

Gibbet Hill Wood

(Plan period – 2024 to 2029)



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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2. Site Description
3. Long Term Policy
4. Key Features
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5. Work Programme

Appendix 1 : Compartment Descriptions

GLOSSARY

1. SITE DETAILS

Gibbet Hill Wood

Location:	Coventry, nr Warwick University Grid reference: SP306756 OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 140
Area:	10.36 hectares (25.60 acres)
External Designations:	N/A
Internal Designations:	Welcoming Sites Programme, Woods on Your Doorstep

2. SITE DESCRIPTION

Gibbet Hill Wood is one of 200 woods created by the Woodland Trust to mark the Millennium as part of their Woods on Your Doorstep initiative. The 10.31 hectare site was planted in December 1999 with a mixture of native broadleaf trees and shrubs such as oak, ash, silver birch, field maple and goat willow. Along the boundary with Tocil Wood, an ancient semi-natural woodland, a 25m strip was left unplanted to allow the ancient woodland to colonise and spread into the Gibbet Hill site. Two old field boundary hedgerows with banks and ditches, hazel coppice and mature trees cross the site. There are also a few bluebells along the old hedges.

Gibbet Hill wood lies on the southwestern edge of Coventry. It is bordered by Tocil Wood and Canley Brook to the northwest, residential areas to the north and east and the University of Warwick Gibbet Hill Campus (School of Life Sciences) to the southeast. A well used surfaced path links the medical school with the main campus to the west of Tocil Wood.

Within the woodland, there are wide, open rides and a surfaced circular footpath. A seat, which is the millennium feature, has been placed in the meadow along the northwestern path, and other benches can also be found across the site. Visitors can access the site from the university campus, from the north where a footpath leads from an area of amenity grassland and from the residential area to the east. Management access is gained from Gibbet Hill Road on the southwestern side. There is no visitor parking at the site and limited parking in the surrounding area.

Some areas of the site were not planted to protect an area of archaeological interest (Flints Cottage) in the southwestern corner and the numerous services crossing the site. The name, Gibbet Hill Wood, is derived from the raised land to the southeast of the site, now a residential area situated on the intersection with Kenilworth Road A249, Gibbet Hill Road and Stoneleigh Road. The site is leased from Coventry City Council on a 125 year agreement from December 1998.

Key Features:

- Informal Public Access
- New Native Woodland

3. LONG TERM POLICY

The intention of this site is that Gibbet Hill Wood will be a structurally and species diverse native broadleaved woodland, with various open areas, rides and edge and scrub habitats. .

Now that the initial establishment period is over, the woodland will be allowed to develop naturally as far as possible, only intervening when there is evidence that it is necessary to maintain or improve biodiversity and to further the development of more resilient woods and landscapes in accordance with the Woodland Trusts Management Approach (such as through ride-side coppicing and silvicultural thins). The aim is to create a diverse mature woodland with a range of native species, age ranges, well structured rides and with deadwood, both standing and fallen, being retained where it is safe to do so. Gaps in the canopy will allow for floral colonisation and regeneration of all species. The wide sunny rides will be maintained, and the woodland edge habitat managed to diversify the species and age structure of the wood.

Low-key public access will be maintained in perpetuity through a managed path network, entrances and regular safety checks. Infrastructure and facilities will be minimal and only essential signage used. Use of the site will be monitored and provisions for informal recreation reviewed accordingly. Ride edge coppice work in selected locations will be undertaken to enhance visitor enjoyment, as well as structural diversity. Public safety will be assessed regularly and tree safety inspections made.

