

# Tyrrels Wood

## (Plan period – 2024 to 2029)



WOODLAND  
TRUST

# Management Plan Content Page

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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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4. Key Features
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5. Work Programme

Appendix 1 : Compartment Descriptions

GLOSSARY

## 1. SITE DETAILS

### **Tyrrels Wood**

Location:	Pulham Market Grid reference: TM206897 OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 156
Area:	16.77 hectares (41.44 acres)
External Designations:	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Site of Special Scientific Interest
Internal Designations:	N/A

## 2. SITE DESCRIPTION

Tyrrels wood is a group of woods (part SSSI) totalling 16.79 Ha (41.5 acres) within the Parish of Pulham Market, South Norfolk. It comprises Low Wood, Dale Plantation, Big Wood, New Plantation and Bales' Plantation to the East. Big Wood is strongly believed to be part of a once much larger ancient woodland. A large wood bank runs around the entire woodland and east west between Big Wood and Dale Plantation. Tyrrels Wood was once considered one of Norfolk's finest woods for quality oak.

Prior to The Woodland Trust acquiring the site many of the oaks were felled, but there are still a number of very large specimens throughout the site and many are thought to be older than 150 years. A relic hazel coppice structure is present throughout the whole of the wood, and old boundary pollards are scattered predominantly along the eastern and northern boundaries. The ground flora is surprisingly poor within Tyrrels Wood, both on the rides and within the woodland stands. Bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) and bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) are the main ground flora species, with bare ground frequently dominant within heavily shaded areas. Ancient woodland indicators are found in isolated patches throughout the wood including yellow archangel (*Lamium galeobdolon*), dog's mercury (*Mercurialis perennis*), and bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*), generally associated with the wood banks.

Big Wood was designated a SSSI in 1985 primarily for the variation of stand types present, with particular reference to Plateau Alder Carr. Tyrrels Wood is situated within the South Norfolk and High Suffolk Claylands National Character Area, and soil types include clays, sands and gravels that show great variation across the site. The surrounding countryside is predominantly arable farming, and 4/5ths of the boundary of Tyrrels Wood is adjacent to open fields. To the west, Crow Green adjoins the wood, regenerated naturally from former open grassland and scrub.

Tyrrels Wood is a busy well used area of open space in a predominantly arable landscape. The 3300m of rides link in with the Boudicca way, a 36 mile route from Diss to Norwich which is maintained by Norfolk County Council and a number of partner organisations.

The main entrance to the site is via a car park which is available directly off Wood Lane, with spaces for up to 12 cars. The ride system is unsurfaced and can be wet at times through the year and a number of bridges and boardwalks have been erected to reduce damage to the ancient wood banks and to limit damage to the ride system caused by high usage.

### 3. LONG TERM POLICY

The long-term intention for Tyrrels Wood is to be managed as ancient semi natural woodland consisting of native broadleaved tree and shrub species, with standing and fallen deadwood habitat.

A key element of this is to ensure the Pulham Market Big Wood SSSI remains in favourable condition by maintaining the variety of stand types for which it is renowned. The tree species mix in Big Wood will include mature, Pedunculate Oaks over a coppice layer. Also continuing to be present will be the rare acid plateau alderwood which will consist of Alder ,Downy Birch, Rowan , Holly and Alder Buckthorn .

Coppiced species in the wood will consist of -Hornbeam , Hazel , Ash , Field Maple and Holly.

The ground flora within Big Wood SSSI will consist of species such as Bluebell, Primrose, Honeysuckle and Dogs Mercury with elements of Bramble and Bracken forming a diverse species mix.

The maintenance of favourable condition will be achieved through;

- the control of invasive tree species that could adversely affect the woods canopy structure,
- the management of woody invasive plants such as bramble
- the management of deer and a site wide deer management plan
- silvicultural works to encourage the much-needed natural regeneration of native flora and trees.
- A survey of Big Wood (compartment 2a) will be undertaken approximately every 10 years to identify the extent of the stand types and the impact of the management interventions undertaken.

Within the rest of Tyrrels Wood, a similar management regime to Big Wood SSSI will be implemented to maintain and improve this well-structured broadleaved woodland.

