

Hoddesdon Park Wood

(Plan period – 2026 to 2036)



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

Our woods are managed to the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS) and are certified with the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) under licence FSC-C009406 and through independent audit.

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

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

The Public Management Plan

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

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

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

Please either consult The Woodland Trust website

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk

or contact the Woodland Trust

operations@woodlandtrust.org.uk

to confirm details of the current management programme.

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

Location and Access

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

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

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

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

The Management Plan

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3. Long Term Policy
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Appendix 3 : Compartment Map

GLOSSARY

1. SITE DETAILS

Hoddesdon Park Wood

Location:	Lord Street, Hoddesdon Grid reference: TL351085 OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 166
Area:	61.95 hectares (153.08 acres)
External Designations:	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Designated Watercourse, Green Belt, National Nature Reserve, Scheduled Ancient Monument, Site of Special Scientific Interest, Special Area of Conservation
Internal Designations:	N/A

2. SITE DESCRIPTION

Hoddesdon Park Wood is a 62ha ancient semi-natural woodland located a few miles south of Hertford. It is part of the Broxbourne Woods National Nature Reserve (NNR), one of the largest and most northerly expanses of sessile oak / hornbeam woodland in Europe. Its structure and comparative rarity has given it European importance and has been designated a Special Area of Conservation (SAC), qualifying as sub-Atlantic and medio-European oak or oak-hornbeam forest of the *Carpinion betuli* (Oak-hornbeam forest). The present oak and hornbeam standards were established from between 1850 and 1920 across much of the site, with compartment 3a having some mature hornbeam regeneration from around 1960. The woodland understory consists of hornbeam coppice and natural regeneration with other species such as holly and hazel found throughout the site, along with birch, ash, oak and occasional wild service tree towards the south-east of the site. Thinning operations were carried out in all compartments between 2001 and 2004, removing oak and hornbeam which has allowed an increase of light down on to the woodland floor through what was a very dense, closed canopy.

The wood is usefully divided into four quarters by two main rides, one running north-south and the other east-west. The whole wood has an abundant array of mosses, ferns, honeysuckle and an impressive spring flora, especially wood anemones and later common cow-wheat. The site is also designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) due to its varied woodland structure, wide habitat diversity and a correspondingly rich flora.

Hoddesdon Park Wood sits as part of the wider Broxbourne Woods National Nature Reserve (NNR) and as such is surrounded by similar habitats in the wider landscape. When looking specifically at Hoddesdon Park Wood we can see privately owned planted ancient woodland directly to the west and north. To the south west there is an area of privately owned ancient semi natural woodland plus an area of wood pasture managed by the Wildlife Trust. The southern and eastern boundary are predominately made up of arable fields. The southern boundary of the woodland is also defined by Spital Brook which meanders its way from west to east. A road sits adjacent to the Northern boundary while adjacent to the western boundary there is a Roman Road that is now designated a byeway. As the byeway heads north, it's hedgerows provide an ecological link to the wider landscape that includes other large woodlands.

Despite sitting only 700m from the nearest housing estate in Broxbourne and 8km from the M25, Hoddesdon Park Wood and the immediate area has a surprisingly rural feel; heavily wooded and interspersed with varied agriculture covering the gently undulating Hertfordshire plateau. The site has a mild south-easterly aspect with soils predominantly characteristic of acid gravel deposits over the London Clay.

Visitor levels are at a medium level mainly due to a limited amount of parking available. The woodland can also be accessed from Martin's Green car park located off Cock Lane, Hoddesdon, via a short walk north following the old roman road. The Broxbourne Woods NNR Trail passes through Hoddesdon Park Wood as does a long standing public right of way. At the end of 2024 a new legal bridleway was designated along the east west ride, this allows cycle and equine access to the ancient woodland for the first time in the Woodland Trusts long ownership of the site. For the site two management access points exist, first is directly off Lord Street at the north of the wood at the end of the ride with the second along a byeway on the east side of the wood at the end of the ride.

Hoddesdon Park Wood has a long and deep history. First mentioned in 1277, it was created by the Brassingburn family who owned much of Hoddesdon during the middle ages. In 1494 Thomas Brassingburn passed it on to

William Say, his wife's brother before it became the property of the manor of Baas and remained in the property of the Cecil's who owned most of the woodland in the area. Much of the landscape however is older still, probably Roman or even pre-Roman and shares its western boundary with one of the great Roman Roads, Ermine Street. There is also an ancient moated site designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) by English Heritage, dating back to around the 13th century, along with a number of historic parallel ditch lines running west from the moat into the neighbouring Wildlife Trust Danemead reserve.

