



# Thorn 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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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>	Thorn Wood
<b>Location:</b>	Weaverham, Hartford
<b>Grid reference:</b>	SJ625729, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 118
<b>Area:</b>	17.14 hectares (42.35 acres)
<b>Designations:</b>	Community Forest

## 2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

### 2.1 Summary Description

Thorn Wood is a young community woodland planted in 1999 and is located alongside the main road between the villages of Weaverham and Hartford, in North Cheshire. The site can be accessed via a kissing gate entrance off Northwich Road. There is a good network of unsurfaced footpaths and the wood is well used by local dog walkers. There are also areas of wildflower meadows and a pond.

## 2.2 Extended Description

Thorn Wood is a 17.14ha (42.3 acre) young broadleaved woodland between the villages of Weaverham and Hartford, approximately 3 miles from the town of Northwich in North Cheshire. It is located in the Weaver Valley which is predominantly a rural landscape of farmland pasture, wooded copses and hedgerows, but with an industrial heritage from salt mining in the area.

The site is reasonably flat with mainly clay soils which results in waterlogging and flooding of low areas during winter months creating temporary ponds. There is evidence of subsidence and the remains of old marl pits and there is a pond next to the eastern boundary of the site which is surrounded by hedgerows and some mature trees. The site is divided into four sections by remnant hedgerows that contain a small number of mature ash and oak along with thorn, elder, and hazel. It is bounded to the north by a roadside hedgerow and Northwich Road, to the east by sports fields belonging to the Grange School and farm pasture, to the west by a disused railway line and to the south by the West Coast railway line.

The wood was created as a Community Woodland as part of the Woodland Trust's Millennium project "Woods on Your Doorstep" (WOYD). The land was purchased in March 1998 with the help of The Mersey Forest, The Countryside Agency, the Forestry Commission, the Millennium Commission, the County / District and two Local Parish Councils, the Sainsbury Family Charitable Trust and numerous local business and private donations.

The site was formerly grazing pasture and was opened to the public during the winter of 1998-99. 11.6ha of the site was planted as a new native woodland (a key feature of the site) with approximately twenty six thousand mixed broadleaf trees (comprising oak, ash, silver birch, rowan, and wild cherry with hawthorn, hazel, blackthorn, holly, and dog rose). Two thousand of which were planted by the local community during national tree week in 1998. The establishment phase was highly successful with very few losses, although the ash component has grown more rapidly than other species resulting in shading and out competing particularly of oak. In 2014 a light thinning operation (10-15% thin) was carried out to diversify the even aged structure that had developed and to halo thin around some of the oaks to give them more light and space.

Approximately 5.5ha of the site were left as open ground habitat and not planted with trees. An area of nearly 1ha of this near to the main entrance was seeded with a wildflower meadow mix in 2006. In 2015 approximately 0.37ha of the open ground in the north west corner of the site was leased to the Weaverham Community Memorial Orchard Group to create a community orchard and has been planted with more than 100 fruit trees of local varieties.

The site is well used by local people particularly for dog walking, and informal public access is also a key feature of the site. There is an extensive path network of mostly unsurfaced grass footpaths, apart from approximately 400m of surfaced path (an old farm track) which runs from the entrance gate on Northwich Road towards the centre of the site.

## 3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

### 3.1 Getting there

Thorn Wood is located on Northwich Road between the villages of Weaverham and Hartford. The only official entrance is from this road with a kissing gate and management access gate leading onto the site. There is an extensive footpath network around the site with approximately 2.7km of permissive footpaths around the site. The paths are unsurfaced apart from the short section of stoned footpath from the main entrance towards the middle of the site. The site is flat and because of poor drainage and underlying clay soils the paths can become very wet and muddy in winter or after periods of rainfall.

There is no car park at the wood although many visitors park on the verge along Northwich Road.

The nearest bus stop can be found on Northwich Road approximately 100 metres from the entrance to the wood. For more information go to traveline on 0870 608 2 608.

