheme. Rolling out if suitable.						ELC	Landscape & Countryside

5. To preserve all archaeological remains	A. Avoidance of any physical disturbance to both Scheduled Monuments and areas of known archaeological activity	i) Avoid ground disturbance on or in close proximity to Scheduled Monuments	a) Avoid; or seek approval from Historic Scotland						CHL and AE	CHL and AE
			b) Notify and enforce legislation relating to metal detecting on Scheduled Ancient Monuments						CHL,ELC,AE	CHL,ELC,AE
		ii) Avoid ground disturbance on or in close proximity to areas of known archaeological sensitivity	a) Avoid or seek approval from ELC for any "ground-breaking" disturbance in areas identified as archaeologically significant.						CHL,ELC,AE	CHL,ELC,AE
			b) No metal detecting to take place on any unscheduled archaeological sites without approval from ELC						CHL,ELC,AE	CHL,ELC,AE
			c) Notify and enforce legislation relating to the casual discovery of artefacts						ELC/CHL	Landscape and Countryside/ CHL and AE Employees

6. To manage golfing and ancillary interests to take account of the other objectives.	A: To provide golf courses and other ancillary facilities in accordance with planning permission	i) To provide golf facilities and other ancillary facilities	a) Manage effectively visitor access						ELC/CHL	CHL
		.	b) To maintain golf courses and other ancillary facilities						CHL and AE	CHL and AE
			c) Management plans including provision of access and interpretation, to be drawn up for both monuments						CHL and AE	CHL and AE

APPENDIX I – Figure 1: MANAGEMENT AREA



APPENDIX II SSSI Operations Requiring Consent

If you propose to carry out, or permit to be carried out, any of the operations listed below, you must first obtain consent from SNH unless a local authority has granted you planning permission (under Part III of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997) or a designated regulatory authority has given you written permission (under s.15 of the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004). If you have such permission you may proceed without obtaining consent from SNH for the same operation.

List of Operations Requiring Consent relevant to works at Yellowcraig only, unless stated: 2017:2021

<i>Standard Ref. No.</i>	<i>Type of Operation</i>
4	Changes in the mowing or cutting regime.
6	Application of pesticides, including herbicides (weedkillers).
11	The destruction, displacement, removal or cutting of any plant or plant remains.
21	Construction of tracks, fences, hardstands, banks, ditches or the maintenance of pipelines and cables.

Relevant actions from above	ORC Number	Location	Type of Operation	How (Brief description of how operation will be carried out)	When (annual start and end date)	Where
Cut and lift	4	Yellowcraig	Mowing	Cut and lift by small tractor with deck mower	September (post seed-setting)	Turf nursery
Identify and control any invasive species.	6	Yellowcraig	Application of herbicides on sea buckthorn, pirri-pirri bur, rosa rugosa sycamore and ash regen using eg Glyphosate (Round-up Biactive) and Triclopyr (Garlon 4).	Trained ELC staff. Appropriate signage erected on site.	2 sprays: 1: May/June; 2: August/September	Within any part of site boundary and Archerfield frontage, by ELC staff only.

	11	Yellowcraig	Remove ash, sycamore and Scots pine where determined to be posing a risk to sensitive dune vegetation.	As above.	If required.	Within any part of site boundary.
Path repair	11	Yellowcraig	The destruction, displacement, removal or cutting of any plant or plant remains, including herb or turf.	Lift turfs from defined area to use for repair of footpath.	As required	Within any part of site boundary.
Continue programme of strimming around gates and path edges as required.	11	Yellowcraig	The destruction, displacement, removal or cutting of any plant or plant remains, including herb or turf.	Countryside Ranger manually cuts grass using strimmer.	Regularly as required.	Within any part of site boundary.
Maintain fencing	21	Yellowcraig	Ches-pale fence maintenance.	Repairs as required	Year round	<i>Twisted pines plantation</i>
Step repair	21	Yellowcraig	Replace/improve steps on Yellow Craig	Resurface and potentially re-route	Winter 2018/19.	Yellow craig

APPENDIX III

Fire Contingency Plan

The continued application of the fire contingency plan is essential.

