Glover's Wood

Management Plan 2020-2025

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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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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:	Glover's Wood
Location:	Charlwood
Grid reference:	TQ227406, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 187
Area:	25.57 hectares (63.18 acres)
Designations:	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Green Belt, Planning article, Site of Special Scientific Interest, Tree Preservation Order

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Summary Description

Glover's Wood is unusual in being one of the largest areas of woodland in the Surrey Weald situated on Paludina limestone overlying Weald Clay. The wood extends to 96 hectares, of which 27.95 hectares was acquired by the Woodland Trust in 1983. At the beginning of the 20th Century much of Glover's was sold as plot lands for development, but due to access, planning and other restrictions many of these plots remained undeveloped. Opportunities have arisen in the past and may arise in future for the Trust to purchase interconnecting plots - hence the complex outline of the Trust's land.

Situated in the Low Weald National Character Area (NCA) the surroundings are predominantly agricultural, supporting mainly pastoral farming owing to heavy clay soils, with many densely wooded areas and a high proportion of ancient woodland, the site has good connections to other woodland and semi-natural habitats in the area, by hedgerows, shaws (narrow, linear woodlands) and watercourses. The Trust owns three other local woodlands all within two miles - Edolph's Copse, Ricketts Wood and Hammond’s Copse.

Glover's Wood is an intimate mixture of secondary woodland and ancient semi-natural woodland. All of the Woodland Trust’s ownership falls within the 73.6ha Glover’s Wood Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), notified for being a substantial area of woodland on clay across the incised valley of the Welland Gill. The ancient woodland areas support a very rich ground flora, as well as small

quantities of small-leaved lime and wych elm which are rare in the Low Weald. The secondary woodland has become established over neglected former farmland on the clay plateau. Although such woodland forms the main component, in many places the boundaries between old ancient semi-natural woodland, shaws and the "tumbled down" fields are virtually indistinguishable - unless one refers to old maps and references such as those in the Archaeological Assessment of July 2004 (see below). There are two ponds within the Trust's ownership of which the central, Sphagnum Pond, is one of only two known sites in Surrey which provides a habitat for the rare elongated sedge (Carex elongata). A system of rides exists within the wood that provide good habitat for a variety of woodland and open space species.

Glover's Wood is the only large area of limestone shell bed in the northern Weald where there is a considerable acreage of woodland as well as the only area where limestone beds are of sufficient thickness for the streams to have cut steep-sided valleys. The calcareous nature of the valley sides has undoubtedly influenced the development of the ground flora in the Welland Gill. The deeply incised gill is home to a number of rare craneflies and historical wildlife records indicate unusual ferns, eight species of orchid and 29 butterfly species.

An Archaeological Assessment carried out in July 2004, found 29 archaeological features which have been identified and mapped. These include medieval bank and ditch systems, hollow ways and ridge and furrow/grip drainage systems.

The vegetation here is typically oak with hazel, oak with ash, hazel and birch, pure hornbeam and isolated scatterings of wild service, field maple and wild cherry. In the eastern parts of the wood in particular ash makes up a significant element of the canopy and is showing mid to advanced dieback symptoms.

Large areas of the wood have had a history of hazel coppice working up to the 1940s, which has since been largely abandoned. A limited program of hazel coppicing has been carried out in the past but coppicing is now largely confined to ride-side operations.

The network of paths and wide rides provide access to all areas of the wood. Glover's wood is on the outskirts of the village of Charlwood and is 2km to the town of Crawley which has a population of over 100,000 people. The vast majority of visitors to the wood are local and the wood has moderate usage on a daily basis. A private management access route exists in the northeast of the site.

2.2 Extended Description

Glover's Wood is unusual in being one of the largest areas of woodland in the Surrey Weald situated on Paludina limestone overlying Weald Clay. The wood extends to 96 hectares, of which 27.95 hectares was acquired by the Woodland Trust in 1983. At the beginning of the 20th Century much of Glover's was sold as plot lands for development, but due to access, planning and other restrictions many of these plots remained undeveloped. Opportunities have arisen in the past and may arise in future for the Trust to purchase interconnecting plots - hence the complex outline of the Trust's land.

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The network of paths and wide rides provide access to all areas of the wood. Glover's wood is on the outskirts of the village of Charlwood and is 2km to the town of Crawley which has a population of over 100,000 people. The vast majority of visitors to the wood are local and the wood has moderate usage on a daily basis. A private management access route exists in the northeast of the site.