There are no public toilets in the local vicinity. The nearest toilet would be at the Ring O'Bells pub, 1 mile away in Weaverham.

### 3.2 Access / Walks

## 4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

The long term intention is to manage Thorn Wood as a high forest of mixed native broadleaves to provide a recreational and woodland landscape feature in the local area. Guided by the Woodland Trust's woodland management approach, conservation and access policies, long term management will aim to seek a balance between conservation and public enjoyment. The wood will be allowed to grow and develop naturally as much as possible with trees growing to maturity, retaining dead wood and standing dead trees where safe to do so and encouraging natural regeneration for the long term sustainability of the wood.

Thorn Wood will continue to be composed of native broadleaves such as oak, silver birch, ash, alder, cherry and hazel. Although the percentage of ash is likely to decrease substantially over the next 10 years through ash dieback. Despite this ash will continue to be encouraged within the species mix, in the hope that some trees will exhibit a degree of natural resilience. Woodland management operations will be undertaken where necessary to maintain a diverse structure and mix of species to ensure that the wood remains as resilient as possible to future threats posed by tree disease, pests and climate change.

The wood will contain an element of open habitat in the form of rides, meadows and ponds. Management works will be undertaken routinely to ensure that many of the rides remain wide and sunny with good woodland edge habitat. Management works will also ensure that ponds remain open and not closed over by tree growth. This will benefit a variety of flora and fauna including butterflies and dragonflies.

Threats to the woodland habitat will be monitored and managed if possible. The woodland will be monitored for the presence of tree diseases, in particular ash dieback as it becomes more prevalent in the wood.

Open access will be retained at the wood in perpetuity and there will be a well-managed network of paths with prominent signage at entrances to make the site welcoming for visitors. Well used paths will be made open and sunny in parts through a regime of path edge coppicing. The wood will be made as safe as practicable through regular safety inspections, and corresponding remedial work.

Local people will be encouraged to play an active part in caring for the site through volunteering opportunities at the wood.



## 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 Informal Public Access

#### Description

Thorn Wood is a well used site, mostly visited by local people and particularly dog walkers. There is approximately 2700 metres of unsurfaced grass footpaths across the site and 400m of surfaced track from the main entrance. The entrance is located on Northwich Road with a kissing gate for pedestrian access and field gate for management access. The paths become muddy and in some places flooded during the winter and after heavy rain due to the clay soils on site.

There is a noticeboard by the entrance gate and five wooden benches next to the footpaths around the site. Within the community orchard area there are also two picnic tables and an information board which were provided by the group. There is no car park at the site and the only parking is on the roadside near the wood.

#### Significance

Increasing enjoyment of woodland is one of the Woodland Trust's key outcomes and Thorn Wood provides local people with the opportunity to access and enjoy woodland and nature close to where they live. The wood was created as a community woodland as part of the Woods on Your Doorstep (WOYD) project to provide new public access to woodland for local communities in Weaverham and Hartford. It is within the Mersey Community Forest which promotes public access and use of woodlands.

#### Opportunities & Constraints

The lack of suitable parking at the wood is a constraint on increasing visitor numbers and therefore most visitors will be from the local area.

There are opportunities to engage local people to help with management work on the site through the Woodland Trust's volunteer working group, the Community Memorial Orchard group, Hartford Civic Society, the Mersey Forest and other local organisations.

#### Factors Causing Change

Increased visitor numbers and recreational pressure will cause further deterioration to path surfaces which are becoming increasingly muddy throughout much of the year.

There is some recurring anti-social behaviour and misuse (occasional camp fires, den building, damage to trees and litter). The local police and other groups involved in the site are aware of this and helping to monitor the situation.

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

The Trust will continue to maintain open public access at the current level so that visitors can continue to enjoy the woodland. The site will be made as safe as practicable for visitors through regular safety inspections of trees in high risk zones, site hazards and access furniture. Any threats to the wood arising from public recreation or misuse will be monitored and appropriate measures taken if necessary.

