



Boggle Top, Harry's Folly & Hone Wood

Management Plan

2016-2021

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THE WOODLAND TRUST

INTRODUCTION

The Trust's corporate aims and management approach guide the management of all the Trust's properties, and are described on Page 4. These determine basic management policies and methods, which apply to all sites unless specifically stated otherwise. Such policies include free public access; keeping local people informed of major proposed work; the retention of old trees and dead wood; and a desire for management to be as unobtrusive as possible. The Trust also has available Policy Statements covering a variety of woodland management issues.

The Trust's management plans are based on the identification of Key Features for the site and setting objectives for their management. A monitoring programme (not included in this plan) ensures that these objectives are met and any necessary management works are carried out.

Any legally confidential or sensitive species information about this site is not included in this version of the plan.

PLAN REVIEW AND UPDATING

The information presented in this Management plan is held in a database which is continuously being amended and updated on our website. Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations. Please either consult The Woodland Trust website www.woodlandtrust.org.uk or contact the Woodland Trust (wopsmail@woodlandtrust.org.uk) to confirm details of the current management programme.

There is a formal review of this plan every 5 years and a summary of monitoring results can be obtained on request.

WOODLAND MANAGEMENT APPROACH

The management of our woods is based on our charitable purposes, and is therefore focused on improving woodland biodiversity and increasing peoples' understanding and enjoyment of woodland. Our strategic aims are to:

- Protect native woods, trees and their wildlife for the future
- Work with others to create more native woodlands and places rich in trees
- Inspire everyone to enjoy and value woods and trees

All our sites have a management plan which is freely accessible via our website www.woodlandtrust.org.uk. Our woods are managed to the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS) and are certified with the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) under licence FSC-C009406 and through independent audit.

In addition to the guidelines below we have specific guidance and policies on issues of woodland management which we review and update from time to time.

We recognise that all woods are different and that the management of our sites should also reflect their local landscape and where appropriate support local projects and initiatives. Guidelines like these provide a necessary overarching framework to guide the management of our sites but such management also requires decisions based on local circumstances and our Site Manager's intimate knowledge of each site.

The following guidelines help to direct our woodland management:

1. Our woods are managed to maintain their intrinsic key features of value and to reflect those of the surrounding landscape. We intervene when there is evidence that it is necessary to maintain or improve biodiversity and to further the development of more resilient woods and landscapes.
2. We establish new native woodland using both natural regeneration and tree planting, but largely the latter, particularly when there are opportunities for involving people.
3. We provide free public access to woods for quiet, informal recreation and our woods are managed to make them accessible, welcoming and safe.
4. The long term vision for our non-native plantations on ancient woodland sites is to restore them to predominantly native species composition and semi-natural structure, a vision that equally applies to our secondary woods.
5. Existing semi-natural open-ground and freshwater habitats are restored and maintained wherever their management can be sustained and new open ground habitats created where appropriate.
6. The heritage and cultural value of sites is taken into account in our management and, in particular, our ancient trees are retained for as long as possible.
7. Woods can offer the potential to generate income both from the sustainable harvesting of wood products and the delivery of other services. We will therefore consider the potential to generate income from our estate to help support our aims.
8. We work with neighbours, local people, organisations and other stakeholders in developing the management of our woods. We recognise the benefits of local community woodland ownership and management. Where appropriate we allow our woods to be used to support local woodland, conservation, education and access initiatives.
9. We use and offer the estate where appropriate, for the purpose of demonstration, evidence gathering and research associated with the conservation, recreational and sustainable management of woodlands. In particular we will develop and maintain a network of long-term monitoring sites across the estate.
10. Any activities we undertake will conform to sustainable forest management principles, be appropriate for the site and will be balanced with our primary objectives of enhancing the biodiversity and recreational value of our woods and the wider landscapes.