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

Glovers Wood is situated a few kilometres west of Charlwood in Surrey, close to Crawley and Gatwick airport. The best place to access the wood from Charlwood is from Glovers Road, off Russ Hill, to the east of the wood. Follow this road to the end and continue along the public footpath across the field to the edge of the wood and enter through the kissing gate. There are many other access points: Off Russ Hill next to the management entrance, 2 public footpaths link to the west of the wood and another public footpath entrance off Russ Hill (close to the management entrance) which goes across farmland and then into the wood. All these other entrances are through squeeze gaps. There is a good network of paths throughout the wood, all of which are unsurfaced. Please be aware that the Trust only own part of Glovers Wood, the rest being private, there are Woodland Trust signs to help you stay within our property. There is a waymarked trail starting at the public footpath entrance at the end of Glover's Road. Two information boards provide information and two benches along the trail overlooking the ponds provide resting places.
The best place to park is on the roadside at Glovers Road, but please be aware that space is limited.
The nearest bus-stop is Ifield Road in Charlwood, aprox 1 mile from the wood. From here head go towards the village centre 'The Street' and turn left onto it. Take the first left onto Rectory Lane and then first right onto Glovers Road. Follow this road to the end and onto the public footpath leading to the wood. Please note that some of the roads lack pavements.
There are no public toilets close by, the nearest places to find these are over 5 miles away in Crawley or Dorking.
For further information about public transport please contact Traveline - www.traveline.org.uk Tel: 0870 6082608

3.2 Access / Walks

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

Glover's Wood is a mix of ancient semi natural woodland and long established secondary woodland, comprising of hornbeam, oak, ash and hazel, which is rich in woodland biodiversity and archaeology. Areas of ancient and secondary woodland within Glover's Wood will mostly be left to develop under the influences of natural processes, except where intervention is required to address issues caused by pests and diseases and to control invasive non-native species. The over-mature coppice which has not been worked for over 60 years has largely become integrated into the high forest canopy and will not be actively coppiced in a rotational coppice regime but left to mature and collapse allowing natural regeneration and the high forest life cycle to take over. The loss of ash from the canopy – caused by ash dieback – will temporarily increase deadwood across the site and open up gaps in an otherwise closed canopy. Species such as hornbeam, oak, and birch are likely to fill these gaps

To add to the structural diversity and improve public access a programme of ride management will be undertaken. Dead and decaying wood, standing and fallen, will be retained for its biodiversity value wherever it is safe to do so. Regular tree safety inspections will inform decisions about ride management, including path closures /diversions, where making diseased ash trees safe would be to the detriment of biodiversity or woodland structure. Whilst trees showing tolerance to ash dieback will be retained as a seed source to create future resistant generations of ash, ride-side management will remove dangerous ash trees. Some thinning of collapsing, over-mature coppice adjacent to paths may also be required.

Coppicing of the remaining woodland ride edges will provide structurally diverse wide rides with scallops and pinch points, cut on rotation to create herb, scrub and coppice edge habitats. This will benefit public access by allowing the tracks to dry easier as well as creating a diverse mosaic of habitats for a range of wildlife. Public access will continue to be provided into the future at this wood, and management will seek to keep the wood open, welcome and safe for visitors along the main path network.

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 Ancient Semi Natural Woodland

Description

This key feature covers the whole woodland including areas of long established secondary natural woodland. The site is part of a larger SSSI and holds several important features including evidence of many old woodbanks and other woodland archaeological remnants - see Archaeological Assessment, July 2004.

The main stream running through Glover's Wood has cut down through the Weald Clay and into a seam of underlying limestone, producing a steep sided valley - the Welland Gill. This area of Paludina limestone is unique in the northern Weald. The calcareous nature of the valley sides has influenced the development of the ground flora in the Gill. This is the only large area of limestone shell bed in the northern Weald where there is considerable acreage of woodland. The woodland in this gill is considered primary ie a site that have always been woodland, back to the pre-Neolithic wildwood.

Glover's has evolved over hundreds of years to its present form from a series of blocks of interconnected woodland often surrounding small fields and areas of "rough" land, some with changing boundaries. Glover's is further linked to woods outside its irregular boundaries by existing mature hedgerows and shaws. The main tree species are hornbeam, oak, ash, field maple with less common species such as wild service tree, small leaved lime and midland hawthorn. Ground flora includes woodland specialist plants such as dog's mercury, yellow archangel, ramsons, bluebells and wild daffodil.
Most of the secondary woodland in Glover's has grown slowly outwards from ancient woodland, wood edges and boundary hedgerows.

