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WOODLAND  
TRUST

# Gaer Fawr Wood

## Management Plan 2014-2019

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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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk) or contact the Woodland Trust ([wopsmail@woodlandtrust.org.uk](mailto: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.

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## 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](http://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

<b>Site name:</b>	Gaer Fawr Wood
<b>Location:</b>	Guilsfield
<b>Grid reference:</b>	SJ222128, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 126
<b>Area:</b>	30.04 hectares (74.23 acres)
<b>Designations:</b>	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Scheduled Ancient Monument, Tree Preservation Order

## 2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

### 2.1 Summary Description

Gaer Fawr occupies a hill just north of Guilsfield (Cegidfa) near Welshpool with a network of paths lead up to an Iron Age fort at the summit. Predominately an oak woodland with an excellent display of bluebells in spring. Onsite can be found an information board, a series of seats (some commissioned by local artists), and a small parking area. Views across surrounding landscape from the summit are best before the trees are in full leaf in summer.

## 2.2 Extended Description

Gaer Fawr occupies a prominent hill approximately 1km north of Guilsfield (Cegidfa) near Welshpool. The flanks of the hill support semi-natural woodland, most of which is ancient, with a diverse species composition including areas dominated by sessile oak coppice, areas dominated by ash and sycamore and small patches of wet woodland with frequent alder.

An impressive Iron Age hill fort known as Gaer Fawr Camp (a Scheduled Ancient Monument) occupies the summit of the hill with clearly visible ramparts enclosing a flat camp area with two entrances. Here there are areas of non-woodland habitat (grassland, bracken and scrub) and relatively open woodland dominated by mature broadleaved trees with patches of dense younger self-sown trees.

A previously cultivated area occurs to the south of the hill fort. This area currently supports bracken with scattered scrub and trees.

The woodland is partly enclosed by historic boundary hedgerows, a section of which has been restored by the Woodland Trust.

Despite its relatively remote location, the site is particularly popular with the local public due in part to its prominence in the local landscape and also because of its high intrinsic appeal, especially during the spring when carpets of bluebells can be found. There is a network of permissive paths, an information board, a series of seats (some commissioned by local artists) and a small parking area (3 Cars).

Key features at the site are:

- the diverse semi-natural ancient woodland representing significant areas of upland oakwood, with lesser areas of upland mixed ashwood and wet woodland habitats;
- the prominent hill fort which is a designated Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM).
- public access and the intrinsic appeal of the site with locally abundant bluebells, winter views from the hill summit, a variety of habitats including open areas and significant historical features.

Other features of note include the prominence of the woodland in the local landscape which occupies the highest land in the area, the presence of badger setts and a regular owl roost.

## 3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

### 3.1 Getting there

Gaer Fawr is situated about 1.4 km from the centre of Guilsfield. There are two entrances off Gwreiddyn Lane, the main entrance being at the top of the hill. At this main entrance are two access points into the wood via kissing gates, one being suitable for pushchairs. Please note that two of the three paths off this lane are public bridleways. There are three other access points into the wood linking in with the wider local public rights of way network. Gaer Fawr wood crowns the top of a hill. All of the paths are not surfaced and can get slippery when wet. Apart from the two bridle paths within the wood which skirt the hill, the paths are narrow and steep in places.

A small parking area for 3 cars is available at the main entrance. Alternatively park at roadside in the village and walk to site. Once beyond the village there are no pavements. Gwreiddyn Lane, off the B4392 is narrow with high hedge banks, and is steeply sloping in part.

Nearest public toilet: Church Street Car Park in Welshpool approximately 5km from site. The disabled toilet requires a RADAR key. Information from Powys County Council website [www.powys.gov.uk](http://www.powys.gov.uk) as at Feb 07.

Public Transport: the nearest bus stop is in Guilsfield Square close to St. Aelhaiarn's Church on the B4392. From here there is a 1.6km walk to the wood. See [www.traveline.org.uk](http://www.traveline.org.uk) or call them on 0870 6082608 for details of services.

## 3.2 Access / Walks

## 4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

The main objective for the majority of the site will be to maintain the semi-natural woodland habitat dominated by a variety of site-native broadleaved trees, shrubs and field/ground layer species reflecting the diversity of woodland types present. Within the Scheduled Ancient Monument another objective is to protect the monument and enable visitors to see it.