There are some surprisingly complete historical records available for Hoddesdon Park Wood. We know for instance that in 1595 a lease was offered which prescribed the rotational felling of the woodland. The 'Underwood' was to be coppiced every ten years with sixteen of the best and fairest trees or saplings being maintained on every acre. This coppice-with-standards system was practiced for many centuries with the underwood being offered to local villagers and the standard trees being used by the estate or sold to city timber merchants. There is evidence that local people would not only cut wood from their areas but also turn out their cattle to graze. Some of the retaining wood banks are still evident today and recent research suggests that some of these wood banks, especially those aligned N-S or E-W may well date back to the late Iron Age. The cutting rotations became more sporadic during the agricultural recession of the 1880's and had almost disappeared by the 1920's.

Key features for the site include Historic Features, Ancient Semi Natural Woodland and Informal Public Access as briefly outlined above.

3. LONG TERM POLICY

The long term aim is the continuation of a primarily sessile oak / hornbeam woodland with sufficient pockets of species and structural diversity to provide resilience for the future. Carefully selected areas will be managed through selective felling to allow enough light for trees to successfully regenerate, alongside this the herbivore population will be managed to a level that allows a woodland to flourish sustainably into the future. Operations will have left behind enough deadwood and veteran trees to enable a wide variety of wildlife to occupy the woodland. The right balance of shaded areas and sunlight areas on appropriate rotations will have been achieved to allow maximum biodiversity at Hoddesdon Park Wood. This will be found across the site in rides, thinned and coppiced plots.

The ancient moated site will be regularly managed with the aim to keep vegetation minimal, providing an excellent visual reminder of the wood's character and historical links. An interpretation feature will be maintained next to the moated site, providing detailed information for visitors on the history of the site.

The site will be appreciated and it's value understood by visitors and the local community, enabled by the maintenance of the path infrastructure and entrances across the site with the addition of appropriate interpretation panels.

4. KEY FEATURES

4.1 f1 Historic Features

Description
An ancient moated site designated by Historic England as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM). A rectangular enclosure measuring some 60m by 55m with a partially water-filled moat up to 10m wide and 3m deep. Dating back to the 13th century it is the likely location of the medieval park keeper's lodge. Mature oak now grow on the platform but the site remains clearly visible.
Significance
Feature is designated as a scheduled ancient monument by Historic England. Earthworks and stubs reflect past human activities, helping to form a picture of previous management activities. It forms an integral part of the wood's history as well as providing an attractive and interesting addition to the area.
Opportunities & Constraints
Opportunity to preserve evidence of human history within a woodland setting and demonstrate how human culture is interdependent with woodlands. Tree roots could interfere with the feature and continual vegetation growth could hide the feature from human view.
Factors Causing Change
Regenerating Woodland, Wind-blow of existing trees on structure.
Long term Objective (50 years+)
The longterm objective is for the ancient moated site to be visible and best preserved in it's current form as is reasonably practical to do so.

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

All vegetation on the platform of the moated site to be strimmed once per year, only retaining mature oak trees. Moat area to be strimmed and coppiced once per year ensuring boundary and ditches are clearly visible by cutting all vegetation.

4.2 f2 Ancient Semi Natural Woodland

Description

Hoddesdon Park Wood is a 62ha ancient semi natural woodland largely comprised of sessile oak and hornbeam, which is predominantly a central European habitat type. Hoddesdon Park Wood is part of the larger Broxbourne Woods NNR, while also being designated a SSSI and SAC mainly due to being part of one of the largest and most northerly expanses of sessile oak / hornbeam woodland in Europe. The woodland understory consists of hornbeam coppice and natural regeneration with other species such as, holly and hazel found throughout the site, along with birch, ash, oak and occasional wild service tree towards the south-east of the site.

The site is currently a largely even age stand where many seedlings emerge but fail to grow into saplings. Historically the site shows evidence of a coppice with standard nature but some hornbeam coppice is now growing into the oak canopy. Thinning operations were carried out in all compartments between 2001 and 2004, removing oak and hornbeam which allowed an increase of light down on to the woodland floor through what was a very dense, closed canopy.

Some boundaries are marked by some extremely old hornbeam coppice stools.

