WOODLAND TRUST

Comfort's Wood

Management Plan 2018-2023

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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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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:	Comfort's Wood
Location:	Cranbrook
Grid reference:	TQ771346, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 188
Area:	22.68 hectares (56.04 acres)
Designations:	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Summary Description

Comfort's and Barnett's Wood is a special place for those who are looking for a quiet and peaceful short(ish) walk. The woods are stunning at most times of the year and are mostly undisturbed.

2.2 Extended Description

The Woodland Trust acquired the land for Comfort's Wood in 1990, following a donation by Dr and Mrs Comfort, and this consisted of a commercial orchard, arable land and a small area of ancient semi natural woodland (ASNW) situated in the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) approximately 1km (0.6 mile) due south of Cranbrook, Kent. The surrounding area consists of an intensively farmed landscape with small fragmented areas of ASNW restricted to hedgerows and beside stream and river courses. The 2 large blocks of ASNW Bedgebury and Hemstead Forests are situated approximately 4km (2.5 miles) to the west and east respectively.

Comfort's wood 11.05 hectares (27.3 acres) was established on the landscape during 1990/91 by planting 6.8ha (16.8acres) of new native woodland (secondary woodland) and 1.33 hectares (3.3 acres) by direct seeding using seed of native tree species. The new woodland was established adjacent to the area of ASNW.

In 2011 an additional area of grassland (9.1ha) and ASNW (2.4ha) was acquired adjoining Comfort's Wood following a legacy donation from the Barnett family, and this area is known as Barnett's Wood (11.5ha). Secondary woodland was created either side of the ASNW on the grassland in Barnett's Wood between 2012 and 2013 by a combination of tree planting by volunteers at public planting events and also by allowing areas to develop naturally. The start of the tree planting programme in 2012 coincided with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and this wood formed one of the Jubilee Woods planted to commemorate this event.
The secondary woodland areas created at his site are good examples of how ASNW woodland can be protected by extending this woodland habitat through woodland creation.

Within Comfort's and Barnett's Wood a network of grassy glades and rides has been created which allows visitors to walk round each site independently and also to walk through to both woods as the path networks are linked. A waymarked route was installed in 2012 by Kent County Council as part of a long distant route from Cranbrook as there is good access along Freight Lane for pedestrians.

The ancient semi natural woodland which links Comfort's and Barnett's Wood together has a shallow wooded gill with a seasonally wet stream at the bottom of it and has a colourful carpet of bluebell and wood anemones in spring time. The terrain around this site is flat so there are no significant views in or out of the wood. 3 ponds are found within the site. Due to the mix of ancient woodland and young developing woodland up to 18 species of butterfly such as common blue, gatekeeper, large and small white and small copper and 37 species of birds such as nightingale, turtle dove, bullfinch, linnet, willow warbler and goldcrest have been recorded at this site.

A stone memorial within the Comfort's Wood marks the resting place of Dr & Mrs Comfort, and a plaque resides in Barnett's Wood commemorating the gift from the Barnett family.

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

General location:
Comfort’s Wood is situated approximately 1.75 miles due south of Cranbrook situated off Swattenden Lane (B2086).
From Cranbrook, there is no direct Public footpath (PRW) to Comfort’s Wood, but it can be reached by following the Public Rights of Way network and by road. In 2012 a circular route from Cranbrook taking in Comfort's and Barnett's Wood was devised and waymarked by Kent County Council.

By road from Cranbrook: from the High Street go east and at the end turn right down Stone Street leading to The Hill and leading to Bakers Cross. Turn right down Tilsden Lane and follow this to the end. Turn right onto the B2086 (Swattenden Lane) and travel approximately 0.5 mile and the main entrance gateway for Comfort’s Wood will be found set back from the road on the right hand side. Except in Cranbrook, the country lanes are without any pavement and the route to Comfort’s Wood is gently undulating.

By Public Footpath (PRW) from Cranbrook: There are several PRW’s coming from the east end of the High Street and Stone Street. Follow these heading south and west until all these PRW’s join up together and go south down Crane lane. Turn right onto the restricted byway which becomes Freight Lane. Continue on Freight Lane passing Mount Ephraim. At the end of Freight Lane there are 2 entrances into Barnett's Wood, and from there the path network will lead through to Comfort's Wood. The route from Cranbrook is partly on good surfaces, however from the end of Freight Lane and into Barnett's Wood it is an unmodified grass and earth surface, which can get slippery and muddy when wet.

