

Cow Hollow Wood

(Plan period – 2023 to 2028)



WOODLAND
TRUST

Management Plan Content Page

Introduction to the Woodland Trust Estate

Management of the Woodland Trust Estate

The Public Management Plan

Location and Access

Introduction to the Woodland Trust Estate

The Woodland Trust owns and cares for well over 1,250 sites covering almost 30,000 hectares (ha) across the UK. This includes more than 4,000ha of ancient semi-natural woodland and almost 4,000ha of non-native plantations on ancient woodland sites and we have created over 5,000ha of new native woodland. We also manage other valuable habitats such as flower-rich grasslands, heaths, ponds/lakes and moorland.

Our Vision is:

“A UK rich in native woods and trees for people and wildlife.”

To realise all the environmental, social and economic benefits woods and trees bring to society, we:

- **Create Woodland** – championing the need to hugely increase the UK’s native woodland and trees.
- **Protect Woodland** – fighting to defend native woodland, especially irreplaceable ancient woodland and veteran trees; there should be no loss of ancient woodland
- **Restore Woodland** – ensuring the sensitive restoration of all damaged ancient woodland and the re-creation of native wooded landscapes.

Management of the Woodland Trust Estate

All our sites have a management plan which is freely accessible via our website

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk

Our woods are managed to the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS) and are certified with the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) under licence FSC-C009406 and through independent audit.

The following principles provide an overarching framework to guide the management of all our sites but we recognise that all woods are different and that their management also needs to reflect their local landscape, history and where appropriate support local projects and initiatives.

1. Our woods are managed to maintain their intrinsic key features of value and to reflect those of the surrounding landscape. We intervene in our woods when there is evidence that it is necessary to maintain or improve biodiversity, safety and to further the development of more resilient woods and landscapes.
2. We establish new native woodland for all the positive reasons set out in our Conservation Principles, preferably using natural regeneration but often by planting trees, particularly when there are opportunities for involving people.
3. We provide free public access to woods for quiet, informal recreation and our woods are managed to make them accessible, welcoming and safe. Where possible, we pro-actively engage with people to help them appreciate the value of woods and trees.
4. The long term vision for all our ancient woodland sites is to restore them to predominantly native species composition and semi-natural structure, a vision that equally applies to our secondary woods.
5. Existing semi-natural open ground and freshwater habitats are restored and maintained wherever their management can be sustained and new open ground habitats created where appropriate.
6. The natural and cultural heritage value of sites is taken into account in our management and in particular, our ancient trees are retained for as long as possible.
7. Land and woods can generate income both from the sustainable harvesting of wood products and the delivery of other services. We therefore consider the appropriateness of opportunities to generate income from our Estate to help support our aims.
8. We work with neighbours, local people, organisations and other stakeholders in developing the management of our woods. We recognise the benefits of local community woodland ownership and management. Where appropriate we encourage our woods to be used for local woodland, conservation, education and access initiatives.
9. We use and offer the Estate where appropriate, for the purpose of demonstration, evidence gathering and research associated with the conservation, recreational and sustainable management of woodlands. We maintain a network of sites for long-term monitoring and trials leading to reductions in plastics and pesticides.
10. Any activities we undertake are in line with our wider Conservation Principles, conform to sustainable forest management practices, are appropriate for the site and balanced with our primary objectives of enhancing the biodiversity and recreational value of our woods and the wider landscapes.

The Public Management Plan

This public management plan describes the site and sets out the long term aims for our management and lists the Key Features which drive our management actions. The Key Features are specific to this site – their significance is outlined together with our long, 50 years and beyond, and our short, the next 5 years, term objectives for the management and enhancement of these features. The short term objectives are complemented by an outline Work Programme for the period of this management plan aimed at delivering our management aims.

Detailed compartment descriptions are listed in the appendices which include any major management constraints and designations. Any legally confidential or sensitive species information about this site is not included in this version of the plan.

