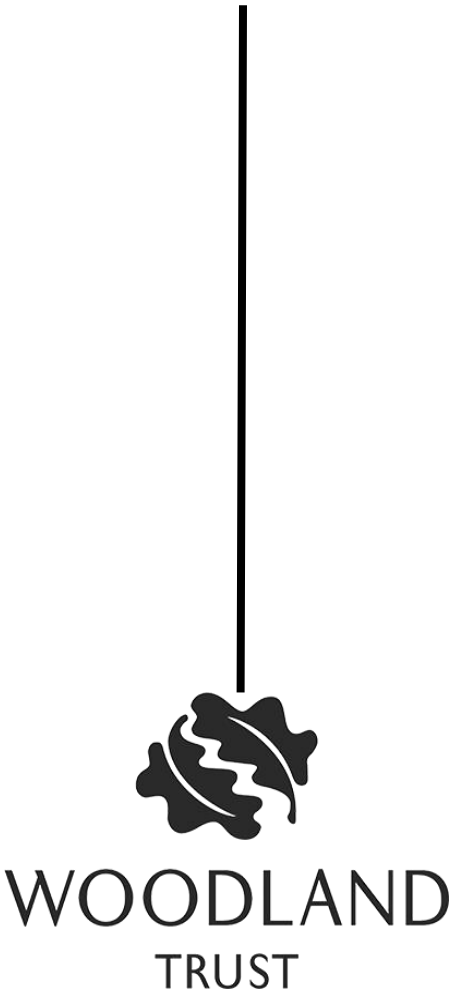
Old Lodge Warren Wood

(Plan period – 2025 to 2030)



Management Plan Content Page

Introduction to the Woodland Trust Estate

The Woodland Trust owns and cares for well over 1,250 sites covering almost 30,000 hectares (ha) across the UK. This includes more than 4,000ha of ancient semi-natural woodland and almost 4,000ha of non-native plantations on ancient woodland sites and we have created over 5,000ha of new native woodland. We also manage other valuable habitats such as flower-rich grasslands, heaths, ponds/lakes and moorland.

Our Vision is:

"A UK rich in native woods and trees for people and wildlife."

To realise all the environmental, social and economic benefits woods and trees bring to society, we:

- **Create Woodland** – championing the need to hugely increase the UK's native woodland and trees.
- **Protect Woodland** – fighting to defend native woodland, especially irreplaceable ancient woodland and veteran trees; there should be no loss of ancient woodland
- **Restore Woodland** – ensuring the sensitive restoration of all damaged ancient woodland and the re-creation of native wooded landscapes.

Management of the Woodland Trust Estate

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.

The following principles provide an overarching framework to guide the management of all our sites but we recognise that all woods are different and that their management also needs to reflect their local landscape, history and where appropriate support local projects and initiatives.

1. Our woods are managed to maintain their intrinsic key features of value and to reflect those of the surrounding landscape. We intervene in our woods when there is evidence that it is necessary to maintain or improve biodiversity, safety and to further the development of more resilient woods and landscapes.

2. We establish new native woodland for all the positive reasons set out in our Conservation Principles, preferably using natural regeneration but often by planting trees, 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. Where possible, we pro-actively engage with people to help them appreciate the value of woods and trees.

4. The long term vision for all our 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 natural and cultural heritage value of sites is taken into account in our management and in particular, our ancient trees are retained for as long as possible.

7. Land and woods can generate income both from the sustainable harvesting of wood products and the delivery of other services. We therefore consider the appropriateness of opportunities 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 encourage our woods to be used for 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. We maintain a network of sites for long-term monitoring and trials leading to reductions in plastics and pesticides.

10. Any activities we undertake are in line with our wider Conservation Principles, conform to sustainable forest management practices, are appropriate for the site and balanced with our primary objectives of enhancing the biodiversity and recreational value of our woods and the wider landscapes.

The Public Management Plan

This public management plan describes the site and sets out the long term aims for our management and lists the Key Features which drive our management actions. The Key Features are specific to this site – their significance is outlined together with our long, 50 years and beyond, and our short, the next 5 years, term objectives for the management and enhancement of these features. The short term objectives are complemented by an outline Work Programme for the period of this management plan aimed at delivering our management aims.

Detailed compartment descriptions are listed in the appendices which include any major management constraints and designations. Any legally confidential or sensitive species information about this site is not included in this version of the plan.

There is a formal review of this plan every 5 years and we continually monitor our sites to assess the success of our management, therefore this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme.