For more information on PRW’s in Kent, look at “Explore Kent” found on the main Kent County Council website.

Parking:
Parking is available for up to 1 car at our main entranceway off Swattenden Lane. This is in front of the main gateway. There are no specific facilities for locking bikes to apart from the rustic post and rail fence which surrounds the main entranceway. There is no car parking available off Freight Lane.

Public Transport:
The nearest bus stop: is at Hartley Court Gardens on the A229 near the west end of Swattenden Lane.

The nearest train station: Headcorn, which is on the London – Ashford line. Headcorn station is approximately 9 miles from our main entrance along public roads.
This information is from Traveline website. For further information on public transport, visit traveline.org.uk or call 0871 200 2233.

3.2 Access / Walks

Entrances: There is 1 main entrance to Comfort’s Wood which occurs off Swattenden Lane, where an All Access kissing gate leads you onto the path network. There are 2 entrances off Freight Lane into Barnett's Wood - the northerly one has an All Access kissing gate.

All the paths are unmodified grass and earth surface, which can get slippery and muddy when wet, but the wood has a flat terrain.

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

In fifty years' time, Comfort's and Barnett's Wood will contain a diverse structure providing a good range of different habitats typical of this mixture of secondary and ancient semi-natural woodland (ASNW). Both the secondary and ASNW areas will be managed to allow natural processes to take their course. The exceptions to this will be the woodland edge along some of the internal rides whose edges will be coppiced on a short rotation as part of a wide ride habitat. This will maintain an element of temporary open and scrub habitats throughout this wood providing different woodland structures to benefit many bird and invertebrate species. The additional benefit of this management will be to allow those rides affected to remain open and predominately sunny so creating a more pleasurable public access experience. In addition beside the public highway trees will be thinned so that over time they will develop balanced crowns to aid their stability. Also the trees around the main ponds are to be managed so that they are kept as an open feature within the wood.

It is expected that ash will be a minor species within the secondary and native broadleaved woodland due to ash dieback fungus. Every effort will be made to retain resilient ash trees where possible.

Through management by minimal intervention, the areas of over mature coppice habitat within the ancient semi natural woodland will see an increase in the age of the trees. This will allow an increasing deadwood habitat to develop which will in turn support a large range of invertebrates and fungi. In addition as the trees senesce there will be an increasing prevalence of coppice stools splitting and falling apart. This will not only help to generate more deadwood but will also allow the regeneration of an understorey through increasing light levels. This is to be expected as a previously managed coppice woodland converts to a more natural woodland habitat through minimal intervention.

The site will remain free of invasive non-native species that could damage the woodland ecosystem.

Deer will undoubtedly be present at Comfort's and Barnett's Wood in 50 years' time and their numbers will be monitored and controlled if numbers become too high so preventing the woodland from regenerating.

Although the site will retain its tranquil character, it will be visited by a moderate number of visitors each year who appreciate and respect walking in broadleaved woodland with diverse habitats, along a well-maintained network of paths.

The management of our woods is based on our charitable purposes, and is therefore focused on improving woodland biodiversity and increasing people's understanding and enjoyment of woodland to help create a UK rich in native woods and trees, for people and wildlife.

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 Secondary Woodland

Description

The secondary woodland at Comfort's Wood is formed of mixed native broadleaved trees of oak, field maple, hornbeam and ash and established in 1990/91 by a combination of planting 6.8ha in 1990, and by directly sowing tree seeds over 1.33 hectares in 1991. Within the planting matrix there has been considerable ash regeneration since 1990. For secondary woodland Comfort's Wood has a rich variety of ground flora and associated bird and invertebrate communities mainly associated with the ride network and by its proximity to the area of ASNW. The initial design of the wood allowed for a good mix of open spaces, rides and edges which has allowed a rich ground flora to develop which has produced positive impacts on butterflies in particular. Mowing of the ride network has created variable sward heights along the ride edges and the main east - west ride has had scallops coppiced along its edge to form a wide ride habitat, which adds diversity along the rides. 69 species of herbs have been found in the new woodland in total with 53 of these being in the rides. Species include angelica, common bird's foot trefoil, creeping cinquefoil and common fleabane. Grasses such as Yorkshire Fog and rough meadow grass dominate the rides and there is a good array of other wildflowers such as common fleabane, thistles and common knapweed to provide pollen and nectar sources for invertebrates. 7 ancient woodland indicator species have been found along the new woodland edges including bluebell and pendulous sedge.