*1.0 In general the damage caused by an active fire is likely to be less great than that caused by attempts to extinguish it; **therefore a fire should normally be allowed to burn itself out.** The fire brigade should only be called if the fire is likely to spread to neighbouring property.*

2.0 Action of the Countryside Ranger Service in the Event of a fire:

2.1 Warn any persons in the vicinity of a fire.

2.2 Make rapid assessment of the scale, likely spread and consequences of the fire.

*2.3 Control, extinguish or contain the fire using available local materials if possible. Members of the public on site may assist. **Always place yourself and any others between the fire and a safe escape route.***

2.4 If the fire is likely to spread unacceptably or is a threat to neighbouring property, call the Fire Brigade using the 999 call.

2.4.1 State
(a) Name and Occupation
(b) Location and likely spread of fire
(c) Suitable access point and route

2.4.2 Open appropriate access gates if necessary.

2.4.3 Await Fire Brigade and liaise with officer in charge.

2.5 Inform appropriate staff in East Lothian Council of the situation.

2.6 Return to the site and ensure public safety.

3.0 Action by the Countryside Ranger after the event:

3.1 Thank all concerned in the operation.

3.2 Assess damage, in particular vegetation damage which could affect dune stability.

3.3 Report on incident. Note the time of, cause and action taken to deal with the fire. Report to include details of damage to the vegetation and any animal species identified.

3.4 Modify Fire Contingency Plan, if necessary, to improve effectiveness.

Telephones are located at:

1. Yellowcraig Caravan Site
2. Dirleton Village

Fire Brigade Access

Yellowcraig Car Park

Water is available from:

Tap at Yellowcraig car park
Eel Burn

UNIT 10 ARCHERFIELD AND YELLOWCRAIG

Fidra

Longskelly Point

Eyebroughy

Hanging Rocks

Manne Villa

Yellowcraig

Archerfield Estate

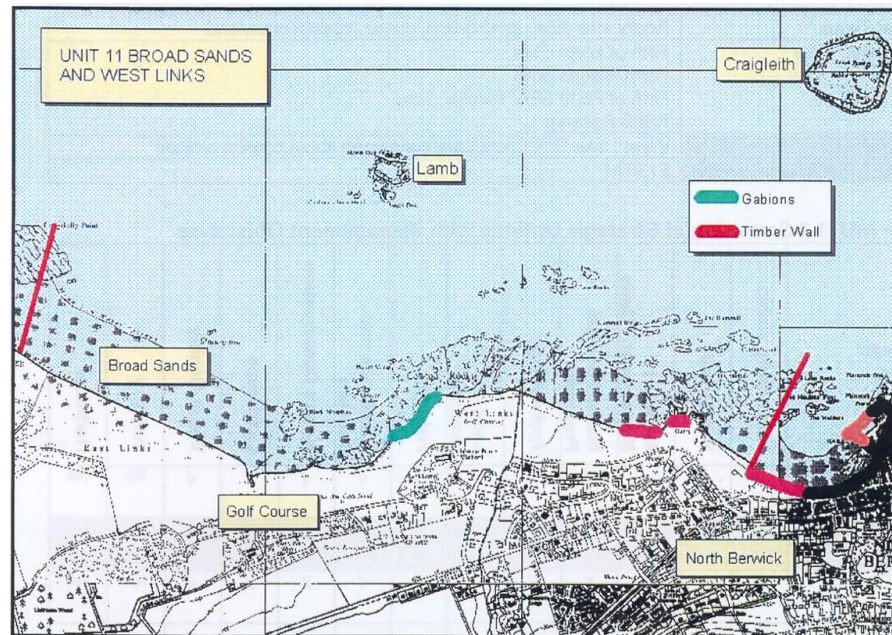
Westliffe Rocks

PRICES OF PINE

Map 11 – Unit 11 Broad Sands and West Links

Limited intervention is the preferred management option for MU11. Dune erosion of Links courses in Scotland is a common problem and the current thinking is that this erosion should be managed as an acceptable natural processes and coastal defence is not a long-term sustainable option and will merely transfer the problem down drift to another part of the shoreline.

