WOODLAND TRUST

College 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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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:	College Wood
Location:	Nash, Bletchley
Grid reference:	SP791330, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 152
Area:	52.18 hectares (128.94 acres)
Designations:	Ancient Woodland Site

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Summary Description

Badgers are present and a number of deer (particularly Muntjac) frequent the woodland. The woodland was once a SSSI for its invertebrate records but was unfortunately de-notified many years ago after the extensive felling and replanting in the previous ownership. Recent surveys have shown that some butterfly species such as the wood white, white admiral and purple hairstreak are present on the site. The wood white is a rediscovery, having last been seen in the 1980's and thought to be extinct. These species may be responding to increasing light levels in the woodland, particularly along the ride edges where there is a greater range of vegetation due to ride management and PAWS restoration.

2.2 Extended Description

College Wood is a 52 hectare / 128 acre ancient semi-natural woodland site and lies approximately 4 miles (6.4km) west of Milton Keynes in Buckinghamshire. It was purchased by the Woodland Trust in 1999 in two acquisitions: the 50.34 ha ancient woodland that forms most of the site and the 1.85 ha area of young woodland planted on ex-arable land through the Trust's 'Woods on Your Doorstep' campaign, which is known as College Copse. For management purposes, College Wood can be said to encompass the entire site and so includes both areas.

College Wood was historically part of the medieval Whaddon Chase hunting forest and bordered Whaddon Park to the north east. Along this edge of the wood, an ancient bank and ditch still forms part of the parish boundary. Prior to the Enclosure Acts, the wood was surrounded by open common to the west and enclosed pasture to the north. College Wood extended further south down to the A421 Buckingham road and beyond. College Wood was once divided by a ditch and bank (which is still present) into three coppiced areas with part of the wood (adjacent to the intake on the SE boundary) kept open as common pasture.

The older and larger part of College Wood is an ancient coppice woodland that was divided into compartments by a grid-like network of rides, some of which were formed around the early 1950's and others around 1800. The ancient status of the woodland is indicated by typical features such as the sinuous outline of the woodland edge and the occurrence of many woodland plants associated with ancient semi natural woodland. These include bluebell, dog's mercury, early purple orchid, wood anemone and remote sedge. There are also features such as earthworks, ditches and remnant old trees within the wood.

The whole wood was subject to a 1950-60's felling and planting regime by the Forestry Commission and the success of this varies from compartment to compartment. The planted species included Norway spruce, larch, western red cedar, oak, beech and Scots pine. Despite these sudden changes in composition to the woodland, there are elements of the semi natural community still surviving within the planted areas and in some cases these have outcompeted the introduced species. There is little diversity of structure within the wood away from the wood and ride edges.

The site is located on the lip of a shallow plateau covered with glacial till and dips towards the north east where the till merges with the Oxford clay. Amongst these soils are deposits of glacial sands and gravels which become evident on the surface when disturbed by the excavations of badgers and rabbits. These soils and deposits can influence the character of the vegetation growing throughout the site. In the northern and eastern parts of the wood, there are shallow, periglacial valley heads that have seasonal streams flowing through them.

Badgers are present and a number of deer (particularly Muntjac) frequent the woodland. The woodland was once a SSSI for its invertebrate records but was unfortunately de-notified many years ago after the extensive felling and replanting in the previous ownership. Recent surveys have shown that some butterfly species such as the wood white, white admiral and purple hairstreak are present on the site. The wood white is a rediscovery, having last been seen in the 1980's and thought to be extinct. These species may be responding to increasing light levels in the woodland, particularly along the ride edges where there is a greater range of vegetation due to ride management and PAWS restoration.

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

Public and management access to the wood is by means of a stoned track from the minor country road to the west of the wood. For the rest of the site, there is an extensive ride network which can lie wet for most of the year. There is a small car park at the entrance to the site which can park around 4 or 5 cars.
There are no public rights of way which link to the wood.
There is a limited bus service to the village of Nash 2km to the north of the wood and connected by a minor road with no footpath. For bus times and routes contact Traveline on 0871 200 2233 or www.traveline.org.uk . There are no public toilets in the vicinity.

