WOODLAND TRUST

Uffmoor Wood

Management Plan 2015-2020

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MAPS

THE WOODLAND TRUST

INTRODUCTION

The Trust's corporate aims and management approach guide the management of all the Trust's properties, and are described on Page 4. These determine basic management policies and methods, which apply to all sites unless specifically stated otherwise. Such policies include free public access; keeping local people informed of major proposed work; the retention of old trees and dead wood; and a desire for management to be as unobtrusive as possible. The Trust also has available Policy Statements covering a variety of woodland management issues.

The Trust's management plans are based on the identification of Key Features for the site and setting objectives for their management. A monitoring programme (not included in this plan) ensures that these objectives are met and any necessary management works are carried out.

Any legally confidential or sensitive species information about this site is not included in this version of the plan.

PLAN REVIEW AND UPDATING

The information presented in this Management plan is held in a database which is continuously being amended and updated on our website. Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.
Please either consult The Woodland Trust website www.woodlandtrust.org.uk or contact the Woodland Trust (wopsmail@woodlandtrust.org.uk) to confirm details of the current management programme.

There is a formal review of this plan every 5 years and a summary of monitoring results can be obtained on request.

WOODLAND MANAGEMENT APPROACH

The management of our woods is based on our charitable purposes, and is therefore focused on improving woodland biodiversity and increasing peoples' understanding and enjoyment of woodland.

Our strategic aims are to:

- Protect native woods, trees and their wildlife for the future
- Work with others to create more native woodlands and places rich in trees
- Inspire everyone to enjoy and value woods and trees

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.

In addition to the guidelines below we have specific guidance and policies on issues of woodland management which we review and update from time to time.

We recognise that all woods are different and that the management of our sites should also reflect their local landscape and where appropriate support local projects and initiatives. Guidelines like these provide a necessary overarching framework to guide the management of our sites but such management also requires decisions based on local circumstances and our Site Manager's intimate knowledge of each site.

The following guidelines help to direct our woodland management:

1. Our woods are managed to maintain their intrinsic key features of value and to reflect those of the surrounding landscape. We intervene when there is evidence that it is necessary to maintain or improve biodiversity and to further the development of more resilient woods and landscapes.
2. We establish new native woodland using both natural regeneration and tree planting, but largely the latter, 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.
4. The long term vision for our non-native plantations on 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 heritage and cultural value of sites is taken into account in our management and, in particular, our ancient trees are retained for as long as possible.
7. Woods can offer the potential to generate income both from the sustainable harvesting of wood products and the delivery of other services. We will therefore consider the potential 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 allow our woods to be used to support 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. In particular we will develop and maintain a network of long-term monitoring sites across the estate.
10. Any activities we undertake will conform to sustainable forest management principles, be appropriate for the site and will be balanced with our primary objectives of enhancing the biodiversity and recreational value of our woods and the wider landscapes.

SUMMARY

This public management plan briefly describes the site, specifically mentions information on public access, sets out the long term policy and lists the Key Features which drive management actions. The Key Features are specific to this site – their significance is outlined together with their long (50 year+) and short (5 year) term objectives. The short term objectives are complemented by a detailed Work Programme for the period of this management plan. Detailed compartment descriptions are listed in the appendices which include any major management constraints and designations. A short glossary of technical terms is at the end. The Key Features and general woodland condition of this site are subject to a formal monitoring programme which is maintained in a central database. A summary of monitoring results is available on request.

1.0 SITE DETAILS

Site name:	Uffmoor Wood
Location:	Halesowen
Grid reference:	SO952811, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 139
Area:	84.90 hectares (209.79 acres)
Designations:	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Ancient Woodland Site, Green Belt, Planted Ancient Woodland Site

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Summary Description

This woodland oasis in the midst of pasture land is brimming with birdlife and roamed by deer, and attracts a diverse range of butterflies and moths. It has some fascinating flora too, including seven species of orchid. At just a mile from Halesowen, it’s easily accessible and has paths suitable for all abilities

2.2 Extended Description

Uffmoor wood is an important urban fringe woodland. It occupies approximately 85 ha of gently sloping land dissected by numerous watercourses, drains and rides. It's an isolated area of woodland surrounded by pasture just a mile away from Halesowen. There's a small car park on the western boundary on Uffmoor Lane accommodating approximately 12 vehicles (2 suitable for wide-access, wheel chairs). The wood is very well used. There are a four pedestrian access points leading from Uffmoor Lane and a pedestrian access point leading off a public footpath in South-East corner of the wood. The site has an excellent network of rides. Three of these are way-marked and includes a circularsurfaced route suitable for wheel chair access.

