



Duddas Wood

Management Plan 2013-2018

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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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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:	Duddas Wood
Location:	Derrington
Grid reference:	SJ895228, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 127
Area:	9.46 hectares (23.38 acres)
Designations:	

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Summary Description

Duddas Wood was designed, created and planted by the local community and has excellent views both internal and of Stafford Castle. The wood is on the Sustrans national cycleway and the main entrance lies at the end of Church Lane.

2.2 Extended Description

The name Dudda's Wood was taken from the old name for the village of Derrington. The site has been planted with a mixture of native broadleaves creating one of 250 new woodland creation sites as part of the Trusts' 'Woods On Your Doorstep' (WOYD) project supported by the Millennium Commission. All woods created as part of this project were within walking distance of towns and villages. This new woodland was made possible through the support of the local community led by the Derrington Countryside Community Trust. Their initial fundraising to acquire the site, contribution of ideas, aspirations and information were integral to the design and establishment of this new wood.

The first planting took place at a public event in March 2000 when local people and schoolchildren planted 1500 trees donated by Staffordshire County Council by the main entrance. Once completed the occasion was marked by the siting of two large rocks as a millennium feature at the center of the site. Princess Anne also planted a Black Poplar here as part of the celebrations in recognition of the importance of the wood.

The site lies on the north-eastern edge of the village of Derrington, less than two miles walk from Stafford town centre accessed via a Public Footpath. It is bounded to the north by a disused railway line, now a 'Greenway' and part of the Sustrans national cycleway and to the east by the M6 motorway from which it is separated by a narrow strip of land.

Prior to planting the wood consisted of three fields grazed as one extending to approximately 9.2 hectares. The hedgerows of these former field divisions, their associated banks and hollows, together with a historic 'borrow' pit that forms wet flushes in winter and a standing dead oak (now collapsed as of 2008), all provide internal landscape interest for visitors. These features were incorporated into the design of the new wood. Externally, visitors have excellent views of Stafford Castle. The boundary bank on the wood's eastern edge is believed to be the historic boundary of the Castle's deer park.

There are a number of access points into the site with a range of unsurfaced mostly level or gently inclined paths available for visitors to explore this developing woodland. Visitor use is very high as the area is extremely popular with local people .

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

The main entrance lies at the end of Church lane where visitors can access the wood via a kissing gate. There are six further entrance points (gates and simple squeeze posts) located around the boundaries of the site. A public Bridlepath bisects the site in an east to west direction. There is a public footpath known as the 'Green Way' which runs just outside the northern boundary of the wood with two access points into Duddas wood. The paths are un-surfaced but flat and normally easy to negotiate being freely drained except when it is in very wet weather. Unofficially parking is available in a space by the main gate, 3 by the adjacent entrance to the Millennium Green and "you can always find space in Church Lane"

Nearest bus stop - Castle View, Centre of Derrington Village approx. 1/2/ mile away

Nearest station - Stafford 2 miles away.

Nearest toilet - Bole Street, Stafford, approx 2 miles away.

You can also try www.transportdirect.info or www.traveline.org.uk on the internet for the most up to date details for public transport in the area.

3.2 Access / Walks

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

Dudda's Wood will be allowed to develop naturally as a mixed native broadleaved woodland. Intervention will be limited to carrying out essential tree safety work and selected areas of coppicing and thinning along ride edges to promote visitor enjoyment where required. Public access provision at the wood will be maintained with entrance points kept open and inviting and the paths mown so as to create a network which is both easy to follow and enjoyable for visitors to use.

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 Connecting People with woods & trees

Description

Duddas wood was designed, created and planted by the local community as part of the Woods on Your Doorstep project in 2000. The creation of the woodland was made possible by the Derrington Countryside Community Trust, who raised funds to acquire the site and contributed greatly to the design and inspiration of its planting. This site is part of the Welcoming Sites Programme, which aims to improve the visitor experience to this site. The Welcoming Site Programme will lead to a series of lasting upgrades that will improve the visitor experience and will likely increase the number and range of visitors to the wood. An attractive and serviceable network of tracks and paths will further encourage the appreciation of the woodland both on the site and in the locality. The site will be managed to meet the required high standards of the Welcoming Site Programme and will provide a clear welcome: well-maintained entrances, furniture, signs and other infrastructure. The site will be a truly valued resource in the local community and well respected.