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

During the plan period we aim to maintain the current level of public access to the site. To achieve this we will:

1. carry out annual maintenance of the entrance, signage, cutting back any vegetation encroaching on the footpaths and removing any litter/ fly tipping as necessary.
2. undertake regular safety inspections of trees in high risk zones (i.e. next to roads and footpaths) and site hazards as per the Trust's safety inspection regime to ensure safety of visitors and neighbours, and undertaking any remedial safety work identified.
3. carry out monitoring at least once during the plan period to assess whether the current access provision is adequate for the level of public use, to identify if there are any people issues/ threats to the wood, and taking appropriate action to address them if necessary.
4. carry out coppicing alongside the paths to create more open path rides and improve sight lines by the end of the plan period.

## 5.2 Secondary Woodland

### Description

11.5ha of Thorn Wood was planted in 1998/99 with approx. 26,000 saplings comprising a mix of native broadleaves with oak (40%) ash (30%) silver birch (10%) rowan (5%) and wild cherry (5%) along with mixed shrubs (10%) of hawthorn, hazel, blackthorn, holly, and dog rose. Approximately 3% (0.5ha) of the site is covered by mature trees or hedgerow predominantly oak, ash, sycamore and hawthorn. Approximately 30% of the site has been kept as open ground and this was seeded with a grassland wildflower mix by Landlife. The main species present now are willow herb, thistle, dock, nettle and increasingly ragwort. In the meadow area near the centre of the site there is also a good population of early purple orchids. In compartment 2 a cluster of native Black poplar were planted in a wet flush. There is also a large pond (old marl pit) located by the eastern boundary of the site. Approx. 0.37ha of open ground in the NW corner of the site was leased to the Weaverham Community Memorial Orchard Group in 2015 to create a community orchard and has been planted with more than 100 fruit trees of local varieties.

### Significance

Cheshire is one of the least wooded counties in England with less than 5% woodland cover although the nearby Weaver Valley contains a cluster of Ancient Semi-Natural Woodlands, the closest of which Beech Wood, lies approximately 200m to the north across Northwich Road. Thorn Wood has created a significant new woodland feature in the landscape on land that was previously mainly improved grassland of limited species diversity. It now forms part of the wider ecological network and provides a valuable habitat, food source and nesting sites for a variety of birds and small mammals.

### Opportunities & Constraints

Silvicultural management will create opportunities to diversify the structure and species mix in the woodland which has developed stands of mostly even-aged, uniform species in straight planting rows.

Management access for vehicles is limited due to the wet ground conditions and there is only approx. 400m of surfaced track from the entrance gate onto the site.

There are opportunities to engage local people to help with management work on the site through the Woodland Trust's volunteer working group, the Community Memorial Orchard group and other local organisations.

### Factors Causing Change

The growth of trees overtime will lead to canopy closure which will affect opportunities for natural regeneration and ground flora growth.

The open ground areas will develop into scrub woodland over time if not managed leading to the loss of the meadow areas.

Ash dieback is likely to result in the loss of a substantial (30%) proportion of trees which will have a significant impact on the species mix in the wood, although this will also provide gaps in the canopy which will encourage natural regeneration of other species.

Rabbits have caused damage (bark stripping) on some young trees, but this is not currently having a significant impact on tree growth and natural regen.

Ragwort is spreading on site both within the woodland and open ground areas.

### Long term Objective (50 years+)

Thorn Wood will be managed as secondary woodland of mixed native broadleaves with a diverse structure (in terms of species composition, age/size classification), understory, shrub layer and ground flora. Maintenance work will be undertaken to maintain an open, sunny path ride; to maintain a varied woodland edge habitat; to maintain the open ground meadow areas; and the pond will be maintained to retain areas of open water to enhance the biodiversity value of the site. Threats to the woodland including tree disease and pests will be monitored and managed if possible. The amount of dead wood will be allowed to increase over time and standing dead trees will be retained where it is safe to do so.

