



Horse Close Wood

Management Plan 2012-2017

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THE WOODLAND TRUST

INTRODUCTION

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

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

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

PLAN REVIEW AND UPDATING

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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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

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

WOODLAND MANAGEMENT APPROACH

The management of our woods is based on our charitable purposes, and is therefore focused on improving woodland biodiversity and increasing peoples' understanding and enjoyment of woodland. Our strategic aims are to:

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

All our sites have a management plan which is freely accessible via our website www.woodlandtrust.org.uk. Our woods are managed to the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS) and are certified with the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) under licence FSC-C009406 and through independent audit.

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

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

The following guidelines help to direct our woodland management:

1. Our woods are managed to maintain their intrinsic key features of value and to reflect those of the surrounding landscape. We intervene when there is evidence that it is necessary to maintain or improve biodiversity and to further the development of more resilient woods and landscapes.
2. We establish new native woodland using both natural regeneration and tree planting, but largely the latter, particularly when there are opportunities for involving people.
3. We provide free public access to woods for quiet, informal recreation and our woods are managed to make them accessible, welcoming and safe.
4. The long term vision for our non-native plantations on ancient woodland sites is to restore them to predominantly native species composition and semi-natural structure, a vision that equally applies to our secondary woods.
5. Existing semi-natural open-ground and freshwater habitats are restored and maintained wherever their management can be sustained and new open ground habitats created where appropriate.
6. The heritage and cultural value of sites is taken into account in our management and, in particular, our ancient trees are retained for as long as possible.
7. Woods can offer the potential to generate income both from the sustainable harvesting of wood products and the delivery of other services. We will therefore consider the potential to generate income from our estate to help support our aims.
8. We work with neighbours, local people, organisations and other stakeholders in developing the management of our woods. We recognise the benefits of local community woodland ownership and management. Where appropriate we allow our woods to be used to support local woodland, conservation, education and access initiatives.
9. We use and offer the estate where appropriate, for the purpose of demonstration, evidence gathering and research associated with the conservation, recreational and sustainable management of woodlands. In particular we will develop and maintain a network of long-term monitoring sites across the estate.
- 10 Any activities we undertake will conform to sustainable forest management principles, be appropriate for the site and will be balanced with our primary objectives of enhancing the biodiversity and recreational value of our woods and the wider landscapes.

SUMMARY

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

1.0 SITE DETAILS

Site name:	Horse Close Wood
Location:	Alton Pancras
Grid reference:	ST714043, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 194
Area:	16.58 hectares (40.97 acres)
Designations:	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Ancient Woodland Site, Area of Landscape Value, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Tree Preservation Order

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Summary Description

Horse Close Wood lies in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, within the parish of Alton Pancras. It is not open to the public, but there are two permissive management access points, where the permission of the landowner and the Woodland Trust must be sought prior to access.

2.2 Extended Description

Horse Close Wood is to be found in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, within the parish of Alton Pancras. Set in a secluded location in a rural area near to the village of Buckland Newton. The northern half of the wood is flat but the southern half is set on a north facing slope.

Much of the wood and surrounding lands are wet, and there are a number of streams and ditches crossing the wood. Jurassic Kimmeridge Clay underlines the majority of the wooded area rising to Cretaceous Gault Clay in the South.

The Wood is an Ancient semi-natural woodland, formally coppice and coppice with standards. In many areas the coppice is stored and the wood is approaching a high forest structure. Primarily oak over hazel although as you move south, ash becomes an increasing component. The south west corner contains a high proportion of alder and aspen. The under story is mainly hazel and holly. The wood contains a high number of ancient woodland species, thought to be over 50 of which 14 are notable in a Dorset context, including Herb paris.

Surrounding land use is entirely pastured. Although improved, all the land except that to the east is organically farmed, which should have benefits to the wood- eg a higher proportion of herbs sown in the grass sward, establishment of beetle banks on adjacent land, lower inputs and reduced threat to notable trees that have been identified on these boundaries. It is separated by only a field from further ancient woodland to the south at Church Hill and Ball Hill, set up on the ridge. The Eastern boundary of the woodland also marks the Parish boundary.

The wood is not open to the public, but occasional educational/natural history groups visit the site with the prior agreement of neighbours and the Woodland Trust. There are two permissive management access points into the woodland. In both cases the permission of the landowner and the Woodland Trust must be sought prior to access.