Please either consult The Woodland Trust website

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk

or contact the Woodland Trust

operations@woodlandtrust.org.uk

to confirm details of the current management programme.

A short glossary of technical terms can be found at the end of the plan.

Location and Access

Location maps and directions for how to find and access our woods, including this site, can be found by using the following link to the Woodland Trust web-site which contains information on accessible woodlands across the UK

https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/find-woods/

In Scotland access to our sites is in accordance with the Land Reform Act (of Scotland) 2003 and the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

In England, Wales and NI, with the exception of designated Public Rights of Ways, all routes across our sites are permissive in nature and where we have specific access provision for horse riders and/or cyclists this will be noted in the management plan.

The Management Plan

1. SITE DETAILS

Old Lodge Warren Wood

Location:	Rotherfield Grid reference: TQ546310 OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 188
Area:	15.27 hectares (37.73 acres)
External Designations:	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Internal Designations:	N/A

2. SITE DESCRIPTION

Old Lodge Warren is a long, narrow, woodland extending 2km in length, north to south, and between 15m and 200m in width. It was acquired by the Woodland Trust in 3 stages with the main part of the site being purchased in 1989 and subsequent extensions to the north and south being added in 1993 and 2002 respectively. The total area is now 15.25ha (36.6acres). The initial purchase was partly funded with a donation from Amnesty International. The site is sandwiched between a tributary to the River Medway (known as Crowborough Ghyll) to the east and a main railway line to the west. It is situated approximately 2 miles north-west of Rotherfield, East Sussex, within the High Weald National Landscape and National Character Area (NCA). The surrounding landscape is characterised by extensive, often large woodlands and pastoral agriculture. Woodland accounts for approximately 28% of the National Landscape, of which 75% is classed as ancient (existing in 1600AD).

This site holds a diverse range of habitats including ancient and secondary semi-natural woodland, unimproved damp neutral grassland and other open habitats. The long river frontage provides a high level of ecological interest with a good lower plant flora characteristic of gill woodlands in the High Weald.

The site has a high concentration of 10 World War Two pill-boxes and an anti-tank ditch in Subcpt 1b. These features were part of the GHQ Stop Line constructed in 1940. The line ran from Newhaven to the River Medway and was designed to block access to London and the rest of the country from the south-east coast. There are also the remains of a water pumping station in the centre of the site with 2 deep tanks still present. Other archaeological features include woodbanks and old sunken trackways.

The central part of the site (southern section of Subcpt 1c) is designated ancient semi-natural woodland with oak as the dominant canopy tree. It has a highly natural structure with large old trees, fallen and standing deadwood and some areas of open-canopied woodland. Along the river alder dominates the canopy. This is due to the lack of management access since the construction of the railway approximately 150 years ago. Although this area is the most diverse in terms of tree and ground flora species and structure, the ground flora across the whole site is dominated by woodland specialist plants such as bluebell and wood anemone.

The river, known as Jarvis Brook or Crowborough Ghyll, is 3-5m wide with a stony bed which has produced a good pool and riffle sequence. The northern part of the river is much stained by iron. Himalayan balsam can be found growing densely along the riverbanks. This plant is highly invasive and can cause problems by shading out native vegetation. The river floods regularly causing much erosion of the banks. In places bank-side alder coppice stools have collapsed into the river and have altered its course.

Public access to the site from the north is along a public footpath from Hornshurst Wood to Sandhill Lane. From the south a licensed footpath allows access from Palesgate Lane, Jarvis Brook.

3. LONG TERM POLICY

The current variety of structure and vegetation within the wooded areas of the site is best maintained by a policy of minimum intervention i.e. no silvicultural operations such as coppicing or thinning. This will enable the processes of natural succession to continue as they appear to have done for most of the last 150 years in some places. Other areas dominated by birch appear to have been cleared during World War Two but not been managed since. The resulting habitats support a large number of species of flora and fauna, some of which are of local and national importance. In particular mosses, liverworts and lichens are abundant due to the warm, moist microclimate of the wooded river valley and are best favoured by minimum intervention which will maintain a predominantly closed canopy. Occasional natural disturbances such as windblow and collapse of old trees will create gaps that will add to the structural diversity of the woodland. Dead or dying trees will be retained to provide important deadwood habitat unless they pose a safety risk.

