



# Costells Wood

# Management Plan 2013-2018

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## THE WOODLAND TRUST

### INTRODUCTION

The Trust's corporate aims and management approach guide the management of all the Trust's properties, and are described on Page 4. These determine basic management policies and methods, which apply to all sites unless specifically stated otherwise. Such policies include free public access; keeping local people informed of major proposed work; the retention of old trees and dead wood; and a desire for management to be as unobtrusive as possible. The Trust also has available Policy Statements covering a variety of woodland management issues.

The Trust's management plans are based on the identification of Key Features for the site and setting objectives for their management. A monitoring programme (not included in this plan) ensures that these objectives are met and any necessary management works are carried out.

Any legally confidential or sensitive species information about this site is not included in this version of the plan.

### PLAN REVIEW AND UPDATING

The information presented in this Management plan is held in a database which is continuously being amended and updated on our website. Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations. Please either consult The Woodland Trust website [www.woodlandtrust.org.uk](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk) or contact the Woodland Trust ([wopsmail@woodlandtrust.org.uk](mailto:wopsmail@woodlandtrust.org.uk)) to confirm details of the current management programme.

There is a formal review of this plan every 5 years and a summary of monitoring results can be obtained on request.

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## WOODLAND MANAGEMENT APPROACH

The management of our woods is based on our charitable purposes, and is therefore focused on improving woodland biodiversity and increasing peoples' understanding and enjoyment of woodland. Our strategic aims are to:

- Protect native woods, trees and their wildlife for the future
- Work with others to create more native woodlands and places rich in trees
- Inspire everyone to enjoy and value woods and trees

All our sites have a management plan which is freely accessible via our website [www.woodlandtrust.org.uk](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) through independent audit. In addition to the guidelines below we have specific guidance and policies on issues of woodland management which we review and update from time to time.

We recognise that all woods are different and that the management of our sites should also reflect their local landscape and where appropriate support local projects and initiatives. Guidelines like these provide a necessary overarching framework to guide the management of our sites but such management also requires decisions based on local circumstances and our Site Manager's intimate knowledge of each site.

The following guidelines help to direct our woodland management:

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

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## SUMMARY

This public management plan briefly describes the site, specifically mentions information on public access, sets out the long term policy and lists the Key Features which drive management actions. The Key Features are specific to this site - their significance is outlined together with their long (50 year+) and short (5 year) term objectives. The short term objectives are complemented by a detailed Work Programme for the period of this management plan. Detailed compartment descriptions are listed in the appendices which include any major management constraints and designations. A short glossary of technical terms is at the end. The Key Features and general woodland condition of this site are subject to a formal monitoring programme which is maintained in a central database. A summary of monitoring results is available on request.

## 1.0 SITE DETAILS

<b>Site name:</b>	Costells Wood
<b>Location:</b>	Scaynes Hill
<b>Grid reference:</b>	TQ366237, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 198
<b>Area:</b>	21.14 hectares (52.24 acres)
<b>Designations:</b>	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, County Wildlife Site (includes SNCI, SINC etc)

## 2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

### 2.1 Summary Description

Costells Wood is a site of ancient woodland and has been designated an area of wildlife importance. Broadleaf trees inhabit the area, and ground flora includes orchids. Several small ponds are found in the site, alongside an extensive path network.

## 2.2 Extended Description

Costells Wood lies on the edge of the village of Scaynes Hill in West Sussex. The site is mainly level with steep-sided ghylls running through it and along the western boundary. It is part of a much larger area of woodland which extends to the north and east (Henfield and Nashgill Woods). The Woodland Trust acquired 21 hectares of the woodland in 1996. A 10 acre area in the south-east is outside of the Woodland Trust's ownership.

It is designated ancient semi-natural woodland (ASNW) i.e. it has been wooded since at least 1600 AD. It is also designated as a Site of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI) due to its long history of continuous woodland cover that makes the site of considerable importance for wildlife.