Little woodland management will be required to achieve the woodland objective outside the fort. The wood is regenerating well with a range of species. Small areas may be coppiced periodically to maintain open areas, viewpoints and provide scrub habitat, for example scallops adjacent to the bridleway to the west of the site and glade margins.

Within the Scheduled Ancient Monument active management will be undertaken subject to support via a Management Agreement with CADW (the Welsh Assembly Government's historic environment division). The aim is to keep the fort fairly open and visible at ground level and the vegetation will be managed to create areas of stable open mature woodland and non-woodland habitat which will enhance the visibility of the ramparts and reduce the risk of potential damage which could be caused by tree roots and/or falling trees. Bramble and scrub will be controlled by mechanical means where it obstructs visibility of the ramparts. Grazing will be avoided to allow the woodland flora to grow including bluebells and grassland species to flower.

The restored section of boundary hedge will be maintained by periodic laying to maximise its value as an historic, ecological and landscape feature. Other sections of remnant hedge will be retained.

The amenity value of the site will be retained. The network of paths, information board, car park and a number of seats/benches will be maintained and repaired as necessary.



## 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

The woodland is diverse including extensive ancient semi-natural stands and smaller areas of recently developed semi-natural woodland (in areas previously cleared and kept open by grazing/cultivation). The majority of the present canopy derives from coppice regrowth. There are three main woodland habitat types represented:

- 1) The majority comprises upland oakwood dominated by sessile oak coppice (singled to the south-west) with locally frequent silver birch, ash, wild cherry and sycamore (especially to the east). The shrub layer is variable and can be dense, comprising rowan, elder, hawthorn, hazel, holly and young canopy species, particularly sycamore. The field layer is generally species-poor with bramble, bracken, bluebell, ivy, creeping soft-grass and honeysuckle each frequent and locally abundant (W10). Wavy hair-grass and bryophytes are locally prominent, often accompanied by bracken, bramble, common cow-wheat and honeysuckle (W16) or by creeping soft-grass, sheep's fescue, tormentil and heath bedstraw (W11).
- 2) Relatively small areas, mainly to the south of the site comprise upland mixed ash wood dominated by ash and sycamore often with wild cherry, elder and hazel over a diverse field layer including bramble, bugle, false wood-brome, herb robert, wood speedwell, common dog-violet, black bryony, wood avens, ivy, tufted hair-grass, red campion, ground-ivy, sanicle and wood melick (W8).
- 3) Tiny patches of wet woodland, mainly to the south of the site, with locally frequent alder, meadowsweet and yellow pimpernel (W7).

Parts of the site are bound by hedgerows, the majority of which are now defunct (due to repeated past mechanical trimming and browsing by stock), often comprising only scattered or locally frequent over-mature hazel and hawthorn. The southern 374m of the western boundary was restored in the late 1990s through a Hedgerow Renovation Scheme Agreement, by coppicing, extensive planting (mainly of hazel) and erection of protective fencing.

#### Significance

The semi-natural/broadleaved stands comprise both upland oakwood and upland mixed ash woods (with tiny areas of wet woodland) - all UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) priority woodland habitats (with upland oakwood also valued in a European context).

The woodland boundary hedge represents a traditional boundary feature and is of landscape, historic and ecological value. The restored stretch of hedge adjacent to a public bridleway is highly visible and management will enhance views from the public right of way.

#### Opportunities & Constraints

The prominence of the woodland in the local landscape is a constraint to management which might affect the external appearance of the wood, particularly on the eastern and southern slopes. A TPO covers the south-eastern slopes. The woodland requires little management to retain or enhance its current condition. The volume of dead wood will naturally increase and mature and over-mature individual native trees (future veterans) will naturally develop. Badger setts are present on the northern and eastern hill sides and there is a known owl roost. Part of the woodland lying within sub-compartment 2A is fenced and will therefore be subject to light grazing regime recommended to retain the archaeological interest of the SAM.

The Hedgerow Renovation Scheme Agreement (which ran to 2006) provided an opportunity to restore one section of hedge and requires the continued maintenance of this and retention of the remnant hedge around the remainder of the western, northern and north-eastern boundaries of the site. The restored stretch of hedge can be traditionally managed through laying or coppicing in the future. Such management will have the added benefit of enhancing views from the adjacent bridleway. Restoration of further areas of boundary hedgerow would require considerable planting.

