



# Statfold Wood

## Management Plan 2018-2023

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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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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.

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## 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>	Statfold Wood
<b>Location:</b>	Ashwater
<b>Grid reference:</b>	SS390019, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 190
<b>Area:</b>	22.79 hectares (56.32 acres)
<b>Designations:</b>	

## 2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

### 2.1 Summary Description

A new native broadleaf woodland, wet in places but really peaceful and rich in plant life. The area is abundant in wildlife. There are deer and many bird of prey species present locally. The site offers views of surrounding farmland and woods. At the northern end there is parking space for one car and access is via a stile. At the southern end there is parking for one car and access is through a kissing gate. Within the property access is along wide grassy rides which are mainly level.

## 2.2 Extended Description

Statfold wood is located 3 miles south west of the town of Holsworthy in West Devon, near the village of Hollacombe and approximately 1 mile south of the A3072 and west of the B3218. The site was acquired by the Woodland Trust in 1990 and planted with native tree and shrub species between 1993 and 1995. It is located in a shallow 'basin' of low-grade agricultural land much of which has, in the last 30 years, been converted to commercial conifer plantations, with a few broadleaf woodlands. It lies within The Culm National Character Area (NCA No149) which extends from northeast Cornwall across Northwest Devon to Exmoor and southwards to Dartmoor are which are characterised by heavy clay soils which, combined with the exposed wetter Atlantic conditions, is colonised by a specialist range of plant species able to cope with the wet conditions. The Culm is naturally sparsely wooded across its upper plateaus but often densely wooded in the small but steep sided river valleys that extend inland from the coast. Originally comprising of 9 small fields, the land was drained and amalgamated into a single field for arable and then grassland productivity. Both proved unsuccessful and many Culm grassland species recolonised the land, particularly at the northern section which lies at the bottom of the gently sloping ground, to such a degree that the land was felt to be sufficiently representative of semi-natural culm grassland to not be planted with trees. As well as the native woodland planted by the Trust it is also bounded by well-developed hedges has a free flowing stream on its northern boundary and a small area of semi-natural wet woodland in its south-eastern corner. The site therefore offers a number of locally valuable habitat types and is quite rich in wildlife with a strong red and roe deer population and a high number of our bird of prey species represented locally. The culm grassland is grazed annually and now supports a very highly species rich sward. The site has an access point at its northeast corner and along the southern boundary, both leading off the adjacent lanes. Access in the north is via a stile into the culm grassland and in the south via a kissing gate through the deer fence into the young woodland with a further kissing gate through the deer fence linking the two areas. There is parking for a single car at each. Within the wood access is along wide grassy rides which are level, even and only very gently sloping however given the nature of the Culm measures the ground has a tendency to be almost permanently wet.

## 3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

### 3.1 Getting there

At the northern end of the wood the entrance is limited to parking space for one car and access is via a stile. At the southern entrance there is parking for one car and access can be gained through a kissing gate type entrance. Public transport companies offers services locally but as it is a rural area stops are well spaced. The main route is along the A3072 from Holsworthy to Hatherleigh and there is a stop at the junction to Hollacombe which leaves a walk of approximately 1.5 miles through Hollacombe and along the lanes to the wood. There is also a stop on the A3079 at the junction near Claw Farm and this also requires a walk of 1.5 miles along the lanes to reach the wood.

### 3.2 Access / Walks

## 4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

Statfold Wood helps to deliver the Trust's outcomes of creating new native woodland and enhancing woodland biodiversity as well as helping to provide and enhance public access to and appreciation of woodland habitats. The secondary woodland and the mature wet woodland will be managed to establish a predominantly native broadleaved species high forest woodland through a continuous cover management regime to create and maintain a healthy, sustainable, predominantly native species woodland with a diverse species, age and size structure with a good proportion of mature trees with spreading 'open grown' type crowns. It will support a rich under-storey of woodland shrubs and flora and combined with its wide grassy rides, mature hedges, river and adjacent semi-natural grassland as well as woodlands on adjacent land will act as a refuge and support biodiversity in the wider landscape

The grassland area will be managed using a low density grazing regime to maintain the floristically rich sward associated with the Culm meadows as well as to maintain its important wood edge habitat and foraging benefits.

The deer fence around the secondary woodland will not be renewed but will be retained until such times as its repair and maintenance becomes too costly in order to allow the woodland within to develop naturally and without the browsing pressures of the local deer population.

Non-native and invasive species such as Japanese Knotweed and balsam which may wash downstream and colonise the area will be controlled as will rhododendron/laurel and other species that may be introduced via garden waste dumping.