Costells Wood contains a range of woodland types including areas of overstood hazel, birch and hornbeam coppice with oak and ash standards, alder flush woodland in the ghylls and a wooded heath area of open-grown oak, birch and Scots pine with a ground flora of heather, bilberry and bracken. Along the NE boundary a public footpath follows power-lines that run through a regularly cleared swathe, creating a linear area with scrub and a grassy track known locally as the Bunny Walk. This area has a varied ground and shrub flora which includes common spotted orchids, wood spurge and alder buckthorn. There are several small ponds located in the wood, one of which has been restored through the installation of a weir with a footbridge over it.

There is an extensive network of paths running through the wood, well used by the local community. Steps and footbridges have been installed to aid access.

Soils are stagnogleyic argillic brown earths with the underlying geology being Tunbridge Wells Sand. Rainfall is approx 800mm per year.

## 3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

### 3.1 Getting there

**General location:**

Costells Wood is situated on the north-west edge of the village of Scaynes Hill, near Haywards Heath. The main public entrance is off the common at the northern edge of the village off Church Road.

**General overview of paths & entrances:**

The entrances to the wood are off the common and off the A272 next to the management gate. They are all squeeze gaps. The paths within the wood can be very muddy following wet weather. The site is generally level with some short steep gradients into the various stream valleys where steps aid access. There are several narrow footbridges at stream crossing points.

**Parking:**

The nearest car parking is at the northern end of the common approx 120m from the entrance.

**Public Transport:**

Nearest train station: Haywards Heath approx 2½ miles from the wood via the A272, a busy main road without pavements for some of the distance.

Nearest bus stop: The Farmers PH, Scaynes Hill. There are regular services from Haywards Heath and Uckfield. Information obtained from Traveline website on 1/8/13 ([www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk](http://www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk) or tel: 0870 608 2 608).

**Public Toilets:**

Nearest toilets: Orchards shopping precinct, Haywards Heath, approx 2 miles from the wood.

Disabled facilities accessible with a RADAR key. Baby-changing facilities. Information obtained from Mid Sussex DC website on 1/8/13 ([www.midsussex.gov.uk](http://www.midsussex.gov.uk)).

## 3.2 Access / Walks

## 4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

At Costells Wood the long term intention is that it will be ancient semi-natural woodland with a diverse species and age composition and extensive woodland and heathland ground flora. The Scots pines will mature into characterful veterans enhancing the 'wooded heath' areas. This will be achieved by allowing the site to develop naturally, with little silvicultural intervention. Regular clearance under the power lines combined with rideside coppicing along some of the paths will create temporary open space favouring early successional species and allowing them movement through the woodland and wider landscape.

This ride management will enhance the visitor experience and existing on-site access facilities will be maintained and enhanced to suit local demand which is currently Grade A- high usage, responding reactively with changes in demand.

The Trust will promote the woodland so that local users and visitors can gain an understanding of the woodlands importance in the landscape, and the benefits it provides to both people and wildlife.

## 5.0 KEY FEATURES

The Key Features of the site are identified and described below. They encapsulate what is important about the site. The short and long-term objectives are stated and any management necessary to maintain and improve the Key Feature.

### 5.1 Informal Public Access

#### Description

Costells Wood is located on the northern fringes of the village of Scaynes Hill. With a population of around 1500 living within 1km of the site and in excess of 40,000 within 5km, the site is regularly used at all times of year, with more than approx 15 - 20 people using one entrance every day (access category A). There is a public footpath leading from Scaynes Hill Common along the north-eastern edge of Costell's Wood. There is also an entrance into the wood directly off the A 272 to the south. There is a good internal network of paths and rides running throughout the wood which are mainly flat however they can be extremely muddy.

#### Significance

It has been proven that access to woodland provides an improved quality of life with benefits to both mental and physical health. Costells Wood provides a large and varied woodland resource with a wide array of plants and wildlife, close to a residential area, for people to enjoy. With a population of around 1500 people the wood provides an important recreational resource to the residents of Scaynes Hill.

#### Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities: to maintain current levels of use by local people. To improve wetter areas by selective ride side coppicing to let more light onto path surfaces and to demonstrate conservation management by the Woodland Trust and to be able to use the woodland as a resource for education.

Constraints: muddy ground conditions will limit use of the wood by disabled people & pushchairs.

#### Factors Causing Change

Potential future housing developments increasing local population

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

Existing on-site access facilities will be maintained and enhanced to suit local demand which is currently Grade A- high usage, responding reactively with changes in demand. It will be well used by the local community.

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

During this plan period, the short term objective is to continue to provide public access at Costells Wood which is safe, and enjoyable. This will be achieved by keeping the existing network of paths well maintained, ensuring that the entrance and infrastructure are welcoming and in good condition. Tree safety inspections will be undertaken in line with WT policy and any remedial work will be undertaken. Rideside coppicing will be undertaken on approximately 600m of rides (5 - 10m width).

## 5.2 Ancient Semi Natural Woodland

### Description

Costells Wood is part of a larger block of ASNW and has a good variety of woodland types present from heathy areas with open-grown oak and Scots pine, to ancient woods and ghylls. Away from the heathy areas there are typical ancient woodland ground flora species with good displays of bluebells in some areas. The ghyll woodland areas have a good two storey structure with oak being the main canopy tree along with occasional ash and rare beech and sycamore. Understorey species are typically hornbeam, hazel and birch. Under the power lines are areas of semi-natural open ground supporting heathy vegetation such as heather & bracken as well as common spotted orchids, wood spurge and alder buckthorn.

### Significance

The amount of ASNW left in Britain has been drastically reduced over the last century. Approximately 40% of Englands ASNW is found in the South East. ASNW is very important due to the continuity of woodland cover over hundreds of years. This allows for a diverse range of wildlife and vegetation to develop over time that cannot be found in new woodland creation sites. Ancient woodland is irreplaceable and the prevention of its loss is one of the main aims of the Trust.

### Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities: to create more temporary open ground

Constraints: Deer browsing may hinder coppice regrowth.

### Factors Causing Change

Deer Damage,

### Long term Objective (50 years+)

The ancient-semi natural woodland will be perpetuated and enhanced through minimum intervention by allowing the woodland to senesce and develop largely by the processes of natural succession, resulting in an uneven aged high forest structure typical of lowland deciduous woodland. The ride widening will provide a further mosaic of temporary open habitats favouring early successional species. The Scots pines in the heathy area will develop into characterful veterans.

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

To encourage the process of natural succession and create a diverse age structure no silvicultural intervention will take place within the body of the wood, other than along rides and paths, during this plan period. Approximately 600m of rideside coppicing will be undertaken with rides varying in width from 5 - 10m, with scalloped edges and 'pinch points'. Where safet to do so standing and fallen deadwood will be retained.

## 6.0 WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type of Work	Description	Due By
2013	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Second path cut: all rides and paths as marked on map including verges.	30/10/13
2013	AW - Visitor Access Infrastructure	Surface path at main entrance to wood - 150m Dry site, cut and fill 1.2 m wide, 125mm depth including shallow drain. Based on FC standard costs @ £30/m. (allow extra for aprox 50m wet area).  NOTE - SW to apply for FC WIG	31/10/13
2013	SL - Tree Safety Works - Zone A	Undertake tree safety works as directed	20/12/13
2014	SL - Tree Safety Emergency Work	Clear windblown trees	30/04/14
2014	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	First path cut: all rides and paths as marked on map including verges. Bracken control by mowing under power lines in cpts 1c and 2b.	31/07/14
2014	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Second path cut: all rides and paths as marked on map including verges.	30/10/14
2015	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	First path cut: all rides and paths as marked on map including verges. Bracken control by mowing under power lines in cpts 1c and 2b.	31/07/15
2015	PE - Interpretation & Signage	Supply 3 x wooden welcome signs in FSC oak. Wood name: Costells Wood	31/07/15
2015	SL - Routine Safety Work	Replace shutting post on field gate at main entrance.	31/08/15
2015	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Second path cut: all rides and paths as marked on map including verges.	30/10/15
2015	WMM - Ride Management	Aprox 10 man days - rideside coppicing to create 2 zone rides.	31/10/15
2015	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Remove old interpretation panel & install 3 welcome signs.	30/11/15
2016	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	First path cut: all rides and paths as marked on map including verges. Bracken control by mowing under power lines in cpts 1c and 2b.	31/07/16
2016	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Second path cut: all rides and paths as marked on map including verges.	30/10/16
2016	SL - Tree Safety Emergency Work	Priority tree works to clear fallen trees from main footpath.	01/11/16

