WOODLAND TRUST

Costells Wood

Management Plan 2019-2024

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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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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:	Costells Wood
Location:	Scaynes Hill
Grid reference:	TQ366237, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 198
Area:	21.14 hectares (52.24 acres)
Designations:	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, County Wildlife Site (includes SNCI, SINC etc), NULL

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Summary Description

Costells Wood is a site of ancient woodland and has been designated an area of wildlife importance. Broadleaf trees inhabit the area, and ground flora includes orchids. Several small ponds are found in the site, alongside an extensive path network.

2.2 Extended Description

Costells Wood is a 21 hectare (53 acres) site on the edge of the village of Scaynes Hill, West Sussex, just within the southern boundary of the High Weald National Character Area (NCA), where it meets the Low Weald NCA. The Woodland Trust acquired the site in 1996, leaving a 10 acre area adjoining the south boundary and bordered by Costells Edge housing estate and a much larger area of woodland which extends to the north and east (Henfield and Nashgill Woods) under private ownership.

The High Weald NCA is an area of ancient countryside consisting of interconnected ancient woods, steep-sided gill woodlands, wooded heaths and shaws with extensive archaeology and evidence of long-term management. Costells Wood is characteristic of these ancient woodland habitats and is designated ancient semi-natural woodland (ASNW) and a Site of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI) due to its long history of continuous woodland cover that makes the site of considerable importance for wildlife. Together with the predominantly ancient woods to which it is adjoined, the site forms a locally important tract of this habitat, loosely connected to the wider landscape.

The site is mainly level with a steep-sided gill running almost parallel with the north boundary and a stream marking the western boundary. Its soils are stagnogleyic argillic brown earths with the underlying geology being Tunbridge Wells Sand, which supports a range of woodland types. This includes areas of oak and occasional ash standards with hazel, birch and hornbeam coppice and pockets of ancient semi-natural woodland ground flora such as bluebell and wood anemone. Alder flush woodland predominates in the gills, with carpets of mosses and ferns and the occasional and scarce alder buckthorn. The most notable stand type is the wooded heath area with open-grown oak, birch and Scots pine with a ground flora of heather, bilberry and bracken; a scarce habitat in lowland England.

Power-lines run along the north-east boundary under which regular clearance has created a wide grassy ride known locally as ‘Bunny Walk’. This area has a variety of ground and shrub flora which includes common spotted orchids, wood spurge and heather. There are several small ponds located in the wood, one of which has been restored through the installation of a weir with a footbridge over it.

There is an extensive network of paths running through the wood, with steps and footbridges installed in steeper and wetter areas to aid access.

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

General location:
Costells Wood is situated on the north-west edge of the village of Scaynes Hill, near Haywards Heath. The main public entrance is off of Scaynes Hill common, adjacent to Church Road at the northern end of the village.

General overview of paths & entrances:
The entrances to the wood are off of the common and off of the A272 next to the management gate. They are all squeeze gaps. The paths within the wood are all unsurfaced and can be very muddy following wet weather. The site is generally level with some short steep gradients into the various stream valleys where steps aid access. There are several narrow sleeper footbridges at stream crossing points.

Parking:
The nearest car parking available is a small bay of hard surfaced parking spaces adjacent to Church Road at the northern end of Scaynes Hill common, approximately 120m from the entrance.

Public Transport:
Nearest train station: Haywards Heath approximately 2½ miles from the wood via the A272, a busy main road without pavements for some of the distance.
Nearest bus stop: The Farmers PH, Scaynes Hill. There are regular services from Haywards Heath and Uckfield. Information obtained from Traveline website on 1/8/13 (www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk or tel: 0870 608 2 608).

Public Toilets:
Nearest toilets: Orchards Shopping Centre, Haywards Heath, RH16 3QH, approximately 3 miles from the wood. Disabled facilities accessible with a RADAR key. Baby-changing facilities. Information obtained from Mid Sussex DC website (www.midsussex.gov.uk).

3.2 Access / Walks

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

Costells Wood is characteristic of the longevity of ancient High Weald habitats and will be managed to maintain this continuity over the long-term.

The diverse habitats of oak woodland, wooded heath, gill woodland and associated ground flora will be largely self-sustaining through natural processes. The diverse species, age-classes and composition will provide successional growth to maintain continuity of cover, requiring minimal management intervention throughout the majority of the wood.