4. KEY FEATURES

4.1 f2 Secondary Woodland

Description
Gibbet Hill is a popular and well used woodland. There is an established canopy up to 10m tall with shrubs mainly along the ride edges and boundaries. There is little vegetation growing beneath the areas of dense canopy, and grass, nettles, bramble and some tree and shrub regeneration growing beneath the areas of lighter canopy and along the ride edges. Along the boundary of Tocil Wood (ASNW), a 25m wide strip of land has successfully established through natural regeneration. Incorporated within the planting are the old field boundary hedgerows with mature trees which cross the site. There are two circular paths which link the entrances, woodland planting and areas of open ground.
Significance
Ancient woodlands such as Tocil Wood are rich and complex habitats. The new planting at Gibbet Hill Wood provides a protective buffer for the ancient woodland, whilst also extending the wooded area and creating additional habitat for both flora and fauna. Provides an area of woodland with open public access on the edge of Coventry.
Opportunities & Constraints
The natural regeneration area was planned so that trees and shrubs from the Tocil Wood ASNW can colonise the area. Wildlife, including flora associated with ancient woodland has the potential to colonise Gibbet Hill Wood. Flints cottage, an archaeological site, and underground services run across the site and have influenced the extent of the woodland planting.
Factors Causing Change
Ash dieback - whilst a number of trees will be lost, the open glades created will allow natural regeneration, thereby increasing the structural and age diversity of the wood. Squirrel and rabbit damage on existing stand and new natural regeneration as the understory continues to develop. Path encroachment through wet ground and desire lines through the woodland.
Long term Objective (50 years+)
The aim is to create a resilient, attractive and structurally diverse mature woodland with a range of native species and ages, well structured rides and with deadwood, both standing and fallen, being retained where it is safe to do so. Gaps in the canopy will allow for floral colonisation and regeneration of all species. The wide sunny rides will be maintained, and the woodland edge habitat managed to diversify the species and age structure of the wood.
Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)

To increase structural and age diversity there will be some phased thinning and coppicing of the woodland. This will create a range of habitats for insects, birds and wildlife and allow retained trees to develop a good crown structure. It will also create space around some sections of the old hedgerows running through the site, and the mature oaks along the eastern hedgerow will be cleared of ivy.

The southeastern path will be widened along the northern section by cutting back into the woodland to maintain the path width as the trees develop for future maintenance.

Ash dieback will be monitored, particularly along footpaths and along the southern boundary. The trees will be left as standing deadwood if safe, allowing natural regeneration in these areas. If intervention is necessary, the wood will be left for habitat.

The wide, open, sunny areas will be maintained through clearing any encroaching scrub and coppicing ride side shrubs - scalloping back into the woodland edge to create a sinuous woodland edge habitat. This edge will be softened by allowing a more gradual transition from trees through shrubs, long grass and mown grass.

The balsam in the northern corner by the stream will be monitored with intervention when necessary.

4.2 f3 Connecting People with woods & trees

Description

Access/Infrastructure

Gibbet Hill Wood was created in 1999 as part of the Millennium 'Woods on your Doorstep' project. It consists mainly of a young, mixed woodland which sits adjacent to an area of ancient woodland known as Tocil Wood.

It is located within the grounds of the University of Warwick to the South West of Coventry city. It is near to the suburb of Canley and the wood is dissected by a university pathway running North/South that links two areas of the university, which is believed to be a public footpath falling within the University's control. At the north end of the site, the boundary adjoins a well-used pedestrian track which forms part of a formal City park/playing field area and leads onto residential housing. There are various other informal access points into the site from adjacent land. Entrances are open without gates or barriers.

There is no parking available for visitors. There is a bus stop very close to the woodland and an excellent local bus route network which means the site can be accessed easily by bus. The nearest train stations are Coventry station, Tile Hill Station and Canley Station, all of which are approximately 3 miles away.

The pathways within the site have previously benefitted from a programme of improvement works to overcome the tendency for them to become boggy and impassable, and they are now surfaced, which will improve access considerably, particularly during the winter months.

General Communication Drivers

Currently the main users of the site are University students and local residents who live in the surrounding area. The site is predominantly used currently by people who live within walking distance because of the lack of visitor parking. There is potential for the site to be exploited by people from nearby Coventry, particularly given the available bus services, and we could consider promotion to these people as a source of accessible 'green space' within a predominantly urban environment. There is also potential to engage further with students from Warwick University, as although many of them pass the site on the cycle tracks and footpaths, few of them make the effort to turn off and utilise the woodland space. This audience might be most engaged by a 'physical and mental health and well-being' message and could potentially be interested in using the woodland for recreational relaxation, meditation, stress-

management and physical exercise. Ways to promote the woodland in the University itself could be investigated.

The features within the site that provide interest are as follows :

- Informal public access to an area of green woodland space within a predominantly urban environment, enabling relaxation and recreation.
- Neighbouring site of ancient woodland, Tocil wood, owned by the Wildlife Trust
- A seat which forms the Millennium Feature, at the highest point of the site, centrally on the SE boundary.
- Areas of meadow within the site, creating a diverse experience for visitors and allowing engagement with a variety of wildlife habitats
- Historic field boundaries, some of which may be Medieval

The current visitor offer at Gibbet Hill wood is a low key one, and reflects the Trust's original intention of creating places for quiet, informal recreation. The wood is a quiet and peaceful place which provides an amenity to local people to escape from the nearby city life and explore independently. The visitor offer is informal recreation, offering space for quite contemplative walking, family picnic site, and dog walking.