Consideration of the relocation of tees/greens away from the shoreline should be considered together with establishing a monitoring programme to assess future changes. In terms of user management of Yellowcraig and the dunes at Broad Sands, the Council should consider methods such as dune fencing and planting to keep visitors off eroding dunes, with an aim to reduce the amount of human induced erosion.



APPENDIX V

YELLOWCRAIG WOODLAND MANAGEMENT PLAN

WOODLAND	SUMMARY DESCRIPTION	ROLE	MANAGEMENT	TIMING
Compartment 1	Degraded pine plantation (1961) with failed elm, reduced beech block and regen sycamore	Woodland component in attractive and varied landscape	Convert to open mixed woodland over next 15/20 years by retaining broadleaf element (favouring beech and <i>mature</i> sycamore). Some diversification, and the removal of LP/blown trees. Plant some gaps to diversify.	
a	Scots pine and beech with remnant mature sycamore on NW edge		Thin scots pine. Favour beech. Under plant gaps	
b	Spruce and lodgepole pine		Continue removal of LP/NS blown trees	Ongoing
c	Play area			
d	Sparsely stocked Scots pine and beech east of the play area			
Compartment 2	Overmature Scots pine, mature sycamores, with developing sycamore understory. Varied scrub assemblage and some grassland open space.	Woodland component in attractive and varied landscape	Retain open mixed mature trees. Favour felling around Yellow Craig and immature sycamore, creating more grassland open space.	
a	Ash/sycamore and occasional Scots pine.			