There is a formal review of this plan every 5 years and we continually monitor our sites to assess the success of our management, therefore this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme.

Please either consult The Woodland Trust website

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk

or contact the Woodland Trust

operations@woodlandtrust.org.uk

to confirm details of the current management programme.

A short glossary of technical terms can be found at the end of the plan.

Location and Access

Location maps and directions for how to find and access our woods, including this site, can be found by using the following link to the Woodland Trust web-site which contains information on accessible woodlands across the UK

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/find-woods/>

In Scotland access to our sites is in accordance with the Land Reform Act (of Scotland) 2003 and the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

In England, Wales and NI, with the exception of designated Public Rights of Ways, all routes across our sites are permissive in nature and where we have specific access provision for horse riders and/or cyclists this will be noted in the management plan.

The Management Plan

1. Site Details
2. Site Description
3. Long Term Policy
4. Key Features
 - 4.1 f1 Connecting People with woods & trees
 - 4.2 f2 Secondary Woodland
5. Work Programme

Appendix 1 : Compartment Descriptions

GLOSSARY

1. SITE DETAILS

Cow Hollow Wood

Location:	Waterbeach Grid reference: TL500647 OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 154
Area:	6.82 hectares (16.85 acres)
External Designations:	Green Belt
Internal Designations:	Welcoming Sites Programme, Woods on Your Doorstep

2. SITE DESCRIPTION

Cow Hollow Wood was planted in November 2000 as a native broadleaved woodland under our Woods on your Doorstep initiative with help from volunteers and schoolchildren. It has become very well established using a species mix associated with Wet Woodland habitat and comprises 30% open space and 70% tree cover with closed canopy (or in coppice rotation). The wood was planted with Willow, Ash, Alder, Birch, Field Maple and Oak with shrub species consisting of Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Guelder Rose, Hazel and Dogwood.

The wood is set in a typical Fenland landscape on the edge of the village of Waterbeach. The village of Waterbeach is a commuter village close to the City of Cambridge and as such there are areas of large housing development within the vicinity of the village.

The agricultural land to the south of the wood is owned by Cambridgeshire County Council and is grazed and occasionally cut for silage. The land is also registered under HLS. The railway borders the west of the site, with the river Cam a short way (100m) to the east. The whole area is part of the flood plain for the river Cam, and so can flood in times of extreme weather. (not occurred in recent history).

The name 'Cow Hollow Wood' has been chosen locally and refers to the old field name for the site when the field was a meadow grazed by cattle. The features on the site were named by children at the local school, as part of a site improvement project in 2012/13. These include "Explorer's Hangout", "Coppice Corner" and the "Remarkable Reed Bed".

A small area (0.10ha) next to the central drain has been planted with osiers (*Salix viminalis*) and is managed as coppice, along with other areas of willow as seen necessary. The Central ditch is managed by the Woodland Trust and leads into an Internal Drainage Board drain, with a reed-bed to the south of the site, overlapping Cambridge County Councils land and serving to soften the landscape and provide additional habitat. Part of the site on the western side was designed to deliberately not have paths running through it, to create an area that is less disturbed for wildlife. The grassy rides & paths throughout the site are prone to becoming waterlogged in the winter months making vehicular access difficult.

The site links well into the local public rights of way network - joining the village with the river Cam. Circular routes have been created within the site giving the visitor a choice of paths around the wood. The entrances have kissing gates, with the site having waymarker signs and two information boards at either end of the wood to help to guide visitors around the site. Car parking is available either in the lay-by at the south-eastern corner (space for up to 5 cars) or in the railway station car park (30+ pay and display spaces, often full during normal office hours). On the eastern and northern boundaries the site is bordered by the Sustrans cycle route number 11, which links various urban and rural areas within the Cambridgeshire Fens. With Cow Hollow Wood being within easy reach of Cambridge and Waterbeach through good transport links the wood also is a key site for delivering the Woodland Trust, Connecting People With Woods and Trees programme.