The groundflora comprises areas of bracken and bramble, while also retaining areas of great wood-rush *Luzula sylvatica* with carpets of mosses, some more typical of continental Europe such as *Dicranum montanum* and *D. tauricum*. However, the magnificent spring display of wood anemones (*Anemone nemorosa*) cannot be missed. Locally rare common cow-wheat can also be seen while bluebells are rare.

Significance

Hoddesdon Park Wood is ancient semi-natural woodland and may have been woodland for thousands of years. The ecosystem that has developed over that timescale cannot be recreated in a short space of time. Before human intervention the landscape would have been one with significant areas of woodland, but now only 2.5% of the landscape is ancient woodland and half of that has been planted with non native species which significantly reduce the wildlife value.

The Woodland Trust believes that there should be no further loss of ancient woodland and the ancient woodland we retain should be managed for the benefit of both people and wildlife.

Opportunities & Constraints

There is opportunity provided by the large amount of natural Oak regeneration present each spring on the ground to increase structural diversity of the woodland which is currently a largely mature even age stand. The Oak regen currently fails to progress from seedling to sapling stage, it is most likely constrained by low light levels with deer browsing.

Hornbeam appears to readily regenerate when gaps in the canopy appear, though gaps are rare and old hornbeam coppice is now growing into the canopy resulting in a loss of understory. There is an opportunity to improve the understory by creating more gaps in the canopy and coppicing the old stools.

Oak Processionary Moth has been on site for only a few years and we are yet to see if it significantly negatively affects oak trees.

Underplant with native species to provide diverse resilient woodland.

Opportunity to contribute to the conservation of a variety of specific rare woodland wildlife species that include but not limited to Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, White Admiral and Purple Emperor.

Factors Causing Change

Herbivore browsing

Closed canopy

Norway Maple colonizing from neighbouring woodlands

Climate change

Holly has potential to shade out regeneration of other tree species and ground flora.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

The long term objective is the continuation of a primarily sessile oak / hornbeam woodland with sufficient pockets of species and structural diversity to provide resilience for the future. Abundant quantities of both standing and lying deadwood present with associated species present alongside a healthy diverse ground flora with abundant ancient woodland indicator species present through the woodland. With nationally rare species present including but not limited to Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, White Admiral and Purple Emperor.

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

The short term objective is to begin to create conditions for regenerating tree species to progress in age to provide structural diversity for the future. There will be a bias towards Sessile Oak and Hornbeam, but further diversity should be encouraged through other native species to ensure a resilient woodland for the future. This will be achieved by a number of operations described below.

After an initial planning phase to acquire permissions, resources and to create suitable access infrastructure, starting in year 3 and there after every 2 years one plot each measuring between 0.5 and 1 hectare will be subject to a heavy selective felling operations where at least 60% canopy cover will be retained. Also within each plot coppicing of the understory will also be undertaken whereby no more than 20% of the understory will be retained. Year 3 and 5 locations are marked on the management map, further locations to be identified on seeing the results of the first plots with a preference to be located in compartments 1a and 3a where structural diversity is at it's lowest.

The likely success of timber extraction is high, it is essential that thinning operations leave standing and fallen deadwood in the woodland up to with the long term aim to achieve 20 cubic metres per hectare.

Continuation of herbivore population management and an aspiration to achieve a low herbivore impact score is essential to allow trees to regenerate. Therefore deer stalking should continue with levels modified according to herbivore impact assessments and thermal surveys.

Deer should be entirely excluded by fencing from a portion of the areas where the canopy has undergone selective felling to see if deer exclusion allows oak to grow to saplings, if in these areas oak does not progress then underplanting of native trees should be considered by the end of planned period.

Existing glade management at centre crossroads should continue with annual cuts to keep open approximately 400sqm. Bracken is encroaching in this area despite the annual cuts, other means of bracken removal should be investigated and employed.

Existing ride management and scallops along the two main intersecting paths will be expanded to ensure the scallops receive sufficient light by increasing the scallop sizes so that their width is equal to 1.5x the height of surrounding trees. The east west ride is 750m long and previously 100m a year has been cut on a 4 year rotation. Ride areas not included in recent management but are young enough should be cut with the intention for future years to cut 150m a year on a 4 year rotation. Alongside this, to allow sufficient light to reach the floor the removal of mature oak trees will be required to create sufficient gaps in the canopy. To achieve this, 20% of the mature trees will be selectively felled along the 750m east west ride.