### **Factors Causing Change**

Lack of grazing within the SAM leading to scrub and bramble development, Mature trees will be prone to falling, especially the mature coppice stools., Outside the grazed enclosure, natural regeneration is likely to be sufficient to fill any gaps., The two small coppiced “scallop” will gradually regenerate and mature into high forest of coppice origin if left unmanaged., The sections of hedge which were not restored will gradually decline as remaining individual hedge trees die.

### **Long term Objective (50 years+)**

Diverse semi-natural woodland (primarily high forest) dominated by a high diversity of broadleaved tree and shrub species. The canopy will include a high proportion of mature to over-mature individuals, including maidens and both singled and multi-stemmed coppice stools. The quantity of deadwood, particularly standing deadwood, will increase naturally over time. The historic boundary hedge will be kept in good condition with periodic laying. Remnants of the rest of the boundary hedges will be retained as long as possible as mature hedge trees.

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

The current canopy/shrub composition is unlikely to alter over a 5-10 year period. The coppiced areas will gradually redevelop a woodland cover. The restored section of hedge will be laid and cut regularly. The fence will be maintained as stock proof.

## 5.2 Archaeological Feature

### Description

The site's summit is occupied by an iron age hill fort which comprises an extensive series of clearly visible ramparts with a more level central core. The wood takes its name Gaer Fawr from this fort. The Scheduled Area includes a buffer zone extending beyond the outer ramparts.

### Significance

A particularly fine example of a multi-rampart Iron Age hill fort with the ramparts still clearly visible.

### Opportunities & Constraints

The prominence of the site in the local landscape is unlikely to be considered a constraint to management of the hill fort, since historically it would have been far more visible than at present. Although management access is poor, the relatively small volumes of timber which might result from clearing young trees/shrubs and occasional felling of unstable mature trees will not result in significant volumes of timber. Grazing the fort is likely to be difficult because of the very limited access to the site for stock and difficulties controlling levels of very localised grazing within the fenced area. If stock are reintroduced it will be necessary to restrict dogs to leads within the fenced area. A large badger sett is present on the northern slope. Mature trees may support bat roosts (particularly in the future as the trees become over-mature). One tree is known to be used as a regular owl roost.

### Factors Causing Change

Regeneration/growth of shrubs, trees, bramble and bracken within the SAM will result in the development of a denser undergrowth which is likely to obscure the visibility of the ramparts, reduce habitat diversity (by infilling of non-woodland habitat) and could increase the risk of future root damage to the archaeological interest of the SAM., Windblow/falling of unstable or dead trees could result in damage to the archaeological interest., Erosion caused by mountain bikes or stock could also be a threat to the archaeological interest.

### Long term Objective (50 years+)

The archaeological value of the SAM will be retained with potential damage caused by tree roots and falling trees minimised wherever possible. In the long term the hill fort (ramparts and interior) will be dominated mainly by open mature woodland with a sparse understorey and areas of grassland and scattered stable mature trees (unstable trees will be felled to protect archaeological interest). The ramparts will be clearly visible with bracken, bramble and scrub under control. The area of the SAM outside of the ramparts will be high forest with minimal intervention (except for felling of unstable trees where these pose a threat to archaeological interest).

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

Within 5-10 years the hill fort (ramparts and interior) will support open woodland comprising mainly mature stable trees and shrubs with areas of non-woodland habitat supporting mainly grassland. This will be achieved through scrub and bramble clearance.

## 5.3 Informal Public Access

### Description

Gaer Fawr is a high profile site with regard to public access. A minor road runs along the south-western boundary and a small parking area is present in disused quarry at the south-western corner.

Several public rights of way pass over the site: a public bridleway to the south-west, a public footpath to the north-east and a road used as a public right of way to the south-east. A network of permissive paths (including a way marked route) are also present, running throughout the site and linking the public rights of way. Features of particular interest to visitors include:

- the semi-natural woodland including locally abundant bluebells;
- features of historical interest such as the SAM, boundary hedgerows and formerly cultivated area;
- areas of coppice and open habitat;
- seats designed by local artists including a ceramic "boar";
- winter views across the Severn valley.

### Significance

Gaer Fawr is a prominent landscape feature and an important local amenity within walking distance of Guilsfield. A wide range of features contribute to the site's high intrinsic appeal.

