



Swineshead & Spanoak Woods

Management Plan

2016-2021

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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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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:	Swineshead & Spanoak Woods
Location:	Swineshead, Kimbolton
Grid reference:	TL060668, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 153
Area:	46.07 hectares (113.84 acres)
Designations:	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Ancient Woodland Site, Planted Ancient Woodland Site, Site of Special Scientific Interest

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Summary Description

Two woods with a mix of ancient and plantation characteristics. Good for spotting flowers such as bluebells, dogs mercury and primrose,

2.2 Extended Description

Two separate woodlands, Swineshead (34.4 ha) and Spanoak (11.8 ha) separated by 1 km of intensively farmed arable land. A wide, hedged byway links the two sites. Prior to Trust acquisition both woodlands had been managed primarily for their sporting value. Swineshead wood has an established ride system, Spanoak's rides are more recent and relatively species poor.

Swineshead Wood displays diversity in structure and richness in wildlife, with 22ha designated as a site of special scientific interest. The remaining 12ha is Plantation on an ancient woodland site (PAWS), presumably having a structure similar to the SSSI prior to clear fell and restocking in the 1970s. Since 2012 the PAWS areas are regarded as 'secure' with any remaining non-native conifer species dominated by a more native species composition. Where conditions permit, the original ancient woodland ground flora has survived under the planting, although coarse vegetation such as nettle, sedge and bramble are also widespread. Green and great spotted woodpecker, nightingales have been recorded in the wood, as have crossbill, which were first recorded breeding in the wood in 1991.

Spanoak Wood, also an AWS, was clear felled in the 1970s and repeated attempts at restocking with a mix of non-native species appear to have been made, some of which continue to struggle. Following ring-barking of non-native conifers, the last 10 years has seen the woodland composition shift increasingly towards a more native species mix. A Phase 2 PAWS survey in 2012 showed the wood to be 'secure', in that no further loss of ancient woodland characteristics are anticipated. Natural regeneration of native species is slowly reclaiming the ancient woodland site, allowing more quality habitat to develop. Although the long term vision of ASNW characteristics visible in Swineshead are likely to be many years off.

Both woods contain significant proportions of open habitat in the form of recently created glades, open rides and partially failed plantations. These add greatly to the overall structural richness of the woodlands.

Both woods are set on the shoulder of a shallow rise in the rolling countryside typical of this part of Anglia. Swineshead is very typically a clay wood with, to the west and north and uphill, a substratum of calcareous boulder clay. To the east, even more calcareous underlying Oxford clay. Nearby there are small pockets of glacial sand and gravel amid river terrace gravels (that give Sandy Lane its name). These may feature in the local geology of the wood itself. There is a small semi-natural rivulet that bisects cpt 2 and joins the field drainage system at the edge of the wood.

The antiquity of both woods is demonstrated by a combination of features. Namely: a good assemblage of ancient woodland indicator plant species, substantial ditch/bank structures along Sandy lane and the north-western boundary of Swineshead Wood, the position of the woods abutting the parish boundary, the sinuosity of the remaining ancient margins and the presence of a number of ponds and the semi-natural rivulet within the wood itself. The straighter boundaries indicate that the woods have been truncated by grubbing and subsequent conversion to arable farming. An archaeological and document survey undertaken in 2001 by Angela Simco shows the woodland originally extended to the edges of Swineshead village in 1586 (Frithy Wood) and that Swineshead and Spanoak Woods were linked by woodland called Netherwardens Wood / Lower Wood until the 1800's.

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

Public access via Sandye Lane in Swineshead village just next to church. Park in village and walk up part surfaced Public Byway to both wood entrances, approximately 1.5km. It is legal to drive to the woods but there is very limited parking off the byway and the byway can be closed to traffic during the winter months. Access to the wood is via kissing gates and although the paths and rides are level they can get very wet at any time of year, but especially in winter

There are no public toilets in the vicinity

There is a limited bus service to the village of Swineshead. For routes and times contact Travel Line (www.traveline.info / 0871 200 22 33)

3.2 Access / Walks

Public access via Sandye Lane in Swineshead village just next to church. Park in the village and walk up the part surfaced Public Byway to both wood entrances, approximately 1.5km. Access to the wood is via kissing gates and although the paths and rides are level they can get very wet at any time of year, but especially in winter.

There is a limited bus service to the village of Swineshead. For routes and times contact Travel Line (www.traveline.info / 0871 200 22 33)

Both woodlands can be accessed from the byway (Sandye lane) and from surrounding footpaths. Both woodlands have circular permissive footpaths.

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

Native high forest, managed to support natural processes in line with the Woodland Trust's management approach. Intervening only to maintain and enhance the species rich network of rides, glades, and woodland types, resulting in resilient mix of habitats and structures, abundant in wildlife and regularly enjoyed by the local population.

