WOODLAND TRUST

Old Wood

Management Plan 2016-2021

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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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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:	Old Wood
Location:	Sheringham
Grid reference:	TG159412, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 133
Area:	30.74 hectares (75.96 acres)
Designations:	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Heritage Coast

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Summary Description

This patchwork of broadleaf and conifer woods and heathland is teeming with wildlife. Look out for the veteran trees such as oak, beech and sweet chestnut that date back hundreds of years. Enjoy a buggy-friendly stroll around the sculpture trail or climb to the wood's highest point for spectacular views over the North Norfolk Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. And it's all just a 15-minute walk from the seaside town of Sheringham.

2.2 Extended Description

Old wood is situated south Sheringham on the Holt Cromer ridge and is accessible from a car park at Pretty corner, or from surrounding woodland own by North Norfolk District Council. The 75.96 acre (30.74 hectares) woodland is predominantly a mixture of coniferous plantation and mature secondary woodland, with a patchwork of healthland and grassland. Historically the site was less wooded and was dominated by a heath land and acid grassland mosaic, with scattered trees and woodland.

The surrounding landscape in which Oldwood resides is a patch work of mature woodland, commercial arable farmland and heathland, notably Beeston common that is south east of the wood. To the North of the site is the busy seaside town of Sheringham which resides on the north Norfolk coast. The whole site is situated on the Holt/Cromer ridge and drops steeply to the North, giving a variety of undulating slopes and ridges, none of which are south facing. The southern part of the site is at an altitude of 96 meters making it one of the highest points in Norfolk. Good views are attainable from a number of points within the wood to the town of Sheringham and the North Sea.

The flora within Oldwood is naturally diverse, with a mixture of heath land and woodland habitats. Although being predominantly secondary woodland there has been identified areas that are potentially remnant ancient woodland situated within the south-western part of the wood. Within the heath land and acid grassland areas the previous restoration has developed isolated communities of Calluna vulgaris (Ling Heather), Deschampsia flexuosa (Wavey hair grass) Ulex europaeus (Gorse).

The fauna within Oldwood also supports a diverse range of species including the following protected under the Wildlife and countryside act 1981. These are listed as follows: pipistrelle bat, adder and slow worn.

Key Features:
F1 Open Ground Habitat
F2 Secondary Woodland
F3 Informal Public Access

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

The wood is around a 15-minute walk from Sheringham.

By bus: A number of bus services operate along the A1082. Visit coasthopper.co.uk, sanderscoaches.com or firstgroup.com for more information.

By train: The nearest station is Sheringham (1.6km/1 mile).

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

By car: From Sheringham, drive south on the A1082 Holway Road then turn left into Pretty Corner Lane where there is parking for up to four cars. There is a further car park on Holway Road.

(March 2017)

3.2 Access / Walks

The wood can be accessed from Pretty Corner Lane, or from surrounding woodland. The site had many paths, some surfaced. Paths are steep in places and those at the bottom of the hill can be muddy in winter.

There is a waymarked route of sculpture posts running through Old Wood and Pretty Corner Wood. Each post gives a clue about what you can find close by. The walk takes around 1.5 hours and is suitable for pushchairs.

The wood’s highest point, at 96m (315 feet) above sea level, is one of the highest points in Norfolk, with fine views towards Sheringham and out to the North Sea.

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

Oldwood will continue to develop as a patchwork of heath land, grassland and broadleaf dominated woodland. This mosaic of habitats will complement the surrounding landscape within the north Norfolk AONB and Norfolk BAP habitat plan, whilst enriching the biodiversity of the site.

With the site having widely varying habitats the management will need to be looked at separately, although interlinking to form a flowing patchwork of open ground habitat, secondary woodland and public access.

Woodland (high forest)
The long term vision of the woodland areas will be to develop a structurally diverse broadleaf dominated high forest woodland, with diverse natural regeneration and understorey. A coniferous element will be retained within the wood due to their grand aesthetic nature within the landscape.

Open Ground
The long term vision for the open ground areas will be to develop a patchwork of heath land, grassland and scrub habitat that complements and adds to the diversity of the site, and the local landscape mosaic.