The key features on this site are:

- Connecting People with Woods & Trees
- New Native Woodland.

3. LONG TERM POLICY

Cow Hollow Wood will be a well established mix of high forest and wet woodland, consisting of primarily native broadleaved tree and shrub species with developing standing and fallen deadwood habitat. The site will be managed through a combination of good forestry practices and natural regeneration. The high forest will be complemented by a wet woodland component which is characteristic of historical wet woodlands in the local area.

The wood will have a tree species mix that supports both the wet woodland and the, high forest woodland elements and will consist of species including Willow, Ash, Alder, Birch, Field Maple and Oak. The Ash in the wood will provide some of the standing and deadwood element to the wood, as well as creating gaps within the canopy to allow natural regeneration. The areas of dense Willow will be managed under a coppice rotation and will provide areas of differing structural diversity within the wood complemented by the areas of high forest. The small area of reed-bed will provide a differing habitat type on the site and the scrub will be managed regularly to prevent succession. The shrubs species in the wood will provide a diverse mix of Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Guelder Rose, Hazel and Dogwood. The hedge on the north and eastern boundaries will be managed traditionally and provide additional structural diversity and biodiversity benefits on the boundary of the site.

Cow Hollow wood will exhibit strong community links, and continue to be enjoyed by local people for relaxation and recreation. The woodland will be open to the public in perpetuity and site will successfully connect people to woods and trees and be a shop window for our wider cause messaging.

Low key public access will be maintained to the site, and the paths, signs, bridges and other furniture that allow safe access for the public are to be maintained in good order. The wood is primarily for the use and enjoyment of the village of Waterbeach and the surrounding parishes, however given the site's location next to Waterbeach station and Sustrans cycle route 11, Cow Hollow Wood will also provide Connecting People with Woods and Trees, opportunities for people from further afield. The wood will also continue to maintain linkages to other public rights of way in the local area. The wood with its close transport linkages to Cambridge will also provide opportunities for locals to volunteer on the site and support the management of the wood.

Potential opportunities for engagement with local community groups will be embraced with capacity created by effective engagement of volunteers who will help sustain the quality of the visitor offer onsite. This may include small-scale guided walks and events for example.

Local schools will use the site regularly for self-led engagement.

Links with other local attractions will be strengthened and opportunities for partnership working and cross-promotion pursued where appropriate.

4. KEY FEATURES

4.1 f1 Connecting People with woods & trees

Description

Cow Hollow was planted as part of the Woodland Trust Millennium 'Woods on your Doorstep' project. Local people were involved in the fundraising, design and planting. The site is within easy walking distance of the village of Waterbeach, a 12 minute walk via the railway station, which is located next to the wood. Trains run to Cambridge approximately every 15 minutes and the journey is 6 minutes. Access is possible along the Sustrans towpath along the banks of the river Cam, and the wood is a 10 minute cycle ride to the centre of Cambridge. Transport links locally are good, with the A10 and A14 nearby. The cathedral city of Ely is 20 minutes' drive away.

Access/Infrastructure

-There are 3 access points all fitted with medium mobility kissing gates. One is next to the pay and display car park at Waterbeach Station and another is next to a layby which affords less formal local parking. Both entrances have display boards with visitor information, routes and maps.

-Permissive access is available throughout the site on un-surfaced woodland pathways and wide, open rides, which can become very muddy during times of wet weather. In addition to the information boards at the two main entrances, there is finger post signage to assist with navigation around the site, highlighting the features of interest which were named by local school children in 2013.

-There are good quality orientation boards at each entrance, with poster holders which allow for additional information to be added and rotated.. They could be used to provide additional information about work taking place at the site. There are well-positioned finger post signs in good condition throughout the site which clearly mark the trail and features of interest.