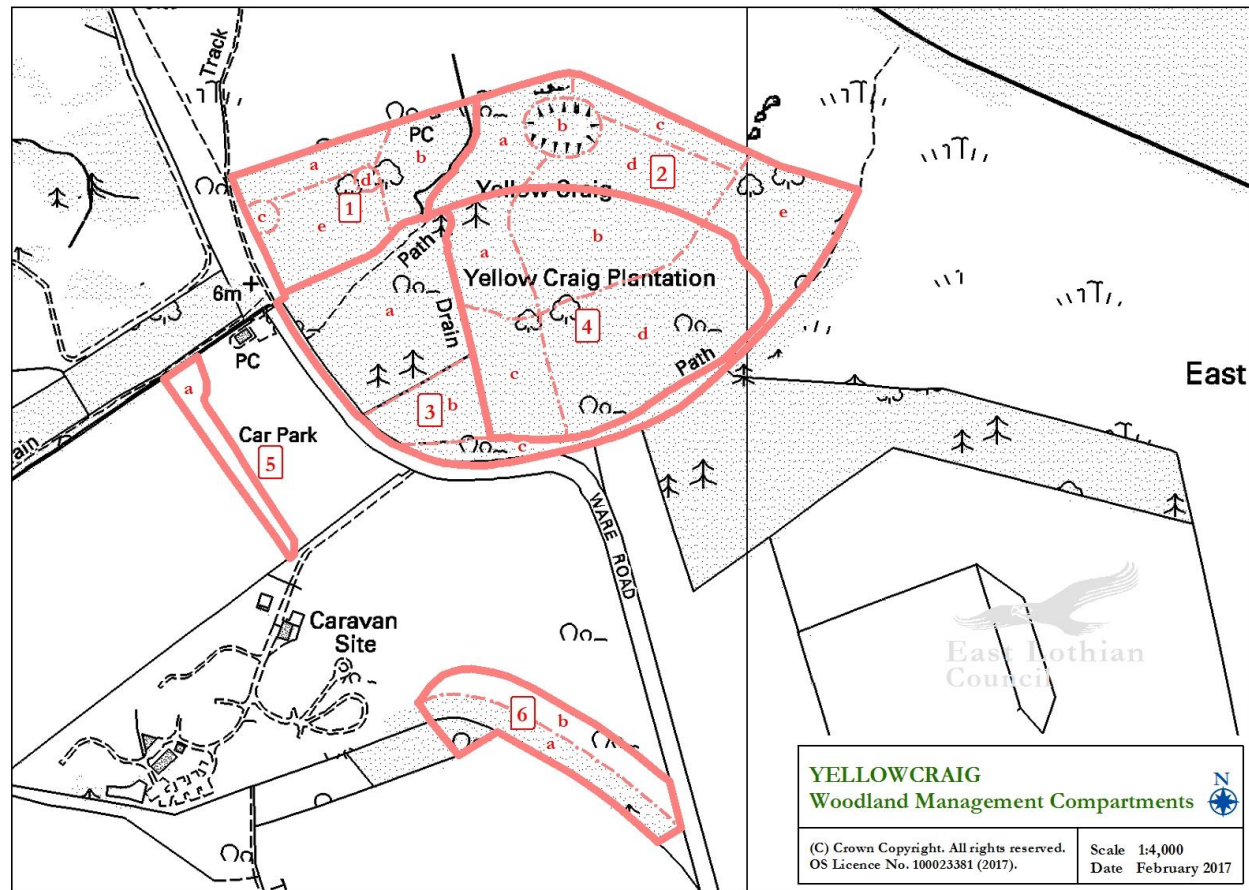
	Little grassland open space.			
b	Yellowcraig: sycamore, ash, yew, Scots pine, scrub.		Favour mature trees, especially Scots pine. Remove those likely to disrupt views from top. Eastern side removing all immature sycamore.	
c	Strip of shaped Scots pine and larch ; with short sward and rougher grassland		Underplant gaps with	
d	Self seeded young sycamore belt		Remove all sycamore regen and immature sycamore trees to create open grassland.	
e	Self seeded Scots pine and sycamore. Some mature sycamore and ash. Relict elm. Few oak.		Remove all sycamore regen and immature sycamore trees to create open grassland.	
Compartment 3	Sparsley stocked mature and over mature broadleaf woodland with blocks of regeneration and planting.	Accessible and inviting woodland close to car park. Softens plantation edge	Retain as open mixed woodland. Thin regeneration to favour individual trees. Plant to diversify species.	
a	Woodland edge specimens to the west side, well spaced graduating to denser stocking in E. Mature beech, oak, sycamore, Scots pine and ash.		Thin regeneration. Plant gaps to diversify.	Ongoing

	Occasional horse chestnut. Younger sycamore and beech planted in 1975 and primarily ash regeneration.			
b	Sycamore, beech mix with oak, overmature beech, western hemlock and a few silver birch.		Thin regeneration. Plant gaps to diversify.	Ongoing
c	Woodland edge with many mature specimens of beech, sycamore and ash, Regeneration dominated by sycamore.		Thin regeneration. Plant gaps to diversify.	Ongoing
Compartment 4	Pine plantation, planted in 1960, with failed elm and reduced beech blocks. Two previous thinnings; one selective and reduce the scale of Beech Bark and Dutch Elm diseases.	Largest woodland area. Quieter part of the woodland although still commonly used.	Employ woodland consultant to consider options.	
a	Scots pine and beech		Awaiting consultant recommendations	
b	Scots pine and beech increasing number of sycamore to N and E sides		Awaiting consultant recommendations	
c	Scots pine and beech with holly regeneration in centre, individual mature		Awaiting consultant recommendations	

	and Scots pine			
d	Scots pine and beech but with Corsican pine to S, silver birch towards E side, sycamore whips to S, and beech adjacent to S path.		Awaiting consultant recommendations	
Compartment 5	Narrow shelter strip of Scots pine, sycamore with hawthorn, elder, privet scrub.	Shelter and screen		
a			Plant up gaps to sustain function	2017
Compartment 6	Perimeter lodgepole and Corsican pine shelter belt planted in 1970, with adjoining mixed woodland to N planted in 2013	Shelter and screen	Enlarge and convert to Scots pine/broadleaf woodland.	
a			Plant gaps	2017
b	New mixed plantings	Amenity/wildlife	Beat up and maintain	2017