Abundant levels of holly should be restricted to compartment 2a and where possible in 2a holly should be managed to reduce the shade holly produces that can negatively affect regeneration of other tree species and flora. Coppicing holly is the most widely used method and should be employed in compartment 2a, with any other methods investigated and employed.

Norway Maple encroaching in North areas of the site should be removed by hand-pulling/digging saplings. Larger trees should be cut down with follow up and repeat cutting to exhaust the root system. If this fails to kill the Norway maple then herbicide will be used as a last resort.

Tailor woodland management operations to encourage the presence of national rare woodland species including but not limited to Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Purple Emperor and White Admiral. Some examples of tailored management would be to increase quantities of deadwood, retain willow trees where possible and honeysuckle in shaded areas by ensuring roots are retained during operations. Bracken and bramble being either rolled or cut to prevent total domination of the ground flora.

The site hosts some veteran pollards and few veteran oaks, to achieve the Woodland Trusts objective to better record the location of veteran trees, the site should be assessed for veteran characteristics and recorded if discovered.

In line with the UK Woodland Assurance Standard, 5% of the site is designated as a natural area and is located in the south east corner of the site. This area will be managed by minimum intervention unless alternative interventions have a higher conservation or biodiversity value.



4.3 f7 Informal Public Access

Description
<p>Visitors consist mostly of local residents, with dog walking a popular activity. There is no parking available on site though members of the public frequently park at the road side management gate. There are also two small car parks nearby, one by Ermine Street and the other by Danemead.</p> <p>Ermine Street is an old Roman Road, the section on the west just outside the site boundary is a public byeway. Another byeway is located on the East of the site though within the site boundary, from here a public footpath enters and crosses over the north east compartment exiting on Lord Street. At the end of 2024 a new legal bridleway was designated along the central east west ride, this allows cycle and equine access to the ancient woodland for the first time in the Woodland Trusts long ownership of the site. In addition the Broxbourne Woods NNR Trail passes though Hoddesdon Park Wood.</p> <p>The site has a total of 8 public access points all currently featuring kissing gates to allow pedestrian access only, two will have to be modified to allow the new bridle access.</p> <p>Antisocial activity is low, but does consist of constructed bike ramps and camps.</p>
Significance
<p>The woodland's size and convenient location make it a natural attraction for residents of the highly populated suburbs of Broxbourne who can enjoy and appreciate the varied woodland and its associated habitats. It adds to the local rights of way network and provides an excellent recreational resource.</p> <p>Inspiring people is one of the Woodland Trust's core objectives. By providing and maintaining this freely accessible site we aim to inspire, build loyalty and capture the hearts and minds of an ever-increasing number of people and organisations to support our cause.</p>
Opportunities & Constraints
<p>Opportunity to educate visitors and provide opportunity for the local community to benefit from ancient woodlands and so increase the value placed on them. Newly created public bridleway access provides the same opportunity though does risk devaluing it too through the prospect of a new type of users creating new visitor clashes. Horses and cyclists are also capable of causing more ground damage than walkers if they stray from the footpaths.</p>
Factors Causing Change
<p>Newly designated public bridleway.</p>

Long term Objective (50 years+)

The site will be appreciated and its value understood by visitors and the local community, enabled by the maintenance of the path infrastructure and entrances across the site with the addition of appropriate interpretation panels enhanced by the Broxbourne NNR trail.

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

Within the plan period continue to provide an accessible and well maintained woodland regularly used and enjoyed by the public. Path network, entrances and benches will be maintained in good condition for level and type of use, assessed through annual observation visits.

Visitor access maintenance -

Mow/strim all paths May/June and August each year removing any fallen trees/limbs and obstructions to maintain path accessibility. Strim around all entrances and internal and external site infrastructure, clean all signage and undertake site litter, rubbish removal.

Monitor all internal and entrance infrastructure. Repair and replace any damaged or worn infrastructure when required.

Tree safety inspections to be carried out at appropriate frequency decided on each inspection. Path network surveyed by Woodland Trust volunteers every summer for oak processionary moths. Action taken as appropriate to remove nests posing a risk to the public.

5. WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
2026	CS - Ecological Survey & Assessment	Use of external consultants to support the provision of ecological surveys, assessment and biodiversity / species monitoring	March
2026	AW - Visitor Access Infrastructure	Works associated with the construction of visitor access	March
2026	AW - Management Access Capital	Works associated with installing new or replacement management access infrastructure. Such as management access gates, vehicle bridges, fencing and surfacing works.	April
2026	SL - H&S Signage	Provision of on-site signage both temporary and permanent to alert visitor to safety risks or measures	April
2026	AW - Visitor Access Infrastructure	Works associated with the construction of visitor access	May
2026	WMI - General Site Restoration Work	Works associated with initial or restoration phases to conservation and physical features within the sites such as boundary ditches, fences and walls, hedges, infield and boundary trees	September
2026	WMI - General Site Restoration Work	Works associated with initial or restoration phases to conservation and physical features within the sites such as boundary ditches, fences and walls, hedges, infield and boundary trees	December
2026	WMM - Invasive Plant Control	Works associated with the on-going management of invasive plants– such a repeat cutting and control treatments	December
2027	SL - H&S Signage	Provision of on-site signage both temporary and permanent to alert visitor to safety risks or measures	April
2027	AW - Visitor Access Infrastructure	Works associated with the construction of visitor access	May
2027	AW - Management Access Capital	Works associated with installing new or replacement management access infrastructure. Such as management access gates, vehicle bridges, fencing and surfacing works.	July
2027	WMM - AWS silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within ancient woodlands 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	December
2027	WMM - Invasive Plant Control	Works associated with the on-going management of invasive plants– such a repeat cutting and control treatments	December

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
2028	SL - H&S Signage	Provision of on-site signage both temporary and permanent to alert visitor to safety risks or measures	April
2028	AW - Visitor Access Infrastructure	Works associated with the construction of visitor access	May
2028	WMI - Ride Restoration	Works associated with the initial restoration, creation or significant reinvestment to new/existing woodland rides such as – initial coppicing and felling for widening, ditching etc.	September
2028	WMI - Ride Restoration	Works associated with the initial restoration, creation or significant reinvestment to new/existing woodland rides such as – initial coppicing and felling for widening, ditching etc.	September
2028	WMM - Coppice Management	Works associated with the management of coppice areas – such as coppicing, maintenance of protective fencing, etc	September
2028	WMM - AWS silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within ancient woodlands 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	October
2028	WMM - Invasive Plant Control	Works associated with the on-going management of invasive plants– such a repeat cutting and control treatments	December
2028	WMM - AWS silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within ancient woodlands 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	December
2029	CS - Ecological Survey & Assessment	Use of external consultants to support the provision of ecological surveys, assessment and biodiversity / species monitoring	March
2029	SL - H&S Signage	Provision of on-site signage both temporary and permanent to alert visitor to safety risks or measures	April
2029	AW - Visitor Access Infrastructure	Works associated with the construction of visitor access	May
2029	WMM - AWS silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within ancient woodlands 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	December

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
2029	WMM - Invasive Plant Control	Works associated with the on-going management of invasive plants– such a repeat cutting and control treatments	December
2030	CS - Ecological Survey & Assessment	Use of external consultants to support the provision of ecological surveys, assessment and biodiversity / species monitoring	March
2030	SL - H&S Signage	Provision of on-site signage both temporary and permanent to alert visitor to safety risks or measures	April
2030	AW - Visitor Access Infrastructure	Works associated with the construction of a new or extension to existing car parking facilities.	May
2030	WMM - AWS silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within ancient woodlands 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	September
2030	WMM - AWS silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within ancient woodlands 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	October
2030	WMM - Invasive Plant Control	Works associated with the on-going management of invasive plants– such a repeat cutting and control treatments	December
2030	WMM - AWS silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within ancient woodlands 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	December
2031	SL - H&S Signage	Provision of on-site signage both temporary and permanent to alert visitor to safety risks or measures	April
2031	AW - Visitor Access Infrastructure	Works associated with the construction of visitor access	May
2031	WMM - AWS silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within ancient woodlands 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	December
2032	SL - H&S Signage	Provision of on-site signage both temporary and permanent to alert visitor to safety risks or measures	April

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
2032	WMM - AWS silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within ancient woodlands 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	September
2032	WMM - AWS silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within ancient woodlands 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	October
2032	WMM - AWS silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within ancient woodlands 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	December
2033	CS - Ecological Survey & Assessment	Use of external consultants to support the provision of ecological surveys, assessment and biodiversity / species monitoring	March
2033	SL - H&S Signage	Provision of on-site signage both temporary and permanent to alert visitor to safety risks or measures	April
2033	WMM - AWS silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within ancient woodlands 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	December
2034	CS - Ecological Survey & Assessment	Use of external consultants to support the provision of ecological surveys, assessment and biodiversity / species monitoring	February
2034	SL - H&S Signage	Provision of on-site signage both temporary and permanent to alert visitor to safety risks or measures	April
2034	WMM - AWS silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within ancient woodlands 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	September
2034	WMM - AWS silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within ancient woodlands to meet our primary aims of conserving woodlands and encouraging public enjoyment– such as the removal of non-natives,	October