The majority of Uffmoor wood is a Planted Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS) due to clear felling and replanting with a mixture of conifers and white woods during the 1970's. Approximately 20% of the PAWS were planted with conifers with the remainder a mix of broadleaves within a matrix of birch regeneration. Small isolated pockets of Semi-Natural Ancient Woodland (SNAW) can still be found concentrated along the edges of water courses and in the south-east corner of the wood.

NVC woodland types present include W7- Alnus - Fraxinus excelsior - Lysimachia nemorum woodland, W8 Fraxinus excelsior - Acer campestre - Mercurialis perennis woodland, and W10 Quercus robur - Rubus fruticosus woodland. The wood has a long history of management through coppice with standards. This has created a distinct woodland structure which can still be seen in the south-east of this site today. Although a significant amount of tree planting has taken place at Uffmoor Wood, chemical weed control was excluded around the establishment phase resulting in an interesting ground flora including several SNAW indicators species, particularly along the main watercourses and ride edges.

There is a small man made pond in the North-East Corner of the Wood

Geologically, the wood is set on the boundary of the Halesowen and Keele rock formations producing soils which are acidic, heavy and poorly drained clays which when cut can expose base rich soils.

The Key Features of this site are:
Informal Public Access
Ancient Woodland Site

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

By bus: The nearest bus stop is at the northern end of Uffmoor Lane about 0.5km (¼ mile) from the car park.

By train: Hagley station is six kilometres (3.7 miles) from the wood. There is no bus from the train station.

For up-to-date information on public transport, visit traveline.org.uk (0871 200 22 33).

By car: From the M5 (Junction 3), take the A456 (Manor Way) towards Kidderminster and Stourbridge. Just before the second roundabout, turn left into Uffmoor Lane. There is a car park for around 16 cars on the left. There is also a council car park at the Romsley end of the public footpath from Romsley Village.

(March 2017)

3.2 Access / Walks

The main entrances to the wood are off the car park (one squeeze post and one kissing gate).There are two further entrance points along the western boundary. There is also a stile entrance in the south east corner on the public footpath from Romsley village.

The wood has over eight kilometres (five miles) of permissive paths, including three waymarked trails of varying lengths, and a surfaced circular route suitable for wheelchairs and buggies. Uffmoor Wood is criss-crossed by a number of streams and so some paths can be wet, especially in winter.

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

In fifty years' time, Uffmoor Wood will be restored to a predominantly broadleaved woodland and any conifers previously planted will no longer be sited in dominant stands. Instead young and maturing mixed broadleaves will be abundant with a diverse, well developed typical ancient woodland shrub and field layer, all representative of the survival and extension of ancient woodland components from the pre-restoration period. Ancient Woodland is our most valuable wildlife habitat and the restoration of PAWS represents the only opportunity to increase the area of ancient woodland with semi-natural characteristics. Broadleaved tree cover will deliver a much greater range of ecosystem benefits. Some scattered over mature conifers may remain but will not be regenerating or threatening the existence of any ancient woodland components. Restoration in the conifer PAWS areas will be gradual, creating conditions in which surviving ancient components can recover. Managing natural regeneration to favour a diverse range of broadleaves will form an important part of this transformation with some selective thinning, felling and possibly some replanting undertaken as necessary to promote this.

Free public access will be provided in perpetuity for quiet, informal recreation with rides and entrance points maintained to ensure they are easily accessible, welcoming and safe. Paths will be kept open and ride edge work in the form of coppiced and scalloped bays will continue where appropriate enhancing visitor and conservation interest. Good information will be made available on and off the site to enable visitors to explore and navigate the wood and to appreciate its inherent qualities

Regular tree inspections will be undertaken with tree safety work implemented as required and in accordance with current best practice.

The pond (constructed in 1993) which is both an attractive visual and conservation feature will be retained and managed through careful, periodic de-silting and clearance work of surface and surrounding vegetation.

5.0 KEY FEATURES

The Key Features of the site are identified and described below. They encapsulate what is important about the site. The short and long-term objectives are stated and any management necessary to maintain and improve the Key Feature.

5.1 Connecting People with woods & trees

Description

Uffmoor wood is an isolated area of woodland surrounded by pasture just a mile away from Halesowen. It is now part of the Woodland Trust's Welcoming Sites Programme; aiming to deliver a consistent level of visitor experience across an extensive suite of our woodland estate.