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

During this plan period we aim to carry out silvicultural management work to diversify the structure of the woodland and help to make it more robust and resilient for the future. To achieve this we will:

1. carry out thinning work during the plan period, through a combination of the wood allotment project and contractors.
2. monitor the health of the woodland at least once during the plan period to identify any threats from tree disease, pests, non-native invasive species, human impacts, and take appropriate action where necessary.
3. provide opportunities for volunteers to help with annual woodland management tasks (such as coppicing, removal of ragwort, hedge laying, clearing vegetation, removing tree guards, etc).
4. maintain the roadside hedge through annual cutting to maintain open views and sight lines into and through the woodland.
5. remove any remaining tree guards on site by the end of the plan period.

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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	5.48	Oak (pedunculate)	1998	High forest	Housing/infrastructure, structures & water features on or adjacent to site, People issues (+tve & -tve), Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Informal Public Access, Secondary Woodland	Community Forest
<p>This compartment is roughly rectangular forming the north-eastern third of the site, and comprises 3.4ha of young woodland with 1.9ha of open ground. The new woodland was planted during winter of 1998-99 and comprises Oak (40%), Ash (30%), Silver birch (10%), Rowan (5%) and Wild Cherry (5%) with mixed woody shrubs (10%): hawthorn, hazel, blackthorn, holly, and dog rose. The open ground was deep ploughed in 2006 and sown with a meadow mix containing Foxglove, Ribwort Plantain, Wild Carrot, Lesser Knapweed, Field Scabious, Lady's Bedstraw, Hedge Bedstraw, Ox-eye Daisy, Red Champion, Kidney Vetch, Devils Bit Scabious, Common St. Johns Wort, Cornflower, Corn Marigold, Corncockle, Corn Chamomile, Corn Poppy, and Corn Spurrey. The sites management and key pedestrian access point is on the north-east boundary and opens onto a crushed stone track that runs through the centre of the compartment through to the main body of the site, a desire line continues through compartment 2a on to a squeeze gap at the sites extreme western corner. Mature hedgerows abut the eastern edge of the track and form the south-western boundary. The western boundary abuts the disused ICI mineral railway and is defined by a post and wire fence. The north-eastern boundary parallels Northwich Road and is defined by (but not including) a mature thorn hedge. The eastern boundary abuts Grange School playing fields and is defined by post and rail fence.</p>							
2a	11.66	Oak (pedunculate)	1998	High forest	Housing/infrastructure, structures & water features on or adjacent to site, Mostly wet ground/exposed site, People issues (+tve & -tve), Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site, Services & wayleaves	Informal Public Access, Secondary Woodland	Community Forest

Compartment 2 forms the main body and southern most part of the site. It was planted with a mix of native broadleaf species predominantly Oak (40%), Ash (30%), Silver birch (10%), Rowan (5%), Wild Cherry (5%) and mixed woody shrubs (10%): hawthorn, hazel, blackthorn, holly, and dog rose. On the eastern edge of the compartment lies a medium sized pond (old marl pit) which is surrounded by a mixed semi mature canopy of predominately Oak, Ash, Sycamore and Alder. The understorey is a mix of Goat Willow, Sycamore, and shrubs including Elder and thorn species. The ground flora is dominated by bramble with rush, yellow iris, nettle, foxglove, buttercup, dock, red deadnettle, red campion. On the north-western boundary lies the disused ICI mineral railway, to the east pasture land, defined by post and rail fence and a thorn hedge respectively. The western boundary abuts a shallow ditch and remnant thorn hedge with mature trees and the south-west boundary abuts the railway land which is defined by a 2m galvanised metal fence. A series of grassy footpaths and rides run through the site.

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**Appendix 2: Harvesting operations (20 years)**

Forecast Year	Cpt	Operation Type	Work Area (ha)	Estimated vol/ha	Estimated total vol.
2018	1a	Ride edge Coppice	0.50	4	2
2019	1a	Ride edge Coppice	0.50	4	2
2021	1a	Ride edge Coppice	0.50	4	2
2022	1a	Thin	10.00	10	100
2025	1a	Ride edge Coppice	0.50	4	2



## 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.