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

The wood is not open to the public, but occasional educational/natural history groups visit the site with the prior agreement of neighbours and the Woodland Trust. There are two permissive management access points into the woodland. In both cases the permission of the landowner and the Woodland Trust must be sought prior to access.

3.2 Access / Walks

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

A native broadleaf woodland of a diverse age structure to provide a continuous wooded feature in the landscape, and retaining the diversity of species currently present.

The open space habitat will mostly be provided by the network of permanent rides. These have been widened with some scalloped areas in previous years and will always remain adequately open, to provide varying habitats and enough light for the associated ride side species

The majority of the wood will be managed as high forest, to allow the remaining trees, shrubs and ground flora to develop and increase optimum conditions for regeneration. Other areas, identified in the 2004 ecological survey, will be allowed to develop to high forest without intervention to retain a mosaic of light and dark areas within the woodland.

Older feature trees scattered through the wood will be retained to their natural death. The southern half of the woodland, will continue to be monitored for the interesting bryophytes and lichen populations and where necessary, removing the ivy from the tree stems to create the warm exposed conditions on the stem that they favour.

Corporate objective - no further loss of ancient woodland. The biodiversity of woods restored and improved.

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

Ancient species rich semi natural woodland generally of oak-ash-hazel composition. The proportion of ash increases in the south of the wood, as the soils become more base rich, and in the extreme south (cpt 5) the mix changes to ash with aspen and alder.

Historically managed as coppice and coppice with standards, much of the coppice is stored and the wood is now generally closer to a high forest structure with a closed canopy over a weak and straggly hazel understorey with holly present throughout. The exceptions to this are compartments 7, 8 & 9 which have a dense fringe with the external boundary, but generally have been re-coppiced and had the density of standards reduced during the 1980s/early 1990s. However deer grazing has affected coppice re-growth and natural regeneration, leaving the eastern half of this block (cpt 7) in particular open. In addition bracken and bramble are growing vigorously where gaps in the canopy have been created and this and rank grass growth constitutes a further threat to delicate ground flora, and young tree growth, although the bramble affords some protection from grazing. However, the open area in compartment 7 does provide diversity in the wood, providing a scrub area of benefit to birds and butterflies for food and shelter, not otherwise available within the wood, as all of the rides are relatively narrow and shaded.

There are a number of older open grown trees scattered throughout the wood, presumably the relict of the coppice with standards system, which provide diversity by providing habitat for eg for hole nesting species and fungi.

The ground flora in spring is dominated by bluebells and ramsoms - other notable species include herb paris, yellow archangel, wood millet, hairy wood rush, and meadow saffron though due to current canopy conditions they have not flowered for some time. In all over 150 species from lichens and mosses to birds and mammals have been recorded at the wood (see reference file for full species lists)

The wood is crossed by 3 streams and a number of flowing ditches, and is generally of a damp to wet nature.

Significance

Corporate objective for no further loss of ancient woodland. The wood is species rich, having over 50 ancient woodland indicator species and 14 Dorset notables recorded. Of particular note is herb paris, which only occurs in ancient woodland, and meadow saffron (autumn crocus) which is found in only a few locations in Dorset The wood is almost surrounded by organically farmed pasture, and there is a further block of ancient woodland close by to the south, and so forms part of a larger block of lower intensity land use.

The wood has previously been proposed as an SSSI for the diversity of its ground flora.

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunity: to retain the current biodiversity value of the site by maintaining a continuous semi natural broadleaf woodland

Opportunity: to use the comprehensive ecological survey data from 2004 to inform future management.

Constraints:

- 1) Wet ground in the winter within the wood and on surrounding land limits the time available for felling/extraction or other heavy work requiring machinery.
- 2) To reach the wood one must travel down a long private track off the public road, and then across fields which again limits the economic viability of the operation
- 3) Level of grazing by deer inhibiting natural regeneration and coppice re-growth.

Factors Causing Change

Deer Damage, bracken growth, coarse grasses/bramble in more open areas

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Uneven aged semi natural broadleaved woodland containing diversity of species at least as great as currently present

The woodland will be managed as high forest with a varied size age and species understory and ground flora.

The rides and rideside scallops will be maintained as open ground to maintain their woodland glade habitat values.

Halo areas around veteran trees will be managed to maintain tree health and vigour.

The 4 trees that have been identified of importance for lichen will be retained and surrounding woodland will be managed to encourage development of populations.

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

Operational Objective:

To maintain and enhance the current composition of this semi natural woodland and suitable conditions for insect, mammal, floral and bryophytes interest. Reduce the threat from heavy deer browsing, by monitoring damage levels and working with neighbours regarding cull numbers outside the Wood, to enable promotion of natural regeneration and coppice re-growth throughout, and thus ensure, a more uneven age structure is achieved.