3.2 Access / Walks

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

The long term intentions for College Wood will seek to realise two of the Woodland Trust's three key aims:

- to protect native woods, trees and their wildlife
- to restore damaged ancient woodland

Ancient woodland is one of our most valuable terrestrial wildlife habitats, and in England is defined as woodland sites with evidence of continuous wooded cover since 1600 AD. College Wood is a PAWS woodland (Planted Ancient Woodland Site), where in this case both conifers and broadleaves have been planted in the 1950's / 1960's following extensive felling.

Restoration of PAWS provides the only opportunity to increase the area of ancient woodland with semi-natural characteristics. In general and in line with best restoration and reversion practice, the site has and will continue to be gradually converted to predominantly native broadleaf woodland.

Practically this means that the conifer and broadleaf plantation component, where identified after assessment as a threat to diverse broadleaf regeneration and/or forming dense shade suppressing ground flora, will be gradually thinned. The aim is to achieve more semi-natural broadleaved conditions over time. In subsequent continuous-cover (there will be no loss of woodland cover) operations to thin stands to robust levels, (where the threat from plantation species to remnant features is minimal) the management will consider practice which may provide an economic return. A component of conifer will be retained long-term to provide increased biodiversity and woodland resilience.

As the woodland matures, operational management will diversify the overall age and stand species structure. Some broadleaved trees will be identified and left to reach old age and decline naturally. Deadwood, both standing and fallen will be maintained to provide important niche habitats within the wood, particularly for invertebrates and fungi, except if they pose a significant tree safety risk.

Ride management at College Wood will help to create lighter conditions within the wood which will enhance the ride-side vegetation, as well as helping to dry out the path surface for visitors which tend to remain damp due to the heavy, clay soils. This management will also be aimed at the enhancement of habitat for the rare butterfly populations identified at the site.

Observations will be carried out to record any factors causing change that may be detrimental to the vitality and structure of the woodland. For example there should be no damaging invasive species present on the site, and the likely colonisation by ash dieback (Hymenoscyphus fraxineus) and other pests and diseases monitored and managed where necessary. Though the canopy layer is ash dominated in parts, there is good natural regeneration of a mix of other species making the requirement for replacement planting unlikely.

The public's enjoyment of the woodland will be enhanced by improving and maintaining an accessible and safe network of paths and rides. Entrances, boundary fences, and benches will be maintained as necessary and the access provision will be monitored and provided.

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 Ancient Woodland Site

Description

Much of the wood was felled and re-planted during the 1950's and 60's with an array of broadleaved and conifer species including spruce, larch, western red cedar, oak, ash, beech and Scots pine. The proportion of non-native conifer trees against native broadleaves across the site is slightly over 20% and is declining due to PAWS restoration. Despite the replanting, there are elements of the semi natural community still surviving within the planted areas which in some cases have out-competed the introduced species. The diversity of structure is improving over time with natural colonisation by various shrub species such as hawthorn and hazel and trees such as goat willow, field maple, cherry, common privet and blackthorn are also present.
The National Vegetation Classification across the whole site most closely resembles NVC W8a ash – field maple – dog's mercury. An understory of hawthorn, hazel and bramble with ground flora dominated by bluebell with early purple orchid and wood anemone. Bracken occurs in some small glades to the eastern side of the wood. In the more sandy areas, a W10 (oak - bracken - bramble) and W16 (oak - birch - wavy hair grass) type of woodland is supported.
The wood contains two internal watercourses and some earth works and an extensive ride network. Near the entrance is the only large veteran oak tree remaining in the wood.
The Muntjac deer population used to cause excessive grazing of flora and natural regeneration but deer numbers have been managed and reduced to lower levels, allowing good levels of natural regeneration.

Significance

Buckinghamshire is a county where 45% of ASNW has been lost since the Second World War with only 4000 ha remaining. Woodland cover is only 4.6% of the land area in this part of Bucks. ASNW is irreplaceable, and the amount in Britain has been drastically reduced over the last century. ASNW is very important due to the continuity of woodland cover over hundreds of years which allows for a diverse range of wildlife and vegetation to develop over time that cannot be found in new woodland creation sites, and a key aim of the Woodland Trust is to prevent any further loss of ancient woodland.
Site contains wood white and early purple orchid which are listed in the Bucks biodiversity 100 list.
The wood was part of the ancient Whaddon Chase royal hunting forest.