Most of the wood shows a historic coppice structure, however after decades of little or no management this structure is becoming a two-storied high forest with ash, hornbeam and oak coppice now forming the canopy. There are a number of overstood coppice ash stools in the east of the wood, these stools are showing mid to advanced ash dieback (caused by the fungus Hymenoscyphus fraxineus), with branch drop and extensive crown die back. The level and rate of tree mortality from the disease varies from site-to-site but current research suggests up to 85% mortality, which seems likely to be the case at Glover’s.

Some areas have been opened into with wide rides which are now showing signs of hornbeam regeneration with a heavy bramble layer. Hornbeam across the woodland suffers with heavy squirrel damage and deer are also present with some evidence of browsing.

Significance

The amount of ASNW left in Britain has been drastically reduced over the last century. Approximately 40% of England's ASNW is found in the South East. 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 that cannot be found in new woodland creation sites. In a heavily wooded area such as the Surrey Low Weald woodland has become fragmented larger areas of woodland are able to withstand external pressures such as climate change much better. Ancient woodland is irreplaceable and the prevention of its loss is one of the main aims of the Trust.

Opportunities & Constraints

Constraints

• In places the difficult terrain limits active management.
• The large number of private owners adjacent to WT property increases the risk of harmful management affecting Glover's Wood.
• Vehicle access is limited across a private field and the lack of a suitable stacking/turn round bay could impact management
•SSSI & TPO consent required for certain operations

Opportunities

•An opportunity lies in acquiring more adjacent plots and securing their future, as they become available.
•Potential for disease resistant ash to emerge if left un-felled

Factors Causing Change

- Collapse of over stood coppice
- Squirrel damage and deer browsing.
- Spread of coarse species (bramble) outcompeting woodland specialist species.
- Pest & diseases resulting in loss or damage to trees. Ash dieback (Hymenoscyphus fraxineus) is likely to have a significant impact on the population of ash trees within compartment 1a over the next decade and the wood is also at risk from chronic & acute oak decline and spread of oak processionary moth (OPM).

Long term Objective (50 years+)

The favourable condition (at last condition assessment - 2009) of SSSI and Welland Gill area will be protected (wild flowers and tree species) to form an undisturbed buffer zone to the stream and retain species rich flora and ancient hornbeam coppice, managing the trees as long term retentions. The ancient semi-natural and secondary woodland will largely be left to senesce and naturally regenerate to form semi-natural habitat by natural processes. The impacts of mammalian browsing will be monitored and action taken where required. Further intervention will be required in parts of the wood to address tree safety issues caused by diseases such as ash dieback or over-mature coppice collapse adjacent to paths. The long-term objective will be to support structurally diverse robust ancient woodland, comprising native broadleaf species such as oak, birch, hazel and hornbeam. Ancient woodland components will continue to be evident and lower storeys secured by natural regeneration. The understorey will comprise of native shrubs, such as hazel, with a ground layer of specialist woodland plants and ancient woodland indicator species including bluebell, yellow archangel, ramsons and wild daffodil. The ash trees and collapsing coppice stems that are lost from the upper canopy will help encourage this diversification of the lower storeys. Good deadwood habitat will be present through standing and fallen dead trees and ancient living trees. Archaeological features such as earth banks will be preserved and protected as part of the general woodland monitoring programme.

The wide ride habitat will be maintained under a 2&3-zone cutting regime for the benefit of calcareous grassland flora, invertebrates and ground nesting birds, with some further thinning/singling of coppice either side of the rides to create stable and balanced crowns.