'Its position in the landscape'

The site lies on the north-eastern edge of the village of Derrington, less than two miles walk from the centre of Stafford, which can be accessed via a Public Footpath. It is bounded to the north by a disused railway line which is now a Greenway, and part of the Sustrans national cycleway. To the east lies the M6 motorway, from which it is separated by a narrow strip of land. Prior to planting the wood consisted of three fields which were grazed as one, and which extended to approximately 9.2 hectares. Features of interest within the wood include the hedgerows of these former field divisions, their associated banks and hollows, and the historic 'burrow' pit, which forms wet flushes in the winter. The wood enjoys excellent views of Stafford Castle, and the boundary bank on the woods' eastern edge is believed to be the historic boundary of the Castle's deer park.

'General Description of the Access'

There are 7 official access points into the site with a range of predominantly unsurfaced mostly level or gently inclining paths, which allow visitors to explore the developing woodland. There is a short section (approximately 320m) of surfaced path leading from the main entrance to the closest of two entrances connecting the Green Way to the north of the site. The paths are generally freely drained except in very wet weather when they can become boggy. The main entrance lies at the end of Church Lane where visitors can access the wood via a kissing gate. There are six further entrance points comprising gates and squeeze posts located around the boundaries of the site. A public bridleway bisects the site in an east to west direction, and there is a public footpath known as the Green Way which runs just outside the northern boundary with two access points into the wood. There is limited parking around the site, with 3 spaces near to the Millennium Green entrance short distance away, and on-road parking along Church Lane.

'Specific Furniture/ Access Point Description'

There is limited seating across Duddas Wood and no further information/interpretation is present

across the wood, other than some finger posts indicating the rights of way that cross the site.

'The Visitor Profile'

Anecdotally, visitor use is very high as the area is extremely popular with local people, although detailed information on the visitor base and numbers is not available.

There are currently no schools using the site as a forest school, and this is something that could be considered for future development. There are 4 Primary schools nearby which could be potential users of the wood; Doxey Primary School, Castlechurch Primary, Cooper Perry Primary School and Rowley Park Primary Academy. There are many other schools and nurseries within Stafford.

Derrington Countryside Community Trust have already been heavily involved in the creation of the site, and opportunities to involve them in the future should be actively sought. Derrington Village has a members-only Social Club, and opportunities to encourage them to use the wood and potential for partnership working should be considered. The Community Foundation for Staffordshire is a local organisation which works in partnership on Community projects, and there may be opportunities to work with them to generate funding for community projects.

<http://staffsfoundation.org.uk/partnershipsinitiatives/>

'Events and Activities'

There is no current active events programme onsite. The current visitor offer is a low key one, and reflects the Trust's original intention of creating places for quiet, informal recreation.

There is no open space onsite in which events could be held, and no parking which limits the suitability of the site for events and activities.

'Nearby Woodland Trust/external sites'

Nearby woods include Stafford Castle Woods <http://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/stafford-castle-and-visitor-centre> and Kingston Pool Cove <http://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/kingston-pool-covert-south> which are run by Staffordshire Borough Council and Shugborough Woodland, which is run by The National Trust. Nearby there are also two National Nature Reserves; Aqualate Mere <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/staffordshires-national-nature-reserves/staffordshires-national-nature-reserves> and Motte Meadows <http://www.friendsofmotteymeadows.org.uk/> and Cannock Chase AONB <http://www.cannock-chase.co.uk/> The Closest Woodland Trust sites are Pipe Hall Farm, The Highlands and Old Church Farm.

'Volunteering'

There are no volunteers currently working at this site. There are limited opportunities for volunteer involvement.

Significance

This is a significant area of new woodland on the edge of Derrington and close to the town of Stafford, and is therefore within walking distance of a large population. The local community, led by Derrington Countryside Community Trust, was instrumental in the identification, acquisition and creation of this Woods on Your Doorstep site as part of the village's marking of the Millennium, which also included the creation of a Millennium Green. It is important, therefore, that local people in particular continue to enjoy the wood and are involved in its future care and management, and that the wood continues to be an important local community resource. Increasing enjoyment of woodland is one of the Woodland Trust's key outcomes. Encouraging the local population of Stafford and the surrounding villages to access Duddas Wood will enable us to meet this outcome in this area. The proximity to urban populations living in Stafford make this wood significant in terms of its potential to reach large numbers of people and engage them with woods and with the messaging of the Woodland Trust. The history of Community involvement in the site makes it ideal for continuing to actively engage local people with woods and trees.