Management principles

- Aim for a variety of woodlands as this will enhance visitor experience and sustain a greater variety of wildlife
- Retain correct balance with other habitats such as grasslands and scrub
- Reduce non-native element to sustain biodiversity objectives.
- Retain some Scots pine for aesthetic, landscape and local heritage reasons.
- Retain some quiet woodland areas for wildlife, visitors and in reserve.



APPENDIX VI

Visitor Statistics

Year	Visits for the Year	Total Visits (plus summer pedestrians)
1991	186,343	194,246
1992	191,836	226,467
1993	200,295	264,389
1994	209,225	247,428
1995	237,561	282,673
1996	227,341	268,167
1997	236,025	278,263
1998	233,013	274,394
1999	232,985	274,503
2000	239,591	281,163
2001	202,355	240,840
2002	203,484	239,755
2003	255,868	307,260
2004	208,207	244,797
2005	222,520	263,938
2006	218,245	258,699

2001 Foot & Mouth restrictions

2005 Estimated Figure due to counter failure

APPENDIX VII – ARCHAEOLOGY INVENTORY

Ref Number	Name	Type	Listed Building No	Scheduled Monument No	Link to online HER
MEL599	ELDBOTLE WOOD	FINDSPOT			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL599
MEL601	STRABAUCHLINN KNOWE	FINDSPOT			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL601
MEL603	GULLANE LINKS	LONG CIST; ENCLOSURE?; FINDSPOT			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL603
MEL604	HANGING ROCKS, ARCHERFIELD	CAVE; FINDSPOT; WALL			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL604
MEL1233	ELDBOTLE, ARCHERFIELD ESTATE	DESERTED SETTLEMENT			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL1233
MEL1240	YELLOW CRAIG	LONG CIST			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL1240
MEL1241	YELLOW CRAIG	FINDSPOT			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL1241
MEL1243	MARINE VILLA, ELDBOTLE	CIST; LONG CIST CEMETERY?			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL1243
MEL1244	WHITE KNOWE, ELDBOTLE / ARCHERFIELD ESTATE	CAIRN			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL1244
MEL1245	ELDBOTLE	FINDSPOT			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL1245
MEL1248	ELDBOTLE / ELDBOTLE WOOD	MOTTE			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL1248
MEL1250	FIDRA / ELDBOTTLE, ELBOTTLE	NUNNERY?			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL1250
MEL1256	ELDBOTLE WOOD / ARCHERFIELD ESTATE	LINEAR EARTHWORK			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL1256
MEL1257	FIDRA	FINDSPOT			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL1257
MEL1260	DIRLETON, BATTERY	COASTAL BATTERY?			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL1260
MEL1339	DIRLETON	FINDSPOT			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL1339
MEL1340	ARCHERFIELD HOUSE, DIRLETON	COUNTRY HOUSE	1536		http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL1340
MEL2013	ELDBOTLE, ARCHERFIELD ESTATE	DESERTED SETTLEMENT; SETTLEMENT		10352	http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL2013
MEL2020	WHITE KNOWE / ARCHERFIELD	CAIRN		5796	http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL2020
MEL2322	GULLANE, HANGING ROCKS	TRENCH			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL2322
MEL2323	GULLANE, NORTH LINKS	GUN EMPLACEMENT			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL2323
MEL2324	GULLANE, NORTH LINKS	TRENCH			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL2324