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
		thinning and promotion of native trees and shrubs, creating and managing view points and providing welcoming sites for visitors	
2034	WMM - AWS silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within ancient woodlands 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	December
2035	SL - H&S Signage	Provision of on-site signage both temporary and permanent to alert visitor to safety risks or measures	April
2035	WMM - AWS silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within ancient woodlands 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	December

APPENDIX 1 : COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

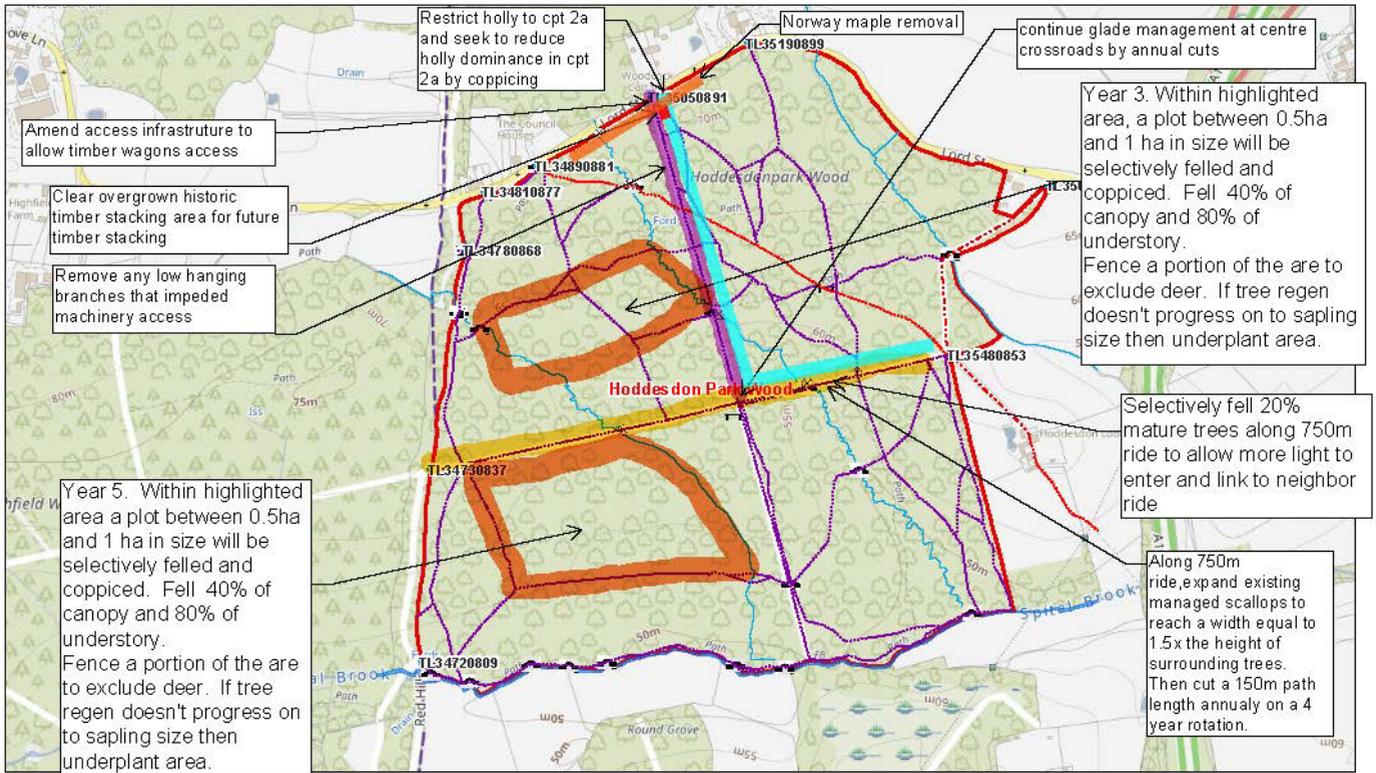
Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
1a	14.6	Oak (sessile)	1900	High forest	Archaeological features, Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Green Belt, National Nature Reserve, Site of Special Scientific Interest, Special Area of Conservation
<p>Compartment 1a borders Lord Street to the north and the Roman Road Ermine Street to the west. The canopy consists almost entirely of Sessile oak of average form, established around 1920 together with the occasional hornbeam standard and the odd birch. An understorey of hornbeam coppice is prevalent with oak, hornbeam and holly regeneration, prolific on ride edges and where light levels are greater.</p> <p>The compartment was thinned in 2001 with approximately 35 m³ / ha of oak and hornbeam removed.</p> <p>Ground flora is very variable, sparse in some of the old coppice and richer on the base-rich soils. Bracken flourishes in some of the more open areas</p> <p>Many dead trees have been left standing and all dead wood has been retained. Several wood banks are also present, particularly on the western side, which could at one time have been boundaries. Two low valley streams run in a north to south-east direction through the compartment adding to the diverse habitat.</p> <p>A number of paths run across the compartment and there is access to Ermine Street to the west via a kissing gate and steps and to the north allows access onto Lord Street.</p>						
2a	18.1	Oak (sessile)	1890	High forest	Archaeological features, Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Green Belt, National Nature Reserve, Site of Special Scientific Interest, Special Area of Conservation
<p>Occupying the northeast section, compartment 2a is similar to the rest of the wood, but slightly more varied in terms of stand density and composition. The canopy consists almost entirely of oak (1880-1920) with the occasional hornbeam (1920), birch and very occasional beech. Hornbeam again dominates the understorey along with a considerable amount of holly and a touch of birch, hazel and sycamore. Gaps in the canopy lead to areas of more</p>						