SUMMARY

This public management plan briefly describes the site, specifically mentions information on public access, sets out the long term policy and lists the Key Features which drive management actions. The Key Features are specific to this site - their significance is outlined together with their long (50 year+) and short (5 year) term objectives. The short term objectives are complemented by a detailed Work Programme for the period of this management plan. Detailed compartment descriptions are listed in the appendices which include any major management constraints and designations. A short glossary of technical terms is at the end. The Key Features and general woodland condition of this site are subject to a formal monitoring programme which is maintained in a central database. A summary of monitoring results is available on request.

1.0 SITE DETAILS

Site name:	Boggle Top, Harry's Folly & Hone Wood
Location:	Fylingdales
Grid reference:	NZ940016, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 94
Area:	22.91 hectares (56.61 acres)
Designations:	National Park

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Summary Description

A diverse woodland complex combining Ancient Semi Natural Woodland and young native woodland. Seating provided at the southern end of Boggle Top wood offers magnificent views across Robin Hood's Bay.

2.2 Extended Description

Situated approximately 3km south west of Robin Hoods Bay, within the North York Moors National Park, Boggle Top, Harrys Folly & Hone Wood consists of Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW), predominantly oak and ash woodland with areas of new native woodland planting forming a buffer to the existing woodland, which forms an important part of a much larger wooded valley complex. This complex although much of it a broken chain runs for approximately 5km, following a number of tributaries linking through to the north-east and ultimately the National Trust owned coastline at Boggle Hole.

Harry's Folly is a prominent feature in the immediate local landscape and dominated by sessile oak and ash, which appears (and from local information) to have been felled periodically and left to regenerate - most likely post second world war, as many of the trees are multi-stemmed or have originated from cut stumps and are generally comparatively young and even aged. A small area to the north-west has been inter-planted with larch and beech. The shrub layer in the woodland is especially rich, dominated by a mixture of hazel coppice with holly, field maple, spindle, dog rose,

hawthorn and blackthorn. The hazel is even-aged and does appear to have been worked occasionally in the past, although clearly not for 15-20 years.

There is a wide variety of ground conditions within the woodland from dry rocky soils, dominated by oak through to permanently wet areas following the stream sides where the canopy is dominated by alder. The ground flora is extremely rich and during late winter and early spring is dominated by snowdrops, primroses, daffodils and then bluebells in the late spring.

Harry's folly was extended in April 2009. Comprising three fields to the south of the wood, a new area of native woodland was planted, buffering the existing ASNW. The planted woodland sits on a gentle north-east facing slope. The compartment has a number of mature trees and some hawthorn/blackthorn following the lines of old hedgerows, with patches of hawthorn/ blackthorn scrub to the west and south. Planting was grant aided from the Forestry Commission and include tree species include oak, ash, rowan, field maple, cherry, hawthorn, blackthorn, hazel, holly and Dog rose. Access to the site is available via the access track or via a route across grassland (Springhill Farm) which is available during suitable weather conditions.

Access to the woodland is available via a single public footpath running north to south through both the ancient woodland and the area of new planting. The relatively undisturbed ancient woodland, rich ground flora and difficult and wet ground conditions preclude the creation of any new permissive routes within the site, due to the unacceptable amount of disturbance that would be created.

Hone Wood is designated as ASNW, consisting predominantly of oak woodland and similar to Harry's Folly was partly felled during the Second World War. Very occasional semi-mature sycamores have regenerated within the woodland, the majority of which were removed in 2003 by felling of ring-barking. The shrub layer in the woodland is especially rich, dominated by a mixture of hazel coppice with holly, field maple, spindle, dog rose, hawthorn and blackthorn. There is a wide variety of ground conditions and the ground flora is consequently extremely rich and relatively undisturbed, with drier more acidic areas under oak dominated by Dogs mercury, bluebell and wood anemone, with grasses rushes and sedges dominating along the streamside's and wet flushes, with a visibly wide range of ferns and mosses.