Public Access
Oldwood is directly adjacent to North Norfolk District council site of pretty corner and managed as one whole entity regarding public access. The long term vision for public access within Oldwood is to maintain the public partnership with North Norfolk District council, and manage the two areas of the wood as one entity. Continue to the develop public access within the site, and to work with local partnerships to further improve access and access links. The long term vision will be to maintain and develop the access structure to a high level for the enjoyment focussing on the existing paths, entrances and internal infrastructure.

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 Open Ground Habitat

Description

A patchwork of ling heather dominated areas with areas of grassland interspersed and isolated patches of woodland scrub on the inaccessible steep slopes. Heathland and open ground habitat restoration took place during the winter of 2000 and 2005. This has resulted with heath land and grassland species beginning to return, whilst it has been impossible to manage the open ground habitat on the inaccessible steep slopes and are now being allowed to return to woodland scrub.

Significance

Heath land used to be a common land use in North Norfolk. Most have been lost and is now a threatened habitat. Heath land is a BAP priority habitat in Norfolk. Suffering from historical fragmentation and loss heath land has the largest numbers of RDB and BAP species, and therefore supports an important Biota, particularly invertebrate fauna. Whilst woody scrub is an important habitat for small woodland birds, mammals and invertebrates and adds to the overall range of habitats that the site can provide.

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities - to further increase presence of heath land on the Holt-Cromer ridge. Beeston common, a SSSI and PSAC is only 500 metres away. Heath land at Old wood will greatly contribute towards the conservation of this habitat in North Norfolk.
Constraints – constant management of the open areas of heathland grass matrix to maintain the open habitat. The current woody scrub will eventually succeed to mature woodland and is only a temporary habitat, but is a useful stop gap until the woodland areas develop increasing natural regeneration.

Factors Causing Change

Lack of management and eventual succession to mature woodland.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Maintain and develop the patchwork of open habitats within Oldwood to maintain the diverse variety of habitats that both enrich the biodiversity of the site and develop wildlife corridors with similar adjacent habitats.

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

To maintain existing areas of open ground as a patchwork of heath land, grassland and woody scrub. Assess of heath land regeneration through Flora surveys by monitoring the presence or absence of key communities using DAFOR scale. Prevent ground flora deterioration by controlling invasive woody species (Rhododendron, Western Hemlock, and Birch) and Bracken.

Work Programme: Invasive woody species control by cutting June - August

5.2 Secondary Woodland

Description

Mature mixed species secondary woodland Corsican pine interspersed with areas of Douglas fir, grand fir and western hemlock and native broadleaf species oak, birch, rowan, and naturalised sycamore, beech and sweet chestnut. The conifer was planted in the early 1060's and has varying form and quality. The Corsican pine has signs of Dothistoma needle blight but has only caused minor issues on site. The Grand Fir has been susceptible to Honey fungus attack with a secondary infection of Ganoderma causing small clusters of grand fir to dieback.

Compartment 5a was given to the woodland Trust under a long term management agreement by Sheringham town council, who purchased it from Anglian water. Cmpt 5a differs from the rest of the wood with it being predominantly broadleaf except for a small area of under planted conifers that consist mainly of failed Douglas fir. The rest of the compartment is a mix of Beech, Birch Sycamore, Sweet chestnut and some common ash. Common ash only make a small component of the tree species mxture, but what we do have has showed signs of

Within the whole of Oldwood there is natural regeneration of broadleaves and conifer but only where light conditions are suitable for development of new growth. There is little deer pressure on site although Munctjac are present within the wood.

Significance

The site is a patchwork of different habitats that in which the secondary woodland will provide a major part of the developing biodiversity and habitat present on site.

Opportunities & Constraints

Constrains - Steeply undulating topography making it difficult to manage in parts of the wood. Tree pathogens and pests reducing the amount of native and naturalised woodland species that can effective regenerate and create a diverse woodland habitat.
Opportunities - Economically viable conifer crop, and the ability to develop a diverse mixed age woodland through manipulation of light levels within the wood through natural regeneration.