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

Wet Oak/ Ash/ Field maple woodland characteristic of heavy Oxford and Boulder clays. Diverse in structure containing areas of over stood ash coppice/high forest and elements of a well defined understory comprising of hazel, dogwood, midland hawthorn, wayfaring tree and Crab apple. There are some very large ash, oak and field maples within compartments 1 and 2. Rich ground flora containing several ASNW indicators including blue bell, Dogs mercury, primrose, Wood barley occurs here one of few sites in beds. A number of damp rides run through the wood and are characterised by Pendulous sedge, Meadow sweet, ragged robin and creeping jenny. Within the woodlands are extensive areas of open grassland habitat, which add greatly to the wildlife interest of both sites.

Significance

Represents habitat scarce and under threat nationally and in Bedfordshire. Relatively large area of woodland. SSSI citation mentions value of diverse layered structure and rich flora.

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities:

- Compartments 3, 4, 5,6,7 were formerly of similar character to the SSSI before clear felling. It is hoped that the seed bank is still present to allow a large proportion of these compartments to be returned to some form of semi natural wooded habitat in time.
- Elements of the species and structure of ASNW have clung on in these areas.
- Rides still retain their richness despite lack of management prior to the Trust's acquisition.
- Spanoak Wood has a developing crop of oak which if well managed can be developed into a valuable and species rich oak woodland.
- Potential to identify ash regen with resistance to chalarra of ash.

Constraints:

- Wood is very wet all year round and vehicle access is difficult and could be damaging.
- Conifer and other planted trees have not developed well into a financially viable crop, particularly in Swineshead.
- Coarse vegetation and rank grasses like Wood small reed and Tufted hair grass are putting pressure on more desirable ground flora.
- High deer pressure in local area reducing ability for natural regen/regrowth to establish.
- Chalara of Ash (Ash die back) present on much of the natural ash regen, though not all.
- Rapid decline of many mature oaks with Agrillus beetle bore holes present.
- Difficult access and extraction for forestry machinery makes most forest operations costly/un-economic.

Factors Causing Change

Deer Damage, Continuing influence of conifers in PAWS cpts, pests and diseases (Chalara of Ash, Agrillus beetle)

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Maintain area of ASNW and encourage natural regeneration of native broadleaf species. Return planted ancient woodland (PAWS) compartments to a largely semi natural state. Maintain rides and open areas within both woods.

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

Continue active deer management at Swinehead and Spanoak Woods, monitoring the impact on an annual basis and adjusting the desired cull accordingly.
Maintain open areas through mowing regime. 3 cuts of paths in growing season. Main rides cut on 2 zone system. Edge coppicing as necessary (determined by annual inspection).
Plan for forest operations in Spanoak Wood to thin the oak, clear the stagnating poplar overstorey in sub-cpt 7b, and clear some of the collapsed ring-barked spruce to allow for on-going mechanical management on a continuous cover basis.
Limited thinning/respacing in Swineshead wood to favour ash regen that demonstrates resistance to chalara of ash.

5.2 Informal Public Access

Description

Adjacent to well used Byway open to all traffic (seasonal restriction to motorised vehicles) and other public rights of way in the local network. Both woods now contain circular routes for visitors. The woods are in an area where few ancient woodlands are open to the public.

Significance

Few areas of open access mature woodland in the local area. Good example of ASNW, PAWS/RASW and planted secondary.

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities

- Local demographic fits with main Woodland Trust user groups.
- Right of way network linking the woods together and with local villages.

Constraints

- Rides are very wet often muddy.
- 20 minute walk from village and parking

Factors Causing Change

Increased popularity of site putting pressure on paths/ rides in the winter and creating local ill will when cars are parked inconsiderately in the village, particularly during bluebell season.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Maintain and encourage responsible and considerate public access

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

Mow all main rides to pedestrian width (Woodland trust Spec 2.1) at least twice a year to allow easy, safe and inviting access. Cut back encroaching shrubs and ride edge coppice as necessary, informed by annual inspection. Ensure woodland is excluded from publicity/campaigns in relation to bluebells.

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	13.00	Oak (pedunculate)		High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Informal Public Access	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Site of Special Scientific Interest
<p>Ancient Semi-natural woodland (SSSI), with a canopy dominated by Oak (60%) and Ash (40%). Remnant coppice structure is present - predominantly ash/hazel. Some very large ash and oak standards including several pollards along the internal ditch and wood banks. The understory is well defined comprising of hazel, common and Midland Hawthorn and Field maple, which is dominant in some areas. Towards the edges of the compartment there is some goat willow, blackthorn, Crab apple, dog rose, Dogwood, Aspen and suckering Elm. Ground flora is dominated by bluebell with patches of dog's mercury in places. Nettles are also widespread, with bramble in patches and some areas of deep leaf litter. Spurge laurel, clustered bellflower and lesser stitchwort can be found along with a notable species, namely Wood Barley <i>Hodelymus europaeus</i>. Which occurs in the southern end of the compartment. The rides are damp and shaded but are species rich, characterised by several sedge species including Pendulous sedge as well as birds foot trefoil, Meadow vetchling and Marsh foxtail.</p>							
2a	9.00	Oak (pedunculate)		High forest	No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Informal Public Access	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Site of Special Scientific Interest
<p>Ancient Semi-natural woodland (SSSI) with canopy dominated by oak and ash. Remnant coppice structure - dominated by many large over stood ash stools throughout the compartment along side some very large mature and over mature ash and oak standards with Field maple present in some areas. Understorey is a little patchy under the high canopy but there are small areas of Hazel, common and Midland Hawthorn and Field maple. Towards the edges of the compartments there is some goat willow, blackthorn, Crab apple, Dog Rose, Dogwood, Aspen and suckering Elm. Ground flora is dominated by Dogs mercury with tufted hair grass, bramble and wood false brome. On the western edge there is abundant nettle, with frequent Primrose on the northern edge. Spurge laurel occurs in patches throughout the compartment and Wood Barley <i>Hodelymus europaeus</i> can be found in the western corner. The rides are dominated by rank Pendulous sedge although sunny and wide.</p>							
3a	5.20	Ash		High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site

