

# Butcher's Wood

(Plan period – 2022 to 2027)



WOODLAND  
TRUST

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## 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](http://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](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk)

or contact the Woodland Trust

[operations@woodlandtrust.org.uk](mailto: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

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5. Work Programme

Appendix 1 : Compartment Descriptions

GLOSSARY

## 1. SITE DETAILS

### Butcher's Wood

Location:	Hassocks Grid reference: TQ303149 OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 198
Area:	7.03 hectares (17.37 acres)
External Designations:	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Landscape Value, County Wildlife Site (includes SNCI, SINC etc), National Park
Internal Designations:	Within WT Focus Area

## 2. SITE DESCRIPTION

Butcher's Wood is a 7 hectare (17 acre) ancient semi-natural woodland at the northern extremity of the South Downs National Park in West Sussex. It is situated in the Low Weald National Character Area (NCA), just outside of the village of Hassocks, between Burgess Hill to the north and Brighton to the south. The Low Weald NCA is a broad, low-lying clay vale bordering the High Weald NCA. It is predominantly agricultural with many densely wooded areas, approximately 7% of which is ancient.

Butcher's Wood was originally part of the Danny Estate and was acquired by the Trust in December 1988 with funding from Mid Sussex District Council, The West Sussex Gazette, Clayton Parish Council and Hassocks Amenity Society. The original footprint of the wood appears to have been reduced by housing development to the north and fragmented by the railway to the west, as part of the wood still exists to the west of the railway. To the southeast a small private section of the wood now forms part of the surrounds of Woodbine Cottage.

The wider landscape surrounding Butchers Wood is a patchwork of field systems and housing, interspersed with relatively small-scale woods, with the South Downs and coast to the south. To the north of the wood is the residential area of Hassocks. To the east, the wood is bordered by a chalk stream, with grazed fields beyond. To the west it is bordered by a public footpath running beside the London to Brighton railway line. To the southwest is a meadow separating the wood from the privately owned Lag Wood. The site is bounded on three sides by a chain-link fence (within the Trust's ownership) and to the north by garden fencing.

The terrain is level, with the soil, derived from the underlying geology of the Gault Clay, which is prone to seasonal waterlogging. It has a high forest structure with oak as the main canopy tree and hazel as the main understorey species. A proportion of the hazel understorey has been coppiced in most winters for over 30 years by the volunteer woodland working group. There is abundant ancient woodland ground flora including extensive bluebells and wood anemones.

The wood is accessible via three pedestrian entrances on the west and south boundaries via public footpaths to the north and south. There is a network of permissive paths and rides allowing access to the majority of the wood.

### 3. LONG TERM POLICY

In the long-term (50 years plus) Butchers Wood will continue to be characterised by its thriving hazel coppice understorey, with native canopy species such as oak and hornbeam, and abundant ancient woodland ground flora.

As the wood is small in scale, the surrounding land (designated SNCI) provides the diversity of habitat (e.g. open space, other woodland types, watercourses, scrub and hedgerows) that Butchers Wood alone cannot provide. Therefore, Butchers Wood can function and be managed predominantly as a coppice component of a wider mixed landscape and does not need to provide an extensive variety of habitats.

The woodland canopy will evolve largely through natural processes, with minimal silvicultural intervention to supplement these processes where feasible (e.g. coppicing by volunteers). Certain species may diminish following the effects of pests and diseases, such as ash, which will be present in small numbers or even be absent entirely following its decline and removal as a result of ash dieback disease (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*). However, the natural regeneration of other species (e.g. hornbeam, field maple and sycamore) is likely to thrive in the space and increased light levels created by the loss of canopy trees. Hazel coppice re-growth age and structure will vary as a result of any active coppicing and the long-term retention of uncut stools which increase old growth habitat niches in the understorey.

Re-stocking following any felling will be by natural regeneration, unless supplementary planting is a mandatory requirement for contractual or legal reasons (e.g. felling licence, grant, statutory plant health notice).

Herbivore impact (e.g. deer browsing) will not be preventing succession and establishment of native trees and understorey from natural regeneration, or resulting in significant losses of established trees (e.g. by ring-barking from squirrels) following appropriate assessment and management to prevent a detrimental impact, if required.