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
<p>vigorous ground flora, mainly bracken, grass, bramble, honeysuckle and wood anemones which are particularly impressive in the north east section. The stand was thinned in 2002 and approximately 35m³ / ha of timber was removed.</p> <p>Natural regeneration is prolific in this compartment with both oak and hornbeam seedlings prevalent almost everywhere, with some regeneration now reaching a few metres tall. Near the centre of the compartment is an open canopied area covered with 10 year old regen and coppice regrowth. Deer damage is very low but noticeable.</p> <p>Ride edges have been scalloped to encourage more light demanding plant groups together with their associated insect species. Wood banks are present at the edges of the main rides and there are two shaded streams running diagonally across the compartment.</p> <p>There is a public footpath running NW-SE across the compartment together with a number of other paths and waymarked walks meandering through the woodland.</p>						
3a	16.9	Oak (sessile)	1880	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Green Belt, National Nature Reserve, Site of Special Scientific Interest, Special Area of Conservation
<p>Compartment 3a again consists of oak high forest with occasional hornbeam standards established around 1920. Some mature hornbeam regeneration on the southern side, established around 1960, is also present and is beginning to reach canopy height. Thinned in 2003 where approx 27m³ / ha were removed.</p> <p>An understorey of over-mature coppice exists in places reducing the prevalence of natural regeneration. Ride edges have abundant hornbeam coppice and regeneration, occasional oak and birch, and rare ash, beech and hazel.</p> <p>Ground flora includes bramble in canopy gaps and honeysuckle on trees. Spring flora is impressive with a thick, almost unbroken, carpet of wood anemones.</p> <p>It borders Ermine Street to the west and slopes down to a winding stream on the southern boundary.</p>						
3b	0.3	Oak (sessile)	1920	Coppice	No/poor vehicular access to the site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Green Belt, National Nature Reserve, Scheduled Ancient Monument, Site of Special Scientific

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
						Interest, Special Area of Conservation
<p>An ancient moated site designated by English Heritage as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM). A rectangular enclosure measuring some 60m by 55m with a partially water-filled moat up to 10m wide and 3m deep. Dating back to the 13th century it is the likely location of the medieval park keeper's lodge. Mature oak now grow on the platform but the site remains clearly visible with annual coppicing of vegetation.</p>						
4a	12	Oak (sessile)	1850	High forest	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Green Belt, National Nature Reserve, Site of Special Scientific Interest, Special Area of Conservation
<p>Similar to the remainder of the wood, comprising sessile oak high forest of average form established around 1920 with a hornbeam coppice understorey. Birch are noticeable as well as a few wild service tree. Hazel and holly are commonplace and ground flora consists of wood anemones, bracken, grass, bramble and honeysuckle, plentiful in the southern area alongside Spittal Brook.</p> <p>Under a Forest Research silviculture programme, the compartment was thinned in 2004 with about 28m³ / ha of timber removed over 12 plots given different prescriptions. This has resulted in a varied structure and vastly differing ratios of oak high forest to hornbeam understorey.</p> <p>Deer browsing to young natural regeneration is obvious in open areas. A stream runs in a north to southeast direction through the centre of the sub-compartment and a shaded and stagnant pond lies in the southwest corner of the sub-compartment.</p>						