The woodland is bounded by ASNW to the west (across a farm track) by Harry's Folly and Ox Pasture Wood, and to the north and east by Oxbank Wood. The south of the woodland was originally an area of pasture land, however this was planted in 2009 with a mixture of native broadleaved species, predominately ash and oak to buffering the existing woodland.

At present there is no formal access into this woodland. There are no plans to create any further paths due to the relatively undisturbed ancient woodland, rich ground flora and difficult and wet ground conditions.

Boggle Top forms part of the Woodland Trusts 'Woods on your Doorstep' project, which created 200 new woods supported by the Millennium Commission, Forestry Commission and the Sainsbury Family Charitable Trust. Situated on moderately sloping former grazing land, to the south-west of the hamlet of Boggle Hole, this 4.78 hectare woodland planted in early 2001 sits amidst Ancient Semi Natural Woodland and improved pasture land, within the North York Moors National Park.

As the site was former grazing land, it has been improved and was composed of predominantly

ryegrass. The site does have a two permanent springs, and can be seasonally very wet, with areas of rush across the entire slope. Planting was undertaken in April 2001, following restrictions imposed during the Foot and Mouth epidemic. Planting being grant aided with Woodland Grant Scheme, including Better Land Supplement . Planted using native local provenance stock, the tree species include oak, ash, rowan, field maple, cherry, hawthorn, blackthorn, hazel, holly and Dog rose, planted in either 1.2m deer tubes or 0.7m shrub guards. The site was ripped at 2.1m spacing's, and the planting followed this spacing between the rows, with random spacing along the rows, to achieve an average across the site of 2250 stems per hectare. The western boundary was fenced with standard stock fencing to prevent access from adjacent pasture land.

No boundary exists between Boggle Top and Hone Wood, however due to the undisturbed woodland of Hone wood, no new formal access has been created. The new planting will help to buffer Hone Wood, from the effects of farming and could also provide additional broadleaved regeneration into Boggle Top.

The design of the site was created through community consultation at an event arranged by the Woodland Trust, attended by approximately 20 people from Boggle Hole and the surrounding villages. The site name was also suggested by locals to reflect the famous local hamlet/ location of Boggle Hole.

Access to the wood is via a standard field gate, accessed from the public bridleway along the farm track to the north of Springhill Farm (between Springhill and Colcroft Farms and leading to the public road down to Boggle Hole further to the north). There is an circular un-surfaced path, cut twice annually, running from the access gate around the site and past the Millennium feature seat and view point at the highest point of the site which looks North to Robin Hoods Bay.

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING ACCESS:

THE FARM TRACK FROM COLCROFT FARM TO THE NORTH (FROM THE MINOR ROAD LEADING TO BOGGLE HOLE), AND THE FARM TRACK TO SPRINGHILL FARM FROM THE A171 TO THE SOUTH, WHICH BOTH LEAD TO HARRY'S FOLLY, HONE WOOD AND BOGGLE TOP WOOD ARE BOTH PRIVATE ROADS FOR FARM ACCESS ONLY.

THERE ARE NO CAR PARKING FACILITIES ON THIS TRACK AND THERE IS NO RIGHT OF ACCESS BY CAR FOR VISITORS VISITING ANY OF THESE THREE WOODLAND TRUST PROPERTIES.

PLEASE RESPECT THE FACT THAT THESE ARE PRIVATE ROADS AND ACCESS IS REQUIRED ALONG THEM AT ALL TIMES FOR FARM VEHICLES.

Access to the wood is via a standard field gate, accessed from the public bridleway along the farm track to the north of Springhill Farm (between Springhill and Colcroft Farms and leading to the public road down to Boggle Hole further to the north). There is an circular unsurfaced path, cut twice annually, running from the access gate around the site and past the Millennium feature seat and view point at the highest point of the site which looks north to Robin Hoods Bay. Another footpath runs close to the southern boundary of Boggle Top Wood, but not linking to the wood. This route is accessed via Springhill Farm. Directly adjacent are the Woodland Trust woods of Harrys Folly and Hone Wood, Another large Woodland Trust site - Scar and Castlebeck Woods (130acres) which is a Site of Special Scientific Interest, is located approximately 10 minutes drive to the south, close to the village of Harwood Dale (signposted from the A171).