Dead or dying trees will only be felled if they pose a safety risk and where possible the resulting wood will be stacked within the wood to increase dead wood habitat. Where dead trees do not pose a safety risk they will be left to provide valuable standing deadwood habitat.

Non-native invasive species such as cherry laurel will be removed and controlled and will not be threatening the woodland ecosystem.

Access infrastructure and footpaths will be maintained to support the high numbers of visitors.

Continued support will be given to the volunteer woodland working group to encourage the local community to stay involved with the conservation of Butchers Wood.

## 4. KEY FEATURES

### 4.1 f1 Ancient Semi Natural Woodland

#### Description

Butcher's Wood is a small fragment of ancient woodland (NVC sub-community W10a), typical of woods on heavy clay in the Low Weald of Sussex. It has a diverse tree, shrub and ground flora including many woodland specialist plants. The wood is likely to have been managed under a traditional coppice with standards silvicultural system with a low density of canopy trees, subsequently heavily modified by the planting of pedunculate oak approximately 100 to 120 years ago. The planting and cessation of coppice and standards management then resulted in a high forest structure, with a dominant canopy of oak (thinned in 1998, 2001 & 2003) and the hazel understorey remaining. The canopy is supplemented with hornbeam coppice, silver birch, aspen and single figures of large Corsican pine.

Ash was formerly a frequent species, however, it is now a rare component of the wood following the progressive decline and felling of ash between 2018 - 2022 due to ash dieback disease. This culminated in the felling and extraction of approximately 250 tons of ash within approximately 2.68ha (38%) of the wood in 2021/2022. As a result, temporary open space has increased significantly and is currently at approximately 20% in addition to the open space provided by rides and the remnant meadow (sub-cpt 1b). Hornbeam, field maple, sycamore and ash are all naturally regenerating along with hawthorn, holly, and the occasional goat willow where ash has diminished. Therefore, it appears that sufficient natural regeneration is present to achieve re-stock, which now has greater opportunity to establish in the space created by ash removal.

The understorey remains dominated by hazel coppice, with hawthorn, holly, wild cherry, blackthorn and goat willow. Ground flora includes abundant bluebells and wood anemones, with yellow archangel, early purple orchid, moschatel, enchanter's nightshade and various woodland sedges.

#### Significance

The amount of ancient semi natural woodland (ASNW) left in Britain has been drastically reduced over the last century. Approximately 40% of England's ASNW is found in the southeast. ASNW is irreplaceable due to the continuity of woodland cover over hundreds of years, in which time a diverse range of woodland habitats has developed that supports a correspondingly diverse range of flora and fauna. This diversity cannot be found in younger secondary woodland and woodland creation sites.

Broadleaved woodland is the most extensive semi-natural habitat in Sussex. Much of this woodland is, like Butcher's Wood, ancient in origin and thus of high nature conservation value. Ancient woodland protection is of the main aims of the Trust and the Low Weald NCA.

