



# Telford Way

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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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

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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>	Telford Way
<b>Location:</b>	Kettering
<b>Grid reference:</b>	SP851797, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 141
<b>Area:</b>	1.03 hectares (2.55 acres)
<b>Designations:</b>	

## 2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

### 2.1 Summary Description

Telford way is a small fragment of woodland with small areas of rough grassland. Despite being small, it is home to a great mix of wildlife, including badgers, woodland birds, and many insects. There is no public access to the site.

## 2.2 Extended Description

Telford way is situated on the western edge of Kettering, It is a very small fragment of developing mixed secondary woodland with small areas of scrub and some planting. The wood itself is slotted between the cutting formed by the A43 and the Kingsthorpe distribution park access road (Henson Way).

The greater part of this site (0.6 in all) is an oddly shaped area comprising a strip of older trees and scrub along the top of the embankment which grades to the south into a rank unmanaged grassland/tall herb habitat and well established scrub thickets located between the industrial estate access road and the A43. The trees are mainly Ash, Oak, and Scots Pine; in places the site is less than 2m wide. The centre of the wood is crossed by an historical boundary- a ditch or sunken lane, which is recorded on a map of 1887, this also appears to have been the boundary of a now destroyed wood. The rest of the wood to the east is a small rectangular native broadleaved planting (250 trees) in a corner of an improved grassland field. These trees were planted in December 1996 with the help of Kettering Borough Council.

At the time of acquisition it was hoped that this wood would be the first section in a much larger holding associated with the A43, however this never came about, although there are still undeveloped areas of land along the A43 corridor and on the south side of Henson Way.

Although a tiny area the trees and associated scraps of other habitat are of value to wildlife- there is badger activity in some of the scrub thickets, and the mix of habitats is desirable for many common bird, mammal and insect species.

At present the only management that has occurred in recent years is some small-scale safety operations to the mature trees, maintenance works on the 1996 planted trees and the clearing of ash regeneration and bramble which was obscuring the leased hoarding. There is no access provision and management access is difficult to most of the site.

The single key feature for this woodland is Mixed Habitat Mosaic.

## 3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

### 3.1 Getting there

There is no public access within this site.

### 3.2 Access / Walks

## 4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

An interesting prospect for management, this site has some local wildlife value and does act as a screen for the trading estate from the noise of the A43 and in turn has the purpose in the landscape of screening out views of the trading estate. But it has no access and is not conducive to access due to its odd lay out and the close proximity to the steep A43 cutting, it is also prone to fly tipping. The management the site will be undertaken as follows:-  
Due to its close proximity to two busy roads and neighbours property tree safety will be given a high priority as will the clearance of litter.

## 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 Mixed Habitat Mosaic

#### Description

Within the site there are several mature trees with some dead wood, well established thorn scrub with expanding fringes of young growth and bramble. The former grassed clearings have now scrubbed-over. Within these habitats there are opportunities for many common wildlife species

#### Significance

It is a tiny fragment of previously farmed land that has developed a series of semi natural habitats over a long period of time and is in a locality which is under pressure from development

#### Opportunities & Constraints

##### Constraints

Small area of habitat

The site is sandwiched between two busy roads and a developing business park

Access within the site is difficult

Mosaic of small habitats likely to develop into a woodland over time

No nearby residential community to take an interest

No public access

Fly-tipping

##### Opportunities

Site is relatively diverse in its habitats

There is semi natural habitat nearby to the south and north

The rate of succession which will see the mosaic disappear is likely to be slow

#### Factors Causing Change

Succession to scrub and high forest

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

That the natural processes of succession will develop the site into natural scrub woodland with some temporary glades occurring when trees die, or are removed for safety reasons, and plenty of wood edge habitat on the boundaries. The wood should have a high proportion of dead wood in a safe condition, that is not close to the road margins. The planted area to the west is to be allowed to develop in a natural way now the trees are established.

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

Annual checks to ensure there are no hazardous trees within striking distance of surrounding public areas. Regular removal of litter and fly tipped rubbish from roadside areas in the wood



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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	1.04	Mixed broadleaves	1960	Min-intervention	No/poor vehicular access within the site	Mixed Habitat Mosaic	

Compartment 1a covers the whole of the site which is based on an old ironstone quarry site. The wood is an irregular strip of mostly scrub woodland with some new planting and a small amount of rough open grassland adjacent to the south of the A43 road cutting which is also wooded. The wooded area is along the northern boundary on top of the road embankment with scrub fronts advancing out from this line. The majority of the tree species are native broad leaved other than the occasional conifer. There is a young mixed broadleaved plantation in the far east of the site planted in 1996 and separated from the rest of the site by a substantial fence part of the wood lies under an overhead power line. The site was cut off from a larger area of grassland to the south by the construction of the industrial estate access road in the 1980's. Previous to this the land is likely to have been grazed farmland with hedges and occasional hedgerow trees. The site is very flat apart from a sunken strip to the west of the planted strip. Here there is a long established thorn scrub thicket which is approximately 4m wide and 1-2m deep below the surround field level. In this feature there is extensive evidence of badger and rabbit activity with little ground flora other than sparse nettles. Access within the site is difficult even on foot there is a gate into the most westerly grassland and a right of access into the planted area. Litter accumulates in the narrowest part of the site, which is next to a small lay-by.

## 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.