MEL2430	WEAKLAW ROCKS, FIDRA BATTERY / MARINE VILLA	COASTAL BATTERY			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL2430
MEL2828	ELDBOTLE WOOD / WEAK LAW	BUILDING; ENCLOSURE			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL2828
MEL3068	FALCON: FIDRA ROCKS, FIRTH OF FORTH / FIDRA ISLAND, BRIGS OF FIDRA, OUTER FORTH ESTUARY	MARINE CASUALTY			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL3068
MEL3071	WEEKE HARHUIS: FIDRA, FIRTH OF FORTH / FIDRA ISLAND, OUTER FORTH ESTUARY	MARINE CASUALTY			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL3071
MEL3090	MALTA: FIDRA, FIRTH OF FORTH / FIDRA ISLAND, OUTER FORTH ESTUARY	MARINE CASUALTY			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL3090
MEL3639	ARCHERFIELD, WALLED GARDEN	GARDEN			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL3639
MEL3644	ARCHERFIELD, WEST APPROACH	SUMMERHOUSE			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL3644
MEL4131	ELDBOTLE WOOD, MARINA VILLA / ELDBOTLE WOOD, MARINE VILLA	HOUSE	1347		http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL4131
MEL4132	ELDBOTLE WOOD, MARINE COTTAGE / ELDBOTLE, MARINE VILLA COTTAGE	SERVICE WING; HOUSE	1348		http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL4132
MEL4948	ELDBOTLE WOOD	COPPICE			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL4948
MEL6896	VANGUARD: FIDRA, FIRTH OF FORTH	MARINE CASUALTY			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL6896
MEL7930	YELLOW CRAIG PLANTATION	PLANTATION			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL7930
MEL7972	YELLOW CRAIG	FINDSPOT			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL7972
MEL8758	ELDBOTLE, ARCHERFIELD ESTATE	BANK (EARTHWORK)			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL8758
MEL8759	ARCHERFIELD ESTATE, DIRLETON	FLAGPOLE?			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL8759
MEL8761	YELLOW CRAIG, ARCHERFIELD ESTATE, DIRLETON	FINDSPOT			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL8761
MEL8762	DUNCAN'S PLANTATION, ARCHERFIELD ESTATE, DIRLETON	DITCH			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL8762
MEL8763	NORTH LINKS, ARCHERFIELD ESTATE, DIRLETON	RIDGE AND FURROW			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL8763
MEL8764	DUNCAN'S PLANTATION, ARCHERFIELD ESTATE, DIRLETON	LINEAR FEATURE			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL8764
MEL8765	NORTH LINKS, ARCHERFIELD ESTATE, DIRLETON	LINEAR FEATURE			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL8765
MEL8766	ARCHERFIELD ESTATE, DIRLETON	ENCLOSURE			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL8766
MEL8767	NORTH LINKS, ARCHERFIELD, DIRLETON	POST ALIGNMENT; STRUCTURE			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL8767
MEL8946	EMANUEL: FIDRA, FIRTH OF FORTH	GALLIOT; MARINE CASUALTY			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL8946
MEL8956	DIRLETON, YELLOWCRAIG	ENCLOSURE			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL8956
MEL8978	HENRY: FIDRA ROADS, NORTH BERWICK, FIRTH OF FORTH	SCHOONER; MARINE CASUALTY			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL8978

Archerfield & Yellowcraig Management Plan

MEL9331	MARINE VILLA, ARCHERFIELD, NORTH BERWICK	STANDING STONE			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL9331
MEL9566	ELDBOTLE, ARCHERFIELD ESTATE	DESERTED SETTLEMENT			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL9566
MEL10135	DIRLETON, ARCHERFIELD, ARCHERFIELD GOLF COURSE	GOLF COURSE			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL10135
MEL10192	Archerfield Estate	WALL			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL10192
MEL10397	WEAKLAW ROCKS, FIDRA BATTERY	SEARCHLIGHT EMPLACEMENT			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL10397
MEL10992	ARCHERFIELD, DESIGNED LANDSCAPE	GARDEN; LANDSCAPE PARK			http://www.johngraycentre.org/collections/getrecord/ELHER_MEL10992

APPENDIX VIII

Vascular plant species which qualify for monitoring at Yellowcraig and Archerfield, East Lothian (Averis, 2012).