#### Opportunities & Constraints



<p>Constraints: Silvicultural management is restricted by the wet clay soils and long extraction route.</p>
<p><b>Factors Causing Change</b></p> <p>Ash dieback: Ash has reduced from frequent to rare due to the disease, which is ongoing and may result in further loss of ash. Removal of ash has resulted in an increase in temporary open space giving opportunities for natural regeneration to establish in its place. Some ecological niches (e.g. ash specific lichen and fungi) will diminish from the loss of ash trees.</p> <p>Climate change: Wetter winters and drier summers will potentially affect the wood significantly due to the clay soils. Prolonged periods of standing water and high water table may detrimentally affect oak and favour hornbeam which is more tolerant of heavy clay soils. Prolonged drought conditions may have a detrimental effect on a variety of flora and fauna.</p> <p>Natural regeneration: Self-sown seedlings and saplings will establish and maintain canopy and understory cover (e.g. hornbeam, birch, field maple, hawthorn and holly).</p> <p>Herbivore impact (e.g. deer and squirrel browsing): This has historically had a negligible effect on coppice re-growth and natural regeneration, however, an increase in palatable re-growth and exposure of natural regeneration following ash felling may encourage browsing.</p> <p>Natural colonisation of remnant meadow (sub-cpt 1b): Oak, bramble scrub and ancient woodland ground flora are continually expanding their coverage from the margins adjoining the main woodland (sub-cpt 1a).</p>
<p><b>Long term Objective (50 years+)</b></p> <p>The key feature will be characterised by its native canopy of broadleaf species such as oak and hornbeam, thriving hazel coppice understorey and abundant ancient woodland ground flora.</p> <p>A variety of vegetation and structure will be evident, with varying re-growth of coppiced of hazel and a small proportion of un-coppiced hazel stools for long-term retention.</p> <p>The woodland canopy will evolve largely through natural processes, with silvicultural intervention only undertaken where essential e.g. for tree safety and/or pest &amp; disease management, with re-stock by natural regeneration.</p> <p>There will be an abundant level of dead wood on the woodland floor and standing dead wood retained where it does not present a hazard. Some coppiced wood will be retained in small log-piles to increase dead wood habitat. Any further ash requiring removal due to ash dieback disease will be felled and left in-situ for dead wood habitat.</p> <p>Non-native invasive species such as cherry laurel will be prevented from colonising and detrimentally affecting the woodland eco-system through removal and monitoring every 5 years in the woodland condition assessment.</p>
<p><b>Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)</b></p> <p>To ensure the re-stocking of canopy and understorey cover following the loss of ash due to ash dieback disease and to maintain vegetative and structural diversity over the 5 year plan period. This will be achieved through the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual assessment (including herbivore impact) of the re-growth of hazel coppice and establishment of natural regeneration across 2.68ha where ash has been felled as a result of ash dieback disease, with any appropriate management undertaken (e.g. herbivore impact control/planting/aftercare) if essential to achieve the required stocking density of 1100 trees per hectare.</li> <li>• Annual coppicing of approximately 0.25 hectares of hazel by volunteers from winter 2024/25 to 2027, if appropriate coppice re-growth and natural regeneration has established following assessment in 2024.</li> <li>• Annual mowing of sub-cpt 1b in August after flowering, to encourage colonisation of ground flora and to maintain the</li> </ul>

semi-open habitat that this compartment provides.

- A woodland condition assessment in 2027 to inform the next management plan review.

## 4.2 f2 Connecting People with woods & trees

### Description

Butcher's Wood is a Woodland Trust category A access site (high usage, regularly used at all times of the year, with more than approximately 15-20 visitors using one entrance every day). It is situated approximately 400 metres south of Hassocks, a large village with a population of over 7500 people. It can be reached from the village centre by a public footpath that runs alongside the railway line from Hassocks to Brighton. The wood is also accessible from Clayton, a smaller village to the south, via public footpaths.

The footpath alongside the railway leads to two kissing gates on the west boundary of the wood. There is also a stile on the south boundary which is accessible from the railway footpath via a short walk through a small privately owned meadow or via the public footpaths from Clayton.

There is a network of approximately two kilometres of permissive footpaths that allow access throughout the majority of the wood. The terrain is flat and paths are natural and unsurfaced and can become muddy and waterlogged during prolonged wet weather and in autumn and winter.

Most of the paths are flanked by hazel which forms wooded 'corridors' except where this has been most recently coppiced by the Trusts volunteer woodland working group who have been active in the wood for over 30 years, or following recent operations to remove ash trees with ash dieback disease.

Ancient woodland wildflowers are notable in spring, with bluebells being the main attraction, however, these are preceded by a carpet of wood anemones. These flowers are extremely sensitive to disturbance so in recently coppiced areas the volunteers stack cut branches as dead hedges to define footpath edges.

The eastern edge of the wood includes a small remnant meadow, with oak, bramble scrub and ancient woodland ground flora margins, alongside the Lag stream on the eastern boundary.

Exiting the wood via the stile on the south boundary leads to a meadow and the adjacent Lag Wood which are both privately owned but publicly accessible.

Access to the wider countryside of the South Downs National Park is also available either on foot by heading south on the public footpath alongside the railway, or by train from the station at Hassocks. The Woodland Trusts Costells Wood, at Scaynes Hill, is approximately 9 miles north, just off of the A272.