APPENDIX 2 : MANAGEMENT MAP

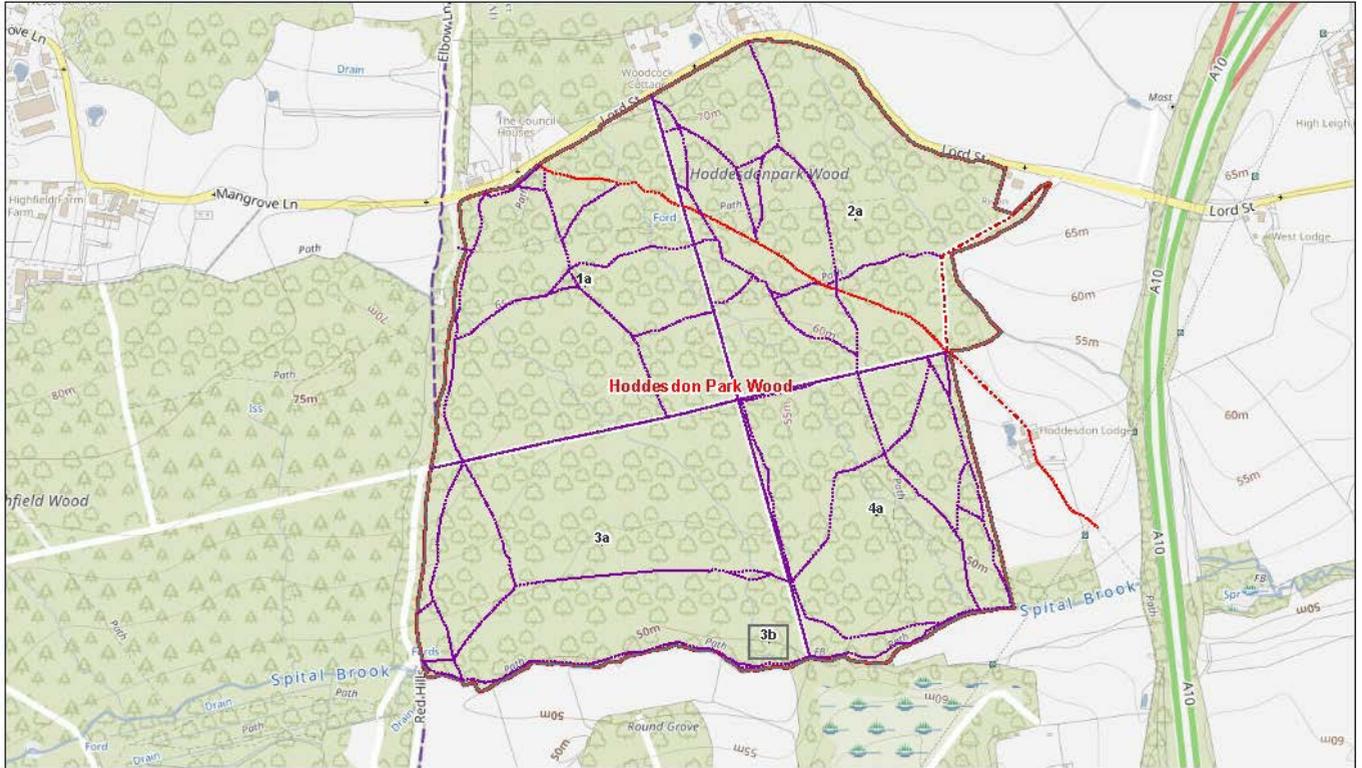
Hoddesdon Park Wood Management Map 2026–2036



Woodland Trust
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APPENDIX 3 : COMPARTMENT MAP

Hoddesdon Park Wood



20/09/2023, 14:39:07

Estate Path Network

Legal-Footpath

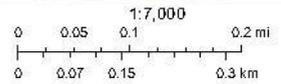
Permissive-Footpath

Restricted byway

Estate SubCompartments

Estate SubComp Labels

Management Units



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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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