Opportunities & Constraints

Constraints:
- Other than the hard surfaced track leading into the site from the car park area, many of the other paths can be extremely wet for most of the year round due to the underlying clay soils, so any management work has to be carefully timed with drier site conditions
- Woodland archaeology is present and damage must be avoided during any forestry operations

Opportunities:
- To restore all PAWS areas within the site using best practice
- To use the site to demonstrate the Trust's approach to woodland management and to influence neighbouring landowners and other key stakeholders
- To improve habitat diversity to favour the continued presence of the rare butterfly populations

Factors Causing Change

Squirrel / deer damage
Death of ash due to colonisation of ash dieback (Hymenoscyphus fraxineus)

Long term Objective (50 years+)

In the long term the PAWS areas within College Wood should all be predominantly broadleaved in character, with all other major ancient woodland components in a secure and improving condition, including old growth trees, ground flora, archaeological features, and a diverse deadwood component.
The likely colonisation by ash dieback (Hymenoscyphus fraxineus) will affect the species composition of the wood over time, and the resulting mixed stands (oak, beech, cherry, sycamore, birch, rowan being the most common species) of high forest will be being managed on a continuous cover silvicultural system to produce uneven-aged, self-regenerating stands of high conservation and amenity value.
Deer damage to the broadleaf trees will be monitored and action taken if the damage becomes unacceptable.
Ride widening to create some edge structure and introduce some lighter, drier conditions within the woodland which will benefit some woodland species like the wood white butterfly

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

This section should be read in conjunction with the PAWS assessment and strategy maps.

All threatened PAWS stands will be thinned selectively over the 5 year management plan cycle to secure and bolster remaining ancient woodland components (broadleaved trees, ground flora, decaying wood habitats and archaeological features).

Areas of plantation woodland will be thinned. The thinning in compartments 3b and 3d will focus on Scots pine and will favour any broadleaves within the crops, removing conifers from stream-sides, old hedgebanks and ride edges to bolster ecological hotspots for ground flora.

- Ride widening and selective ‘hotspot’ thinning to bolster remnant floral communities, while retaining specimen / future old growth trees on south-west to north east rides between 1g and 3c, 1e and 3a, 1d and 2c, 2c and 2b, 3a and 3b, 3c and 3d (approx. 2.3km) – 2017
- Selective thin – Scots pine through 3d and part 3b (approx. 4.75Ha) – 2018
- Ride widening mixture of felling / coppicing in scalloped fashion into stands to help dry paths and bolster remnant floral communities, while retaining specimen / future old growth trees on north-west to south-east rides between 1g and 1e, 1e and 1d, 1d and 1b, 3f and 3c, 3c and 3a, 3a and 2c, 2c and 2a (approx. 1.2km) – 2018

5.2 Informal Public Access

Description

College Wood is categorised as a 'low usage site', where less than 5 people are using one entrance each day, but where paths are maintained.
There is level access directly into the centre of the wood on a hard surfaced ride which leads from a small car park near the road, currently suitable for around 4/5 cars.
Within the wood there is an extensive ride and path network in a grid pattern, however no public rights of way enter the site.

Significance

The site provides a quiet area for walking and recreation for some people living within walking distance of the woodland. Milton Keynes is the closest major conurbation and is 4 miles (6.4km) away, with some visitors driving to the site.
One of the Woodland Trust's main objectives is the promotion of public access to, and enjoyment of, woodlands.
The site has a variety of habitats and historic features that can be used to engage the public, including children, in appreciating the landscape on a wider scale.

Opportunities & Constraints

Constraints:
- Most of the woodland paths can become very muddy during wet weather due in part to the heavy clay soils. The woodland is not connected to the public path network and only accessible from the road
- Vehicular parking is currently limited

Opportunities:
- A woodland which is easy to explore by visitors due to it being a very level site with a grid network of paths. Ride widening will help to create more open, drier path surfaces for visitors
- Possible expansion of current car parking facilities could increase accessibility

Factors Causing Change

Changes in vegetation along rides.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

For visitor numbers to gradually increase as the site becomes more widely known.
To have easier access for visitors with a drier ride / path surface along clearly defined routes.
The paths will be kept safe for quiet, recreational pedestrian access to the woodland.
The site should be accessible and safe but not over-managed with excessive infrastructure and signage.
There should be an appropriate level of resources available for the site to guide and inform all visitors.