### Opportunities & Constraints

Public rights of way must be kept open at all times and horses have a right of way over the public bridleway. The inclusion of Gaer Fawr within the Wild About Woods project presented additional opportunities for facilities and information provision. There are opportunities to maintain and enhance the various features of intrinsic appeal through appropriate management e.g.: increasing visibility of the hill fort, opportunistic opening of views (during planned thinning operations), maintaining open habitat.

### Factors Causing Change

The site suffers from a low level of petty abuse and vandalism (eg: to the ceramic boar seat), Tipping has also been recorded in the past., The areas of open habitat are affected by natural regeneration and infilling which will eventually lead to woodland conditions, The populations of bluebell within the SAM could be affected by the grazing regime if this is too heavy.

### Long term Objective (50 years+)

The high amenity value and intrinsic appeal of the site will be retained by maintaining the following features:

- locally abundant bluebells;
- the archaeological interest of the features of historical interest such as the SAM and boundary hedgerows;
- facilities to encourage quiet recreation including the parking area, footpaths/bridleway, information board and seats;
- winter views across the Severn valley.

All public rights of way and permissive paths will be maintained.

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

Existing paths and public rights of way will be maintained, and where appropriate, enhanced, to facilitate public access throughout the site. A number of other facilities will also be maintained including the car park, information board, seats and way marking along with access features where the paths cross the internal fence around the SAM. These will be repaired or replaced as necessary. The formerly cultivated area will naturally gradually develop into woodland but this will be slow due to the dense bracken. Scattered shrubs (gorse, western gorse, broom, rowan, elder) and very occasional trees (silver birch, sessile oak) will be retained.

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## 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	18.70	Oak (sessile)	1940	High forest	Landscape factors, No/poor vehicular access within the site, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Informal Public Access	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Tree Preservation Order
<p>This compartment comprises semi-natural woodland (mainly ancient semi-natural) to the south of, and on the eastern and western flanks of the hill fort. The woodland is variable and includes areas of upland oakwood dominated by sessile oak coppice and sycamore (W10, W11 and W16), upland mixed ash wood dominated by ash and sycamore (W8) and patches of wet woodland with locally frequent alder (W7) - see key features description. The majority of the woodland is high forest derived mainly from previously coppiced stools. Two relatively small areas adjacent to the bridleway to the west of the site were selectively felled in the 1990s and are now regenerating from the cut stumps as coppice. The sub-compartment is mainly bound by hedgerow, most of which is defunct and restricted to locally frequent mature shrubs but part of which, to the south-west, has been restored through coppicing, replanting and fencing. The woodland supports a wide range of bird species.</p>							
1b	1.60	Open ground		High forest	Site structure, location, natural features & vegetation, Very steep slope/cliff/quarry/mine shafts/sink holes etc	Informal Public Access	
<p>Small, formerly cultivated area, which currently supports mainly open habitat overwhelmingly dominated by bracken over patchy rank acid grassland (common bent and Yorkshire-fog), bramble, honeysuckle, rosebay willow herb and climbing corydalis. Shrubs and trees are colonising with the margins now dominated by scrub and woodland and with scattered shrubs/trees (gorse, western gorse, broom, rowan, silver birch, sycamore and elder) throughout.</p>							

2a	9.70	Oak (sessile)	1940	High forest	Archaeological features, Management factors (eg grazing etc), No/poor vehicular access to the site, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Informal Public Access	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Scheduled Ancient Monument
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This compartment used to be enclosed by a stock proof fence and includes the Gaer Fawr Camp (hill fort) Scheduled Ancient Monument. The majority of the hill summit supports woodland dominated by mature, often large, broadleaved trees and shrubs (mainly sessile oak but also ash, wild cherry, field maple, sycamore, sweet chestnut, hazel and elder). The stand mainly comprises the W10 NVC community (see key feature description) with frequent/locally abundant wood sorrel, foxglove, honeysuckle and herb robert. Areas of acidic grassland and dense, tall bracken are also present. The hill slopes are dominated by semi-natural ancient woodland (primarily dry oak dominated woodland, W10, W11 and W16 - see key feature description). Bluebell is locally abundant. Grazing within this area has now ceased as some areas being overgrazed in the past which has resulted in much bare ground, management of the bracken around the hill fort is carried out by cutting and has resulted in an increase of the native woodland ground flora practically the bluebells.



## 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.