Barnett's Wood was established with mixed native broadleaved trees of oak, field maple, hornbeam, wild cherry, wild service and woody shrubs such as hazel, guilder rose and hawthorn during 2012 and 2013, with most of the trees being planted by volunteers at organised events. The design is similar to the new native woodland in Comfort's Wood with large areas of trees and an extensive wide ride habitat edged principally by the planted woody shrubs which circulate through the wooded area. The edges to the wide ride habitat will eventually be coppiced to diversify the habitat and to keep the ride network open and sunny.

2 ponds are situated within this habitat both accessible to the public.
The soil to be found across the site is classed as Wickham 1 - slowly permeable / seasonally waterlogged fine silts and loams over clay.

Significance

The creation of secondary woods and places rich in trees is one of the Woodland Trust's key corporate objectives. The positioning of new native woodlands next to ASNW will help buffer them and also link them to other ASNW areas.
New native woodlands increase the area of woodland in an area of the country with intensive developmental pressures (road construction, Channel Tunnel rail link etc.) but also in a protected and heavily wooded landscape. It gives native species of animal, insect and plants new habitats in which to exist.

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities:
To demonstrate through public engagement the benefits of creating new native woodland to buffer ASNW.

Constraints:
The ash dieback fungus will threaten the species mixture of the new native woodland areas at Comfort's Wood established in 1990 by the eradication of most of the ash.

Factors Causing Change

Squirrel damage, ash dieback fungus.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

In 50 years' time, the secondary woodland will have matured to provide an interesting mixture of trees species. Ash is likely to be a rare species with any surviving showing resilience to the ash dieback fungus. Gaps created by the death of ash will have been in filled by natural regeneration of site native trees, with some areas remaining treeless and providing small glades within the woodland.
Those ride edges managed on a short rotation coppiced will provide the temporary open habitats favoured by many invertebrates and birds for feeding and nesting in. Overall, there should be a mixture of shaded and light sunny glades along the ride network.

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

The short term objective is to contribute towards the creation/ maintenance of structurally diverse woodland as part of a resilient woodscape through coppicing, thinning, ride management, the removal of invasive species (if present), planting new areas and maintaining recently planted areas. This will be achieved by:

By 2023 cpts.4b and 4c to be fully stocked by natural regeneration, or planted trees including hornbeam, oak, field maple, hawthorn, blackthorn, hazel at an average stocking level of 1600 stems per hectare. If natural regeneration is not present in sufficient quantity, planting of the balance required for full stocking is to be carried out by winter of 2021/22.

Within Comfort’s Wood approximately 500 metres of ride edges to be coppiced on a 4 year rotation with 2 a year gap between operations along selected paths to maintain the scallops and glades initially cut in 2011. Felling up to 8m from ride edge.

Ensure that the surrounding trees do not cast a permanent dark shade across the ponds in cpt.1a and 4a by cutting back trees in 2020.

To ensure that under areas of pure ash, bramble doesn't become the dominant vegetation so restricting/preventing natural regeneration from becoming established. 2 small trial areas of thick bramble to be cut back in 2019 and monitored for the response by tree regeneration compared to uncut areas of bramble nearby.

5.2 Ancient Semi Natural Woodland

Description

The ancient semi natural woodland (ASNW) found within compartment 3a grows on heavy wet Weald Clay and supports a tree, shrub and ground flora vegetation community of NVC (National Vegetation Community) W10 oak woodland with bramble, bluebell and wood anemone. The majority of the ASNW on site is associated with a shallow wooded gill which has a stream which flows eastwards for most of the year. Historically there may have been fish ponds along the route of this stream and there is evidence of an earth bank and a dam along its route. The ASNW contains mature mixed broadleaved trees such as oak and ash standards over hazel, hornbeam, holly and some grey willow scrub. Historically this was managed by coppicing, but no coppicing has been carried out since the late 1940's. At the extreme eastern end of the gill there is a wet woodland habitat with aspen and alder. The ancient woodland ground flora is dominated by wood anemone, bluebell, pendulous sedge and Lord-and-Ladies.