Parking is very limited on the minor road between the A171 and Boggle Hole to the north, and some limited parking is available close to Flask inn to the south on the A171. Both locations for parking require visitors to walk in, approximately 1.5km across fields - unsurfaced paths with step over stiles.

Another large Woodland Trust site - Scar and Castlebeck Woods (130acres) which is a Site of Special Scientific Interest, is located approximately 10 minutes drive to the south, close to the village of Harwood Dale (signposted from the A171).

Bus routes stop at Flask Inn on the A171, 1.5KM to the south of the woodland. Information from the traveline website as of May 2007, Further information about public transport is available from Traveline- www.traveline.org.uk or phone 0870 608 2608

The nearest public available toilets are situated in Whitby, approximately 12km to the north.

3.2 Access / Walks

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

As an Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland of such value, within the North York Moors National Park and in a part of the country with little remaining ancient woodland, the intention is to promote the development of a predominantly native broadleaved woodland.

The areas of Ancient Semi Natural Woodland will be managed through minimum intervention, as senescence and natural regeneration will maintain a strong diverse age structure.

Within the area of new planting from 1998 and 2009 the long term intention will be to create a native, secondary broadleaved woodland, that buffers the ASNW. Silvicultural interventions will be required in these areas of woodland to develop a diverse age class and species mixture. Rides and open space will be managed, to maintain access at the present levels.

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

Access is available in the form of a public footpath that runs north to south through Harry's Folly, a bridleway that runs on the southern edge of Hone Wood and a permissive path that forms a loop around Boggle Top. Local parking is difficult and is limited to the minor road through to Boggle Hole or approximately 1 mile west at Flask Inn on the main A171.

Significance

Although there is limited access the wood provides a valuable resource for the local community, as part of a larger chain of ancient woodland running down to Boggle Hole (National Trust) coastline. It has a very quiet setting and undisturbed feel, also contributing to the wooded landscape on the edge of the North York Moors National Park. The woodland also does have a spectacular show of flowers unusual to this area including wild snowdrops and daffodils, as well as the more usual bluebells and primroses.

Opportunities & Constraints

The undisturbed ancient woodland, rich ground flora and difficult and wet ground conditions preclude the creation of any new permissive routes due to the unacceptable amount of disturbance that would be created, especially in an area where there is already good access to both new woodland planting and ancient woodland via existing permissive, footpath and bridleway routes. Local parking is difficult, limited to the minor road through to Boggle Hole or approximately 1 mile west at Flask on the main A171. Although an area with few residents, this area does have a lot of seasonal visitors but few walk through this area, most following the coastal paths from and to Robin Hoods Bay.

Factors Causing Change

Seasonally wet ground can cause the un-surfaced paths to become heavily poached.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Maintain the existing level of access, allowing informal access throughout the site, whilst maintaining the current position of having no other routes than the public footpath. No future path creation to be undertaken within either the mature woodland or new planting area.

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

Maintain existing network of open rides and footpath through annual mowing to ensure easy and welcoming public access to the site. Entrances and welcome signs to be cleared of encroaching vegetation annually and replaced/repared as necessary. Stock fence to be checked annually and repaired if necessary.

5.2 Ancient Semi Natural Woodland

Description

Broadleaved high forest, predominantly oak and ash with an understory of holly, rowan, birch, thorns and hazel. Areas of very wet ground dominated by alder. Designated as Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland. Large amounts of standing and fallen deadwood - predominantly elm. Much of the compartment has a dense ground flora, with an exceptional range of species (wild snowdrops, daffodils, primroses, bluebells, Dogs mercury and wood anemones), many indicative of undisturbed ancient woodland. Occasional sycamore were present within the canopy, however this is a small component following ring-barking in 2005/6. There are a small number of planted beech and larch in the north western corner of Harrys Folly.