Short-term successional habitats and temporary open space will be present following coppicing of trees and understorey (mainly hazel) on ride edges. This will benefit specialists which rely on temporary open space and scrub habitats such as silver-washed fritillary butterflies and bullfinches, in addition to those that benefit from the continuity of minimum or non-intervention areas.

Wide rides will also provide open space and a variety of vegetative zones including herb, scrub and shrub layers will be present following annual cutting and statutory clearances under the power lines along ‘Bunny Walk’.

A proportion of oaks and Scots pines will mature into characterful veteran trees and dead wood will be plentiful throughout the wood, from standing dead trees retained where safe to do so, to naturally fallen trees and branches and retention of some material cut during coppicing.

The presence and effect of invasive species such as cherry laurel, diseases such as ash dieback, and browsing by animals such as deer will be monitored, and management tailored accordingly. The site's diverse habitats and structure should add to its resilience, particularly to single species threats such as ash dieback.

There will be a moderate number of visitors each year who will have access to the majority of the wood via signed entrances and a network of maintained but largely natural paths, with occasional bridges and steps in the steeper and wetter areas, resulting in a tranquil site for quiet recreation activities and thriving 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 Ancient Semi Natural Woodland

Description

Many of the woodland stands have a relatively low density of canopy trees, with natural gaps created from self-thinning and natural senescence resulting in a moderate but sufficient level of tree and shrub regeneration to provide continuity of cover and the occasional standing dead tree and fallen dead wood on the ground. The oak dominated areas have swathes of bluebell, anemone, lesser celandine and other associated ground flora representative of this ancient semi-natural stand-type in early spring. Ash dieback symptoms are visible in the relatively low numbers of ash present, most evident in the naturally regenerating ash saplings, but there are early symptoms of dieback in some mature ash trees.

Historic maps show large areas of open ground at the north western end of the wood which were likely to be assart fields, medieval clearings for agricultural use. The area that the fields occupied are identifiable by the dominance of well-defined coppice coupes, the majority of which is hazel either side of the north/south ride in that area. These coppiced coupes have regenerated successfully, forming a uniform dense thicket, which along with other coppiced vegetation is beginning to encroach on some path areas, forming shady 'corridors'. Contrastingly, there are occasional wide ride areas following more recent ride-side coppicing notably in compartment 1c, and along the routinely cut 'Bunny Walk' beneath the powerlines on the northern boundary of the wood. These areas support a diverse range of ground flora including those specialist plants found within the range of stand types throughout the woodland itself, to coarse vegetation and plants more commonly found in semi-natural open space such as bramble, bracken, bugle, self-heal, garlic mustard and occasional orchids.

More open still are the wooded heath areas with a higher proportion of more open-grown trees with plentiful space between providing conditions for the heathy ground layer and occasional understorey vegetation such as rowan and holly between large swathes of bracken.

The gill woodland areas are thriving in the damp shady conditions, with oak or alder being the main canopy trees, along with occasional birch and sycamore. Understorey species are typically hazel and rowan, with occasional holly and alder buckthorn with a dense layer of mosses, liverworts and ferns carpeting the streamside areas.

Significance

Costells Wood is characteristic of the ancient woodland, wooded heath and gill woodland habitats of the High Weald; nationally rare ecosystems due to the continuity of woodland cover over hundreds of years. The amount of ancient semi-natural woodland (ASNW) left in Britain has been drastically reduced over the last century, with approximately 40% of England's ASNW found in the south east. Ancient woodland is irreplaceable and its protection and enhancement is one of the main aims of the Trust. Therefore, Costells Wood together with the woods to which it is adjoined, forms a locally important tract of ancient habitat, benefitting the local community and wildlife whilst maintaining resilience and connectivity in the wider landscape.

Opportunities & Constraints

Constraints:
Management access is restricted by the limited access points, undulating terrain and frequently wet ground conditions.

Factors Causing Change

Ash dieback is present, with ash of each age class present showing decline symptoms.
Non-native invasive species such as laurel and rhododendron are present.
Deer browsing has had a detrimental impact on coppice regeneration in past years and this may be a factor when further coppicing is carried out.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Mature, long-established ancient woodland stands will be the dominant component of the wood following consistency of overall management over successive plan periods, with notable trees and continuous canopy cover throughout the majority of the wood as a result of minimum intervention.