The majority of Uffmoor wood is a Planted Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS) due to clear felling and replanting with a mixture of conifers and white woods during the 1970's. Small isolated pockets of Semi-Natural Ancient Woodland (SNAW) can still be found concentrated along the edges of water courses and in the south-east corner of the wood. The wood is 85 hectares/ 210 acres.

As with many urban sites it experiences some anti-social problems.

'Its position in the landscape'
Uffmoor Wood is located in Worcestershire, 10 miles south west of central Birmingham. The large towns of Stourbridge, Kidderminster and Bromsgrove are all within a 10 mile radius of the site. It is less than a mile from the town of Halesowen. The West Midlands has a population of 5.6million.

The wood is 3 miles from the M5, 7 miles from the M42 and 12 miles from the M6 allowing easy access from the West Midlands and beyond. The site's location and proximity to Birmingham make it a very important recreational resource and local green lung.

Uffmoor wood is located close to the Clent Hills which is popular for hill walking in the area.

'General description of the access'
The main entrances to the wood are off the car park (one squeeze post and two kissing gates).There are two further entrance points along the western boundary. There is also a stile entrance in the south east corner on the public footpath from Romsley village.
The car park on the western boundary on Uffmoor Lane accommodates approximately 8 vehicles (2 suitable for wide access, wheel chairs). Part of the car park remains closed to try to limit anti-social behaviour.

The wood has over eight kilometres (five miles) of permissive paths, including a surfaced circular route for all-weather access. Historically the site has had three waymarked trails of varying lengths; however they are no longer in use as the way-markers and map panel have been removed. Uffmoor Wood is criss-crossed by a number of streams so some paths can be wet, especially in winter.

The site is walking distance from the nearby town of Halesowen, and although a public footpath runs within a few metres of the site, it does not connect with the site.
The nearest public toilets are 2 miles away at Waseley Hills Country Park.

‘specific furniture/ access point description’
Significant work has been carried out to the car park and main entrance over the last 12 months, to try and combat a range of anti-social behaviour that occurs on site. The work included the re-profiling of the car park and the creation of new visibility arcs. New fences and gates were also installed, and signage at each entry point has been updated. The surfaced car park also has a height barrier.

A new welcome/orientation point, along with a consolidated waymarked trail is due for completion in 2019. There is also an interpretation board at the pond, which will be updated in 2019.

‘The visitor profile’
There are 10,000 households within the immediate postcode area, and a very large population within a 10 mile radius, which has good access to the woods.

The site is well used by dog walkers from the local area. It is visited by people keen to explore the Clent hills area. As such the visitor profile is likely to be made up predominantly of frequent, repeat visitors. The surrounding community, and subsequently likely our current visitor base, aligns most closely to the following Woodland Trust visitor profiles:
• Older family outings
• Young family outings
• Young independents
• Retirees
These groupings should be considered when planning onsite activity and interpretation.

Mosaic data (not to be included in MP)
Mosaic data from the surrounding population indicates that the top three household types are
Type H- Aspiring Homemakers, younger households settling down in housing priced within their means,
Type L – Vintage Value, elderly people reliant on support to meet their practical or financial needs, and
Type I – Family Basics, families with limited resources who have to budget to make ends meet.

It is worth remembering when planning events that these profiles indicate that it is unlikely that we will be able to focus events on income generation, and that lack of transport to the woods may be an issue.

The most predominant group in nearby Halesowen is Type E - Senior Security,
Elderly people with assets who are enjoying a comfortable retirement, specifically E20 (Classic Grandparents), this type maps quite closely with our Membership profile, and so promotion of membership opportunities for this group could be productive.

‘Nearby Woodland Trust sites’
Nearby woods owned by the Woodland Trust include Pepper Wood (147 acres with a small car park) and Bunkers Hill (102 acres with surfaced, all-weather paths).

There are many close woodlands which form the Clent Hills, those with a bigger presence include Waseley Hills Country Park (run by Worcestershire council) and Clent Hill (run by the National

Trust).

Nearby attractions include Hagley Hall and Park (3 miles away).

‘Events and Activities’
An open day was trialled in 2018, and will run again in 2019 with a separate guided walk event. Onsite engagement activity is seen as an important tool as part of a wider programme of work to encourage positive use of the wood, raise awareness of the WT and our cause, and to celebrate the habitats and wildlife of Uffmoor Wood.
‘Schools’
There are no schools currently using the site. There are many local schools in Halesowen including the Green Nursery and Lutley Primary School which are closest to the site; however they are not within walking distance. Work could be done to encourage local schools to use site as a learning resource, however current anti-social behaviour is likely to be a barrier.