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

The main rides will be mowed annually during the summer to aid visitor access and other infrastructure such as signage will be maintained at annual site visits by the estate contractor.
- Ride widening to dry paths on south-west to north east rides between 1g and 3c, 1e and 3a, 1d and 2c, 2c and 2b, 3a and 3b, 3c and 3d (approx. 2.3km) – 2017
- Drainage and ditch improvements to above ride-edges where required to improve access and dry rides - 2017
- Ride widening mixture of felling / coppicing in scalloped fashion into stands to help dry paths on north-west to south-east rides between 1g and 1e, 1e and 1d, 1d and 1b, 3f and 3c, 3c and 3a, 3a and 2c, 2c and 2a (approx. 1.2km) – 2018
- A review will be undertaken following the above path / ride improvement works to assess the possibility of expanding the car park and the provision of better surfacing along some routes - 2018/19

5.3 Secondary Woodland

Description

This is the 1.8 ha block of woodland planted in 1999 at compartment 4 for the Woods on Your Doorstep project. The species include oak, field maple, guelder rose, wild cherry, hawthorn, blackthorn, crab apple, downy birch, ash, hazel and dog rose. Approximately 1920 trees were originally planted in curved lines but leaving 10m wide rides for the overhead power lines.

Significance

The creation of this woodland area has helped to increase the amount of new native woodland cover as well as establishing a wooded buffer between the ancient woodland and the road.

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities:
To develop a diverse and mixed woodland that is resilient to pests and diseases.
To demonstrate industry best practice for woodland establishment and care.

Factors Causing Change

Deer damage.
The likely colonisation by ash dieback (Hymenoscyphus fraxineus), though ash is not a dominant component in this compartment, and a wide variety of other mixed broadleaf species are present.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

There will be (through some management intervention) a diverse mix of species and age classes, quantities of deadwood and open glades / paths.
Original plantation characteristics will be lost.
Natural colonisation of ground flora from the ancient woodland will occur over time.

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

Other than the annual inspection of the tree safety zones by the Site Manager, no silvicultural intervention is planned during this management plan period.

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	0.60	Oak (peduncculate)	1970	High forest	Archaeological features, Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
Area planted in the 1970's and now comprising mainly broadleaved trees including oak and ash with some Norway spruce. Native ground flora coverage of dogs mercury, bluebell, and wood anemone with extensive wood-bank on wood boundary. One large field maple on wood bank.							
1b	2.10	Oak (peduncculate)	1960	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
Intimate mix of conifer and native broadleaf high forest including oak - 30%, Scots pine -25%, ash 20%, Norway spruce - 10% and larch. A shrub layer of hazel, hawthorn and blackthorn is evident. Small number of large old oak, ash and field maples on wood bank.							
1c	3.90	Ash	1960	High forest	Archaeological features, Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
Native broadleaved woodland dominated by ash with oak, with some remaining Norway spruce and Douglas fir but most were ring-barked for PAWS restoration in 2000 and have now died. Little structural diversity except on edges of compartment.							
1d	2.00	Ash	1960	High forest	Archaeological features, Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
Mixed high forest which is dominated by young ash and oak and approximately 20% planted spruce and larch, most of which was ring-barked in 2000 as part of the PAWS restoration. Understory now developing well.							