Species	Month												YEAR				
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Frog Orchid (<i>Coeloglossum viride</i>)							x						x	x	x	x	x
Moonwort (<i>Botrychium lunaria</i>)					x								x survey	x presence	x survey	x presence	x survey
Variegated Horsetail (<i>Equisetum variegatum</i>)					x								x	x	x	x	x
Bog Pimpernel (<i>Anagallis tenella</i>)							x						x	x	x	x	x
Small-fruited Yellow Sedge (<i>Carex viridula viridula</i>)							x						x	x	x	x	x
Scots Lovage (<i>Ligusticum scoticum</i>)						x								x		x	
Purple Milk-vetch (<i>Astragalus danicus</i> ,					x								x	x	x	x	x
Musk Thistle (<i>Carduus nutans</i>)						x							x	x	x	x	x
Fern Grass (<i>Catapodium rigidum</i>)						x							x	x	x	x	x
Greater Knapweed (<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>)								x					x	x	x	x	x
Basil Thyme (<i>Clinopodium acinos</i>)						x		x					x	x	x	x	x
Heath Cudweed (<i>Gnaphalium sylvaticum</i>)						x							x	x	x	x	x
Bluebell (<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>)				x	x								x		x		x
Rush-leaved Fescue , (<i>Festuca arenaria</i>)						x									x		
Hairy Violet (<i>Viola hirta</i>)					x								x	x	x	x	x
Rue-leaved Saxifrage (<i>Saxifraga tridactylites</i>)					x									x			
<i>Racomitrium cansecens</i>	x																
Houndstongue (<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>)								x					x		x		x

APPENDIX IX

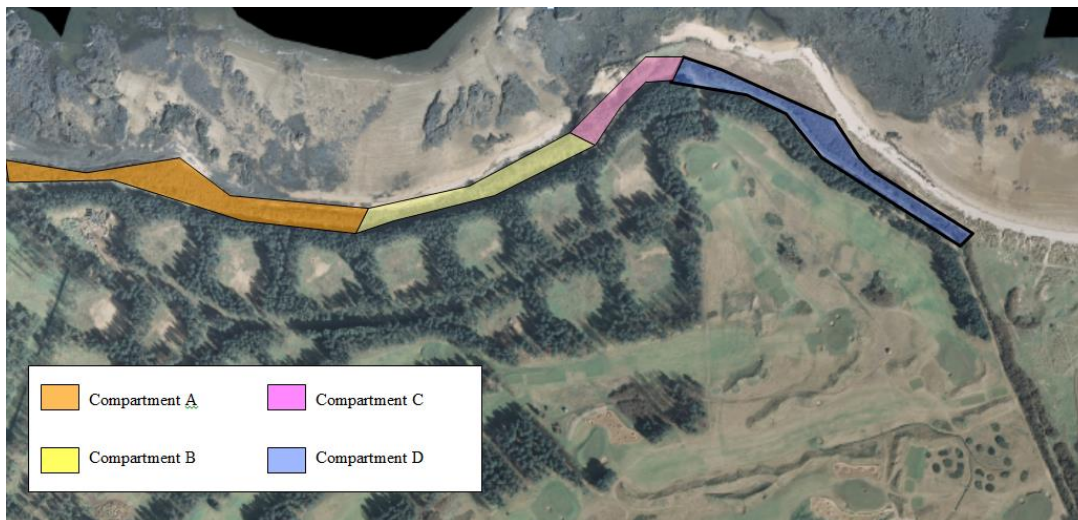
Other relevant documentation

- Archerfield & Yellowcraig Annual Report
- Archerfield Designed Landscape Plan
- Marine Villa Management Plan
- Renaissance Golf Club Management Plan
- Renaissance 2011 extension Management Plan
- Renaissance Golf Club Woodland Management Plan
- Renaissance Golf Club Biodiversity Action Plan
- ELC Yellowcraig visitor survey 2016

APPENDIX X

Addendum for Management of Sea Buckthorn Barrier

Site map



Management aims.