General Communication Drivers

-Cow Hollow wood is located within the village of Waterbeach, which is the largest village on the edge of the fens, with a population 5166. Nearby Cambridge is the County Town of Cambridgeshire with a population of 145,700 (2021). Good public transport links and footpaths connect the wood to both, meaning that target audiences in both locations could potentially be visitors to the wood. The site provides accessible 'green space' within easy access of the urban city of Cambridge, and provides opportunities for city-dwellers to utilise it for relaxation and recreation. The large population of Waterbeach is within walking distance, and the site can be promoted as a local community asset. Anecdotally the site is well-used by locals, particularly dog-walkers but detailed information on the visitor base and numbers is not available.

The features within the site that provide interest are as follows :

- There is an open central glade which was named 'Explorers Hangout' by the local schoolchildren and which provides a great spot to relax in for a family picnic, and is a magnet for butterflies and dragonflies in summer.
- Two of the four carved benches on site are also situated in this area, and provide a welcome resting place.
- The artworks on these benches have been inspired by the names given to the site features.
- There is an area of willow coppice, The area is known as Coppice Corner, where visitors can see a traditional form of management practice.

The current visitor offer at Cow Hollow wood is a low key one, and reflects the Trust's original intention of creating places for quiet, informal recreation. The wood is a quiet and peaceful place which provides an amenity to local people to escape from the nearby urban developments and explore independently. The visitor offer is informal recreation, offering space for quite contemplative walking, family picnic site, and dog walking.

The site links in with public rights of way in the area and could be publicised via the 'Fen Rivers Way' (a footpath along the river bank between Ely and Cambridge.) A Sustrans route was installed around/just outside the boundary in 2007 running between Waterbeach and Cambridge which will eventually connect through to Ely, and which provides potential opportunities to increase visitors from these urban areas. The wood is within walking distance of Waterbeach railway station, which lies on the Cambridge to Kings Lynn line, and there are direct trains to Cambridge, Kings Lynn and Kings Cross, London.

For future engagement and interpretation there is potential to expand on the theme of preserving traditional land-uses and rural skills relating to the willow coppicing industry.

Nearby sites with potential for partnership engagement are Milton Country Park (<http://www.miltoncountrypark.org/>), English Heritage-owned Denny Abbey (<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/denny-abbey-and-the-farmland-museum/>), and the National Trust-owned Wicken Fen (<http://www.wicken.org.uk/>) and Anglesey Abbey (<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/anglesey-abbey-gardens-and-lode-mill>).

Events

-There is no current active events programme onsite. There is an open space, The Explorer's Hangout, which could be utilised for small community events such as certain low-key brand moments or guided walks, trails, foraging events etc, which are relevant. The site is not appropriate for mass participation events because of limited size and limited parking nearby.

Volunteers

-The site currently benefits from one volunteer, who undertakes the Woodland Warden role on the site.
-It may be possible to develop opportunities for one-off volunteers or groups to promote the site and help with the delivery of events and activities, subject to capacity.

Schools

-There are currently no forest schools at the site, or schools which use the site in a formal capacity. There is potential to develop this in the future, as the site would be suitable, if local schools were interested in this. As a result of the

previous project in 2013, Waterbeach Community Primary School has already been involved with the wood, and there may be potential to build further on this relationship (although they have a woodland on their school premises so there may be little incentive for them become more involved) . If they are not already part of the Green Tree School Award, opportunities to sign them up to this should be investigated. Milton Primary School is also nearby.

Wider Community Engagement

-There is a very active local group, the Waterbeach Community Association, (<http://www.waterbeach.org/>) which is a 'friendly alliance of community groups, organisations and interested individuals' in Waterbeach, Landbeach and Chittering, that organises a variety of annual community and social events, including the Waterbeach Feast every year in June. They also publish a quarterly magazine 'Beach News' to which we might consider submitting an article to promote Cow Hollow wood. There is also a community Playgroup in the village (<http://www.waterbeachplaygroup.org.uk/>)

Significance

Cow Hollow Wood provides an important free accessible woodland close to the city of Cambridge, accessible to the surrounding urban population via footpaths. It is very well used by locals, particularly for dog-walking, and informal recreational use. It provides a valuable public amenity for which local alternatives are limited.