Woodland edges will be managed as necessary and as they mature to help keep the water course along the northern boundary in good condition with riparian edges managed to provide dapple shade and good water flow.

Deadwood levels will be increasing throughout.

Access facilities and the wood's wide grassy tracks will be managed to adequately meet the requirements of a small number of regular local users and maintain management access.

## 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 Semi Natural Open Ground Habitat

#### Description

Ex agricultural area of land that originally comprised of 9 small fields, and was drained, ploughed and hedges removed to amalgamate them into a single field for commercially viable arable production. This soon failed and the land was converted for intensive grassland management which also failed as the land gradually reverted back to Culm within the following years. The northern area of Statfold (Cpt3a) was of sufficient conservation interest to not be planted with trees, but was of insufficient quality to obtain stewardship grants in the late 1990s. Since 2000 however the 6.9ha have been grazed annually with low intensity stocking under a Farm Business Tenancy and by 2013 the quality of the culm sward/species has improved to a condition where Devon Wildlife Trust (DWT) have declared it as an exemplar area and wish to undertake green hay cropping to help improve other local reserves. Yellow rattle is common, heath, orchids, rushes and wide range of animal and insect are present throughout the varied sward mosaic.

#### Significance

Modern agriculture pressures and poor potential means much of the original expanse of Culm grassland across the area has been ploughed and reseeded seeking higher returns. As a result Culm grassland is a fragmented and threatened habitat across North Cornwall and Devon. In more recent years grants to support farm diversification into forestry has changed the land use sufficiently that restoration of agricultural land to Culm is not likely and therefore any areas that remain are an important and valuable habitat and is listed in the Devon Habitat Action Plan. Prior to WT acquisition of the site a county wide survey identified a 39% loss to agriculture and forestry of culm grassland over the previous 5 years. Culm grassland is only about 1% of the county's land area. This helps the Trust deliver its aims to conserve and enhance the biodiversity of semi-natural habitats on its properties

#### Opportunities & Constraints

Work with DWT to allow green hay harvesting to support the improvement of other Culm grassland areas across Devon and Cornwall

#### Factors Causing Change



Natural Succession To willow scrub and other coarse vegetation

Loss of grazing - Mowing rather than grazing may create some difficulty in maintaining the currently rich and variable sward depth state of the meadow and it may colonise to predominantly rush/coarse grassland in the future

Deer and Rabbit population increases leading to some areas of the area being over browsed which may adversely affect floristic values.

Fire damage

Establishment of balsam and Japanese knotweed washed downstream in floods

Rising water table leading to the meadow becoming wetter which may be temporary but if permanent the flora may be affected by this change.

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

A vibrant and rich remnant of Culm grassland in an area where its conservation value is high due to relatively high amounts of commercial conifer plantings. It will have a wide range of culm grassland species with intermittent clumps of willow and heath that will sustain strong animal and insect populations. The rich sward, scrub and adjacent wood edge habitats will provide valuable foraging benefits for local wildlife as well as maintaining its attractive appearance for visitors.

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

An area of culm grassland with improving species richness and sustainability.

- Maintain stock fenced boundaries of Culm area (3a) to enable grazing to continue (Cpt3a)
- Continue to manage the grassland via grazing under a Farm Business Tenancy (Cpt3a).
- Control noxious weeds as required as part of Estates Management Contract and/or Farm Business Tenancy(Cpt3a).
- Monitor encroachment of willow and gorse scrub and control as necessary to maintain open grassland condition. Maximum scrub cover should be no more that 20% of total culm area, control by cut and stump treatment, to reduce to acceptable level then allow deer browsing control regrowth in isolated places where chemical fails (Cpt3a)
- Negotiate with grazier and DWT about potential green hay cuts (Cpt3a)
- Maintain drinking area in the water course to provide adequate water supply for stock, but minimise pollution of water through siltation etc (Cpt3a).
- Manage path across Culm grassland area to facilitate public access throughout the site

## 5.2 Secondary Woodland

### Description

Two areas of native broadleaf secondary woodland (consisting of Cpt 1a and 2a)

1a. Approximately 1.3ha of Wet Woodland - A small area of land located at the south east corner of the wood. History of past management is uncertain but the ground is uneven with raised drier 'mounds' containing oak, beech and downy birch spread across the more natural flat and seasonally wet profile and which is stocked predominantly with goat willow. The willow tends to be large and of multi-stemmed/coppice type form which has often collapsed to form a tangled canopy structure. Ground flora is patchy and not representative of Culm grassland species due to long term canopy shade and where it exists is mainly of fern and tussock grasses with bramble of drier areas. Its boundary with the road is of an outgrown hedge of predominantly beech with some willow. As it was excluded from the deer fenced area access is very difficult and only possible via a gate in the fence or over the roadside hedge.