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

In the next 5 years' the main objective for the ancient woodland areas is to retain the varied composition and structural diversity of the ancient woodland areas whilst keeping the site safe for visitors. In the body of the wood this can mostly be achieved through a programme of minimal intervention, but the following management activities will be required in targeted areas:

•The diseased ash predominately within subcpt 1a, will be addressed as part of an biennial selective felling of trees showing significant dieback within 30m of either side of the path network (Zone B). The total length of path to be worked is ~ 3.0km and the estimated volume to be felled is expected to decrease annually as the density of ash trees are thinned out.
•Monitor the effects of ash dieback through annual observations. Where felling unsafe ash would be to severe detriment of woodland structure and biodiversity path closures may be more appropriate. Ash in these areas will be allowed naturally senesce and collapse, increasing valuable deadwood habitat, whilst being monitored for any signs of disease tolerance and regeneration of appropriate replacement tree species.
•Ride side coppicing of ~150m sections of east/west rides over the duration of the plan period: 2 areas of coppicing in cpt. 1a in the eastern part and 1 area cpt. 3a along eastern edge. To address ash dieback and create wide 2/3 zone rides which will be managed on a 5-8 year rotation to provide a varied structure of herb, shrub and coppice layers & control coarse vegetation.
•Maintain the open glade areas(~0.5ha) through a combination of mechanical & subsequent volunteer scything in early spring and late summer respectively.
•The impacts of deer, rabbits, squirrels and tree diseases will be monitored through annual observations and controlled if necessary and appropriate.
•Woodland condition assessment process due spring 2024 to inform the next plan period.

5.2 Connecting People with woods & trees

Description

Glover’s is classified as an access category B meaning that it has a moderate usage on a daily basis. Glover’s wood is on the outskirts of the village of Charlwood and is 2km to the town of Crawley which has a population of over 100,000 people. The vast majority of visitors to the wood are local.

There is a good but complex network of paths throughout Glover’s Wood, as well as a number of desire lines totalling almost 5km of trail. Most paths are grass or clay earth surface often wet and muddy, particularly in winter. They are mowed and cut back once each summer with scalloped edges cut into the coarse vegetation for biodiversity benefit. The paths take the public past many historic wooded banks and other features, including two ponds and the steep Welland Gill which has spectacular flora in spring.

In 2018, the dilapidated way-marked trail and mapping signage at the entrances were removed from site. The orientation panels which provide information on the wood have been reinstalled but there is no longer a waymarked trail in this wood. There are two main access points from Russ Hill at the southern end of the Trust's land and at the end of Glover's Lane in the east. Two public footpaths cross the site and link with the local rights of way network and the Sussex Border Path nearby.

The Trust owns three other local woodlands all within two miles - Edolph's Copse, Ricketts Wood which are approximately a 2km walk from Glover’s Wood and Hammond’s Copse near Newdigate.

Glover’s Wood has been well supported by local volunteers. The Gatwick Greenspace Partnership (GGP) hosts two to three volunteer days on site per year, tackling various tasks to either improve visitor access or enhance biodiversity on site (infrastructure repairs/replacements, coppicing, scything, ride widening, and scything).

Significance

Around two thirds of Glover's Wood is in private ownership with no public access, therefore public access to this area of woodland is a real asset allowing visitors to enjoy spectacular displays of spring flowers.

The land has been threatened in the past with development - which would destroy the woodland and seriously affect public access and enjoyment.

Opportunities & Constraints

Constraints

•Various plot owners surrounding WT property makes access to all areas of the site difficult and creates problems with way marking routes
•The noise from Gatwick airport can detract from the wood's tranquillity
•No formal car parking, which can cause problems with neighbours and visitors parking on the local roads
•Lack of ability to control where activities, such as horse-riding, take place due to access from neighbouring plots.
•Ash dieback may mean some paths require closure/diversion either temporarily or permanently.
•Paths can be very wet during the winter and early spring

Opportunities

•Potential acquisition of more plots in the future
•Scope to improve way marking on site

Factors Causing Change

Damage to signs, posts, benches and other site infrastructure and paths becoming overgrown.
Ash die back has the potential to require some paths to be closed or diverted.
Footpath creep due to wet, muddy conditions
Desire line altering paths and creating new routes

Long term Objective (50 years+)

There will be a well-maintained network of paths and rides with a variety of aspects - from narrow shaded paths to open, wide rides allowing safe access across the site.
The site should be well used and appreciated by the local population. It should be known for its wildlife interest, varied landscape, history and habitats. The site should be accessible and safe with management of infrastructure and signage.

