



Whelkie Wynds

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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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:	Whelkie Wynds
Location:	Flamborough
Grid reference:	TA232703, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 101
Area:	3.39 hectares (8.38 acres)
Designations:	

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Summary Description

This is one of The Woodland Trust's 'Woods on Your Doorstep' woodlands, created to commemorate the Millennium. It lies in open countryside close to the eastern boundary of the village of Flamborough. Along with mixed, broadleaf woodland, the site features native hedges, a drainage ditch and a small pond.

2.2 Extended Description

The Woodland Trust purchased the wood on the 29th April 1999 as part of the Woods on Your Doorstep Project (WOYD). The wood is situated in open countryside close to the eastern boundary of the village of Flamborough along the B1259 (Lighthouse Road). The site is an area of former arable land. The majority of the site is a gently sloping bank with a westerly aspect facing towards the village. From the top of the bank the village can be clearly seen.

The surrounding land is predominantly arable. Native hedges bound the site to the northwest, east and south, whilst a drainage ditch runs along the west boundary slowly curving towards the south. One small pond is located at the southern tip of the site.

The woodland was designed primarily to provide a recreational facility and landscape feature as part of the WOYD project. This is the only significant area of woodland in the village and forms an important local amenity. A circular path is maintained by the trust, with 3 access points from Lighthouse Road, two including the management access at the south western corner and the third at the north western corner. Because of its close proximity to the village the site is popular with local people, especially dog walkers. Flamborough is a holiday and a popular day-trip destination, which, once the woodland becomes more established, will increase its usage.

Work commenced in the autumn of 1999 with grass seeding the site with a meadow mix. The local community began the planting works on Sunday the 21 November 1999 following a very successful press campaign. The name was chosen for the wood by the local community and is based around fishing, which is the traditional industry of the area.

The main tree species to be found on site are oak, ash, cherry, willow, rowan, whitebeam and alder. Shrub species planted on-site are dog rose, blackthorn, hazel, field maple, holly, and gorse. In July 2002 three wildflower beds were created and native aquatic plants were added to the pond, which was created in the south corner of the site at the time of planting.

Native hedges bound the site to the northwest, east and south, whilst a drainage ditch runs along the west boundary slowly curving towards the south. The Trust is only responsible for the northwest verge and hedge. The ditch and its maintenance have been reserved by the vendor of the site.

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

ACCESS TO THE SITE

The wood is located on the eastern edge of the village of Flamborough in East Yorkshire. Access from the village is via Lighthouse Road (B1259). The Lighthouse is signposted from the main road in the village. A footpath also leads down from the village to the wood along the southern side of the main road. However, the path switches to the other side of the road just before the woodland is reached.

ENTRANCE AND FOOTPATHS

Pedestrian access to the site can be obtained at 3 locations immediately off Lighthouse Road. The first access point reached from the village side is the one most utilised and forms a track through an adjacent arable field to a 12ft field gate and a squeeze stile. This forms the main management access to the site. The second access point is via a footpath track direct from the main road, through the hedgerow at the south-western corner of the site, close to the access point referred to above. The third access point is a squeeze stile located at the northern end of the site, again adjacent to Lighthouse Road. A popular route for visitor is to enter the site via the main access point, walk around the woodland and exit via the northern access to link up with a PROW located across the road. An information board is sited at the entrance to the site in the south-western corner with welcome signs at the other two access points. The paths are grass and steep in places. The total length of paths is approximately 700m.

PARKING

Roadside parking on a wide verge near the entrance to the site on Lighthouse Road.

PUBLIC TOILETS

Public toilets can be found at North landing, approximately 1 mile from the site by continuing down Lighthouse Road, to the Lighthouse car park.

BUS STOPS

Flamborough village centre.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Further information about public transport contact Traveline on www.traveline.org.uk or phone 0870 608 2 608

3.2 Access / Walks

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

The long-term intention is to maintain a diverse, secondary predominately broadleaved native high forest. This will be achieved by management of the existing planting and any trees or shrubs introduced through natural regeneration, thus encouraging self-sustainability of the woodland and creation of a more diverse age structure in future years. The wood to be dominated (80-100%) by native broadleaved species with a mixed shrub layer. Public access will be available throughout the site with the existing footpaths, and open spaces maintained.