The village of Waterbeach is within walking distance, and the wood provides a valuable local community resource for recreation and educational use, and the relationship with the local school is valuable. Ways to promote and increase the involvement of the local community should be encouraged. Previous engagement initiatives such as the living willow bridge should be maintained and expanded upon where possible.

With the surrounding fenland landscape, the site provides a rare woodland environment, and preserves ancient landscape characteristics such as reed beds and willow coppices which are now few in number elsewhere. As a result of this, the woodland also contributes to the preservation of traditional fenland crafts such as willow-weaving and thatching, and opportunities to increase this should be encouraged.

Because of the nature of the fenland on which it stands, the wood is a rare example of a wet woodland environment, which provides specialist habitat for a variety of species of plants, birds and mammals, within a landscape which is otherwise predominated by intense arable farming.

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities:

Access/Infrastructure

- The site links in with public rights of way in the area and could be publicised via the 'Fens Rivers Way' (A footpath along the river bank between Ely and Cambridgeshire).
- A Sustrans route was installed around/just outside the boundary of the wood in 2007 running between Waterbeach and Cambridge, and will eventually connect to Ely.
- There is a railway station right next to the site.

General Comms Drivers

- Engagement with local community – fostering of community affection for the woodland, and increased local usage.
- Engagement with people using local footpaths, encouraging them to 'detour' into the wood.
- There is a high percentage of the local population that overlaps with our Woodland Trust Membership Mosaic Profile, which could indicate a membership 'ask' might be well-received, providing an opportunity for membership development activity in this area.

Events

- There is a car park nearby that could be utilised, particularly for weekend events, when there is less pressure on the car park from commuters. There is a small amount of relatively open space that could host small-scale events.
- Open central glade - 'Explorers Hangout' – which could be used

Volunteering

- There may be opportunities for one-off volunteering groups or working groups to engage through events and activities. Increased local engagement and publicity opportunities could be fulfilled through volunteer opportunities.

Schools

- Waterbeach Community Primary School is within walking distance of the wood and has engaged with it previously, so there may be opportunities to re-engage them and encourage further involvement.

Wider Community Engagement

- Possibility to engage with Waterbeach Community Association which is an active local community group that organises a variety of annual community events, including the Waterbeach Feast every year in June.
- Potential to raise awareness of the site via marketing at the train station?
- Cambs University?

Constraints:

Access/Infrastructure

- The site can become wet and boggy and this may constrain access at certain times of the year.
- The high percentage of willow and the narrow paths mean that continual resource expenditure on ride edge coppice will be needed if expected levels of public access are to be maintained.
- Site can flood.

General Comms Drivers

- Small-scale site with limited parking facilities limits the scale of activities that can be done on-site.
- Disparity in wealth of surrounding population requires careful management to ensure that events or engagement activities are not perceived as being for more well-off residents and exclusive of those on lower-incomes.

Events

- Lack of large-scale open space within the site for larger events. Car parking facilities are not sufficient enough for large events.
- Largest, wealthiest sector of residents are retired, so paid-for events need to cater for this age group, or for families in a grandparent setting. Local families tend to be on lower incomes and therefore any family events need to reflect this.

Volunteering

- Staff capacity to facilitate and maintain involvement

Schools

- WT Staff capacity to facilitate and maintain involvement. Capacity and receptiveness of school staff.

Wider Community Engagement

- Lack of staff capacity to facilitate and maintain involvement. Milton Country Park is closer to inhabitants of Cambridge and may present competition for the same user groups.