‘Volunteering’
Volunteers have been associated with Uffmoor for 30 years. There are currently 10 volunteers associated with this site, in a volunteer woodland warden role. The current number is a result of a recruitment drive in 2017 to increase Woodland Trust presence on the ground in light of the anti-social behaviour.
The volunteer woodland wardens are the eyes and ears on the site; they monitor wildlife, maintenance needs, but also report any anti-social behaviour. Between them they visit the site most days and also spend a lot of time encouraging people to follow Woodland Trust guidelines around dogs. There is potential to increase the number of woodland wardens slightly to strengthen this team.
Other potential volunteer roles could include guided walk leader, to increase public engagement on site.

Significance

Uffmoor Wood is significant as part of a green lung which feeds the West Midlands, whose current population stands at 5.6 million. With easy access from the M5, M42 and M6 it is within easy reach of this significant visitor base making it one of the largest urban woodlands in the area.
Urban woods and trees are significant for many reasons; they provide places of retreat for those within the city, contributing to health, well-being and improving quality of life. They can be used to promote community involvement and engagement and give people an opportunity to interact with woods, wildlife and our cause. They are also key in providing fragments of habitats in a wider landscape to help increase connectivity for wildlife.

The rides of the woodland can absorb impact from high visitor numbers, without detrimental effects on the woodland or wildlife.

Uffmoor Wood is an extensive Ancient Woodland Site, (a habitat that's home to more species of conservation concern than any other in the UK). Currently just a small proportion of the site remains as Semi-Natural Ancient Woodland. However, the SNAW forms part of a larger core area of woodland over 200 acres in size. The site includes examples of locally rare tree species including whitebeam, bay willow, alder buckthorn and the shrub guelder rose.

The flora and fauna of Uffmoor are of interest to visitors, with 270 recorded species of ground flora, seven species of orchid (including the rare violet helleborine) and a wonderful foxglove display. The pond provides another habitat and diverse wildlife for visitors to enjoy.

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities
• Easily accessed by car from the surrounding area due to proximity to major road networks. Large local population that we can potentially engage with to connect to Uffmoor and our cause messaging.
• Good parking facilities recently updated. This area can also be used for small informal events increasing our presence on site.
• Part of Clent Hills area, which can provide opportunities to engage with visitors who don't visit Uffmoor, and add to their visitor experience.
• Planned upgrade to waymarked trail and onsite interpretation will enhance visitor experience.
• Enhancing the internal landscape of the site further through continued ride widening and ride edge scalloping.

Constraints
• Ongoing anti-social behaviour continues to be an issue and a drain on resources.
• Limited flat open spaces make events (other than guided walks) difficult.
• The site is heavily used by dog walkers and there have been issues surrounding the levels of dog fouling here, particularly within the first 100m of the car park.
• The site has a tendency to be wet all year round which affects the condition of rides in certain areas of the wood, producing waterlogged conditions underfoot.

Factors Causing Change

If large local population is tapped into, this increased number of visitors will require significantly improved infrastructure on the site and greater engagement with visitors, volunteers, businesses and community engagement. It will also require a greater level of annual maintenance, with a periodic refurbishment of the entire welcome facilities as well as a higher expectation of the quality of the infrastructure and interpretation provided.

Ongoing anti-social behaviour may lead to periods of closure which has negative impact on relationship with regular users of Uffmoor Wood and local reputation of the Woodland Trust.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Entrances and signage will have a welcoming appearance and there will be a network of well-maintained paths and rides providing a variety of seasonal routes suitable for walkers through varied habitat types, integrated with active woodland management. Interpretation and waymarking that is fully integrated with, or compliments existing routes and tourist opportunities will provide visitors with information on routes and points of interest.

The woodland will provide an extensive area of quiet informal recreation to a wide range of users both from the local community and from further afield.

Awareness of Woodland Trust and Uffmoor wood is high among immediate communities and those in Stourbridge, Kidderminster and Bromsgrove.

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

Access provision will be in keeping with WT access guidelines. Achieved by ensuring that:
• Entrances & signage are welcoming to visitors and well cared for (annually).
• All managed paths are kept reasonably well-drained and free from encroaching vegetation, and that access infrastructure and boundaries etc. are kept in good order (annually).
• The site is kept safe and welcoming by: repair of vandalism (when needed); clearing of fallen trees where access is obstructed (as needed); and regular site safety surveys (as per risk assessment).