Significance

ASNW within the North York Moors National Park is very limited in area, and the protection of this area is of added importance being part of a much larger chain of generally undisturbed ancient river valley woodland, an increasing area of which is in Woodland Trust ownership, further protected/ buffered by the planting of new native woodland to the edges in place of improved grassland/ pasture.

Opportunities & Constraints

Potential for selective felling of the non-native species - with larch and beech up to no more than 30 years in age, although still very small. Ground conditions within the compartment, difficult access and long extraction routes would limit this work. Disturbance to the rich ground flora and associated ASNW fauna in an area untouched for many years would also be unacceptable. As neither the beech or larch appear to be thriving (form a minor part of the woodland canopy and are not regenerating) then they could be accepted as part of the woodland composition.

Factors Causing Change

Areas of none native planted beech and larch within Harry's Folly. Rhododendron has become established along the central access track on the western side of Hone Wood. Ash forms a significant part of the woodland make up and with ash dieback endemic, it will only be a matter of time before the trees are affected. Deer and rabbits are having a significant affect on the amount of natural regeneration, most of which has been heavily browsed. Squirrel damage is also evident throughout.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Maintain predominantly native broadleaved woodland through minimum intervention on this ASNW site.

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

Controlling deer, rabbits and squirrels has to be an absolute priority as part of the next plan period, as the necessary regeneration that will be required to compensate for the loss of Ash from the species mixture will be incredibly important. Ash trees adjacent to the public rights of way and permissive paths will be inspected as part of the Zone B inspections and any trees that pose a threat will be removed.

5.3 New Native Woodland

Description

New native broadleaved woodland planting. Planted with oak, ash, rowan, field maple, cherry, hawthorn, blackthorn, hazel, holly and Dog rose which were protected with 1.2m tree tubes and 0.7m shrub-guards, but have now removed from trees.

Significance

Within the North York Moors National Park there is a high percentage of woodland cover, however most is commercial conifer plantation. There is very little ancient woodland left, much of it is in these confined and often inaccessible pockets along the streams and gullies.

Opportunities & Constraints

This opportunity to buffer existing ancient woodland and to re-create secondary native broadleaved woodland and to increase the woodland cover within the National Park.

Factors Causing Change

Significant animal damage to the young planting was noted as part of the Woodland Condition Assessment. In particular, squirrel damage is prolific whilst also deer and rabbit damage through out the new planting is evident. Subsequently the establishment of natural regeneration is also being significantly restricted due to heavy browsing through-out the wood.

Ash formed a significant part of the planting mixtures used across the site and with the onset of Ash dieback disease, there is the potential that significant areas might fail and will not be replaced due to heavy browsing pressure.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Creation of diverse native secondary woodland buffering the existing adjacent ASNW.

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

Control of squirrel, deer and rabbit numbers to reduce damage to young woodland prevent excessive browsing to allow natural regeneration to become established. The ride edge species, which have been hit the hardest could be coppiced, once numbers have been reduced.

Intervention may be required due to the onset of Ash dieback disease and subsequently supplementary planting might be required in areas where ash formed a high percentage of the planting mixture.