1e	3.40	Ash	1960	High forest	Archaeological features, Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
Mixed high forest dominated by ash 65% and some oak with small element of western red cedar and Norway spruce many of which were ring-barked in 2000 and have now died. Some areas of understory of thorn and hazel near ride edges.							
1f	3.30	Ash	1940	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
Established ancient semi natural woodland dominated by oak and ash. A few spruce trees remain after the PAWS restoration in 2000. More defined understory including extensive ash regeneration and the occasional old ash stool. Ground flora of dogs mercury, bluebell, and wood anemone.							
1g	3.10	Oak (pedunculate)	1950	High forest	Archaeological features, Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
Broadleaved ash-oak plantation with some remaining Norway spruce and beech with an understory of hazel, willow and hawthorn near rides. Block of plantation beech near the main ride. Ground flora of dogs mercury, bluebell and wood anemone but sparse under the beech.							
2a	2.00	Oak (pedunculate)	1960	High forest	Archaeological features, Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
Mixed rows of oak - 35%, ash - 30%, western red cedar - 20%, and Norway spruce 10%. Little understory away from rides. An earth work and ditch runs through the compartment. On the extreme edge of wood is a dried-up pond and a former building platform.							
2b	7.70	Ash	1950	High forest	Archaeological features, Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
Ash-oak W8 woodland with some Norway spruce and large field maple. Good bluebell area and large pollards on edge of wood. Bounded on southern edge by natural water course. Well-defined understory of hawthorn, field maple, hazel. Several large veteran oak and ash trees on wood boundaries.							

2c	2.60	Ash	1950	High forest	Archaeological features, Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
Ash oak-dominated woodland with some beech on the south western edge. Probable site of 19th century woodman's camp in centre of compartment, as well as part of boundary earthwork.							
3a	4.30	Ash	1960	High forest	Archaeological features, Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
Mixed area of natural regeneration and plantation species including silver birch, ash, oak and some remaining spruce in large groups although many were ring-barked in 2000 for PAWS restoration. Tawny owls nesting and lots of regeneration of ash and some oak. Relic semi natural ground flora is rather sparse. An earthwork cuts across the middle of the compartment.							
3b	2.60	Ash	1960	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
Natural broadleaved high forest with ash, oak, silver birch, hawthorn, hazel understory and some ash regeneration.							
3c	3.10	Ash	1960	High forest	Archaeological features, Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
Native broadleaved high forest with ash, oak, silver birch and field maple with an understory of hawthorn, willow and hazel. A single large veteran oak stands next to the main ride which has been halo thinned to prevent excessive shading from surrounding trees. Fairly diverse ground flora of dog's mercury, bluebell, wood false brome and primrose. Large earthwork cuts through compartment.							
3d	4.70	Scots pine	1960	PAWS restoration	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
Formally dense Scots and Corsican pine plantation with a small amount of natural regeneration of ash of the same age intermixed with an understory of hawthorn and hazel growing at the edges of the compartment. Little ground vegetation under the shade of the conifer. There is some vigorous regeneration of ash, field maple and ground flora in gaps in the canopy.							

3e	1.30	Ash	1965	High forest	Archaeological features, Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
Natural ash high forest with silver birch and planted Norway spruce and an understory of hawthorn and hazel. A natural watercourse flows through compartment. Good ground flora of bluebell and dogs mercury.							
3f	0.60	other poplar spp	1965	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
Poplar plantation with ash regeneration and a hawthorn understory.							
3g	3.10	Ash	1960	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
Ash, oak, field maple W8 woodland with small bracken glades indicating acid soils. Stream flows through compartment.							
4a	1.80	Mixed broadleaves	1999	High forest	Services & wayleaves	Informal Public Access	
The Wood On Your Doorstep site (College Copse) planted in late 1999 incorporating mixed native broadleaved species, a path network and a car park.							

Appendix 2: Harvesting operations (20 years)

Forecast Year	Cpt	Operation Type	Work Area (ha)	Estimated vol/ha	Estimated total vol.
2020	1d	Thin	1.92	39	75
2020	1e	Thin	3.47	36	125
2020	1g	Thin	3.16	40	125
2020	3b	Thin	2.60	38	100
2020	3d	Thin	4.45	34	150
2020	3e	Thin	1.49	34	50
2021	1c	Thin	4.15	58	240
2021	1f	Thin	3.18	57	180
2021	3f	Thin	0.60	58	35
2021	3g	Thin	2.51	58	145
2022	2c	Thin	2.62	57	150
2022	3a	Thin	4.51	58	260
2022	3c	Thin	3.16	57	180
2023	1a	Thin	0.44	45	20
2023	1b	Thin	2.08	48	100
2023	4a	Thin	1.75	29	50
2024	2a	Thin	2.17	46	100
2024	2b	Thin	7.82	45	350

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.