Significant improvement to interpretation and wayfinding, including a map at the main access point, including waymarked trail. Consolidation from 3 routes into 1 route. (2019)

Continue to support current volunteer roles, and working with the Volunteer Development Officer recruit new guided walk leader role. Consideration will also be given to practical work party

5.2 Ancient Woodland Site

Description

Semi-Natural Ancient Woodland

Although the area known as Uffmoor Wood has probably been tree covered since the end of the last ice age, approx. 10,000 years, today just a proportion of the site (approximately 1/5th) including stream sides and compartments 5 a,b,c and 7a remain as Semi-Natural Ancient woodland. The remainder of the site is Planted Ancient Woodland. The open high forest canopy in areas in areas of SNAW are predominantly oak standards with a scattering of ash and beech. The understorey contains a mixed broadleaved scrub comprising alder, sycamore, oak, birch and hazel and rare examples of holly (Compt 5a and 5c).

Uffmoor Wood's long history of woodland cover is evident through the diverse range of ground flora species found here, 280 species have been recorded. Many of these species are concentrated along the transitional habitats on the edges of rides and streams throughout the site. Prior to the Trust acquiring Uffmoor wood, no chemicals were used to control coppice regeneration or other plants competing with the planted trees so much of the conservation interest of the site has remained.

Planted Ancient Woodland Site
The majority of Uffmoor Wood is planted Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS). Clear-felling in these areas began in the early 1970's . New plantations were established predominantly with larch and pine initially, followed more recently with a wider range of broadleaves including sycamore , alder, ash and poplar.

Significance

Uffmoor Wood is an extensive Ancient Woodland Site. Ancient Woodland is a limited and irreplaceable resource, home to more species of conservation concern than any other habitat in the UK. Restoration of ancient woodlands by removing the shading effects of conifers is the only way the area of ancient semi natural woodland in this country can be increased.

Currently just a small proportion of the site remains as Semi-Natural Ancient Woodland. However, the SNAW forms part of a larger core area of woodland over 200 acres in size. It's location within the immediate vicinity of a large population make it one of the largest urban woodlands in the area and includes examples of locally rare tree species including whitebeam, bay willow, alder buckthorn and the shrub guelder rose. Seven species of orchid have also been recorded in the wood including the rare violet helleborine.

Opportunities & Constraints

Constraints.
The presence of a dense conifer canopy in some areas.
Surface characterises - avoiding compaction of poorly drained soils and damage to tracks/paths through the use of forestry machines undertaking PAWS restoration. Timing and extraction routes need to be carefully planned.
Extent and diversity of natural regeneration of native broadleaved species.
Deer and squirrel damage.

Opportunities.
To increase the biodiversity of this habitat through silvicultural thinning and the subsequent release of existing native broadleaved regeneration.
To promote the development of a mature native broadleaved high forest canopy from areas of existing scrub.
The gradual reversion of AWS compartments from plantation non-native conifer and broadleaved species to those which would have occurred naturally on site.
Potential to extend existing flora communities.
Commercial return from produce of silvicultural operations.

Factors Causing Change

Squirrel damage, Deer damage, tree pests and diseases. Bracken establishment (smothering field layer and regeneration).

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Uffmoor Wood will be predominantly semi-natural in composition and structure and the majority of the woodland will be composed of existing and naturally regenerating broadleaved trees with a minor percentage of conifers (no more than 20%). All PAWS compartments will be rated as ‘secure’ and all ancient woodland components, such as specialist woodland flora will be intact and secure.

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

The response of ground flora and native regeneration within recently thinned (2012) PAWS compartments will be monitored through Key Feature Observations within this plan period. In addition, further PAWS survey will be undertaken in 2020 to track change and development as detailed in the 2015 survey. Findings will be used to inform future plan prescriptions within these subcompartments.

2016 - Thinning to waste, small group of conifers in 3a. Wind-row arisings.

2018 - Assess conifer PAWS stands for bracken /bramble development and the need for it’s control/management to promote tree and shrub layer regeneration and development. In areas of heavy invasive ground vegetation, opportunities will sought to manage this vegetation to aid the process of natural regeneration establishment.

2017/18/19 - Halo thinning around a proportion of the mature Oaks in 5a will be undertaken to encourage native natural regeneration where this is very limited and age structure poorly represented. Oaks selected for halo thinning will be on the basis of best form and vigour.