Nearby sites with potential for partnership engagement are English Heritage-owned Kenilworth Castle (<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/kenilworth-castle>) Coventry City Council-run Coombe Country Park (http://www.coventry.gov.uk/info/136/coombe_country_park/498/coombe_country_park) and The War Memorial Park <http://www.coventry.gov.uk/warmemorialpark>) and Warwickshire County Council-run Ryton Pools Country Park (<http://countryparks.warwickshire.gov.uk/country-parks/ryton-pools-country-park/>) Opportunities for partnership working with the neighbouring Wildlife Trust property at Tocil Wood should also be explored. The possibility of partnership work with Warwick University should also be investigated. The Woodland Trust also owns Elkin wood nearby, so joint opportunities and cross-promotion should be explored. Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve, run by the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust is also nearby, and is our biggest comparator for the same audience for events etc. (<http://www.warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/reserves/brandon-marsh>)

Events

There is no current active events programme onsite. There is potential to do certain low-key relevant brand moments or guided walks or trails. The open meadow area would be suitable for running small, low-key events. However, the site is not appropriate for mass participation events because of limited size and lack of parking. The audience for these events would be limited to those who could access the site on foot or by public transport. There is potential for running events aimed at neighbouring University students.

Volunteers

There are currently no volunteers at this site. There is potential for volunteer involvement in the site, subject to capacity and availability of suitable projects.

Schools

There are currently no forest schools at the site, or schools which use the site in a formal capacity. There is potential to develop this in the future, as the site would be suitable, if local schools were interested in this. The nearest schools to the site are Canon Park Primary School, Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School,, The Westwood Academy and Finham Park School. There is also the School of Theatre, Performance and Cultural Policy nearby, which might give interesting potential for arts or drama-based interactions on the site. The biggest nearby educational establishment with the biggest potential for engagement remains Warwick University. However, there may be a conflict of user-groups in

getting young children to share the same site as University students, and the site may not be appropriate or big enough to accommodate both comfortably.

Wider Community Engagement

There are 3 Scout groups in Coventry. The nearby Village of Canley has a Community Centre, and Cheylesmore Community Association Ltd (<https://www.cheylesmorecentre.co.uk/>) is also nearby. Nearby Kenilworth has The Kenilworth Centre (<http://www.thekenilworthcentre.com/>) which is dedicated to providing a range of activities and support to local residents of all ages, and there may be partnership opportunities with them. There is a branch of the Young Farmers at nearby Stoneleigh. Warwick University itself has over 250 societies, including several which focus on health and wellbeing, and where there might be potential for engagement with the wood.

Significance

The site provides a valuable area of natural recreational space within an urban area. It is a well-used through route linking two areas of the university and is adjacent to public rights of way. It abuts an area of ancient woodland (Tocil Wood, owned by the Wildlife Trust) and together they provide a significant area of natural habitat. The wood has provided an important habitat for wildlife close to a residential area within an agricultural landscape. Ancient hedgerows are preserved within the site and form a feature of interest. The name Gibbet Hill references the historic land use in the area as the local gallows-site, and this provides an additional feature of interest and potential story-telling opportunities within the site.

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities:

Access/Infrastructure

Previously created stoned pathways to allow for increased access and footfall, particularly in winter. Potential to increase usage by students as a through-route and for recreational purposes. Paths allow for buggy access and improved wheelchair access so increasing audience potential to families and those with additional access needs.

General Comms Drivers

Local University population is a key potential audience and comms methods and channels which will engage with students is a key priority.

Joint comms and promotion with Wildlife Trust

Events

Potential to engage with student population for small-scale relevant events on site. Potential for partnership work with Wildlife Trust. Open areas at entrance to wood from Cycle path could be used for small-scale events.

Volunteering

Potential to engage volunteers with working on the site, possibly recruiting students from the University as volunteers

Schools

New pathways make the wood increasingly accessible for schools allowing year-round access. Potential to engage with local schools and encourage usage, possibly forest schools. Increase engagement with University students, possibly encourage them to utilise the wood for appropriate departmental studies?

Wider Community Engagement

Potential to increase signage visibility from the cycle path and therefore widen local awareness of the site. Engagement opportunities with local community groups such as the Kenilworth Centre, with potential to open the wood up to new audience and create sense of ownership in local residents.

