

AKERCOME BOTTOM  
SSSI Habitat Restoration Consultation Meeting  
7<sup>th</sup> September 2009

- 1 Network of remnant meanders and channels through woodland. Causeway to footbridge compromised by additional flow routes.  
*Proposal to restore the original meandering channel and culvert the causeway.*  
AGREED, BUT PUT IN A FORD RATHER THAN A CULVERT. PUT REJECTS ON THE BOTTOM OF THE FORD, AND FINER GRAVELS ON THE TOP.
- 2 Lawn with multiple channels and gravel deposition.  
*Proposal to define one channel across the lawn, following the old meander route (lowest point). Gravel deposits to be returned to channel; further washout to be prevented by resolving erosion issues upstream within the woodland.*  
AGREED. CLEAR OAK AND SCRUB OFF THE LAWN ALONG THE LINE OF THE RESTORED CHANNEL. CREATE A BOARDED FORD CROSSING POINT AT THE EASTERN END OF THE LAWN. ONCE THE AGREED CHANNEL HAS BEEN DEFINED, INFILL THE REDUNDANT DRAIN.
- 3 Deeply eroded channel through woodland.  
*Proposal to restore original meanders, slowing the flow rate and restoring the stream's interaction with its floodplain. This would reduce stream bed erosion and gravel deposition downstream. This would require some tree and scrub removal.*  
AGREED, PROVIDED CROSSING POINTS ARE RETAINED. 4 DISTINCT AREAS FOR TREE AND SCRUB REMOVAL WERE IDENTIFIED (SEE MAP):  
A Remove pine & thorn scrub at end of lawn  
B Clear glade - remove oak, pine, etc  
C Clear pine, hemlock & scrub to let in light along meander route  
D Clear glade - remove larch and leggy scrub through to lawn
- 4 Small drain arising within the wood, no longer taking significant flow.  
*Proposal to infill this side drain.*  
AGREED.
- 5 Drain off the mire, running through the wood. Deep channel at bottom suggests high runoff in winter.  
*Proposal to raise the bed level at the eroded bottom end, to link in to the restored meander level.*  
AGREED.
- 6 From woodland to crossing: eroded vegetated channel through mire.  
*Proposal to square off the eroded part of the channel and put in staked heather bales (as has been done above the crossing). Reinststate mire vegetation over the top.*  
AGREED TO RAISE THE BED LEVEL WHERE THE CHANNEL IS ERODING WITH DROP-OFF POINTS. ENSURE CROSSING IS RETAINED. CUT TOPS OFF STAKES SHOWING FROM PREVIOUS RESTORATION.
- 7 Poached and eroded drop-off by fence above pond.  
*Proposal to grade off transition from mire to pond using staked heather bales, enabling consolidation with vegetation.*  
AGREED. REMOVE FENCE ABOVE POND, BUT RETAIN FENCE AROUND AND BELOW POND (TO SOUTH AND WEST).