6.0 WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type of Work	Description	Due By

APPENDIX 1: COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Key Features Present	Designations
1a	4.36	Mixed broadleaves	1970	Min-intervention		Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Woodland Site, Green Belt
Sub compartment 1a covers much of the area in compartment 1. The stand is predominantly along the outer edge of the compartment and along the riparian zone following the stream that bisects the area and along the stream that follows the north western boundary. Sub compartment 1a is predominantly an area of mixed broadleaves of varying ages. Species include birch, oak and alder, estimated to have been established around 197 and includes a small proportion of slightly younger sycamore and beech. Several larger cherries are also located within the stand. The occasional more mature oak is also scattered throughout the stand estimated to have become established around 1950. Understorey is frequent consisting of naturally regenerating alder, oak hawthorn and rowan, as well as hazel coppice. Ground flora includes bluebell as well as patchy to heavy bramble							
1b	1.46	Japanese larch	1965	PAWS restoration		Connecting People with woods & trees	Green Belt, Planted Ancient Woodland Site
Sub compartment 1b is predominantly a stand of Japanese larch estimated to have been established around 1965. This stand is broken up into two separate, generally thin, areas within the compartment. A small proportion of mixed broadleaves are also scattered throughout the stand estimated to have been established around 1980. Species include oak, birch, rowan and sycamore. Historic management include a line thinning operation, a first restorative thin of conifers undertaken in 2003 and second phase restorative thinning in 2012. Understorey consists of occasional hazel coppice. Ground flora species include patchy bluebell and bramble.							
1c	1.59	Corsican pine	1960	PAWS restoration		Connecting People with woods & trees	Green Belt, Planted Ancient Woodland Site
Sub compartment 1c is an area of predominantly Corsican pine estimated to have been established around 1960. There are occasional broadleaves mixed in throughout the stand including oak, birch and rowan. The stand has been line thinned, followed by a first restorative thin in 2003 and a second phase PAWS thinning in 2012. Understorey is comprised of occasional to rare hazel coppice. Ground flora species include patchy bluebell.							

2a	3.04	Birch (downy/silver)	1975	Min-intervention		Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Woodland Site, Green Belt
Sub compartment 2a is an area of high forest with a coppice structure. The stand is predominantly made up of birch (10-12cm DBH) a small proportion of oak and a few scattered poplar estimated to have been established around 1970-75. The occasional to rare lime is also located within the stand. There is a small proportion of more mature trees scattered throughout the stand, predominantly oak estimated to have been established around 1950. The understorey is occasional containing hazel coppice, rowan, elder, hawthorn and honeysuckle. Salix spp. are also situated along the ride edge. Ground flora consists of bluebell and patchy bramble. There a small group of Larch and pine to the eastern end of the subcompartment, first restorative thin of conifers undertaken in 2003.							
2b	3.00	Mixed broadleaves	1980	Min-intervention		Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Woodland Site, Green Belt
Sub compartment 2b is located, predominantly along the outer edge of the compartment and along the riparian zone following the stream that is situated towards the eastern area of the stand. Sub compartment 2b is predominantly an area of mixed broadleaves of varying ages. Species include birch, oak, rowan, sycamore and alder, all estimated to have been established between 1970 and 1990. The occasional more mature oak is also scattered throughout the stand estimated to have become established around 1950. Understorey is frequent consisting of naturally regenerating alder, hawthorn and rowan, as well as hazel and hawthorn coppice. Salix spp. are also located along the ride edges. Ground flora includes bluebell as well as patchy bramble.							
2c	2.36	Corsican pine	1960	PAWS restoration		Connecting People with woods & trees	Green Belt, Planted Ancient Woodland Site
Sub compartment 2c is predominantly an area of cCorsican pine, estimated to have been established around 1960. The sub compartment has been broken down into four separate areas, with the largest of the stands situated in the western half of the compartment. Ground flora is developing in these areas following a first restorative thin of conifers undertaken in 2003 and then again in 2012.							
2d	1.13	Japanese larch	1965	PAWS restoration		Connecting People with woods & trees	Green Belt, Planted Ancient Woodland Site

