



Philpotes 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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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 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:	Philpotes Wood
Location:	South Nutfield
Grid reference:	TQ311489, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 187
Area:	2.73 hectares (6.75 acres)
Designations:	

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Summary Description

Philpotes Wood is one of The Woodland Trust's 'Woods on Your Doorstep' woodlands, created to commemorate the Millennium. It lies on the edge of South Nutfield, and features newly planted trees, a meadow and a good network of paths.

2.2 Extended Description

Philpotes Wood is situated on the southern edge of South Nutfield, adjacent to the Redhill to Tonbridge rail line and just 200m west of the M23 and 2.5 miles south of the M25. The former pasture land was acquired by The Trust in 1998 as part of the 'Woods on your Doorstep' (WOYD) initiative. Support from the local parish council and the community helped to both acquire the site and then plant over half of it with native broadleaf trees (oak, ash, hornbeam, wild cherry, and woody shrubs). In 2006, the site was extended to include a former horse paddock to the south, which had been retained by the vendor from the initial purchase of the site. Financial support from the local parish and local members of the community helped to make this possible. A small portion of this new acquisition was planted in early 2007 by volunteers, while the remainder was left to natural regeneration.

Philpotes Wood is situated in the Low Weald National Character Area (NCA) and is consistent with the low-lying clay soils of this area. Except for the urban areas of Redhill and Reigate to the northwest, the surrounding landscape is predominantly agricultural, most of which is pasture land. Hedgerows and shaws form a large percentage of woodland cover in the region. The site itself is bounded, east and west, by narrow woodland shaws of mature and ancient woodland.

The northern third of the site is an open semi-natural neutral grassland, which boasts a good diversity of grassland flora. The middle third contain the broadleaf trees planted in 1998 but the ash trees are significantly suffering from ash dieback. The remaining southern portion of the site, which includes the 2006 acquisition, appears as a meadow transitioning to woodland - long grass, saplings and bramble bushes are all common. A patchy hedgerow, containing one mature horse chestnut forms the southern boundary along Kings Cross Lane.

The site is well used by members of the general public. A public footpath runs along the western boundary which continues north over the railway and into the town of South Nutfield. There is a circular network of paths, including a hard surfaced path which makes the site potentially accessible to a wide range of users, weather dependent. However, as the site is situated on Wealden clay and is flat, Philpotes Wood can be fairly wet throughout the winter months, making paths muddy and access difficult at times.

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

Philpotes Wood is located close to the village of South Nutfield in East Surrey. It is a small site of approx 6.5 acres which offers short walks but also links to the wider landscape by virtue of a public footpath which continues north of the site.

The main access point is on the south side of the wood, off Kings Cross Lane, which is via a kissing gate. There is also access from the north via the public footpath. There are no structures present at this access point but the footpath does cross over a railway line before reaching the wood.

There is a good network of paths throughout the wood. Most paths are unsurfaced but the path running straight ahead from the Kings Cross Lane entrance is surfaced and potentially accessible to wheelchairs and pushchairs.

There is no official car-parking at the wood but it is possible to find some roadside parking within the village.

Nutfield train station is approximately 20mins walk away from the wood, trains from Redhill are regular. On leaving Nutfield station go onto the road 'Station Approach North' and then turn right onto Mid Street and then left at the end of this onto Kings Cross lane. The main entrance to the wood is on the left hand side of Kings Cross Lane, after passing the houses. The train station has a small car-park but no toilets. The nearest public toilets are in Redhill (approx 5 miles away) on Station Road (next to MacDonalds) and these have disabled facilities which can be accessed with a RADAR key. There are also several much larger car-parks in Redhill, for instance on Gloucester Road and Clarendon Road. This information was gathered on 13th July 2007.

For more information on public transport routes please consult Traveline at www.traveline.org.uk
Tel: 0870 608 2608

3.2 Access / Walks

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

In fifty years' time, Philpotes Wood will be a mixed habitat site of approximately 60% woodland and 30% grassland. Overall, the site will be made up of a diverse broadleaf high forest containing an enclosed neutral grassland rich in grassland species and edged by native shrubs.

Natural processes will continue to shape the wood. The effect of tree disease will lead to a decline in the abundance of ash while providing important decaying wood habitat on the woodland floor, benefiting invertebrate and fungal communities. The adjacent ancient woodland shaw will act as a seed source for natural regeneration for species such as oak, sycamore, chestnut, and wild service, and will add diversification of age and structure to the wood.