Strong stand of Ash (80%) & Field maple with an understory of hawthorn, occasional Oak regeneration. Abundant ground flora including Dogs Mercury and Bluebell, but also a high proportion of nettles. Some conifer present, but either standing dead (ring barked) or recessive.							
4a	6.80	Oak (pedunculate)	1970	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
Diverse stand of Oak, Ash, Field maple, Aspen and Goat Willow. Conifers are rare and include spruce and hemlock. Understory of Hawthorn, Black thorn and hazel. Ground flora was abundant and included Dogs M', Bluebell, and primrose but was dominated by sedge grasses in places. This could be due to a combination of wet, waterlogged soils and deer pressure. The western edge of this compartment faces the prevailing wind and has a distinctly battered/ragged feel to it.							
5a	3.10	Oak (pedunculate)	1990	High forest	No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
This compartment was replanted between 1990-95 following clearfell with rows of oak and spruce/scots/larch. The conifer rows have largely been removed with remaining non-native trees rare, leaving an even-aged oak monoculture. Regimented planting lines still dominate with little natural regeneration evident in 2016 & 17. The restock is none the less well established, forming a closed canopy in most places. Ground flora is only occasional, but includes ancient woodland remnants like Bluebell and primrose. There are signs of repeated beat-up, giving approximately 80% stocking rate. On the eastern and southern edges of the compartment suckering elm is abundant (but dying cyclically from Dutch Elm Disease), and has suppressed the planted species, becoming dominant in places, and possibly reflecting the presence of an old hedge or historical woodland composition prior to the arrival of Dutch Elm disease. A colony of white letter hairstreak butterflies existed here in 2007.							
6a	2.10	Open ground	1994	Non-wood habitat	No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
Re planted in 1994-98, the planting has not been successful, with an establishment rate of less than 10%. The area has been mown in the past to help sporting use, however under WT tenure has been allowed to develop into scrub. Vegetation is extremely dense, Wood small reed and Pendulous sedge sward with some bramble and occasional oak, spruce, grey willow and pine form shrubby outcrops amongst the dense and rank grasses. The ground was severely disturbed during the woodland operations of the recent past, but remnant woodland ground flora can be found under the thorn hedge along the western boundary. There is a very obvious wood bank along byway.							

6b	2.09	Oak (pedunculate)	1993	High forest	No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
<p>Young Oak plantation mono-culture intersected with rows of much reduced conifer (Spruce/ Pine/ Larch). The conifers have been ring barked, but many have survived. However the ring barking has sufficiently weakened the conifers allowing the Oak to become dominant in most areas. Very limited understorey or structural diversity. Some bramble present, likely to be encouraged by the removal of remaining conifers. Remnant woodland ground flora and areas of suckering elm survive along the eastern boundary with a very obvious woodbank along the byway.</p>							
7a	3.16	Oak (pedunculate)	1970	High forest	No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
<p>Oak plantation mono-culture with scattered conifer (Spruce) surviving ring barking. Oak remains dominant with elm regenerating abundant. Reasonable understorey of hazel and hawthorn but little vegetation beneath, apart from along the south western boundary where spindle, wild privet primula and other woodland vegetation hangs on. Extensive dead spruce forms an obstacle to any form of forest operations (mechanised or motor/manual) until cleared or management racks established.</p>							
7b	1.31	other poplar spp	1970	High forest	No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Informal Public Access	Ancient Woodland Site
<p>Long, thin stand of stagnated poplar only 5 rows wide planted at 6x6 m spacing in the 1970s. Light levels are good, with strong natural regeneration of native broadleaves underneath. While significant bramble dominates the ground flora, there are other herbaceous species interspersed within it. Although not consistent with ASNW, this compartment is more species rich than other areas in Spanoak wood.</p>							

Appendix 2: Harvesting operations (20 years)

Forecast Year	Cpt	Operation Type	Work Area (ha)	Estimated vol/ha	Estimated total vol.
2020	5a	Thin	3.13	42	130
2020	6b	Thin	2.13	40	85
2020	7a	Thin	3.16	41	130
2020	7b	Selective Fell	1.31	76	100
2021	1a	Thin	12.56	2	20
2021	3a	Thin	5.36	4	20
2022	2a	Thin	9.16	2	20
2022	4a	Thin	7.26	3	20

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.