A diverse species and age-class composition will be present, with a variety of stand-types, most notably the wooded heath and gill stream areas, which provide provide contrast to the more familiar oak dominated stands.

Ten to fifteen percent of the site will comprise temporary open space, mainly in the form of wide rides with a variety of vegetative zones including herb, scrub and shrub layers following cyclical ride-side coppicing, annual path cuts and statutory clearances under the power lines along 'Bunny Walk'. Natural glades in the heathy stand will provide additional open areas.

A proportion of oaks and Scots pines will mature into characterful veterans and dead wood will be plentiful throughout the wood, from standing dead trees retained where safe to do so, to naturally fallen trees and branches and retention of some material cut during coppicing.

Non-native invasive species such as cherry laurel and rhododendron will not threaten the woodland following a programme of removal and control. Browsing by animals such as deer will not be causing significant detriment to regenerating vegetation either by natural processes or appropriate management to protect vegetation where necessary.

The variety of regenerating tree species present across the majority of the key feature will provide resilience to diseases and maintain canopy cover. With oak and rapid colonisers such as sycamore and birch present it is anticipated that although the majority, if not all ash within the wood will be affected and lost because of ash dieback, the compensatory species will maintain canopy cover.

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

To create more short-term successional habitat and temporary open space and manage ash trees significantly affected by ash dieback during this plan period. This will be achieved through the following:-
•Annual observations to monitor the progress of ash dieback and the succession of the habitat.
•Annual coppicing of selected ride-side trees up to 10m width along a total of approximately 500m of ride edge during the plan period to increase diversity of edge structure. Individual trees will be retained as open grown specimens/long-term veterans on ride edges and glades where possible. Ash on ride edges affected by ash dieback will also be removed.
• Removal of significant non-native invasive species growth in 2019 and annual management for the remainder of the plan period.
• A woodland condition and deer impact assessment will be carried out in 2023 across the whole site.

5.2 Connecting People with woods & trees

Description

Costells Wood is located on the northern edge of the village of Scaynes Hill. With a population of around 1500 living within one kilometre of the site and in excess of 40,000 people within five kilometres, the site is regularly used at all times of year, with more than approximately 15 - 20 people using one entrance every day (access category A).

There are entrances at the northern tip and south east corner of the wood, accessible via a public footpath that leads from Scaynes Hill common along the north-eastern edge of Costells Wood, locally known as 'Bunny Walk'. Another entrance is located in the south west corner of the wood directly off the A272 (Lewes Road). Further access to the south boundary is also available via permissive footpaths through the private area of woodland adjoining the south boundary and bordered by Costells Edge housing estate.

There is an extensive internal network of permissive paths and rides running throughout the wood which are mainly flat however they are unsurfaced, largely natural and can be extremely muddy in winter and wet periods. There are occasional small sleeper footbridges across some stream areas, a footbridge with handrails adjacent to the northern-most pond, and steps to aid access in the steepest and wettest areas.

Significance

Locally, High Weald woodland provides many services to communities living within the area's towns and villages and adjacent urban populations through the supply of drinking water, flood mitigation and carbon storage and a range of open-air recreational activities. However, high demands for housing in south east England threaten to disturb the tranquility of the Weald and disrupt the historic pattern of the landscape. With a local population of around 1500 people, Costells Wood provides an important ecological and recreational resource to the residents of Scaynes Hill, providing benefits to both mental and physical health.

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities: To engage volunteers to carry out conservation tasks such as coppicing.

Constraints: Although there are footpaths through the whole site, these are largely natural and unsurfaced, meaning that many of the paths are muddy during the winter or prolonged periods of rainfall. The cost of permanent surfacing is prohibitive and would spoil the natural rural aesthetic of the site.

Factors Causing Change

The current increase in housing developments in the south east is likely to increase the local population and use of the wood, which may increase the likelihood and frequency of fire, litter and dog walking.
Vegetative growth may encroach on paths and affect access.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Entrance infrastructure will be maintained to cater for the high frequency of visitors to the site. Footpaths will remain largely natural, but suitable infrastructure (e.g. bridges and steps) will facilitate access through some of the more challenging areas of the site to provide a safe, enjoyable and varied woodland experience for visitors. The site will be well used and appreciated by local residents and should retain its largely natural aesthetic.