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

During this plan period, the short term objective is to continue to provide public access at Glover's Wood which is safe and enjoyable. This will be achieved through the following:

• Approximately 5km of paths and entrance points will be maintained to allow continued access across the site. This will include annual stimming of paths and ride edges and cleaning/repairing entrance signage and infrastructure as required at the external & internal access points (July/August).
• Annual inspection of footbridges, steps, and boardwalk
• New sign and entrance improvements including information lecterns – 2020/21
• Annual Zone A tree safety survey(alternating summer/autumn) and every 2 years for Zone B.
Annual ash dieback inspections of zone A&B with appropriate remedial works undertaken
•Ensure continued support of the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership volunteer group through meeting with them at least once a year and agreeing a yearly work programme

6.0 WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type of Work	Description	Due By

APPENDIX 1: COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Key Features Present	Designations
1a	21.42	Pedunculate/common oak	1970	Min-intervention	No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Connecting People with woods & trees	Site of Special Scientific Interest, Tree Preservation Order
This compartment is a mix of Ancient Semi Natural Woodland and Secondary Woodland. A varied history of management has left the compartment with a mix of old hazel, hornbeam and ash coppice along with wild cherry, holly and hawthorn standards to form the understorey. The canopy is made up of oak, ash, hornbeam, birch, ash, sycamore, horse chestnut and sweet chestnut. There are also occasional wild service, wych elm, elder and small leaved lime found near the ghyll. The ash in this compartment is showing mid to advanced dieback. The bottom of the valley is typically lined with pendulous sedge with frequent male ferns. On higher ground, the ground flora is species rich with yellow archangel, ground ivy, ivy, honeysuckle, dog's mercury, violets and moss. There are two ponds in the compartment. Bell Pond is on the east of the compartment, which was cleared in the late 1980s. Around the waters' edge in places are occasional clumps of soft rush, a large patch of branched bur-reed and a raft of reed-mace. Sphagnum Pond is towards the western end of the compartment where the occasional clump of elongated sedge can be found. A network of wide rides exists in the central and eastern parts of the compartment.							
1b	0.94	Hornbeam	1945	Min-intervention		Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Connecting People with woods & trees	Site of Special Scientific Interest, Tree Preservation Order
This compartment is a mix of old hazel and ash coppice, along with oak, ash, birch and some hornbeam. The ground flora comprises a carpet of ground ivy, dog's mercury, yellow archangel and bramble with an excellent display of bluebells in the spring.							

1c	0.49	Peduncu late/com mon oak	1945	Min-intervention		Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Connecting People with woods & trees	Site of Special Scientific Interest, Tree Preservation Order
This compartment is old hazel coppice with oak, birch and ash also present. The ground flora comprises a carpet of ground ivy, bluebells, dog's mercury, yellow archangel and bramble.							
2a	1.20	Birch (downy/s ilver)	1945	Min-intervention		Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Connecting People with woods & trees	Site of Special Scientific Interest, Tree Preservation Order
This compartment occupies the slopes of the ghyll and although it is surrounded by non-Trust woodland to the north, east and west forms a vital connecting piece of ancient woodland between compartments 1a and 3a. The northern end of this compartment has been unmanaged for many years. The woodland consists of overgrown hornbeam, ash and small leaved lime coppice stools, field maple and the occasional wild cherry. There is a sparse shrub layer with occasional hawthorn and holly bushes. The ground flora is abundant and species rich including the ancient woodland indicators: wild daffodils, dog's mercury, sanicle, yellow archangel, violets, yellow pimpernel, bittercress, figwort, barren strawberry and numerous ferns. The ghyll is the primary reason for the sites' designation as an SSSI. The southern part of this compartment was coppiced in the late 1980s and consists of hornbeam, ash, hazel, small-leaved lime coppice and birch.							
3a	1.06	Birch (downy/s ilver)	1945	Coppice		Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Connecting People with woods & trees	Site of Special Scientific Interest, Tree Preservation Order
The compartment is primarily hazel coppice that is still in rotation and was last worked in 1999. There are also widely spaced oak, birch and ash. The ground flora comprises a carpet of ground ivy, bluebells, dog's mercury, yellow archangel and bramble.							

Appendix 2: Harvesting operations (20 years)

Forecast Year	Cpt	Operation Type	Work Area (ha)	Estimated vol/ha	Estimated total vol.
2020	1a	Selective Fell	9.00	24	220
2021	3a	Ride edge Coppice	0.20	150	30
2022	1a	Selective Fell	9.00	20	180
2024	1a	Selective Fell	9.00	14	125
2026	1a	Coppice	0.50	100	50
2026	1a	Selective Fell	9.00	11	100
2028	1a	Selective Fell	9.00	11	100
2028	1a	Ride edge Coppice	0.40	125	50

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.