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

The wood has open public access with a circular footpath (700m) and 3 entrance points being maintained by the Trust. Woodland Trust welcoming signs are at the entrances and an information board at the southwest corner of the site. A 6ft oak bench has been placed in a prominent position, high on the slope, providing vistas towards the village and open countryside. Being within easy walking distance of the much of Flamborough the site proves very popular with a wide age range of the local community, especially dog walkers. Flamborough and especially the Lighthouse is a popular holiday and day-trip destination. Many caravan parks exist within the local area.

Significance

The site provides a short but interesting walk, which is very accessible for local people being located close to the edge of the village. The seat positioned at the top of the site also provides interesting vistas of the village and countryside. The ponds and wildflower beds also provide an interesting variation of habitat for the woodland user and add conservation values to the area.

Opportunities & Constraints

At present due to the woods small size and age the woods usage is clearly limited to a short walk for the majority of local people. It is envisaged that as the woodland matures public usage will increase by both local residents and visitors to the area.

Factors Causing Change

Increased public use.
Restriction of access due to impact of ash dieback disease and high numbers of dead trees around in some areas of the wood.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

To have a well-maintained circular footpath that enables good access all year round from the three access points. Maintenance of woodland seats.

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

Maintenance of the existing circular path (700m), 3 access points, 2 signs and 2 seats. Path cut annually and maintenance of entrance features, signs and seats as required.

5.2 Secondary Woodland

Description

Planted in 1999 this native secondary woodland consists of 13% oak, 13% ash, bird cherry, 6.5% crack willow, 13% rowan, 13% whitebeam, 6.5% alder and 13% cherry. Shrub species planted consist of 2% dog rose, 2% blackthorn, 2% hazel, 6.5% field maple, 2% holly, and 1% gorse.

Significance

Woodland cover in the East Riding of Yorkshire area is the lowest in the country at about 2.7% (1989 NCC). The species diversity in this wood makes this woodland a valuable habitat and landscape feature of the surrounding area.

Opportunities & Constraints

Fast growth of willow species may shade-out other species on-site.

Being surrounded by arable land the woodland edge may be susceptible to the effects of agricultural chemicals.

The wood is a totally isolated from other woodlands and colonisation by certain woodland species is likely to be restricted. However, an opportunity may arise in the future to extend the site.

Factors Causing Change

The factors causing change would be the impact of ash dieback diseases on the ash trees. Many trees were showing evidence of the disease in October 2017.

The wood has some groups of ash planted so potentially some opportunity for new planting.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

The vision is to develop and maintain the new planting in order to achieve a diverse broadleaved high forest encouraging self-sustaining woodland, dominated by native broadleaved species, with a mixed native shrub layer and diverse age structure. As woodland cover in the East Riding of Yorkshire area is the lowest in the country at about 2.7% (1989 NCC), the wood will contribute to the area of this limited landscape feature and wildlife habitat.

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

Willow to be coppiced so as not to shade-out other slower growing species. The coppice work to be undertaken in small areas annually and for a number of years (10 to 15) to minimise the disturbance to the site. The open glade area including wildflower planting and pond to be maintained annually. Removal of ash adjacent to the footpaths and rides to be undertaken in 2 operations in 2018, 2019 and then reviewed in 2020.

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	3.37	Mixed native broadleaves	1999	High forest		Informal Public Access, Secondary Woodland	

The compartment consists of 2.72ha, which was been planted with native mixed broadleaf trees (90%) and shrubs (10%). The area also contains 0.65ha of open ground. Tree species within the wood consist of 13% oak, 13% ash, 6.5% crack willow, 13% rowan, 13% Field maple 6.5% alder, 13% whitebeam and 13% cherry. Shrub species planted consist of 2% dog rose, 2% blackthorn, 2% hazel, 2% holly, and 1% gorse. Along the western boundary a surfaced path has been created which runs alongside the ditch. The trees were planted in a random fashion at 2.1m spacing creating a naturalistic effect. A small pond at the southern end of the site was dug to provide wetland habitats. In 2002 three wildflower beds (30sqm approx) were created in the centre of the site and native aquatic plants were added to the ponds. Woodland Trust welcoming signs are at the entrances and an information board at the south west corner of the site. A 6ft oak bench has been placed in a prominent position, high on the slope, providing views towards the village and open countryside.

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.