Constraints:

Access/Infrastructure

University-owned surrounding land which limits signage opportunities at entrance points. The ground conditions are still uneven and boggy in some areas, so the whole wood is not equally accessible. Further work to paths may be required and this will be monitored.

Website may not be very user-friendly or appealing to student population.

Students who are not local will need additional support in finding and accessing the site, with increased signage and mapping.

General Comms Drivers

2 very diverse audiences, local permanent residents and temporary student residents, of differing wealth and interest profiles, with exposure to very different comms channels.

Site needs mapping in order to produce leaflets and orientation boards.

Events

Site is too small to warrant trails or guided walks on its own, but there may be potential to do joint events with the Wildlife Trust.

Volunteering

Staff capacity to facilitate and maintain involvement.

Schools

No environmental science or conservation-type courses taught at this University, so potentially limited interest from student tutor groups.

Staff capacity to facilitate and maintain involvement, and lack of current interest by schools. Capacity and receptiveness of school staff.

Possible increase in anti-social behaviour through increased usage by student population.

There may be a conflict of user-groups in getting young children to share the same site as University students, and the site may not be appropriate or big enough to accommodate both comfortably.

Wider Community Engagement

University-owned surrounding land which limits signage opportunities at entrance points. Services lie underneath the area of woodland near the cycle path which limits activity in this area.

Lack of staff capacity to facilitate and maintain involvement. There is potential for conflict if both student populations and local populations are encouraged to use the space.

Possible increase in anti-social behaviour through increased usage by student population.

Factors Causing Change
Previously-laid pathways will open up the wood to a greater audience, and potentially create demand for even greater access provision and an appetite for more engagement opportunities. Possible expansion and growth of the University would increase the potential student audience and potential user-numbers for the site. If student usage increases dramatically this may necessitate even greater work to maintain and improve/expand the footpaths to withstand increased usage. The work required to thin the woodland may decrease its popularity and appeal and may cause controversy, particularly with student population, if that isn't appropriately communicated.
Long term Objective (50 years+)
Public access will be maintained in perpetuity through a managed network of paths and entrances. Infrastructure such as entrances, gates, welcome signs and benches will be maintained to a good standard and the woodland will be made as safe as practical for visitors to use, through regular safety inspections. The site will retain its value as a quiet and accessible woodland within an urban area.
Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)
Informal and low-key public access will be maintained by ensuring the footpath network and open areas are mown and cleared of any encroaching vegetation and the entrances accessible and maintained to a good standard. Coppicing work around the northern access will open up the pathways, creating a lighter and more welcoming entrance. Selected areas of the pathways will be widened by coppicing, clearing or scalloping. This will increase the habitat, age and structural diversity of the site, and allowing more light into these areas will be beneficial for wildlife. The garden bench in the woodland will be monitored and removed if necessary. Engage with Warwick University departments and implement suitable collaboration projects.

5. WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
2024	SL - Tree Safety Silviculture Work	Retrieving data. Wait a few seconds and try to cut or copy again.	December
2025	SL - Tree Safety Silviculture Work	Retrieving data. Wait a few seconds and try to cut or copy again.	December
2026	SL - Tree Safety Silviculture Work	Retrieving data. Wait a few seconds and try to cut or copy again.	December
2026	WMI - Ancient / Vet Tree Restoration	Works associated with the restoration/protection of ancient, veteran trees or culturally significant trees – such as re-pollarding, initial halo thinning , redirecting paths	December
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	December
2028	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	December

APPENDIX 1 : COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
1a	9.99	Ash	2000	Wood establishment	Services & wayleaves	
This Cpt forms the major part of the site. The planting pattern is dominated by group planting of alder and ash (in groups of 25) and oak in groups of 50 (these comprise 75% of planted species). Crack willow comprises 12.5% in groups of 25. These are protected by Tubex Sleeves. The remaining 12.5% is made up by equal amounts of shrubs guarded with 0.6m Tubex Shelters. The alder and willow have been concentrated towards the damper areas of the site on the more northern edges. A circular path has been incorporated into both the woodland parts.						
2a	0.32	Ash	2000	Wood establishment	Archaeological features, Services & wayleaves	
25m wide strip of land running along the North Western boundary parallel to the neighbouring ASNW site of Tocil Wood (WWT). Area has been fenced off with rabbit netting (including a management access gate at the South West corner). Area to establish by natural regeneration from mature seed trees located on edge of Tocil Wood, (WGS stipulates a density of viable regeneration at 1600 stems / Ha.).						

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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