The biodiversity of the site is potentially threatened by the invasive non-native Himalayan balsam (Impatiens gladulifera), particularly along the river bank. Where practical this will be controlled annually. Eradication of this species is not possible due to lack of control by neighbouring landowners, however annual cutting helps reduce its spread and prevents native ground flora from being shaded out during the summer.

There will be some open grassland and other habitats present, maintained as necessary to prevent them being encroached on by scrub or dominated by species such as bracken. This will be by mechanical means due to the difficulties previously encountered when trying to graze part of the site (Subcpt 1b).

The site will be maintained to provide low key public access (Woodland Trust access category B). Entrances, steps, footbridges, fences and benches will be inspected regularly and maintained as necessary.

4. KEY FEATURES

4.1 f1 Ancient Semi Natural Woodland

Description

This key feature covers the whole site, both ancient and long-established secondary woodland and open habitats. Only the southern part of Subcpt 1c is classified as ancient semi-natural woodland (ASNW), with the northern part of the subcpt known as Roughetts. Most of the woodland on this site has received very little management, probably since the construction of the railway in 1868. This has led to a very natural structure within the woodland with many large old trees, predominantly pedunculate oak, occasional beech and one yew with a girth of 4.5m. There is a very mixed understorey including alder, hazel, birch, hawthorn, holly and crab apple. Alder dominates along the river. The woodland equates to National Vegetation Classification (NVC) W10a - oak/bracken/bramble woodland (typical subcommunity). There are many fallen and standing dead trees and small patches of open ground, dominated by bracken. There are also areas where younger birch dominates, probably as a result of wartime felling and the construction of the pillboxes and other defence structures.

The underlying geology is Cretaceous Ashdown Beds which give rise to stagnogleyic argillic brown earth soils which are slowly permeable and subject to seasonal waterlogging.

The dominating feature of the site is its long river frontage, occasionally deeply incised, which gives rise to a warm, humid Atlantic-type microclimate allowing a rich lower plant flora to develop. These gills are characteristic of the High Weald. There are 60 mosses and 21 liverworts recorded on the site including some nationally and locally rare species. (see Stern, 1990). Old oaks are host to a lichen flora specific to old trees. In addition there are abundant bluebells and wood anemones throughout the site and occasional wild daffodils along the river bank. Other key ground flora species include wood sorrel, wood spurge, wild garlic, yellow archangel, violet spp., dogs mercury and Ribes spp.

The site also contains some areas of open habitat including the relics of former pasture (Subcpt 1b) and damp heath (Subcpt 1d). They form an important element of the habitat diversity of the site. Subcpt 1b is damp neutral grassland and rush pasture with a variety of grasses, rushes, sedges, bracken and flowing plants. Subcpt 1d contains small areas of open ground now dominated by bracken. This part of the site was part of a much larger area extending to the east and west which was designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) in 1966 for its damp heath habitat. However due to agricultural improvements to the west of the site destroying much of the habitat, the SSSI was denotified in 1986.

The 10 WW2 pillboxes and associated anti-tank ditch are important archaeological features. Other much older features include woodbanks and ditches and sunken trackways (holloways), some of which are truncated by the railway line.

Significance

ASNW is very important due to the continuity of woodland cover over hundreds of years which allows for a diverse range of wildlife and vegetation to develop over time on undisturbed soils. The amount of ASNW left in Britain has been drastically reduced over the last century to around 2% of land-use. Approximately 40% of England's ASNW is found in the south-east of England. Old Lodge Warren is situated within the High Weald National Landscape which has 28% woodland cover with 3/4 being ancient - the highest coverage of any protected landscape in the UK.

The site is important locally as it contains woodland that has not been actively managed for a long time and that is developing very natural characteristics. The open habitats provide a contrast to the wooded areas and are the remains of what was once a widespread habitat of unimproved grassland which has now largely disappeared from the landscape.

The site also preserves important WW2 and older archaeological features that are accessible and visible to visitors.

Opportunities & Constraints

Constraints:-
Lack of vehicular access to much of the site limits management options.
Long boundaries with the railway and neighbouring woodland hamper the control of invasive species.

Opportunities:-
There is the potential to investigate some of the site's older archaeological features in relation to the wider landscape.