Appropriate regular management of the enclosed meadow, will provide the right conditions to sustain a biologically diverse grassland habitat.

On-going monitoring will ensure public access remains easy and safe. This will be achieved through a managed path and entrance network and regular safety inspections of site infrastructure and of higher risk tree zones.

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 Secondary Woodland

Description

Woodland covers just over 50% of the site. A further 10% of the site is open ground that will eventually close in as woodland. Of this woodland area, nearly half is secondary woodland - planted in 1998 with a mixture of native broadleaves (oak, ash, hornbeam, wild cherry, hazel, and blackthorn). A small amount of planting was carried out near the southern edge of the site in 2007. This area now contains a few remaining young ash and oak as well as the rough grassland and young scrub and bramble that has been left to naturally grow into woodland.

The existing hedge on the southern boundary next to the road underwent planting in 2010 to fill in gaps and improve the hedgerow cover for wildlife. The 3m behind the hedge has since been cut annually to allow volunteers access to maintain the roadside hedge as a linear feature.

There is a thin line of mature oak woodland along the eastern fringe within the site, where patches of bluebells can be seen. The northern edges of the meadow and the eastern fringe of mature woodland are bordered by a thick hedge of blackthorn. The ancient woodland adjacent to the western boundary just reaches within the site, bordering the edge of the public footpath. Here, mature oak, ash, sycamore, and hazel are common and less common trees such as wild service tree and horse chestnut are also present.

Ground flora in the mature and ancient woodland areas is generally diverse, displaying several ancient woodland indicator species such as bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*), moschatel (*Adoxa moschatellina*), wood speedwell (*Veronica montana*), wood sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*), dog's mercury (*Mercurialis perennis*), wood millet (*Millium effusum*), and remote sedge (*Carex remota*). The ground flora in the planted areas, however, is lacking both floral and structural diversity as shrubs and ground flora are largely absent. The hornbeam and ash within the northern tip of the planted area was coppiced less than 10 years ago and so there are more vertical layers in this area compared to the area south of the loop path. The hornbeam in the planted area has seen extensive damage caused by squirrels and ash dieback has significantly affected the planted ash trees. A scallop was cut into the planted area next to the loop path in 2016 during the path upgrade work. The scallop is currently covered in a thick layer of bramble, which is acting as a protective barrier from deer grazing to the few young saplings sprouting through.

Significance

The secondary woodland connects the ancient woodland shaw to the west and buffers it from the impacts of neighbouring land use such as farming and residential development.

The woodland provides valuable habitat for wildlife. The early flowering blackthorn is a valuable source of nectar and pollen for bees in spring. Its foliage is a food plant for the caterpillars of many moths. Birds also nest among the dense, thorny thickets, eat caterpillars and other insects from the leaves, and feast on the berries in autumn.

The presence of many ancient woodland indicators is beneficial to the overall biodiversity of the site and the mature and ancient woodland trees and shrubs will act as an important seed source to the planted areas overtime.

Opportunities & Constraints

Constraints:

- The secondary woodland was planted with oak and ash as the main and secondary species. Presence of ash dieback on site will drastically reduce the number of ash and alter the tree species composition.

Opportunities:

- Diversify woodland structure through coppicing or scalloping path edges. Resulting bramble growth, could act to suppress the level of grazing on young saplings as they establish.

Factors Causing Change

Pests and diseases - ash dieback is confirmed on site.

Browsing and animal damage to the young trees will reduce the regeneration of young shrubs and trees. Squirrel and deer damage is all apparent.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

The established plantations will be allowed to develop into mature secondary woodland, through minimum silvicultural intervention, creating woodland cover for approximately two-thirds of the site (over 60%).

The presence of ash dieback will alter the species composition of the site. While some individuals of ash may prove to be genetically resistant, it is likely that much of the ash planted at 20% of the species mix will die off and naturally be replaced by sycamore and possibly cherry.

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

In this plan period 2018-2023, the woodland areas will continue to develop into mature woodland and be monitored for tree health.

- Remove all remaining tree shelters from the planted trees by the end of 2019.
- Continue to allow the remaining rough grassland at the southern end to gradually turn to scrub and future woodland cover by natural means.
- Continue to cut a 3m swath behind the roadside hedge for access to maintain the hedge (remove tree shelters, remove litter, pruning, etc.), during the second path cut conducted each year.
- Monitor once (in 2020) the success of regeneration within the scallop created and decide if a scallop should be created in planted area south of the loop path during the final year of this management plan (2023).
- Carry out annual tree inspections in Zone A woodland areas (one mature horse chestnut beside Kings Cross Lane) in alternating summer/autumn inspections.
- Carry out Zone B tree inspections every three years (2019 and 2022).
- Woodland will be assessed for species/age diversity, regeneration, ground flora, pests/diseases, and human impact every five years. Next condition assessment due in 2022.