Opportunities & Constraints

There is scope to use it to educate local people and develop local interest in the conservation benefits of new native woodland.

There is scope to involve local schools and enable them to use the wood for educational purposes

There is already a high level of community involvement and ownership of the wood, and this provides opportunities to further engage community groups in projects in the wood.

The large local populations in Stafford and Derrington mean there are opportunities to engage with a urban audiences, and promote our messages around the benefits of urban trees and woods.

Given the strong local support for the wood and interest in it, it might be possible to recruit one or two volunteers who could lead small-scale guided walks on the site.

Constraints include potential for conflict between different types of user at the site, namely horse-riders who do not stick to the bridle path and who then come into conflict with pedestrians and dog-walkers. The interaction of different users needs to be monitored and managed.

The site is not large enough to take a high level of use by a large number of people, and for events and activities on site.

The lack of proper car parking facilities is a constraint in being able to do events on-site, and in the future development of the wood. Any development which increases the usage of the site significantly will need to be accompanied by careful monitoring of the surrounding area for the impact on local roads. If large numbers of people begin parking on Church Lane, this may cause the lane to become blocked and cause an issue.

The ride network will need regular mowing and the entrances regular inspection and maintenance in order to facilitate continued access.

Factors Causing Change

Recent work to upgrade the path within the wood to link sections of it with the 'Green Way' is leading to increased usage, and the impact of this on the local roads will need to be monitored. This may also cause a parking issue, and this will need to be managed. The path will also need monitoring and maintaining as necessary.

Fly tipping may be an issue on the site and needs to be monitored and managed as necessary.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

The woodland will provide an area of quiet informal recreation to a wide range of users from the local community.

Entrances and signage will have a welcoming appearance and there will be a network of well-maintained paths providing routes suitable for walkers and linking to the surrounding path network.

The use of the site for education will have increased. Local community groups and schools will use the site regularly.

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

Access provision will be in keeping with WT access guidelines. Achieved by ensuring that:

Entrances & signage are welcoming to visitors and well cared for (annually). Delivered via routine visits as part of the work programme.

Create new 'No Parking' notices for the entrance to resolve the issue of people parking in front of the gate and stopping access for wood management contractors, by Q2 2018

Monitoring the effectiveness of this and ensuing compliance, and additional work to be done if necessary to ensure access is maintained.

All managed paths are kept reasonably well-drained and free from encroaching vegetation, and that access infrastructure (entrances, signage) commemorative products (benches) and boundaries etc. are kept in good order (annually). Delivered via routine visits as part of the work programme.

The site is kept safe and welcoming by: repair of vandalism (when needed); clearing of fallen trees where access is obstructed (as needed); and regular site safety surveys (as per risk assessment).

Improvements in Welcome signage will be undertaken and maintained.

The addition of exit signage by end Dec 17

Utilisation of poster space in ladderboards by January 2018

Clean of interp panel by end of Dec 17, with a view to replace with new panel in Q1 2019

Replacement of hand-written gate sign with WT branded dibond sign by January 2018

Removal of obsolete WOYD plaques by end of Dec 17

Removal of any laminates and large correx dog fouling signage by January 2018

Review of other signage at access points, including waymarker discs and path project signage, by March 18

5.2 Secondary Woodland

Description

A native broadleaf woodland planted as part of the 'Woods On Your Doorstep' initiative with oak and ash as the dominant species.

Significance

This is a significant area of new woodland which ties in with other local environmental initiatives such as the Green way and the Millennium Green. The woodland will add significantly to the local landscape and in future will provide a buffer between Derrington and the motorway.

Opportunities & Constraints

Through seeking naturally paced development within the wood there is the opportunity to minimize interruption of the intimate and complex cycles between lower plants - fungi - invertebrates and the larger woodland structure, allowing the widest possible range of species and habitats to evolve and survive. However, the sites soils and exposure coupled with the tight planting density (2500 trees/ha) suggests that as the wood approaches pole stage its more exposed sections will have a predisposition to wind-throw. An opportunity exists through integrating the tree safety programme with an opportunistic irregular selection system, to foster a predominantly natural woodland but with a safe and inviting path and ride network.

Factors Causing Change

Rabbit damage, Establishment to pole stage without thinning

Long term Objective (50 years+)

It is the Trusts vision to establish a native oak-ash woodland habitat which has been allowed to develop naturally in line with the Trust Woodland Management Approach. Where it is safe to do so, fallen and standing deadwood will be retained and tree specimens in general, allowed to develop into over-maturity to encourage the development of veteran tree characteristics and habitat. Paths and rides will be maintained through an annual mowing regime to ensure visitors continued ease of use of the site

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

To monitor the site to ensure that it continues to develop in line with the Trust's long term vision and is not threatened or damaged by any new or previously unknown factors such as predation or windblow.