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	4.78	Mixed native broadleaves	2001	Wood establishment	Mostly wet ground/exposed site, No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Informal Public Access	National Park
<p>Planted in April 2001, using local provenance and species comprising; ash, oak, cherry, field maple, rowan, hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn, holly and Dog rose . The tree spacing's follow rip lines at 2.1m spacing's, but with random spacing's between trees along the rows. The ground flora is predominantly improved grassland on a stony clay soil. The site is on a moderately sloping north east facing slope with two springs. Bounded to the north and west by Hone Wood and Oxbank Wood (privately owned). Bounded to the east and south by semi-improved pasture. A permissive path circles the site with pedestrian and management access from the north west. The permissive path links with the existing public bridleway which follows the farm track to Springhill Farm.</p>							
2a	3.87	Mixed broadleaves	1900	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site, No/poor vehicular access within the site, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Informal Public Access	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, National Park
<p>Broadleaved high forest, predominantly oak and ash with an understory of holly, rowan, birch, thorns and hazel. Areas of very wet ground dominated by alder. Designated as Semi-Natural Ancient Woodland. Large amounts of standing and fallen deadwood, predominantly elm. Public access limited to a permissive path along part of the south western boundary through the adjacent Boggle Top. Bounded to the south and south-west by newly planted (2001) woodland and with Ancient Semi Natural Woodland to all other sides. Much of the compartment has a dense ground flora, with an exceptional range of species, many indicative of undisturbed ancient woodland.</p>							
2b	1.93	Ash	2009	Wood establishment		Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Informal Public Access	National Park

<p>Woodland creation site on improved grassland to the southwest of the existing mature woodland of Hone Wood and to the west of the adjoining Boggle Top Wood. Comprising one single field the compartment is bounded to the west and southwest by hedgerows and by the secondary farm access track to Springhill Farm. Planted in 2009/2010 with a mixture of 40% ash (880), 30% Open ground, 20% sessile oak (440) and 10% woody shrubs - hazel, field maple, hawthorn and willow-220. Planted at 1600 plants per ha giving a total of 2,200 plants.</p>							
2c	1.93	Ash	2009	Wood establishment		Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Informal Public Access	National Park
<p>The compartment was planted in 2009 with 40% ash, 20% sessile oak, 10% woody shrubs and 30% open ground. The planting was undertaken in a random mixture at 1600 plants per hectare. Bounded to the northeast and south east by ancient semi natural woodland of Hone Wood. To the south is the track way. Note - The area is referred to as sub compartment 1b in the forestry grant application for the site, ref no 18028.</p>							
3a	1.50	Hawthorn species	1998	Wood establishment	No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Informal Public Access	National Park
<p>Established woodland creation site planted in 1998 in order to re-establish native woodland on an improved meadow. Composed of oak, ash, cherry, field maple, rowan, holly, hawthorn, beech and whitebeam. Originally planted with 30-45 cm transplants in 1.2m tubes at 3.0m spacing's, with 100 larger 1.5m bare root standards. The site is gently sloping to the north. Bounded on all sides by the ancient semi natural woodland part of Harry's Folly. A public footpath crosses the site from north to south. Management access being available across farmland to the south and east.</p>							
3b	6.00	Mixed broadleaves	1950	High forest	Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/Rocky ground, No/poor vehicular access to the site, No/poor vehicular access within the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Informal Public Access	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, National Park
<p>Broadleaved Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland, predominantly oak and ash with aspen, holly, rowan, birch, thorns and hazel coppice in abundance. There are a small number of planted beech and larch in the north western corner of the woodland. Public access limited to a single public footpath which runs north to south through the site. Much of the compartment has a dense ground flora, with an exceptional range of species, many indicative of ancient woodland. Especially of note are the primroses, wild daffodils and wild snowdrops.</p>							

3c	4.80	Ash	2009	Wood establishment	No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Informal Public Access	National Park
<p>The compartment was planted in 2009 with 40% ash, 20% sessile oak, 10% woody shrubs and 30% open ground. The planting was undertaken in a random mixture at 1600 plants per hectare. Comprising three fields the compartment has a number of mature trees and some hawthorn/blackthorn following the lines of old hedgerows, with patches of hawthorn/ blackthorn scrub to the west and south. Some seasonally wetter areas to the south of the compartment. Bounded to the northwest and west by Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, and to the south and east by improved pasture grassland. A public footpath crosses the site from north-west to south. Note - The area is referred to as sub compartment 1a in the forestry grant application for the site.</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.