1. To manage the fence and adjacent buckthorn to maintain a physical and visual barrier between Archerfield Estate and the shore
 2. Eradication of the sycamore
 3. Maintaining a continuous onshore path
-
-

Prescriptions.

1. 2 metre cyclical cutting of sea buckthorn:

- to maintain a reasonable height
- to stimulate new growth
- to prevent tall “leggy” bushes developing
- to retain plant vigour
- to encourage dense lower growth

It cannot accurately determine how often such cutting will be required – **to be agreed following an annual autumn inspection visit**. The exact areas cut will be determined, in part, by the available machinery, i.e. a tractor with a flail arm may be able to cut approx. 3m either side of the accessible path.

For scrub above 3 metres height a topping cut down to 2 metres above ground level.

For scrub below 2 metres height allow growth to reach 3 metres then top to 2 metres above ground level.

Topping cut by mounted flail between November and February.

Where there is sufficient width of sea buckthorn between path and fence line the path side sea buckthorn can be cut to c1 metre, leaving the rest of the width on the 2 metre cycle. This would stimulate lower growth and help to create an impenetrable barrier.

2. Cut and treat sycamore.

Cutting of sycamore and herbicide treatment of stumps to prevent regrowth.

Cut away any new seeded plants.

3. Maintain a continuous onshore path.

Use path for maintenance vehicle access as this will help to define it.

Minimise damage to path when carrying out operations.

Route the path to provide a desirable line for walkers and suitable for maintenance operations.

The walkers should, occasionally, have a view to the beach and beyond.

This a stable section of coast and erosion is not a significant factor but creating bare sand should be avoided as it will be liable to blow.

Apart from the pinch point there is a reasonable width between shore and fence.



 Maintenance track route

Figure 2: Maintenance track route.

Russian vine (*Fallopia baldschuanica*) is becoming prevalent at various points along the fenceline in all compartments. As it is invasive CHL have agreed to undertake control by cutting back from within the inside of the green fence.

Compartments A & B

- There has been significant cutting and spraying of sycamore along this entire section. Good progress, although follow up cutting and spraying will need to be carried out to keep on top of sycamore regeneration.
- Post flailing the sea buckthorn adjacent to the fence and south of the newly formed path (excavator tracking) has re-grown reasonably well. Regeneration is beginning to take off more in most places such that an effective barrier along the fence line should become established within five years or less. Seaward sea buckthorn should be topped when other compartments are being flailed. There is little sea buckthorn growth adjacent to the fence. What there is should be allowed to come through to fence height before topping fail.
- Compartment A : Continue with triclopyr (or other) annual herbicide application to control sea buckthorn .

Compartment C

- Post flailing and sand removal this compartment was primarily bare sand with a fringe of mature sea buckthorn along the seaward edge. Marram planted to reinstate the area has taken very well with little bare sand now left. Marram should continue to expand.
- The lack of sea buckthorn regeneration along the fenceline at this point is still a concern.

Compartment D.

- Post mulching and grubbing there has been an annual herbicide spraying regime targeting re-growth. Negligible sea buckthorn component remains apart from continued suckering from mature stems south of path.

Notes

- A maintenance strim or flail of the path edges will be needed during the growing season to cut back soft growth.
- A ground level cut immediate adjacent to the path edge will be needed on a longer cycle back to rejuvenate growth and to prevent a tunnel effect forming.

Commented [D1]:

APPENDIX XI – YELLOWCRAIG MAIN PATHS