5.3 Informal Public Access

Description

The location of this wood on the edge of the village of Derrington, together with the various access links make for a high level of local use.

The wood is bisected by a public bridleway that runs west to east linking Church Lane to the motorway underpass and from there to Stafford. Two further public footpaths link into the site along the southern boundary of Cpt 1b, which is also accessed from the site's main entrance off Church Lane and from two permissive links to the 'Greenway' that runs along the northern boundary. A further permissive entrance links to the public footpath along the boundary of Cpt 2.

Within the wood, the mown grass ride network is designed to provide a number of circular walks for visitors and to link the various entrance points as well as glades containing the Millennium Feature and the borrow pit.

Significance

This is a significant area of new woodland on the edge of Derrington and close to the town of Stafford and is therefore within walking distance of a large population. The local community led by Derrington Countryside Community Trust was instrumental in the identification, acquisition and creation of this WOYD site as part of the village's marking of the Millennium, which also included the creation of a Millennium Green. It is important therefore that local people in particular continue to enjoy the wood and to be involved in its future care and management.

Opportunities & Constraints

The site is large enough to take a high level of use, giving rise to opportunities to educate and develop local interest in the amenity and conservation values derived from new native woodland. There is scope for potential conflict between different types of user, namely horse riders, pedestrians and dog-walkers. The ride network will require regular mowing and the entrances regular inspection and maintenance.

Factors Causing Change

Fly tipping

Long term Objective (50 years+)

To maintain the internal ride network and links to the public footpath network to ensure that the wood remains safe and inviting for all visitors and for the local community of Derrington in particular.

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

Inspect and maintain the management access gate and associated post and rail fencing along Church Lane, the bridlegates (x2), pedestrian kissing gates (x4), stile (x1) and welcome signs (x4), at least once annually. To include the cutting back of vegetation, repair of entrance furniture and cleaning of signs as necessary to ensure easy and welcoming access to the wood.

To mow the internal rides three times per annum. Width of the ride mowing to a minimum of 3 meters on the first two visits and to their full width on the final visit.

To monitor use of the site and whether the entrances and paths are suitable to those that visit the wood or whether any improvements or changes would be more appropriate and beneficial to visitors. Consider surface improvements in sections to facilitate better management and public access for people in motorised buggies/wheelchairs.

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	0.08	other willows	1950	null		Informal Public Access, Secondary Woodland	
<p>A small area of existing 'woodland' along the brook course at the main entrance to the site comprised mainly of a large, mature willow and a hawthorn hedge alongside the bridlepath.</p>							
1b	6.23	Alder species	2000	null		Informal Public Access, Secondary Woodland	
<p>New planting of native mixed broadleaf species at a density of 2250 per hectare comprising: (40%) oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>); (25%) ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>); (10%) downy birch (<i>Betula pubescens</i>); (5%) field maple (<i>Acer campestre</i>); (5%) alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>); (5%) willow (<i>Salix</i> spp); and (10%) shrubs including hazel (<i>Corylus avellana</i>), holly (<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>), crab apple (<i>Malus sylvestris</i>), blackthorn (<i>Prunus spinosa</i>), dog rose (<i>Rosa canina</i>), guelder rose (<i>Viburnum opulus</i>) and aspen (<i>Populus tremula</i>). Alder, willow, aspen and guelder rose are planted in the wetter areas of the compartment.</p> <p>The new planting is centred around a glade containing the site's Millennium Feature and the standing dead oak (now collapsed as of 2008), which is a locally popular feature. A further glade to the north of the compartment contains the borrow pit coupled with the ride network this amounts to approximately 1.8 hectares of open ground. Other features of note within the compartment include the eastern boundary bank and two Memorial Groves with seats.</p>							
2a	3.25	Field maple	2000	null	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access, Secondary Woodland	
<p>New planting with species as for Compartment 1b, but with 5% more ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>) and a corresponding reduction in alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>) and willow (<i>Salix</i> spp.).</p> <p>The area of open space is reduced here to one ride linking the permissive access point on the southern boundary to the ride network in Compartment 1b, in anticipation of less visitor pressure and an area of low disturbance for wildlife.</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.