Factors Causing Change

- Ash Dieback
- Scrub encroachment.
- Deterioration of paths/ footpath erosion.
- Vandalism/unauthorised access
- increased visitor pressures in local area due to development

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Cow Hollow wood will exhibit strong community links, and continue to be enjoyed by local people for relaxation and recreation. The woodland will be open to the public in perpetuity and site will successfully connect people to woods and trees and be a shop window for our wider cause messaging.

Low key public access will be maintained to the site, and the paths, signs, bridges and other furniture that allow safe access for the public are to be maintained in good order. The wood is primarily for the use and enjoyment of the village of Waterbeach and the surrounding parishes, however given the site's location next to Waterbeach station and Sustrans cycle route 11, Cow Hollow Wood will also provide Connecting People with Woods and Trees, opportunities for people from further afield. The wood will also continue to maintain linkages to other public rights of way in the local area. The wood with its close transport linkages to Cambridge will also provide opportunities for locals to volunteer on the site and support the management of the wood.

Potential opportunities for engagement with local community groups will be embraced with capacity created by effective engagement of volunteers who will help sustain the quality of the visitor offer onsite. This may include small-

scale guided walks and events for example.

Local schools will use the site regularly for self-led engagement.

Links with other local attractions will be strengthened and opportunities for partnership working and cross-promotion pursued where appropriate.

Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)

The 2100m of paths and rides are to be maintained annually with a ride system cut 3 times annually to a minimum of 2m, to allow unhindered access for the public, as detailed in EMC Spec 2.01

Associated signage (Site name/welcome signs) to be kept in good condition at all times and maintained as detailed in EMC Spec 1.01, with a five yearly review of access facilities by the Site Manager

-Access monitoring inspection- 2026

- renew waymarking finger posts- 2025

-Zone B Tree Safety Inspections to be carried out every 24 months

-Investigate reprinting and distribution of site leaflet perhaps through the use of QR codes- December 2024

-Investigate usage of third party conservation groups to help with site management- October 2023

4.2 f2 Secondary Woodland

Description

Cow Hollow Wood was planted in November 2000 as a native broadleaved woodland under our Woods on your Doorstep initiative with help from volunteers and schoolchildren. It has become very well established using a species mix associated with Wet Woodland habitat and comprises 30% open space and 70% tree cover with closed canopy (or in coppice rotation). The wood was planted with Willow, Ash, Alder, Birch, Field Maple and Oak with shrub species consisting of Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Guelder Rose, Hazel and Dogwood.

Significance

Wet woodland is becoming an uncommon habitat due to drainage, conversion to agriculture and unsympathetic management. As a result, this woodland type features heavily in local Habitat action plans.

The wood is also a significant area of woodland habitat in the vicinity of Waterbeach and North Cambridge and complements the wet grassland habitat to the south of the wood.

Opportunities & Constraints

<p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The establishment and maintenance of an area of wet woodland in line with the Habitat Action Plan for Cambridgeshire. -To maintain the osier and willow coppice for the benefit of wildlife and local craftsmen <p>Constraints</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - minimal expansion opportunity - wet nature of the site can limit, time window of work plan activities.
<p>Factors Causing Change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ash Dieback - Unauthorised vehicle access
<p>Long term Objective (50 years+)</p> <p>Cow Hollow Wood will be a well established mix of high forest and wet woodland, consisting of primarily native broadleaved tree and shrub species with developing standing and fallen deadwood habitat. The site will be managed through a combination of good forestry practices and natural regeneration. The high forest will be complemented by a wet woodland component which is characteristic of historical wet woodlands in the local area.</p> <p>The wood will have a tree species mix that supports both the wet woodland and the, high forest woodland elements and will consist of species including Willow, Ash, Alder, Birch, Field Maple and Oak. The Ash in the wood will provide some of the standing and deadwood element to the wood, as well as creating gaps within the canopy to allow natural regeneration. The areas of dense Willow will be managed under a coppice rotation and will provide areas of differing structural diversity within the wood complemented by the areas of high forest. The small area of reed-bed will provide a differing habitat type on the site and the scrub will be managed regularly to prevent succession. The shrubs species in the wood will provide a diverse mix of Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Guelder Rose, Hazel and Dogwood. The hedge on the north and eastern boundaries will be managed traditionally and provide additional structural diversity and biodiversity benefits on the boundary of the site.</p>
<p>Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)</p> <p>During this plan period the objectives for Cow Hollow Wood will be for the Secondary woodland to continue to see a development towards high forest structure with further developing deadwood habitat and regeneration through natural processes. The wet woodland and reedbed will be managed regularly to provide structural and habitat diversity within the wood.</p> <p>Woodland Health</p> <p>The health of the woodland should be monitored every five years through observations to look at the effects of Ash Dieback and general woodland health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ash Dieback and general woodland health observation- August 2026