Significance

Ancient semi natural woodland (ASNW) is woodland which has been permanently wooded since AD 1600. This long history of permanent woodland cover has allowed a diverse range of wildlife and vegetation to develop over time that cannot be found in new woodland creation sites. Some examples of this include the presence of specialist woodland plants including bluebell and wood anemone. In a heavily wooded area where woodland has become fragmented larger areas of woodland are able to withstand external pressures such as climate change much better. Ancient woodland is irreplaceable and the prevention of its loss is one of the main aims of the Trust.
The amount of ASNW left in Britain has been drastically reduced over the last century. The South East is England's most wooded region and contains some 40% of the ancient woodland resource in England. The High Weald holds more ancient woodland than any other protected area, 7% of England's total ancient woodland. Woodlands cover 24.6% of the High Weald AONB.
In addition the establishment of new native woodland at Comfort's and Barnett's will help make the ASNW habitat at this site more robust in the face of climate change, as the new native woodland will help "buffer" the core ancient woodland areas and help join up isolated blocks of woodland to form bigger woods.

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities:
The small area of ASNW, which contains a rich habitat of species of plants and insects, will act as a "seed source" for colonising the secondary woodland areas.
To demonstrate through public engagement the benefits of woodland creation to buffer and link up areas of ASNW.

Constraints:
The value of the ASNW habitat at this site is limited by its small size. Deer, are currently absent, however rabbits and squirrels could cause browsing damage to natural regeneration.
The presence of ash dieback threatens the species mixture of the ANSW at Comfort's and Barnett's Wood.

Factors Causing Change

Ash dieback

Long term Objective (50 years+)

In the long term (50 years+) through minimum intervention the ancient semi natural woodland (ASNW) areas will be left to senesce and naturally regenerate. Some canopy collapse is likely followed by natural regeneration. There should be an increasing amount of deadwood both standing and fallen to add to the biodiversity of this habitat and this will have been enhanced by ash dieback, however much of the dead ash will have rotted away. Living ash will be a rare tree within the woodland if any have survived and are resilient to the ash dieback fungus. Gaps created by the loss of ash and the death and collapse of coppice stools will have been filled by natural regeneration of hornbeam, field maple, sycamore and willow.

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

The short term objective is to continue to provide habitat continuity and allowing natural processes to take place. There is nothing planned during this plan period apart from tree safety works where appropriate.
The development and progress of ash dieback at this site will be monitored annually through summer and autumn surveys. It is likely that the majority of the ash will require felling within falling distance of any path during this plan period.

5.3 Connecting People with woods & trees

Description

Comfort's and Barnett's Wood is well used by mainly dog walkers during the daytime and serves communities from Cranbrook, Benenden, Sissinghurst and the many other scattered communities nearby. Collectively these communities total an approximate population of 10,500 and are within 4-5km (2.5-3 miles) of this site.

Public access is provided by a path network totalling 2.5 miles (3.98km) along mown grass pathways or rides which cross and circulate the site. There are links to the public highway at the main entrance to Comfort's Wood off Swattenden Lane where there is limited parking for one car, and onto the Public Rights of Way network on the eastern side of Barnett's Wood at the southern point of Freight Lane.
The public access at this site will be managed to meet the required standards of the Woodland Trust and will provide a clear welcome: well-maintained entrances, furniture, signs and other infrastructure as well as sustainable path and track surfaces across the variable ground conditions where appropriate.

Significance

Comfort's and Barnett's Wood enables access to a small amount of ASNW and secondary woodland. This gives an opportunity for the Woodland Trust to promote the message of ancient woodland habitats and the importance of its protection through buffering using the creation of secondary woodland.
A waymarked route through Comfort's and Barnett's Wood forms part of an Explore Kent route south of Cranbrook themed as "A walk through time".

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities:
To be able to use the land as a resource for education, public engagement and as a demonstration site for woodland creation buffering and protecting ASNW.

Constraints:
The small size of this wood limits the expansion or further development of public access facilities. The soft grassy paths can become very wet and muddy during the winter months through continual use.

Factors Causing Change

Fly tipping, motorbikes.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

A well established and maintained safe network of paths for informal public access throughout Comfort's and Barnett's Wood where responsible visitors can appreciate and respect this wood with its different habitats, archaeological and wildlife interest without causing disturbances. The visitor numbers to be in line with its category B access status with provision for very limited parking on site. The provision of way marked routes, and information boards to be available on site if required.