The species mix of trees in the wider woodland will be similar to that of Big Wood SSSI and will include, Pendunculate Oak, Birch, Rowan, Hornbeam and Lime. The small numbers of Ash that are in the wood will provide deadwood habitat within the woodland. Whilst oak will continue to be the main species within the woodland , due to the presence of Acute Oak Decline some oaks will also provide deadwood component of the wood.

Shrubs in the wider woodland will include Hazel, Holly, Elder and Hawthorn supported by a ground flora similar to that of Big Wood and will include a species mix of as Bluebell, Primrose, Honeysuckle and Dogs Mercury with elements of Bramble and Bracken forming a diverse species mix.

The pollards on the boundary of the site and veteran trees within the site will continue to be an important feature of the site and new pollards will be encouraged to fill in the gaps created by the natural losses of older pollards. Veteran trees will be recorded on the site maps and recorded onto the Ancient Tree inventory.

The wood will be managed through a combination of natural regeneration and good forestry management practices, as well as some restocking of key species (where required) to further improve the species and structural diversity of the wood.

Tyrrels Wood will be open to the public in perpetuity. Low key public access will be maintained to the site and the paths, signs, and other furniture that allows safe access for the public are to be maintained in good order, with the safety of visitors maintained through ongoing and regular safety inspections. The wood is primarily for the use and enjoyment of the people of the number of small villages surrounding Tyrrels Wood. The wood will continue to maintain its links to other public rights of way within the vicinity .The historical wood bank that is present in Tyrrels Wood will be maintained by encouraging low impact access to the site and ensuring that paths are routed to reduce impacts to the archaeological features. A small car park will be maintained at the southern edge of the wood to provide access to the site.



## 4. KEY FEATURES

### 4.1 f1 Ancient Semi Natural Woodland

Description
<p>Tyrrels wood is a group of woods (part SSSI) totalling 16.79 Ha (41.5 acres) within the Parish of Pulham Market, South Norfolk. It comprises Low Wood, Dale Plantation, Big Wood, New Plantation and Bales' Plantation to the East. Big Wood is strongly believed to be part of a once much larger ancient woodland. A large wood bank runs around the entire woodland and east west between Big Wood and Dale Plantation. Tyrrels Wood was once considered one of Norfolk's finest woods for quality oak.</p> <p>Prior to The Woodland Trust acquiring the site many of the oaks were felled, but there are still a number of very large specimens throughout the site and many are thought to be older than 150 years. A relic hazel coppice structure is present throughout the whole of the wood, and old boundary pollards are scattered predominantly along the eastern and northern boundaries. The ground flora is surprisingly poor within Tyrrels Wood, both on the rides and within the woodland stands. Bramble (<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>) and Bracken (<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>) are the main ground flora species, with bare ground frequently dominant within heavily shaded areas. Ancient woodland indicators are found in isolated patches throughout the wood including Yellow Archangel (<i>Lamium galeobdolon</i>), Dog's Mercury (<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>), and Bluebell (<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>), generally associated with the wood banks.</p>
Significance
<p>Big Wood was designated a SSSI, primarily for the variation in stand types present and the geology of the surface soils which give rise to this variation. Of particular interest is plateau alder carr, which is completely atypical to the expected stand composition. The wood banks are part of the historical importance of the wood and the local area. The wood bank running along the northern edge of Big Wood is particularly rich in ancient woodland indicators, including dog's mercury (<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>) and bluebell (<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>).</p>
Opportunities & Constraints
<p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- continue to maintain the diverse stand types present is of primary importance within Big Wood, particularly plateau Alder carr.</li> <li>- maintenance of habitat linkages to Crow Green Wood on the western boundary, a large secondary woodland which was derived from common land.</li> <li>- expansion of site through linking Bales Plantation to main site</li> </ul> <p>Constraints</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- limited access to Bale's Plantation</li> <li>- site can be wet making access difficult</li> </ul>