### Significance

It has been proven that access to woodland provides an improved quality of life, with benefits to both mental and physical health. Butcher's Wood provides the local community with easy access to woodland, with spring flowers and wildlife interest, due to the fact that the wood is ancient.

The volunteer woodland working group maintain the tradition of coppicing that reaches back for hundreds of years.

The groups activity also offers an increased sense of community through socialising with like-minded people and by having an active role in the conservation of their local wood.

### **Opportunities & Constraints**

#### Constraints:

There is limited parking near the wood, with only residential roadside parking available.

#### Opportunities:

New volunteers are welcome to join the existing volunteer group via an application to the Trusts national volunteering team.

Butcher's Wood is part of the Lost Woods of the Low Weald and Downs project, funded by NLHF and as such has increased activity on site, led by both WT and project partners, with the aim of engaging the community with their local woodlands. The Lost Woods project will bring more local people to the site over the next five years, and this brings opportunities to recruit more volunteers but also to increase membership and engagement with the site.

On-site surveys conducted in autumn 2020, before Lost Woods work began, indicated that 70% of respondents visited to walk their dog while 68% of visitors came to the site weekly or more often. 62% had been visiting the site for more than three years and most walked and travelled less than 15 minutes to get to site. The Lost Woods project will bring more visitors to the site over the next five years and the impact will be measured throughout the project.

### **Factors Causing Change**

**Social factors:** The increased cost of living and development in the south east of England means an increasing number of people are visiting and using local amenities as an alternative to travelling further afield. This increases the likelihood of positive and negative effects including anti-social behaviour, littering, dog fouling, fires, cycling, new desire lines and trampling of ground flora, volunteering and local support for the wood and the Trust.

**Wet ground conditions:** Increasing wet weather may lead to increased mud and standing water resulting in further damage, widening of paths and trampling of ground flora by visitors if appropriate footwear is not worn.

### **Long term Objective (50 years+)**

Access infrastructure and footpaths will be maintained to support the high number of visitors. Local residents will value the wood as a peaceful place to visit and may participate in available volunteer activities that support the management of the wood. Visitors from further afield will have an interesting stop-off point on their journey in the wider countryside.

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

To upgrade and maintain public access provision within the plan period. This will be achieved by:

- Installation of new pedestrian access infrastructure at all 3 entrances, to include levelling of entrance surfaces in 2023.
- Installation of three wooden welcome signs at all 3 entrances in 2023.
- Annual strimming and cutting back of vegetation along the main paths and entrances.
- Annual tree safety inspections and remedial work in line with the trusts Tree Risk Management policy.
- Annual infrastructure inspections to assess the condition of all structures within the wood (e.g. gates, stiles etc).
- An assessment of access infrastructure and signs in 2027 as part of the whole site woodland condition assessment.

## 5. WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
2023	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,	August
2023	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,	September
2023	PE - Interpretation & Signage	Works associated with the provision of visitor signage, waymarking, interpretation features and leaflets	September
2024	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,	August
2024	WMM - Coppice Management	Works associated with the management of coppice areas – such as coppicing, maintenance of protective fencing, etc	February
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,	August
2025	WMM - Coppice Management	Works associated with the management of coppice areas – such as coppicing, maintenance of protective fencing, etc	February
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,	August
2026	WMM - Coppice Management	Works associated with the management of coppice areas – such as coppicing, maintenance of protective fencing, etc	February
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,	August

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
1a	6.63	Oak (pedunculate)	1900	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Landscape Value, County Wildlife Site (includes SNCI, SINC etc), National Park
ASNW. Predominantly oak (P1900) over hazel coppice. Other species include hornbeam, field maple, silver birch, aspen, hawthorn, wild cherry with rare ash and Corsican pine.						
1b	0.4	Open ground	1900	Non-wood habitat		Area of Landscape Value, County Wildlife Site (includes SNCI, SINC etc), National Park
Remnant meadow colonised with oak and rare ash, with scrub/ASNW ground flora margins. Mature oak, alder and ash are present adjacent to Lag stream on the east boundary. Woodbank on west boundary.						

### **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.

**Registered Office:**

**The Woodland Trust, Kempton Way, Grantham, Lincolnshire NG31 6LL.**

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