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

To provide a safe, enjoyable and varied woodland experience for visitors. This will be achieved through the following:
•Mowing and strimming of rides twice a year.
•An upgrade of entrance and access infrastructure (e.g. steps and bridges) within the plan period.
•Annual infrastructure inspections and maintenance.
•Annual tree safety inspections in line with the Trusts Tree Risk Management Policy and remedial works as required.
•An assessment of access infrastructure in 2023 as part of the whole site woodland condition assessment.

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	6.84	Oak (pedunculate)	1900	Min-intervention	Services & wayleaves	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, County Wildlife Site (includes SNCI, SINC etc)
Streamside mixed broadleaved woodland along the west boundary of the wood. This sub-compartment slopes down from the footpath that extends from the entrance on the A272, with the stream (a tributary of the river Ouse) forming the western boundary. There is mature oak with an understorey of birch, hornbeam, hazel, holly and hawthorn and an area of mixed coppice (mainly hazel) with semi-mature oak standards. Ground flora in these areas includes bluebell, wood anemone, bracken, bramble and honeysuckle. Along the stream the wet ground conditions allow mature coppiced ash and alder to predominate, with abundant sedges, mosses and liverworts. To the north is an area of mostly semi-natural open ground under powerlines. It is dominated by bracken in summer. There are occasional birch and elder and remnants of ancient woodland flora under the bracken including bluebell and wood anemone. Ash dieback is present within the compartment, affecting ash of all age classes.							
1b	5.34	Mixed broadleaves	1950	Min-intervention	Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/ Rocky ground, Services & wayleaves	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, County Wildlife Site (includes SNCI, SINC etc)
This is an area of valley/gill woodland adjacent to the north east boundary of the wood. The boundary is defined by a public footpath known as 'Bunny Walk', a regularly cleared ride approximately 3-8m wide which loosely follows overhead power lines and is edged with shrubbery, scrub and mixed ground flora including occasional orchids. There is a woodbank running parallel to, but some distance from, the footpath. The area between this bank and the path appears to be secondary woodland with mainly birch and hazel. The gill stream flows north west past two smaller ponds along the valley and into a restored pond with a weir at the north west end of the sub-compartment. From here it flows west into the stream on the western boundary. There is also a tributary stream joining from the south. Within the gill, tree species include standard oak, coppiced hornbeam, birch, hazel, alder and holly, with occasional alder buckthorn (Frangula alnus). Ground flora in this part of the sub-compartment includes extensive bluebells and wood anemones with ferns, mosses and liverworts along the gill itself. There are permissive paths within as well as around the sub-compartment, with various steps and footbridges to aid access in the steeper and wetter areas. Ash dieback is present within the compartment, affecting ash of all age classes.							

1c	8.96	Oak (pedunculate)	1970	Min-intervention	Services & wayleaves	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, County Wildlife Site (includes SNCI, SINC etc)

This is the central and southern part of the wood occupying a level and heathy area dominated by open-grown oak, birch, rowan, holly and occasional mature Scots pine. The majority of this sub-compartment has a very different character to the rest of the wood with a very open aspect, sparse understorey and a heathy ground flora dominated by bracken, with bilberry, honeysuckle and heather also frequent. The south east corner is similar to the other sub-compartments with mature oak, ash and sycamore with a mixed coppiced understorey, and the southern third of 'Bunny Walk' as described in sub-compartment 1b. The east half of the southern boundary adjoins the houses of Costells Edge and the west half adjoins the 10ha area of privately owned woodland, with the boundary indicated by concrete posts marked with orange paint. In the south west corner, adjacent to the A272 there is a small area of hazel coppice with oak and occasional ash standards. Ash dieback is present within the compartment, affecting ash of all age classes.

The main entrance to the wood is in the south east corner of this sub-compartment and marks the southernmost point of 'Bunny Walk'.

Appendix 2: Harvesting operations (20 years)

Forecast Year	Cpt	Operation Type	Work Area (ha)	Estimated vol/ha	Estimated total vol.
2020	1a	Ride edge Coppice	0.10	50	5
2021	1a	Ride edge Coppice	0.10	50	5
2022	1b	Ride edge Coppice	0.10	50	5
2023	1b	Ride edge Coppice	0.10	50	5
2024	1c	Ride edge Coppice	0.10	50	5

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.

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