Factors Causing Change

Deer could develop in numbers and start to impact on the natural regeneration within the woodland. Tree pathogen's and pests reducing the species range of trees that can viably be naturally regenerated within the wood.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

To develop and then maintain Oldwoods' woodland, as a species and structurally diverse woodland. Enhancing the structural diversity and resilience of the secondary woodland to future pests and pathogens' through promoting natural regeneration of tree species creating a structurally and species diverse woodland, with diverse standing and laying deadwood habitat

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

Undertake a selective thinning regime to begin to manipulate the canopy structure to provide favourable conditions to allow natural regeneration to develop and begin to create a diverse age and tree species structure that will become more resilient to future pests and pathogens. This will be undertaken over the current plan period focussing on the areas of conifer silvicultural thinning will be undertaken to lighten canopy to promote natural regeneration and development of existing regeneration. Whilst areas of broadleaf woodland where there is a lack natural regeneration development will have more focussed thinning operation to break up the canopy to aid development of tree regeneration.

Work Programme:
2017 - Compartment 2a, 2b, 2c, 3a, 4a, 4c Thinning of conifer areas throughout the site undertake 20-25% thinning to break up canopy and allow improved light conditions to promote natural regeneration and allow existing tree regeneration to develop . Retain where feasible existing tree regeneration, standing deadwood and woodland understorey species.

2018 – Compartment 4b, 4d,5a Thinning of broadleaf stand undertake 20-25% canopy thinning within the secondary broadleaf woodland to break up areas within the secondary woodland component that have single age class high forest canopy structure and allow natural regeneration to develop in the understorey. Retain where feasible common ash, standing deadwood and woodland understorey species.

5.3 Informal Public Access

Description

Oldwood is open to the visiting public and there is a diverse well used ride system within the wood. A small car park for up to four cars is situated in the South West corner of the wood. In 2010 a joint project between North Norfolk District council and the Woodland Trust. The two owners of Pretty corner of which Oldwood is part agreed to joint improvement of access and interpretation, so the site would be seen as one whole entity in the eyes of the general public.

Significance

The Woodland trust maintains an open access policy for the general public

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities – To continue to develop Old wood's public access further with North Norfolk District Council

Constraints – Steep topography that can be restrictive to some users of the site.

Factors Causing Change

Future changes to North Norfolk District council department re-structure or land holding.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

To continue to maintain and enhance public access for public enjoyment of Oldwood and the natural environment, whilst not compromising the sites biodiversity. Continue to develop management of public access with North Norfolk District Council.

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

To maintain site as an area of public open access, with ride system cut to a minimum of 2m three times per year to allow unhindered access for the public. Maintain all internal structures in a safe usable condition. Maintain and develop the partnership with NNDC and develop further links and investment to benefit users of both sites.

Work Plan: Cut all paths minimum 2 metre width April, June and September

5.4 Pond

Description

Oldwood contains 3 ponds that were thought to of been created by the predecessor of Anglian Water. All hold water all year round and contain stocks of small fresh water fish, and also common toads use all three ponds for their annual spawning. The ponds have a shallow draft but become deeper in their centres 1 metre plus. The edges of the pond are wooded and there is little verge vegetation.

Significance

The ponds provide another habitat and greater diversity of biodiversity. Their close proximity render them ideal for natural colonisation and migration of species between ponds. They all have the potential to be of very high conservation value. They are also of interest to the public.

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities: to improve the pond edge habitat by manipulating the light levels around parts of the ponds by removing a proportion of the overhanging trees that are causing heavy shade.

Factors Causing Change

Invasive Pond Weed being introduced

Long term Objective (50 years+)

To maintain all ponds as a diverse habitat feature within Oldwood, with aquatic and pond edge habitat that will add to the overall patchwork of habitats within the site.

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

Start to develop pond verge/edge structure by coppicing the adjacent south facing trees to allow greater light levels to the ponds and promote potential development of woody scrub regeneration. This will be achieved by allowing natural regeneration development of woody scrub.

Maintain the existing viewing and pond dipping platforms for the enjoyment of the general public and parties of school children who utilise them for their school curriculum.

Work Programme.
Annual visual safety inspection of platforms and repair any damaged or rotten timber. 2016 – 2021

2018 – Coppice all trees directly adjacent to the southern edge of all three ponds to increase light levels and promote scrub edge habitat.