Ride Side Scalloping

- Ride side Scalloping will be undertaken to improve the structural diversity of the rides and promote natural regeneration . The success of these works should be reviewed through an observation in 2028

- winter 2026/2027

Willow Coppice

- willow coppice coups to be managed on a regular three yearly rotation to promote structural diversity within the woodland and maintain the locally important wet woodland feature. Some replanting with native willow whips may be useful to thicken up the coupes. This can be reviewed through a five yearly observation

-coup 1- winter 2025/26

-coup 2 - winter 2026/27

-coup 3 - winter 2027/28

-Five yearly observation- August 2027

Reedbed

- maintain extent and condition of the reedbed and undertake works to remove any scrub encroachment as dictated by a 5 yearly observation

- 5 yearly observation - August 2026

5. WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
2025	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	September
2025	WMM - Coppice Management	Works associated with the management of coppice areas – such as coppicing, maintenance of protective fencing, etc	January
2026	WMM - Coppice Management	Works associated with the management of coppice areas – such as coppicing, maintenance of protective fencing, etc	January
2026	WMM - Secondary Silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within secondary woods to meet our primary aims of conserving woodlands and encouraging public enjoyment– such as the removal of non-natives, thinning and promotion of native trees and shrubs, creating and managing view points and providing welcoming sites for visitors	January
2027	WMM - Coppice Management	Works associated with the management of coppice areas – such as coppicing, maintenance of protective fencing, etc	January

APPENDIX 1 : COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
1a	6.63	other willows	2000	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Green Belt
Formally a mixed arable/ grazed field, planted in November 2000 by volunteers, schoolchildren and contractors with a native broadleaf mix of species associated with Wet woodland. Including: willow (white willow, goat willow and osier) ash, alder, birch, field maple, woody shrubs (hawthorn, blackthorn, hazel, guelder rose and dogwood) with a few oak. The site was also sown (in May 2000) with a low maintenance grass mix and was planted with 30 - 45cm transplants in sleeves and shrub-shelters at a density of 2250 per hectare. Approximately 20 native black poplar cuttings were also included in the planting. The trees have grown extremely well, with an average top height of 6 meters in 2014.						
1b	0.1	other willows	2001	Coppice	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Green Belt
A small area of osiers (<i>Salix viminalis</i>) planted close to the large central drain. Managed in a coppice rotation with the materials used locally.						

Ancient Woodland

Ancient woods are defined as those where there has been continuous woodland cover since at least 1600 AD. In Scotland ancient woods are defined strictly as sites shown as semi-natural woodland on the 'Roy' maps (a military survey carried out in 1750 AD, which is the best source of historical map evidence) and as woodland all subsequent maps. However, they have been combined with long-established woods of semi-natural origin (originating from between 1750 and 1860) into a single category of Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland to take account of uncertainties in their identification. Ancient woods include Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland and plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (see below). May support many species that are only found in ancient woodland.

Ancient Semi - Natural Woodland

Stands in ancient woods defined as those consisting predominantly of native trees and shrubs that have not obviously been planted, which have arisen from natural regeneration or coppice regrowth.