<b>Factors Causing Change</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-sycamore</li> <li>-Squirrel</li> <li>-Deer</li> <li>-Increased visitor pressure</li> <li>-Acute Oak Decline</li> <li>-Ash Dieback.</li> <li>-Holly expansion</li> </ul>
<b>Long term Objective (50 years+)</b>
<p>The long-term intention for Tyrrels Wood is to be managed as ancient semi natural woodland consisting of native broadleaved tree and shrub species, with standing and fallen deadwood habitat.</p> <p>A key element of this is to ensure the Pulham Market Big Wood SSSI remains in favourable condition by maintaining the variety of stand types for which it is renowned. The tree species mix in Big Wood will include mature, Pedunculate Oaks over a coppice layer. Also continuing to be present will be the rare acid plateau alderwood which will consist of Alder ,Downy Birch, Rowan , Holly and Alder Buckthorn .</p> <p>Coppiced species in the wood will consist of -Hornbeam , Hazel , Ash , Field Maple and Holly.</p> <p>The ground flora within Big Wood SSSI will consist of species such as Bluebell, Primrose, Honeysuckle and Dogs Mercury with elements of Bramble and Bracken forming a diverse species mix.</p> <p>The maintenance of favourable condition will be achieved through;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-the control of invasive tree species that could adversely affect the woods canopy structure,</li> <li>-the management of woody invasive plants such as bramble</li> <li>- the management of deer and a site wide deer management plan</li> <li>- silvicultural works to encourage the much-needed natural regeneration of native flora and trees.</li> <li>-A survey of Big Wood (compartment 2a) will be undertaken approximately every 10 years to identify the extent of the stand types and the impact of the management interventions undertaken.</li> </ul> <p>Within the rest of Tyrrels Wood, a similar management regime to Big Wood SSSI will be implemented to maintain and improve this well-structured broadleaved woodland.</p> <p>The species mix of trees in the wider woodland will be similar to that of Big Wood SSSI and will include, Pendunculate Oak, Birch, Rowan, Hornbeam and Lime. The small numbers of Ash that are in the wood will provide deadwood habitat within the woodland. Whilst oak will continue to be the main species within the woodland , due to the presence of Acute Oak Decline some oaks will also provide deadwood component of the wood.</p> <p>Shrubs in the wider woodland will include Hazel, Holly, Elder and Hawthorn supported by a ground flora similar to that</p>

of Big Wood and will include a species mix of as Bluebell, Primrose, Honeysuckle and Dogs Mercury with elements of Bramble and Bracken forming a diverse species mix.

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

##### **Big Wood SSSI-Compartment 2a**

Maintain the current diverse range of stand types within the Pulham Market Big Wood SSSI.

This will be undertaken through monitoring of the current stand type structure and appropriate management activities.

- Woodland health check - July 2026
- Woodland Trust Woodland Condition Assessment every 5 years – Next WCA- 2028
- Big Wood (compartment 2a) Stand Type survey- 2024 ( combined with Non SSSI woodland compartments)

##### **Selective Thinning operations & Coppicing**

Selective thinning will be undertaken to encourage natural regeneration of native tree species, particularly in dense stands of young, even-aged birch.

Coppicing of the hornbeam on the eastern boundary will reduce the dense shade currently cast over this area and the subsequent availability of light will allow for the natural regeneration of hornbeam and other tree species, as well as other flora associated with coppiced woodland.

Following the coppicing and thinning in compartment 2a in winter 2023/2024 a further block will be thinned and coppiced to increase structural diversity and will be fenced with deer fencing to protect the regeneration.

- Coppice and thin Birch and Hornbeam in Compartment 2a and deer fencing -1 ha- 2027/2028

##### **Exclosures**

-In the non-thin and coppice areas of compartment 2a deer exclosures will be installed to encourage natural regeneration within the block and monitor the levels of deer pressure.

- Install 2 x 5 metre by 5 metre exclosures – January 2025

Non SSSI woodland areas of New Plantation, Dale Plantation, Low Wood and Bales Plantation.

##### **Selective thinning & Coppicing**

Selective thinning of large stands of dense, even-aged birch to encourage regeneration of other species. Work will also include some coppicing of hazel in Low Wood on a rotational basis. For the eastern and northern edge of the compartment the aim will be to promote a structurally diverse scrubby edge through the continuation of the current coppice regime. Where coppicing or thinning of dense stands of even-aged birch is not required, the remainder of the compartment will be allowed to develop through natural regeneration, except where any health and safety issues arise or pose a threat to public safety.