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	6.00	Open ground	1960	Non-wood habitat	Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/ Rocky ground, Services & wayleaves, Very steep slope/cliff/quarry/ mine shafts/sink holes etc	Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Heritage Coast
Compartment 1a Heath land grassland areas containing Ling heather (Calluna vulgaris, Wavey hair grass (Deschampsia flexuosa) and Gorse (Ulex europaeus) present coverage varying greatly but main heath land species slowly spreading. The heath land and acid grassland areas were cleared of conifers in two stages in 2000 and 2005. 2010 Areas that were not manageable due to topography were allowed to naturally scrub up with tree regeneration. This mainly consists of Silver Birch, Rowan and Oak.							
2a	0.99	Corsican pine	1961	High forest	Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/ Rocky ground, Very steep slope/cliff/quarry/ mine shafts/sink holes etc	Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Heritage Coast
Area of conifer plantation, Corsican pine with interspersed Douglas fir. Understorey dominated by bramble.							
2b	3.24	Mixed conifers	1961	High forest	Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/ Rocky ground, Very steep slope/cliff/quarry/ mine shafts/sink holes etc	Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Heritage Coast
Conifer plantation, Consisting primarily of Corsican pine with Douglas Fir and Western hemlock, Understorey dominated by bracken (Pteridium aquilinum) with bramble (Rubus fruticosus) and male fern (Dyryopteris sp).							

2c	1.06	Mixed conifers	1966	High forest	Very steep slope/cliff/quarry/ mine shafts/sink holes etc	Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Heritage Coast
Conifer plantation on the higher areas of the ridge, planted with beech, larch and Scots pine. Has been heavily thinned previously Genarally very species poor ground flora, primarily bramble (Rubus fruticosus) and male fern (Dryopteris spp).							
3a	0.53	Mixed native broadleaves	1962	High forest	Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/ Rocky ground, Very steep slope/cliff/quarry/ mine shafts/sink holes etc	Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Heritage Coast
Area thought to be of ancient origin presently Coniforised with a high proportion of mixed broadleaves. Ground Flora includes Wood Millet (Milium effusum) and common twayblade (Listera ovata).							
4a	5.87	Mixed conifers	1962	High forest	Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/ Rocky ground, Very steep slope/cliff/quarry/ mine shafts/sink holes etc	Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Heritage Coast
Conifer plantation, Grand and Douglas fir with Western hemlock and Corsican pine. A green lane runs through compartment leading down the slope towards Sheringham. Understorey dominated by bracken (Pteridium aquilinum) with bramble (Rubus fruticosus) male fern (Dyryopteris sp) with patches of wood sorrel (Oxalis acetosella) interspersed throughout the area.							
4b	0.93	Beech	1966	High forest	Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/ Rocky ground, Very steep slope/cliff/quarry/ mine shafts/sink holes etc	Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Heritage Coast
Plantation, primarily Beech, scattered Scot’s pine. Understorey dominated by bracken (Pteridium aquilinum) with bramble (Rubus fruticosus) male fern (Dyryopteris sp)							

4c	0.40	Mixed conifers	1961	High forest	Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/ Rocky ground, No/poor vehicular access within the site, Very steep slope/cliff/quarry/ mine shafts/sink holes etc	Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Heritage Coast
Conifer plantation, Douglas fir and Grand fir understorey contains bracken (Pteridium aquilinum) with bramble (Rubus fruticosus) male fern (Dyryopteris sp).							
4d	0.38	Mixed broadleaves		Min-intervention	Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Heritage Coast
Mainly broadleaf intersperse with some conifers main species sycamore and silver birch. Understorey contains bracken (Pteridium aquilinum) with bramble (Rubus fruticosus) male fern (Dyryopteris sp).							
5a	10.80	Mixed broadleaves		High forest	Very steep slope/cliff/quarry/ mine shafts/sink holes etc	Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Heritage Coast
Mature secondary woodland area main species being Sycamore, silver birch, sweet chestnut, oak, rowan, Understorey contains bracken (Pteridium aquilinum) with bramble (Rubus fruticosus) male fern (Dyryopteris sp), bluebell (Hyacinthoides non-scriptus). Three ponds and a water channel are situated within the compartment.							

Appendix 2: Harvesting operations (20 years)

Forecast Year	Cpt	Operation Type	Work Area (ha)	Estimated vol/ha	Estimated total vol.
2017	2a	Thin	0.99	85	84
2017	2b	Thin	3.24	26	84
2017	2c	Thin	1.06	79	84
2017	3a	Thin	0.53	158	84
2017	4a	Thin	5.85	14	84
2017	4c	Thin	0.40	208	83
2018	4b	Thin	0.91	91	83
2018	4d	Thin	0.38	221	84
2019	5a	Thin	11.37	9	100

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.