Ancient Woodland Site

Stands in ancient woods that have been converted to plantations, of coniferous, broadleaved or mixed species, usually for timber production, including plantations of native species planted so closely together that any semi-natural elements of the understorey have been suppressed.

Beating Up

Replacing any newly planted trees that have died in the first few years after planting.

Broadleaf

A tree having broad leaves (such as oak) rather than needles found on conifers (such as Scots pine).

Canopy

The uppermost layer of vegetation in a woodland, or the upper foliage and branches of an individual tree.

Clearfell

Felling of all trees within a defined area.

Compartment

Permanent management division of a woodland, usually defined on site by permanent features such as roads. See Sub-compartments.

Conifer

A tree having needles, rather than broadleaves, and typically bearing cones.

Continuous Cover forestry

A term used for managing woods to ensure that there are groups or individual trees of different ages scattered over the whole wood and that some mature tree cover is always maintained. Management is by repeated thinning and no large areas are ever completely felled all at once.

Coppice

Trees which are cut back to ground levels at regular intervals (3-25 years).

Exotic (non-native) Species

Species originating from other countries (or other parts of the UK) that have been introduced by humans, deliberately or accidentally.

Field Layer

Layer of small, non-woody herbaceous plants such as bluebells.

Group Fell

The felling of a small group of trees, often to promote natural regeneration or allow planting.

Long Term Retention

Discrete groups of trees (or in some cases single trees) that are retained significantly past their economic felling age. Operations may still be carried out within them and thinning is often necessary to maintain stability.

Minimum Intervention

Areas where no operations (such as thinning) will take place other than to protect public safety or possibly to control invasive exotic species.

Mixed Woodland

Woodland made up of broadleaved and coniferous trees.

National vegetation classification (NVC)

A classification scheme that allows an area of vegetation to be assigned to the standardised type that best matches the combination of plant species that it contains. All woodlands in the UK can be described as being one of 18 main woodland types (W1 - W18), which principally reflect soil and climatic conditions. For example, Upland Oakwoods are type W11, and normally occur on well drained infertile soils in the cooler and wetter north and west of Britain. Each main type can be subdivided into numerous subtypes. Most real woods contain more than one type or sub-type and inevitably some woods are intermediate in character and can't be properly described by any sub type.

Native Species

Species that arrived in Britain without human assistance.

Natural Regeneration

Naturally grown trees from seeds falling from mature trees. Also regeneration from coppicing and suckering.

Origin & Provenance

The provenance of a tree or seed is the place where seed was collected to grow the tree or plant. The origin is the geographical location within the natural range of a species from where seeds/tree originally derives. Thus an acorn collected from a Turkey oak in Edinburgh would have an Edinburgh provenance and a southern European origin.

Re-Stocking

Re-planting an area of woodland, after it has been felled.

Shrub Layer

Formed by woody plants 1-10m tall.

Silviculture

The growing and care of trees in woodlands.

Stand

Trees of one type or species, grouped together within a woodland.

Sub-Compartment

Temporary management division of a compartment, which may change between management plan periods.

Thinning

The felling of a proportion of individual trees within a given area. The remaining trees grow to fill in the space created.

Tubex or Grow or Tuley Tubes

Tubes placed over newly planted trees or natural regeneration that promote growth and provide protection from animals such as rabbits and deer.

Weeding

The control of vegetation immediately around newly planted trees or natural regeneration to promote tree growth until they become established.

Windblow/Windthrow

Trees or groups of trees blown over (usually uprooted) by strong winds and gales.

Registered Office:

The Woodland Trust, Kempton Way, Grantham, Lincolnshire NG31 6LL.

The Woodland Trust is a charity registered in England and Wales no. 294344 and in Scotland no. SC038885. A non-profit making company limited by guarantee. Registered in England no. 1982873. The Woodland Trust logo is a registered trademark.