2a. Approximately 14.5ha predominantly native broadleaf woodland planted 93-95 within a deer fence. Oak, ash, rowan, birch, hazel, holly, aspen, rose, etc. planted at a variable 1100/ha density. Originally comprising of 9 small fields, the land was drained and amalgamated into a single arable field to increase productivity. This failed and the 'field' was converted to improved pasture. Again this appeared to have been unsuccessful and many Culm grassland species recolonized the land particularly at the northern section which lies at the bottom of the gently sloping ground. The land to the north of the site was felt to be representative of semi-natural culm grassland and was not planted with trees due to its 'Other semi-natural habitat' values..

Much of the area was ploughed pre-planting to produce higher drier planting positions and for the furrows to carry water down slope into the retained culm grassland area. The woodland canopy established well, especially in the ash, aspen, hazel and shrub groups despite early heavy vole damage. The oak established much more slowly and took at least 10-12 years to break through the clays and put on good extension growth, but this variation in growth rates has resulted in a varied age and size as well as ground flora structure. Combined with the culm retention next to it, some culm species growing within the woodland, the grassland on the tracks and glades and the adjoining wet woodland this forms a very valuable matrix of woodland and associated habitats.

### Significance

The woodland creation site adds a substantial area of native BL woodlands and associated habitats to area landscape which contains predominantly improved grassland and productive coniferous woodlands. The wood helps to deliver the Trust's aims to create new native woodland and enhance woodland biodiversity as well as helping to deliver new native lowland broadleaf woodland which is a national, regional and local habitat action plan target.

Wet Woodland habitat is also a national, region action plan habitat. The area offers an additional type of woodland habitat to the broadleaf wood and culm grassland adjacent and therefore enhances the biodiversity of Statfold This helps the Trust deliver its aims to conserve and enhance the biodiversity of semi-natural habitats on its properties

### Opportunities & Constraints

The property as a whole forms a sustainable woodland. It lies within the (now defunct) South West Forest area and has been used as an example of woodland and habitat creation for Grant supplement applicants.

### Factors Causing Change

- Deer damage,
- Squirrel damage
- Wind damage
- Impacts of tree pests and diseases such as, Ash Die back, which may adversely other associated species.
- Colonisation of Himalayan balsam, Japanese knotweed and other non-native invasive species, wich may wash downstream during floods or be spread by garden waste tipping.
- Rising water table - may change species and structure of woodland to a more wet woodland type
- Collapse/removal of deer fence will allow deer and possibly cattle to enter and browse/graze woodland and flora

### Long term Objective (50 years+)

The woodland will be managed as predominantly broadleaf high forest through a limited intervention continuous cover management regime to create and maintain a healthy, sustainable, predominantly native broadleaf woodland with a diverse species, age and size structure with a good proportion of mature trees with large spreading 'open grown' type crowns. The woodland will support a rich under-storey of woodland shrubs and flora acting as a refuge for biodiversity in the wider landscape. Naturally regenerating areas around the edges of the woodland will continue the diversification process and hence secure its long-term future. Deadwood levels will be increasing throughout. Non-native and invasive species will have been controlled.

Water courses will be in good condition with riparian zones managed to provide dapple shade and good water flow. The wood will complement the adjacent Culm grassland areas and create a more robust and sustainable broadleaf woodland in an area with a proportionately high amount of conifer woodland

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

Implement a regular programme of selective thinning and/or coppicing as appropriate within Cpts 1 and 2, removing an average of 20% basal area to open canopy, create more light reaching the ground, diversify stand structure, allow development of trees towards the 'open grown' form and development of ground flora and natural regeneration. This may be particularly relevant regarding infection by tree diseases such as Chalara dieback of Ash

Manage margins of woodland adjoining highways Cpts 1, by irregular thinning, coppicing and proactive tree safety operations to develop a lower crown height and shrubbier wood edge habitat. This will improve wood edge stability and reduce boundary tree safety liability. Coppicing and thinning most likely to be instigated by canopy development and structure etc. than on a set coppice regime.

Manage ride edge areas up to a maximum of 5% of woodland area during the next 10 years to enhance access by thinning wood edges along rides

Allow natural regeneration of scrub and tree species to develop as it occurs to provide a more diverse spacing and give natural gradation between planting blocks, hedges, glades, open space and rides (Cpts 1, 2).

Maintain and expand 2 zone track-side management (Cpts 1, 2 ) throughout the wood to promote transition between woodland edge habitat and permanent open space

Manage tree safety throughout the wood to maintain highway and visitor safety.