-Compartment 3a (Low Wood/Dale Plantation) – thinning of dense stands of birch, coppicing of hazel and approximately 2Ha of protective fencing around the perimeter of the works area- Winter 2025/2026

#### Management of holly

Management of Holly in compartment 1a (New Plantation) will be beneficial to other species by increasing the amount of light reaching the ground. This will encourage natural regeneration and improve the age and species diversity of the stand.

-Compartment 1a (New Plantation) – selective thinning of holly -Winter 2026/27

#### Exclosures

In the non-thin and coppice areas of compartment 3a deer exclosures will be installed to monitor the natural regeneration within the block and also monitor the deer pressure within the block.

Install 2 x 5 metre by 5 metre exclosures – January 2025

#### Deer Management - Big Wood SSSI, New Plantation, Dale Plantation, Low Wood and Bales Plantation

Deer pressure within Tyrrels wood is particularly high as demonstrated by the Woodland Trust Woodland Condition Assessment in 2023. The assessment noted very limited tree and shrub regeneration of varying ages from seedlings to young saplings. Deer at current UK population levels will have a major impact on the future structure and species diversity in the wood and therefore a deer management strategy will be key to managing the site in future.

A Habitat Impact Assessment (HIA) should be undertaken to get a baseline figure on deer pressure within the four sub compartments using the Woodland Trusts HIA lite App. A thermal survey should also be undertaken to fully understand the deer population in Tyrrels Wood.

- Habitat Impact Assessment – January 2024

-Thermal Survey- September 2024

Following these surveys a specific deer management plan will be created for the wood, and high seats installed to support future deer management.

- install 2 x high seats in compartment 4a- June 2024

## 4.2 f2 Informal Public Access

<b>Description</b>
<p>Tyrrels Wood is a busy well used area of open space in a predominantly arable landscape. The 3300m of rides link in with the Boudicca way, a 36 mile route from Diss to Norwich which is maintained by Norfolk County Council and a number of partner organisations.</p> <p>The main entrance to the site is via a car park which is available directly off Wood Lane, with spaces for up to 12 cars. The ride system is unsurfaced and can be wet at times through the year and a number of bridges and boardwalks have been erected to reduce damage to the ancient wood banks and to limit damage to the ride system caused by high usage.</p>
<b>Significance</b>
<p>There is little woodland with public access in the local area, and therefore Tyrrels Wood provides an excellent area for the public to use.</p>
<b>Opportunities &amp; Constraints</b>
<p>Opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- maintaining links with Boudicca Way</li><li>- maintenance of linkage between Tyrrels Wood and Crows Green Wood</li></ul> <p>Constraints</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-wet ground conditions,</li><li>- limited options for expanding car park</li></ul>
<b>Factors Causing Change</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Visitor pressure damaging path structure and ancient wood banks</li><li>- the creation of a number of off-ride informal footpaths</li><li>- dog waste,</li><li>- housing development locally- the expansion plan for Long Stratton, with nearly 2,000 new homes planned by 2026.</li></ul>
<b>Long term Objective (50 years+)</b>
<p>Tyrrels Wood will be open to the public in perpetuity. Low key public access will be maintained to the site and the paths, signs, and other furniture that allows safe access for the public are to be maintained in good order, with the safety of visitors maintained through ongoing and regular safety inspections. The wood is primarily for the use and</p>

enjoyment of the people of the number of small villages surrounding Tyrrels Wood. The wood will continue to maintain its links to other public rights of way within the vicinity .The historical wood bank that is present in Tyrrels Wood will be maintained by encouraging low impact access to the site and ensuring that paths are routed to reduce impacts to the archaeological features. A small car park will be maintained at the southern edge of the wood to provide access to the site.

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

.The 3300m of paths and rides are to be maintained annually with a ride system cut 3 times annually to a minimum of 2m to allow unhindered access for the public, as detailed in EMC Spec 2.01

Site safety to be maintained through regular inspections:

Associated signage (Site name/welcome signs) to be kept in good condition and regularly maintained as detailed in EMC Spec 1.01 , with a five yearly review of access facilities by the Site Manager

-Access monitoring inspection- 2027.

#### **Tree Safety**

-Zone A Tree Safety Inspections to be carried out every 12 months

-Zone B Tree Safety Inspections to be carried out every 24 months

#### **Visitor Numbers**

Visitor numbers should be recorded for the site using remote people counter technology to give a baseline figure for usage of the site and to allow future ongoing monitoring of impacts.