Sub compartment 2d is predominantly a stand of Japanese larch estimated to have been established around 1965. This stand is broken up into two separate, generally thin, areas within the compartment. A small proportion of mixed broadleaves are also scattered throughout the stand estimated to have been established at around the same time as the larch. Species include birch, alder, rowan and the occasional alder. First restorative thin of conifers in 2003 and a second following in 2012.							
2e	2.47	Corsican pine	1975	PAWS restoration		Connecting People with woods & trees	
Mixed broadleaves with a reduced scattering of Corsican Pine which is struggling badly in amongst the broadleaved and dying back. first restorative thin in 2003 and then again in 2012.							
2f	1.01	Mixed broadleaves	1970	Min-intervention	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Connecting People with woods & trees	
Mixed Broadleaves from pole stage to mature. This compartment is bisected by the perimeter path. Species include alder, hazel, cherry, oak and the occasional sycamore, rowan and holly. Some areas of scrub have been cleaned and thinned back from the ride edge. A stream runs along the western edge of this compartment. Ground flora is far more abundant in the areas surrounding the steams with frequent bluebell, sedge and fern. The ground flora within the main area of the stand consists of patchy bluebell, sedge and fern where clearing has allowed more light to reach the woodland floor.							
3a	2.32	Birch (downy/silver)	1975	Min-intervention		Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Woodland Site, Green Belt
Sub compartment 3a is an area of high forest with a coppice structure. The stand is predominantly made up of birch and a few scattered poplar, both estimated to have been established around 1975, as well as a number of sycamore. There is a small proportion of more mature trees scattered throughout the stand, predominantly oak estimated to have been established around 1950. The understorey is occasional containing hazel coppice rowan, elder, hawthorn and honeysuckle. Ground flora consists of bluebell and patchy bramble.							
3b	4.99	Mixed broadleaves	1980	Min-intervention		Connecting People with woods & trees	Green Belt, Planted Ancient Woodland Site

Sub compartment 3b covers much of the area in compartment 3. The stand is predominantly along the outer edge of the compartment and along the riparian zone following the stream that bisects the area. Sub compartment 3b is predominantly an area of mixed broadleaves, as well as varying ages. Species include birch, oak, rowan, sycamore and alder, all estimated to have been established between 1970 and 1990. The occasional more mature oak is also scattered throughout the stand estimated to have become established around 1950. Understorey is frequent consisting of naturally regenerating alder, oak hawthorn and rowan, as well as hazel coppice. Salix spp. are also located along the ride edges. Ground flora includes bluebell as well as patchy to heavy bramble.							
3c	2.28	Scots pine	1955	PAWS restoration		Connecting People with woods & trees	Green Belt, Planted Ancient Woodland Site
Sub compartment 3c is an area of high forest broken up in to three separate areas within compartment 3. The stand is predominantly made up of Corsican Pine estimated to have been established around 1955. Silver birch makes up a small proportion of the main canopy composition and is estimated to have been established around 1975. The crop has been line and selectively thinned in the past (2003 and 2012) Understorey is sparse with the occasional to rare hazel coppice, sycamore, rowan and patchy holly. Ground flora consists of patchy bramble and bracken.							
3d	1.31	Birch (downy/silver)	1980	Min-intervention		Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Woodland Site, Green Belt
Sub compartment 3d is an area of young woodland situated on wet ground. The stand is predominantly an area of young birch and alder estimated to have been established around 1984.							
3e	1.21	Japanese larch	1965	PAWS restoration		Connecting People with woods & trees	Green Belt, Planted Ancient Woodland Site
Sub compartment 3e is a thin strip of Japanese larch estimated to have been established around 1965. The stand has been line and selectively thinned (2003 and 2012). A small number of mixed broadleaf species also make a proportion of the main canopy composition and are estimated to have been established between 1970 and 1990, these species are predominantly birch, oak and rowan. The understorey consists of some hazel and alder. Ground flora consists of heavy bramble and patchy bluebell. First restorative thin undertaken in 2003.							

4a	13.36	Mixed broadleaves	1989	Min-intervention		Connecting People with woods & trees	Green Belt, Planted Ancient Woodland Site
Sub compartment 4a is a large area of dense, natural regenerating scrub. The area is predominantly made up of birch with alder, hazel and the occasional sycamore, rowan and holly all of which are estimated to have been established around 1989. The occasional scots pine is also scattered throughout the stand Some areas of scrub have been cleaned and thinned back from the ride edge. Several streams break up the stand, and in these areas the scrub gives way to clearer areas with more mature trees namely, ash, cherry and nothophagus spp., which are all estimated to have been established around 1960. Ground flora is far more abundant in the areas surrounding the steams with frequent bluebell, sedge and fern. A number of large oak standards estimated to have been established in 1950 are located, predominantly along the edge of the stand. The ground flora within the main area of the stand consists of patchy bluebell, sedge and fern where clearing has allowed more light to reach the woodland floor.							
5a	10.39	Mixed broadleaves	1989	Min-intervention		Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Green Belt
Sub compartment 5a is dominated by two age classes. It's primarily composed of pole-stage mixed broadleaves with some dense scrub estimated to have established in approximately 1989. The species mix includes a considerable amount of birch, which is common throughout the wood, some alder, the occasional sycamore, beech coppice (a little older, circa 1950) and rare holly. Mature Oak standards circa 1930s form the second major age class here and account for approximately 10-15% of the canopy cover. Ground flora consists of patchy bluebell, fern and sedge.							
5b	0.69	Oak (pedunculate)	1950	Min-intervention		Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Green Belt
Sub compartment 5b is predominantly an area of oak standards estimated to have been established around 1945. Understorey is made up of a layer of mixed broadleaf scrub. Species include naturally regenerating sycamore, alder, oak, birch and hazel coppice estimated to have become established around 1992. Ground flora includes patchy bluebell, bramble and sedge.							
5c	0.57	Oak (pedunculate)	1950	Min-intervention		Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Green Belt