5.2 Open Ground Habitat

Description

The open ground that makes up the northern third of the site has a good diversity of native plants, characteristic of unimproved or semi-natural neutral grassland. Semi-natural grasslands contain a high proportion of native grasses and flowering herbs and a very low number of woody shrubs. The vegetation is also normally below one metre in height. Such prime sites have declined rapidly (up to 95%) in the last century through modernisation of agricultural practices (i.e. heavy application of fertilisers and herbicides or intense livestock grazing).

A highlight of the grassland species at Philpotes Wood includes meadow vetchling (*Lathyrus pratensis*), yellow rattle (*Rhinanthus minor*), ragged robin (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*), common spotted-orchid (*Dactylorhiza fuchsia*), common knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*), and common bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*). Lowland semi-natural grasslands are mostly the result of human activity when forests were cleared and wetlands drained in order to graze livestock. Grazing and cutting have been important in maintaining the species composition of these grasslands overtime. The diversity present at Philpotes Wood suggests there has been a continuity of management with this habitat for a considerable amount of time.

Significance

Semi-natural neutral grassland is a valuable and declining habitat. It is also a UK priority habitat. The species composition of semi-natural grassland has resulted from millennia of use as pasture land. As a result, this habitat-type contains some of our less common grassland plant species, a wide range of invertebrates (particularly butterflies) and small mammals. The UK has lost up to 95% of this habitat in the last century due to modernisation of agricultural practices and heavy use of pesticides/herbicides and fertilisers. As much of the surrounding landscape around Philpotes Wood is still actively farmed, the grassland at Philpotes Wood is rare within the landscape as it is managed for conservation purposes and thus sees little to no herbicide application and no addition of fertilisers.

Opportunities & Constraints

Constraints:

Small area of grassland limits management options (i.e. too small for grazing and the programme of cut and collect is costly).

Factors Causing Change

Natural colonisation of broadleaf trees and shrubs (mainly oak and blackthorn).

Increase in coarse vegetation.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Approximately one-third of the site is a healthy neutral grassland rich in native plant species, supporting an equally rich invertebrate population. Ensure that scrub and coarse vegetation account for no more than 5% of the meadow area. Continuous "cut and remove" management will prevent encroachment and support wildflower populations.

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

Prevent the encroachment of scrub and coarse (less desirable) vegetation such as nettle and creeping thistle by appropriate management.

- A late season cut (between 25 August and 10 September) of half the meadow (cut 0.5 ha) annually and remove arisings from site. Alternate which half is cut each year.

- Trim back the blackthorn as needed during annual maintenance of the perimeter footpath around the meadow.

5.3 Connecting People with woods & trees

Description

Philpotes Wood is one of The Woodland Trust's 'Woods on Your Doorstep' (WOYD) woodlands, created to commemorate the Millennium. The WOYD project created 250 community woodlands across England, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

Involvement from the surrounding community has been an integral part of caring for this wood since the beginning and continues to be to this day. The local community helped the Woodland Trust to acquire the site over 20 years ago and to plant it with native broadleaf trees as a part of the WOYD project. They then helped to acquire a horse paddock as an extension of the woods in 2006. Local volunteers then helped to restore the new area by planting trees in the paddock and filling in the gaps of the roadside hedgerow. In 2015, the local community group, helped to secure funding to install a wildflower information board in the meadow and the following year, grant funding from the Tesco Bags of Help enabled part of the path network to be upgraded for the benefit of all mobility users.

Philpotes Wood is an access B2 category, with moderate daily visitors (15-25 visitors per day) and maintained surfaced footpaths.

It is a small site (2.73 ha) that is one third open meadow and two thirds mostly young and some mature woodland with a good network of paths throughout. The site is well used by local walkers and dog walkers. There are two entrances for foot traffic at the northern and southern boundaries. A legal public footpath runs through the site along the western boundary, connecting the site to the village and train station of South Nutfield.

Woodland Trust signage marks the main southern entrance through a kissing gate at the roadside. A surfaced path starts from the kissing gate and heads north along the public foot path before turning off just south of the meadow and looping back on itself. A section of this path was upgraded in 2016 and weather permitting, is accessible to a wider range of mobility users, including wheelchairs and pushchairs. Other paths, however, can become quite wet in winter due to the clay ground and level surface of the site. Three benches have been placed next to the paths and provide visitors with a place to rest and enjoy the serenity of the woodland or the meadow.