-Install 2 x People counters - June 2024

#### **Ancient Wood Banks & Archaeological features**

Where sections of the ancient wood banks and archaeological features are clearly deteriorating through compaction and erosion caused by high levels of visitor traffic, remedial action may have to be taken to prevent the continued damage of these features. To ascertain which features need remedial action, a survey of the ancient wood bank and archaeological features should be undertaken to highlight areas of concern and a work plan created to resolve this.

Excessive tree regeneration along the wood banks will be managed where young trees pose a threat through root plate damage

.  
The footpaths within the wood should be monitored biannually to monitor damage to the historical features and woodland flora from visitor pressures, as well as damage from root plates. The survey will provide a work program to help combat any issues happening to the wood banks. The paths will be remapped where appropriate. Informal paths should be closed off following these surveys, using low impact methods such as brash hedges to guide visitors away from them.

- Ancient Wood Bank and Archaeological features survey – August 2025
- Implement Ancient Wood bank and Archaeological features management - 2026 onwards
- Biannual Footpath Surveys- August 2025, August 2027

### 4.3 f3 Veteran Trees

Description
There are many old pollards and veteran trees within Tyrrels Wood which are primarily Hornbeam and Oak. These are mainly concentrated along the eastern and northern boundaries of the wood. None of the surviving pollards have been managed for a long while and have reached a point where management would potentially have a detrimental effect on their health.
Significance
The pollards, due to their close proximity to the wood bank and ditch which runs around Tyrrels Wood, are historically important as old boundary markers and are significant features of the wood. There is also an important invertebrate association with veteran pollards, and their retention is therefore important in maximising the potential conservation interest of the wood.
Opportunities & Constraints
<p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- creation of new pollards on the wood's boundary</li> <li>- working with volunteers to create new pollards</li> <li>- recording veterans onto Ancient Tree Index</li> </ul> <p>Constraints</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The pollards have not been pollarded for at least 50 years, and therefore re-pollarding may not be successful.</li> </ul>
Factors Causing Change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Acute Oak decline</li> <li>- Damage to roots from visitor pressure on wood banks</li> <li>- Limited regeneration for creating new pollards</li> </ul>
Long term Objective (50 years+)

The pollards on the boundary of the site and veteran trees within Tyrrels Wood, will continue to be an important feature of the site and new pollards will be encouraged to fill in the gaps created by the natural losses of older pollards. Veteran trees will be recorded on the site maps and recorded onto the Ancient Tree inventory.

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

Retain pollards and veterans and current levels where possible within Tyrrels Wood and create new pollards on the Northern and eastern boundaries.

Record veteran trees throughout Tyrrels Wood using volunteers and input into Ancient Tree Inventory. June 2024 & 2025

Undertake condition survey of existing pollards to inform future management works to prolong the age of the tree - June 2025

Survey boundary to find suitable trees for creation of new pollards- June 2024

Create 10 new pollards to replace the existing declining pollards along the eastern and northern boundary of Tyrrels wood.

-5 new pollards to be created – Winter 2025

-5 new pollards to be created- Winter 2027

Select trees within woodland blocks to become future veterans and plan management works including creation of Veteran Tree Management plans for selected trees. – July 2027



## 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,	January
2023	SL - Tree Safety Works - Zone B	Work associated with planned tree safety works alongside routes such as paths and rides within the woodland	February
2023	CS - Ecological Survey & Assessment	Use of external consultants to support the provision of ecological surveys, assessment and biodiversity / species monitoring	May
2024	CS - Visitor Survey & Assessment	Use of external consultants to support the provision of visitor surveys and public consultations	August
2024	PC - Deer Control - Shooting	Works associated with deer management by shooting – such as stalker costs, high seats, signage, maintenance of tracks and open ground provided specifically for deer management etc	August
2024	PC - Deer Control - Shooting	Works associated with deer management by shooting – such as stalker costs, high seats, signage, maintenance of tracks and open ground provided specifically for deer management etc	January
2025	WC - Fencing	Works associated with fencing to protect planting areas	February
2025	WMM - Ancient / Veteran Tree Work	Works associated with the on-going management of ancient, veteran or culturally significant trees including the creation of next generation of such trees. Activities may include works to prolong the life of the tree, removal of competing trees, the creation of new pollards	August
2025	PE - Interpretation & Signage	Works associated with the provision of visitor signage, waymarking, interpretation features and leaflets	August
2025	WMM - Coppice Management	Works associated with the management of coppice areas – such as coppicing, maintenance of protective fencing, etc	January
2025	WMM - Secondary Silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within secondary woods to meet our primary aims of conserving woodlands and encouraging public enjoyment– such as the removal of non-natives, thinning and promotion of native trees and shrubs, creating and managing view points and providing welcoming sites for visitors	January
2025	WC - Fencing	Works associated with fencing to protect planting areas	February
2026	WMM - Secondary Silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within secondary woods to meet our primary aims of conserving woodlands and encouraging	February