Areas where important and notable species have been identified are to be monitored through surveys, bringing in local experts where necessary e.g. bryophytes and lichens (Professional surveys every 10 years - last ecological survey was completed in 2004, with next survey scheduled for 2014) with regards to any impact (positive or negative) through management works.

Veteran and other notable trees will be retained and potential future replacements created.

Work Programme

1. Currently deer culling outside the wood is undertaken by a neighbour. In previous years culling has been undertaken by Dogbury Sporting Services, within the wood. They advised that shooting within the wood is difficult, and so currently control is only on the surrounding land. Level of control is borderline for our purposes in allowing regeneration/coppice re-growth.

Higher cull numbers for one season in the past has reduced deer numbers and browsing according to neighbours. Communication with the stalker over the season and monitoring the regeneration will determine whether a higher cull is needed for another season.

2. Meadow Saffron will be monitored by the volunteer wardens and the Site Manager to help determine any future management. Previous plans detail no evidence of flowering but seed pods were seen in cpt 4a in May 2011.

3. Monitor the four veteran trees to ensure the areas haloed in the past remain clear.

4. Oak regeneration (oaks that have been planted previously) will continue to be protected with tree guards over the course of this plan period and will be removed when necessary.

5. Ecological survey in 2014 to monitor important and notable species e.g. bryophytes and lichens, with regards to any impact (positive or negative) through management works.

6.0 WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type of Work	Description	Due By
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APPENDIX 1: COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Key Features Present	Designations
1a	1.20	Oak (pedunculate)	1920	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site, No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Landscape Value, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Tree Preservation Order

Sub compartment 1a is situated in the northern corner of the woodland. The eastern half is predominantly oak coppice, no hazel but occasional holly, whilst the western half of the stand is a mix of oak and ash over hazel and holly. The oaks are estimated to have been established around 1920, and a smaller proportion established around the early 1970s. The smaller proportion of mature ash coppice is estimated to have last been cut around 1940, and the younger ash maidens around 1970. A percentage of the younger ash and oak show reasonable form. The understorey is made up of occasional to frequent hazel coppice, as well as the occasional patchy holly, which is showing signs of extensive browsing and fraying. The herb layer is dominated by Bluebells. Sub compartment 1a has a gentle easterly aspect, with a small stream running along its western boundary, and also a flowing ditch running east-west through the compartment.

2a	2.90	Oak (pedunculate)	1940	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site, No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Landscape Value, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Tree Preservation Order
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Sub compartment 2a is a well stocked stand of oak coppice, estimated to have been established around 1940 and at a latter date of 1960.

Two old oak pollards are located within the stand.

Understorey consists of frequent hazel coppice, patchy holly and rare hawthorn.

Sub compartment 2a has a gentle to moderate northerly aspect with the NVC type changing from W10 in the north to W8 in the more southern areas.

3a	1.80	Oak (pedunculate)	1952	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site, No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Landscape Value, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Tree Preservation Order
<p>Sub compartment 3a is an area of stored coppice. The stand is comprised of oak standards estimated to have been established around 1920. Ash coppice estimated to have last been cut around the late 1960s, and oak coppice estimated to have last been cut around the early 1950s. Ash becomes more abundant towards the south of compartment 3a.</p> <p>Understorey is comprised of abundant hazel coppice which also becomes more dominant towards the top of the slope. Two Ash are located on the Southern boundary and one in the NE of the Cpt, which have shown importance for several scarce and notable lichen and moss communities</p> <p>Sub compartment 3a has a gentle to moderate northerly aspect.</p>							
4a	2.30	Oak (pedunculate)	1952	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site, No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Landscape Value, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Tree Preservation Order
<p>Sub compartment 4a is an area of coppice with standards. The stand is comprised of oak standards estimated to have been established around 1920. Ash coppice estimated to have last been cut around the late 1960s, and oak coppice estimated to have last been cut around the early 1950s. Ash becomes more abundant towards the top of compartment 4a.</p> <p>Three veteran oaks are situated towards the top of the slope along the ride edge, estimated to have been established around 1850.</p> <p>Understorey is comprised of abundant hazel coppice which also becomes more dominant towards the top of the slope.</p>							