Factors Causing Change

Natural succession including gap formation due to veteran tree canopy collapse and windblow.
Increase in deer population affecting natural regeneration.
Invasive Himalayan balsam.
Invasive Japanese knotweed (Subcpt 1b and river bank).
Invasive skunk cabbage (Subcpt 1c)

Long term Objective (50 years+)

The woodland will be structurally and species diverse, containing trees with veteran characteristics, standing and fallen deadwood, regenerating canopy gaps and woodland-specialist ground flora. The dominant veteran tree species is likely to be oak with occasional beech, yew and sweet chestnut. Regenerating species are likely to be birch, alder and willow initially along with oak and beech. The site will not be under threat from invasive non-native species such as Himalayan balsam.

Habitat diversity will be present in the form of managed open ground, particularly unimproved grassland in Subcpt 1b, and bracken-dominated glades in Sucpt 1d. Open habitats should form 10-20% of the site.

The archaeological features should be in good condition with the pillboxes mostly visible to visitors and not threatened by tree encroachment or undercutting by the river.

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

To maintain the current structure of the woodland including areas of open habitat and to reduce threats to floral biodiversity from invasive non-native species. This will be achieved by:-

- Control Himalayan balsam (<1ha) by annual strimming where accessible, before seeding (mid July). Inform control by monitoring spring ground flora in areas impacted.
- Ensure control of Japanese knotweed Subcpt 1b and river bank: annual monitoring followed by stem injection with Glyphosate as necessary.
- Monitor area of skunk cabbage annually (Subcpt 1c) for return and remove any new plants.
- Monitor impacts of deer using herbivore impact assessment (HIA) 5 yearly (2028)
- Maintain approx 2ha of open habitat by annual bracken and scrub control.

4.2 f2 Connecting People with woods & trees

Description

The site can be accessed via a public footpath to the north which runs from Sandhill Lane and a licensed footpath to the south from Palesgate Lane. A single route allows access throughout the length of the site with short alternative routes through Subcpts 1b and 1c. The path through the central part of the wood is frequently narrow and occasionally steep. There are footbridges across tributary streams and wet areas and steps on steep sections. The route allows visitors to see most of the 10 pillboxes as well as the more subtle archaeological features such as woodbanks and holloways.

Although relatively inaccessible and remote, the site receives regular daily visitors - Woodland Trust access category C: 5-15 people a day. Visitors come from neighbouring towns and villages such as Crowborough (population: 21,688) and Rotherfield (population: 3,208). It is promoted as part of East Sussex County Council's Paths to Prosperity: Route 28 Rotherfield Walk. ESCC Rights of Way Department maintains some of the infrastructure such as footbridges and steps.

Hornshurst Wood to the east of the site is also open to the public and has a small car park off Eridge Lane, near Rotherfield. It is linked to Old Lodge Warren by the public footpath. There are other Woodland Trust sites nearby in Tunbridge Wells including Hargate Forest (4.5 miles) as well as RSPB Broadwater Warren (5 miles) and Sussex Wildlife Trust's Eridge Rocks (3 miles).

Significance

Access to this site provides an opportunity to experience a variety of habitats, both wooded and open, in a quiet location yet close to the town of Crowborough and the village of Rotherfield. It is part of a complex of woodlands with public access including Hornshurst Wood to the east.

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities:-
To continue to provide low-key access to a diverse, semi-natural woodland.

Constraints:-
Illegal use of the site by off-road motorcyclists, mountain bikers and horse riders requires barriers to be installed at key points.
Distance from public roads and lack of parking will always limit visitor numbers.

Factors Causing Change
Erosion of river bank diverting path.
Long term Objective (50 years+)
The site will continue to provide a low key but high quality visitor experience for able-bodied walkers. There will be maintained paths with infrastructure such as footbridges where necessary. The site will have low-key signage denoting WT ownership. Features such as the WW2 pillboxes will be visible to visitors and should not present a safety hazard. Other site hazards such as the redundant water treatment works will be maintained in a safe condition by the provision of suitable fencing. The route of the path through the site may be diverted due to river bank erosion.
Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)
Maintain low-key public access appropriate to the site and numbers of visitors. This will be achieved by the following:- - Annual maintenance of approx 2.3km of paths throughout the site. - Annual inspection of 2 entrances and infrastructure (footbridges/culverts/steps/fencing) and follow-up maintenance as appropriate. - Undertake annual Zone A tree safety survey along boundary with railway line, alternating summer crown condition and autumn fungal surveys - Undertake Zone B summer tree safety survey every 3 years. 2026/2029/2032.

5. WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
2025	NWH - Maintenance Work	Works associated with the maintenance of non-woodland habitats – mechanical management, hay cutting, fence and wall maintenance etc	June
2025	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	July
2025	WMM - Invasive Plant Control	Works associated with the on-going management of invasive plants– such a repeat cutting and control treatments	August
2026	NWH - Maintenance Work	Works associated with the maintenance of non-woodland habitats – mechanical management, hay cutting, fence and wall maintenance etc	June
2026	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	July
2026	WMM - Invasive Plant Control	Works associated with the on-going management of invasive plants– such a repeat cutting and control treatments	August
2027	NWH - Maintenance Work	Works associated with the maintenance of non-woodland habitats – mechanical management, hay cutting, fence and wall maintenance etc	June
2027	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	July
2027	WMM - Invasive Plant Control	Works associated with the on-going management of invasive plants– such a repeat cutting and control treatments	August
2027	NWH - Maintenance Work	Works associated with the maintenance of non-woodland habitats – mechanical management, hay cutting, fence and wall maintenance etc	September
2028	NWH - Maintenance Work	Works associated with the maintenance of non-woodland habitats – mechanical management, hay cutting, fence and wall maintenance etc	June

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
2028	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	July
2029	NWH - Maintenance Work	Works associated with the maintenance of non-woodland habitats – mechanical management, hay cutting, fence and wall maintenance etc	June
2029	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	July

APPENDIX 1 : COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
1a	0.64	Common alder	1940	Min-intervention	Archaeological features, No/poor vehicular access to the site, No/poor vehicular access within the site	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
This sub-compartment comprises the northernmost section of the site with the main public and management access via the public footpath from Sandhill Lane. The footpath crosses the river via a footbridge. Tree species are predominantly alder and birch with some oak, goat willow, hazel and hawthorn. Although not listed as ancient woodland, ground flora is dominated by bluebell with occasional wood anemone, wood sorrel and wild garlic.						
1b	1.66	Open ground		Non-wood habitat	Archaeological features, No/poor vehicular access to the site, No/poor vehicular access within the site	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Unimproved grassland with frequent bracken. Bluebells spreading from surrounding woodland. Crossed by WW2 anti-tank ditch lined with alder, birch, oak and yew. River bank dominated by alders. Controlled patch of Japanese Knotweed by the river bank (since 2018)						
1c	6.47	Oak (pedunculate)	1850	Min-intervention	Archaeological features, Housing/infrastructure, structures & water features on or adjacent to site, No/poor vehicular access within the site, Very steep slope/cliff/quarry/mine shafts/sink holes etc	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Linear woodland (NVC W10) bounded by railway to the west and river to the east. Southern section is designated ASNW. Northern section is very long established secondary woodland. Mature oak and occasional beech over hazel, birch, hawthorn, holly, rowan, goat willow and crab apple. Alder dominates along the river. Occasional large yew. Structurally diverse. Species-rich ground flora includes bluebell, wood anemone, dogs mercury, wild garlic, wild daffodil, wood sorrel, tutsan and wood spurge. The site of North Springs Pumping Station is located in the centre of this subcpt. Fenced-off settling tanks still remain. Site very narrow in places with very steep slopes and river incised. Contains 4 WW2 pillboxes. Woodbanks to N and S and other earthworks.						

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
1d	4.95	Birch (downy/silver)	1970	Min-intervention	Archaeological features, Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/Rocky ground, Services & wayleaves	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Secondary birch-dominated woodland with significant open areas dominated by bracken. Ancient gill woodland along river. Other tree species includes oak, aspen, alder, hawthorn, hazel and goat willow. Woodland ground flora is present across the area and is species-rich close to the river including bluebell, wood anemone, violet spp, golden saxifrage, wild daffodil, wild garlic and Ribes spp. This area was part of a much larger area of damp heathland which was formerly designated a SSSI. It was denotified in 1986. 3 WW2 pillboxes and earthworks.						
1e	1.53	Mixed native broadleaves	1900	Min-intervention	Archaeological features, Housing/infrastructure, structures & water features on or adjacent to site, No/poor vehicular access to the site	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Long established secondary semi-natural woodland bounded by the railway to the west and the river to the east. Acquired by WT in 2002. Main tree species include alder, oak, birch, yew, hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn and holly. Ground flora is predominantly woodland specialist plants such as bluebell, wood anemone, wood sorrel, wild garlic, golden saxifrage, violet spp, red campion and wild strawberry. There is 1 WW2 pillbox.						

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.

Windblow/Windthrow
Trees or groups of trees blown over (usually uprooted) by strong winds and gales.

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