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
		public enjoyment– such as the removal of non-natives, thinning and promotion of native trees and shrubs, creating and managing view points and providing welcoming sites for visitors	
2027	WMM - Secondary Silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within secondary woods to meet our primary aims of conserving woodlands and encouraging public enjoyment– such as the removal of non-natives, thinning and promotion of native trees and shrubs, creating and managing view points and providing welcoming sites for visitors	January
2027	WMM - Coppice Management	Works associated with the management of coppice areas – such as coppicing, maintenance of protective fencing, etc	January
2027	WC - Fencing	Works associated with fencing to protect planting areas	February

## APPENDIX 1 : COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
1a	1.29	Mixed broadleaves		High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland
<p>Compartment 1 is a linear stand, dominated by oak, including Turkey oak, with occasional ash and field maple. The understorey is predominantly mature hazel coppice together with good holly regeneration. Generally sparse ground flora, however bluebell (<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>), enchanter's nightshade (<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>), and yellow archangel (<i>Lamium galeobdolon</i>) are present in localised areas. Undesirable species such as nettles (<i>Urtica Dioica</i>) are found near the entrance where dumping of waste may have been a contributing factor through localised enrichment.</p>						
2a	4.68	Mixed native broadleaves		High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Site of Special Scientific Interest
<p>Big Wood was given SSSI status in 1985 due to its variety of stand types which reflect the diversity of soil types within this compartment. The stand types that make this part of the wood exceptional are listed as follows: plateau alder carr, stands of lowland birch-pedunculate oak, birch-hazel variant of pedunculate oak woodland and pedunculate oak-hornbeam woodland. Interspersed with common ash, rowan and holly. The centre of compartment 2 was heavily damaged in the 1987 gales and is now very open. The ground layer is completely dominated by Bracken with localised patches of Bramble and Rosebay Willowherb. A number of small interconnecting ponds are present within the north of Big wood.</p>						
3a	9.42	Mixed native broadleaves		High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland
<p>Compartment 3 comprises Low wood and Dale Plantation. These areas are thought to be of ancient origin; however they have been heavily modified in the past by planting and widely varying management. Many magnificent mature oak specimens are present throughout and the majority of pollards and veterans are situated within the eastern and northern boundary of this compartment. Young birch is common throughout Low Wood and Dales Plantation, which has come in through natural regeneration. Ash is also fairly common together with field maple. Holly and Hornbeam dominates the majority of the canopy of the eastern edge of the compartment. The central area of Dale Plantation and a larger part of Low Wood still retains relic Hazel coppice structure. Small area of blackthorn (<i>Prunus spinosa</i>) - Bramble (<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>) scrub located to the north of Low Wood. The ground layer consists primarily of bramble,</p>						

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
leaf litter and dead wood, with small communities of dog's mercury ( <i>Mercurialis perennis</i> ), yellow archangel ( <i>Lamium galeobdolon</i> ) and bluebell ( <i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i> ) residing mainly within low wood.						
4a	1.17	Mixed broadleaves		High forest	No/poor vehicular access to the site, People issues (+tve & -tve)	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland
Bales' Plantation is isolated and separated from the main woodland block. Turkey oak dominates, with a sparse hazel and holly understorey and mainly bramble ground cover. This area of woodland is subject to agricultural pressures on all four boundaries. Thought to once be part of Big Wood and is surrounded by a large wood bank.						

**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:**

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