5a	1.70	Ash	1965	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site, No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Landscape Value, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Tree Preservation Order
<p>Sub compartment 5a is a mixed stand of ash coppice and aspen. The ash coppice is estimated to have last been cut around the mid 1960s. The aspen is estimated to have been established during the same period.</p> <p>A small proportion of senescent oaks are also scattered throughout the stand. Understorey consists of abundant hazel coppice.</p> <p>Sub compartment 5a has a moderate to gentle westerly aspect.</p>							
5b	0.90	Aspen	1960	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site, No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Landscape Value, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Tree Preservation Order
<p>Sub compartment 5b is a mature wilder area of coppice woodland situated on predominantly wet ground, in the south western corner of Horse Close. The area is predominantly comprised of ash with a proportion of alder.</p> <p>The ash coppice is estimated to have last been cut around 1960, and a smaller proportion during the 1940s. The alder is also estimated to have last been cut around the 1960s.</p> <p>The understorey is comprised of occasional to frequent hazel coppice.</p> <p>Sub compartment 5b has a generally flat aspect with a small stream running along its eastern boundary.</p>							
6a	0.60	Oak (pedunculate)	1940	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site, No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Landscape Value, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Tree Preservation Order

Sub compartment 6a is an area of mature coppice with standards. Oak standards are estimated to have been established around 1920. Oak coppice estimated to have last been felled around 1940 and the ash coppice at a latter date around 1965. The understorey consists of frequent to abundant hazel coppice. Ground flora is predominantly pendulous sedge. Sub compartment 6a has a gentle northerly aspect.

7a	0.80	Oak (pedunculate)	1940	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site, No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Landscape Value, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Tree Preservation Order
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Sub compartment 7a was coppiced and the standards thinned around 1990/91, and due to deer pressure, currently remains predominantly an open area of woodland. The area contains a few widely spaced oaks at about 30/ha estimated to have been established around 1900 and at a later date of 1940. A small area was deer fenced by volunteers, however Hazel coppice re-growth remains patchy, and consequently much of the compartment remains open, although bracken and bramble have encroached onto many of the open areas. The bramble is aiding the re-growth of the hazel and ash regeneration to an extent by protecting it from grazing.

8a	0.80	Other		High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site, No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Landscape Value, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Tree Preservation Order
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Sub compartment 8a is an area of coppice with standards. Oak standards are estimated to have been established around 1940. Ash coppice is estimated to have last been felled around 1965. The understorey is comprised of abundant to dominant hazel coppice; last coppiced in the late 1980s, which is coming up through heavy bramble, and occasional holly. Although competing with the hazel, the bramble also affords some protection from deer browsing.

9a	0.90	other oak spp	1940	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site, No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Landscape Value, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Tree Preservation Order
<p>Sub compartment 9a is an area of a few remaining oak and ash standards over hazel. Both the oak and ash standards are estimated to have been established around 1940. The understorey is comprised of abundant hazel coppice and holly. Patchy heavy bramble is located throughout the stand. The density of the canopy decreases as you move west to east - ie on the western boundary the canopy is complete, the central section is 30-50% open, whilst the eastern section is 50-75% open, as it blends in with compartment 8. The eastern half of the compartment is thought to have been last coppiced in the mid to late 1980s.</p>							
10a	0.80	Oak (pedunculate)	1940	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site, No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Landscape Value, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Tree Preservation Order
<p>Sub compartment 10a is located in the north easterly corner of the woodland. The stand is predominantly made up of oak maidens, estimated to have been established around 1940. A smaller proportion of ash is also present in the main canopy and is also estimated to have been established around the same time as the oak. A proportion of the oak is of good form. Understorey is made up of abundant hazel coppice and patchy holly.</p>							
11a	1.00	Oak (pedunculate)	1960	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site, No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Landscape Value, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Tree Preservation Order

Sub compartment 11a is a stand of predominantly oak maidens, estimated to have been established around 1960. Small proportion of older oaks are also present within the stand and are estimated to have been established around 1900. Ash is also present in the main canopy and is estimated to have been established around 1960.

A proportion of the oak is of good form.

Understorey is made up of frequent hazel coppice and patchy holly.

Sub compartment 11a has a gentle north, north westerly aspect.

12a	0.80	Oak (pedunculate)	1940	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site, No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Landscape Value, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Tree Preservation Order
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Sub compartment 12a is a stand of pure oak maidens, established at two intervals 1900 and 1940.

A proportion of the oak is of good form.

Understorey is made up of frequent hazel coppice and patchy holly.

Sub compartment 12a has a gentle north, north westerly aspect.

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.