A local volunteer group holds 1-3 volunteer days annually depending on the number of jobs that need doing and they tackle tasks such as litter picking and hedgerow maintenance.

Significance

Philpotes Wood is a popular walking site for people living in the area. The recent upgrades to the loop path will allow users of varying mobility to enjoy the site.

Despite being a small site (2.73 ha), visitors will see a diversity of habitats - from the managed meadow in the north, to the 20 year old trees in the middle to the naturally establishing woodland in the south and the mature/ancient woodland surrounding. Visitors can also enjoy what nature has to offer throughout the seasons - the early white flowers of the thick blackthorn scrub will spring the site to life after winter. Next the vibrant display of wildflowers in the meadow will take over throughout the summer months. And then, just before things quiet down for winter, the trees will brighten up with one last splash of colour as the leaves turn in autumn.

As a young woodland, the site provides people with the special opportunity to witness how a new woodland changes overtime into a mature state with tall trees and a rich ground flora. The meadow, being rich in grassland flora, may attract a wider audience of users and nature enthusiasts as it offers a different habitat experience than most Woodland Trust wooded sites.

Opportunities & Constraints

Constraints

Water-logged paths in wet weather hinder the ease of access to the site and cause path creep exacerbating the problem.

Anti-social behaviour/illegal activities - vandalism to the entrance gate, trespassing of horses on site, littering, and dog fouling detracts from the value of this site for informal public access.

Close proximity to the M23, M25 and the urban centre of Redhill increase the risks of fly tipping on site.

Opportunities

The site is significant to the local community, as demonstrated by the 20 years of support they have offered to this site. For small sites such as this, support and care of the woods by the local community improves the experience for all visitors to the site.

Upgrading signage to clarify WT site ownership and improve overall aesthetics of the entrances to the site. Sites that appear to be well looked after and regularly monitored reduce the chances of unwanted anti-social behaviour.

Educating visitors on the ecological importance of neutral grasslands and grassland species.

Partnering with the council to refurbish the hard-surface of the public footpath and fix the issues with pooling water on this path.

Factors Causing Change

Change in number and frequency of visitors.

Fly tipping and other anti-social behaviour.

Surfaced paths sinking into the clay.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Philpotes Wood will continue to offer a good visitor experience in line with Woodland Trust standards . Free and open access will continue through a well maintained path network and entrances. The Woodland Trust will continue to support local community engagement including volunteer opportunities to help care for the wood.

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

During this plan period the short term objective is to provide a high quality experience for a range of pedestrian visitors which is safe and enjoyable.

- Approximately 1km of paths and one entrance will be maintained twice a year in May and July to allow continued access across the site. This will include strimming ride edges and cutting back encroaching blackthorn, as needed.
- Infrastructure such as gates, signs and information boards will be inspected annually and maintained or replaced as necessary. This includes the grassland flowers information board in the meadow.
- A Woodland Trust welcome sign will be installed (on 2 posts) at the northern entrance in 2019 to welcome visitors on the public footpath to the site.
- Continue to support the local volunteer group through telephone/email updates on Woodland Trust activities and an annual site visit to discuss the yearly volunteer tasks.
- Repair the broken kissing gate and post and rail fence at the southern entrance in 2018. Check and confirm that the all-access kissing gate is built to standards for wheelchair and pram users.

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	1.75	Oak (pedunculate)	1998	Min-intervention		Connecting People with woods & trees	
<p>Secondary woodland planted in two instalments, 1998 and 2007. Most of the subcompartment was planted in November 1998 with a mixture of native broadleaf species in the following percentages: 50% oak, 20% ash, 12% hornbeam, 8% wild cherry, and 10% woody shrubs. The remainder of the subcpt, contains the 2006 horse paddock extension. A small area of this was planted in 2007 with a the same planting mix as 1998, while the remainder was left to naturally regenerate and is made up of poor grassland, bramble and blackthorn scrub, as well as a patchy hedgerow forming the southern boundary.</p>							
1b	0.98	Open ground		Non-wood habitat		Connecting People with woods & trees	
<p>Semi-natural neutral grassland containing a wide range of common plant species but including some with narrowing regional distributions such as ragged robin (<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>), common spotted orchid (<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsia</i>), yellow meadow vetchling (<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>), and yellow rattle (<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>).</p>							

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.