Increase deadwood levels

Manage deer fence in a deer proof condition for as long as possible to maintain the deer exclusion zone and allow woodland to develop as naturally as possible without browsing impact. Remove fence once it has deteriorated beyond serviceable life. NOTE - In agreement with neighbour WT allowed them to use the west section of fence as part of the deer fence around their broadleaf woodland planting and therefore this shouldn't be removed without consulting them first

## 5.3 Informal Public Access

### Description

Statfold provides an area of publically accessible woodland in an agricultural landscape with a low sand disparate population, Similar recreational benefits can be found in a number of other privately owned and Forestry Commission woods in the area and some of this have better parking and surfaced track provisions making them more popular with many people. The wood has a gate and pedestrian stile located at its northernmost point as well as parking for one car. The track from this point heads southwards through the Culm grassland area (Cpt 3a) giving walkers a chance to enjoy the open species rich grassland before entering the woodland creation area (Cpt2) via a kissing gate in the deer fence. From there the track extends southwards for a short distance before splitting into two tracks that loop outwards and follow roughly parallel to the boundaries and form a circular walk. At the southern end of the woodland the two paths meet and a short spur leads to the south entrance where another kissing gate in the deer fence exits to a space big enough for one car. A track also follows along the inside of the deer fence forming a longer circular route. This track is primarily for fence maintenance but is often used by visitors. All paths and tracks are naturally surfaced and grassy and can be muddy in wet weather right throughout the year.

### Significance

While the local area is quite well served by accessible woodland Statfold does, however, give a small number of local walkers an opportunity to enjoy a quieter and more natural and native broadleaf woodland area and the deer fence has been used by some dog walkers who feel they are safer in letting their dogs run off lead and not have issues with worrying stock in a rural setting

### Opportunities & Constraints

Wet and heavy clay ground conditions can make walking difficult for less abled visitors.  
Cattle grazing the Culm can be off-putting to some visitors

### Factors Causing Change

Raised water table may mean tracks become more permanently wet and make access difficult  
Canopy closure of woodland over tracks will reduce ability for surfaces to dry out and again affect accessibility  
Cattle congregating around gates can poach soils and make access difficult and unwelcoming for first few metres into wood.  
Gates through deer fence can look off-putting and substantial barriers.

### Long term Objective (50 years+)

Public access will be maintained at its current low levels via management of the tracks, paths and furniture to ensure that there is a choice of woodland access in the area and that those who visit the wood will maintain and develop an appreciation of the wood

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

- Manage tree safety along footpaths.
- Maintain track and footpath within the constraints of soils, slopes and woodland status to a 2 zone regime to enhance biodiversity and aesthetic values
- Maintain entrances and estate furniture as necessary to facilitate access and maintain user safety.
- Renew entrance points to maintain welcome as they fail to fulfil their requirements

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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	1.27	Oak (pedunculate)	1900	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site, No/poor vehicular access to the site	Informal Public Access, Secondary Woodland	
<p>Small area of seasonally wet ground with Mature Oak and, Downy Birch on drier parts and Goat willow in the wetter areas. Generally unmanaged in the past the woodland has developed naturally with willow typically collapsing and re-growing where it lies. As it is also outside the deer fence the area is difficult to access for management. There is a small gate through the fence but there appears to be no public access</p>							
2a	14.65	Ash	1994	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access, Secondary Woodland	
<p>Woodland creation site planted in two phases in 93/95 with mixed native BL species. Planted on what was originally Culm grassland the area is seasonally wet and was ploughed before planting for drainage. The plough furrows stop at the northern end of the planting and do not extend into the culm retentions at the north end of the property. While mostly eroded, now, water still follows the plough lines and makes the ground very wet in places. Due to its short and unsuccessful history of agriculture many Culm species prevail and it is rich in ground flora species, but not sufficiently so to prevent tree planting. The trees have generally established well in most places. . Some trees still struggle due to the wet conditions and low fertility of the soils but this gives the woodland a varied size and density structure. The area is currently still deer fenced to reduce the damage to these smaller trees that the large local population of Red deer might have on them. Access is via two management gates in the north and south of the wood and along a 'circular' grassy ride of 5/10m width</p>							
3a	6.81	NULL		Non-wood habitat	Management factors (eg grazing etc), Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access, Secondary Woodland	
<p>An area of the ex-agricultural land which due to seasonal wetness and relatively short period of 'cropping' yielded poor crops and reverted quickly back to its Culm grassland origins. The area has been sympathetically grazed since 2000 when it was re-fenced and a long term lease was agreed with a local grazier. . Due this this management the area has developed into a high quality example of semi-natural Culm grassland</p>							

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## 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.