Sub compartment 5c is a fairly open stand, situated in the north western corner of compartment 5. Oak makes up the greater proportion of the main canopy composition and is estimated to have been established around 1945. Ash also makes up a smaller proportion of the main canopy composition and is estimated to have been established at a slightly latter date of around 1960. Understorey is comprised of frequent to abundant birch and alder, occasional sycamore and rare holly. Ground flora includes patchy bluebell, bramble and sedge.							
6a	6.40	Ash	1980	Min-intervention		Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Woodland Site, Green Belt
Sub compartment 6a is a large area of high forest predominantly ash, estimated to have been established around 1979. Other species mixed in throughout the stand include oak, ash and birch, all of which were established at the same time as the ash. A smaller proportion of alder and elm are also scattered throughout the stand. The understorey is made up of fairly dense hazel, elder and hawthorn coppice, as well as rowan and honeysuckle. The ground flora is fairly abundant consisting of dogs mercury, bluebell, bramble and fern. In 2004 Grey Poplar was felled and removed from this subcompartment which was dominating the canopy and starting do blow over. Since that time, the response of the native broadleaved remaining has been excellent.							
6b	2.16	Japanese larch	1975	PAWS restoration		Connecting People with woods & trees	Green Belt, Planted Ancient Woodland Site
Sub compartment 6b is predominantly a plantation of Japanese larch estimated to have been established around 1975. The stand has been line and selectively thinned (2004 and 2012) but the form remains fairly poor. A small proportion of mixed broadleaf species are located within the stand. Species include birch, sycamore, poplar, ash, field maple and rowan of which some have reached canopy height, the broadleaf species are predominantly found on the outside edges of the sub compartment and along the ride edges. The understorey remains occasional consisting of few hazel, hawthorn and elder coppice. The ground flora is predominantly situated under the broadleaf species, consisting of fern, bluebell, bramble and dogs mercury with sedge along the ride edge.							
7a	1.91	Mixed broadleaves	1987	Min-intervention		Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Green Belt
Sub compartment 7a contains a high proportion of young mixed broadleaf stems made up of birch, sycamore, ash and rowan with the occasional willow all of which are estimated to have been established in the mid 1980s. Mature oak standards estimated to have been established around 1940, make up a greater proportion of the stand. A small pocket of wild cherry is located within the stand and is estimated to have been established around 1975. The understorey consists of the occasional hazel coppice which becomes more frequent towards the western side of the stand. Ground flora consists of bluebell, sedge and ground ivy							

7b	4.71	Ash	1975	Min-intervention		Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Woodland Site, Green Belt
Sub compartment 7b is an area of mixed broadleaf, high forest, predominantly consisting of ash, estimated to have been established around 1975. A small proportion of older ash coppice is also present within the stand and is estimated to have been established around 1955. Sycamore P75, makes up a proportion of the main canopy composition, as does a small proportion of alder coppice. The occasional P40 oak standard is also located within the sub compartment. Other species located within the stand include birch, rowan and a small proportion of wild cherry. Sycamore has been quite badly squirrel damaged. The understorey contains occasional hazel, hawthorn and elder coppice. Ground flora varies in abundance and contains bluebell, sedge, ferns, bramble and ransoms.							
7c	8.61	Mixed broadleaves	1985	Min-intervention		Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Green Belt
Sub compartment 7c is predominantly a young stand of birch and sycamore estimated to have been established around 1984. Sycamore has been quite badly squirrel damaged. Other species mixed in throughout the stand include oak estimated to have been established around 1940 and a smaller proportion of ash estimated to have been established at a latter date, of around 1960. Alder coppice and rowan is also present scattered throughout the stand. Understorey species include occasional to frequent hazel coppice and blackthorn. Ground flora consists of blue bell, fern sedge and patchy bramble.							

Appendix 2: Harvesting operations (20 years)

Forecast Year	Cpt	Operation Type	Work Area (ha)	Estimated vol/ha	Estimated total vol.
2020	5a	Thin	10.39	0	1

GLOSSARY

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. Either by hand cutting or with carefully selected weed killers such as glyphosate.

Windblow/Windthrow

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