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

During this plan period, the short term objective is to continue to provide public access at Comfort’s Wood and Barnett’s Wood which is safe and enjoyable. How this will be achieved:
2.5 miles (3.98km) of paths will be maintained to allow continued access across the whole site for pedestrians by mowing as appropriate during the summer months and litter picks at the same time.
To annually brush cut the vegetation within the main entrance off Swattenden Lane to maintain access for visitors.
Annual inspection of all gates, bridges, waymarker posts and regular monitoring of path surfaces.
Annual Zone A tree safety inspection. Fungal survey to be carried out once in every 24 month period in the autumn with an annual summer survey to check trees' crowns and progress of ash dieback fungus on ash trees.
Zone B tree safety inspections are to be carried out every 2 years. Arboriculture work to be carried out as appropriate.
The mature hedge forming our boundary along Swattenden Lane is to be flailed in November/December each year to ensure there is no interference with users of the highway year; where applicable that there is a minimum height clearance above the full width of the highway to 5.1m.

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	5.30	Ash	1990	High forest	No/poor vehicular access within the site, People issues (+tve & -tve)	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Secondary woodland, planted in 1990 around the edge of the former apple orchard area and adjacent to an area of ASNW north of the Woodland Trust boundary. Only 3.8ha actually planted out of a total of 5.25ha. The old apple trees have been left within this area and are gradually being taken over by natural regeneration of woody shrubs and tree species. A hedge was planted along an open field boundary on the south western boundary in 1990 just south east of a plant nursery.							
2a	5.50	Oak (pedunculate)	1990	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Secondary woodland created over former arable area. This is split into 3 distinct blocks separated by the path network: The north and northeast block, the south and southwest block and the eastern block. All were planted in 1990 except for the eastern block which was direct sown in 1991 with tree seeds. The northern block abuts the area of ASNW partly beyond the Woodland Trust boundary and Swattenden Lane runs along the southern boundary.							
3a	0.45	Oak (pedunculate)	1900	Min-intervention	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
An area of mature ancient semi-natural woodland which extends through the middle of the site which contains a mixture of hornbeam coppice and oak standards with a ground flora of bluebell and wood anemone. At the eastern end of this sub compartment the tree species change to a predominately wet woodland composition of alder, willow and aspen, with the ground flora dominated by rushes in this seasonally water logged area. A small seasonal stream runs through this compartment in a sunken ditch or gill which arises from within Comfort's Wood. There are indications of manmade banks that this gill could have been dammed in places in the past. A wood bank can be located around the edge particularly in the north east section.							
4a	3.29	Oak (pedunculate)	2014	High forest		Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Mixed native broadleaved trees planted in 2013 by volunteers at 1600 trees per hectare: Species of trees planted were a mixture of 75% trees and 25% woody shrubs. Tree species were planted in a random fashion in sinuous rows and included: pedunculate oak (44%), hornbeam (27%), silver birch (14%), sweet chestnut (6%), small leaved lime (3%), wild cherry (3%), field maple (3%). Woody shrubs were planted along the edges to the major rides/paths included: hazel (31%), hawthorn (30%), blackthorn (11%), elder (9%), field rose (9%), wild service (5%) and crab apple (5%). Trees were protected from rabbit damage by a establishing a boundary rabbit proof fence.							
4b	1.73	NULL	2017	Wood establishment		Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Area set aside for natural regeneration.							
4c	0.80	NULL	2017	Wood establishment		Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Area set aside for natural regeneration.							
4d	3.41	Oak (pedunculate)	2013	High forest		Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Mixed native broadleaved trees planted in 2012 by volunteers at 1600 trees per hectare: Species of trees planted were a mixture of 75% trees and 25% woody shrubs. Tree species were planted in a random fashion in sinuous rows and included: pedunculate oak (44%), hornbeam (27%), silver birch (14%), sweet chestnut (6%), small leaved lime (3%), wild cherry (3%), field maple (3%). Woody shrubs were planted along the edges to the major rides/paths included: hazel (31%), hawthorn (30%), blackthorn (11%), elder (9%), field rose (9%), wild service (5%) and crab apple (5%). Trees were protected from rabbit damage by a establishing a boundary rabbit proof fence.							

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.