2017	SL - Tree Safety Works - Zone A	Routine tree works following 2016 Tree Risk Management Inspection. Fell leaning and hung-up birches adjacent to RoW at the North end of the site.	20/03/17
2017	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Replace bridge handrail & uprights on pond side only.	31/07/17
2017	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	<p>First path cut - For route indicated on EMC map provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Include bracken control by mowing under power lines in cpts 1c and 2b</li> <li>•Include verges</li> <li>•Remove fallen or hung-up trees across path route</li> </ul> <p>Entrance maintenance - For all entrance points indicated with 'P' (pedestrian access) or 'PM'(maintenance/vehicle access) on EMC map provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Cut ground vegetation and/or overhanging branches</li> <li>•Pick &amp; dispose of litter</li> <li>•Clean all signs &amp; information boards</li> <li>•Carry out small scale repairs, including provision of small consumable items such as wire, nails, screws, staples etc. Include removal or rounding off of sharp edges on any infrastructure or fittings. (Ensure that any repairs/replacement parts match the original specification)</li> <li>•Clear any obstructions (e.g. fly tip)</li> <li>•Carry out any hand maintenance of ditches required</li> <li>•Report on work completed and if any further works are required</li> </ul>	31/07/17

2017	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	<p>Second path cut - For route indicated on EMC map provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Include normal path cut under power lines in cpts 1c and 2b as shown on map</li> <li>•Include verges</li> <li>•Remove fallen or hung-up trees across path route</li> </ul> <p>Entrance maintenance - For all entrance points indicated with 'P' (pedestrian access) or 'PM'(maintenance/vehicle access) on EMC map provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Cut ground vegetation and/or overhanging branches</li> <li>•Pick &amp; dispose of litter</li> <li>•Clean all signs &amp; information boards</li> <li>•Carry out small scale repairs, including provision of small consumable items such as wire, nails, screws, staples etc. Include removal or rounding off of sharp edges on any infrastructure or fittings. (Ensure that any repairs/replacement parts match the original specification)</li> <li>•Clear any obstructions (e.g. fly tip)</li> <li>•Carry out any hand maintenance of ditches required</li> <li>•Report on work completed and if any further works are required</li> </ul>	30/10/17
2017	WMM - Ride Management	Volunteer group to carry out ride-side coppicing. Spec TBC on site.	31/12/17
2018	WMM - Ride Management	Volunteer group to undertake ride-side coppicing & stack arisings. (5 days).	28/02/18
2018	WMM - Coppice Management	Re-coppice 75% of trees around pond edge at north end of site & stack arisings as dead hedge around pond edge. Spec TBC on site.	12/03/18
2018	PE - Volunteer on site activity	Cost for tools & PPE for volunteer group.	31/03/18
2018	AW - Visitor Access Infrastructure	Re-profile earth steps and replace wooden retainers on two sets of steps shown on map provided. Remove all old materials.	31/03/18

2018	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Replace wooden pedestrian bridge & chestnut post&rail fencing around North pond. Remove all old materials.	31/03/18
2018	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	<p>First path cut - For route indicated on EMC map provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Strim/cut ground vegetation and overhanging branches to full path width.</li> <li>•Include bracken control by mowing under power lines in cpts 1c and 2b</li> <li>•Include verges</li> <li>•Remove fallen or hung-up trees across path route</li> </ul> <p>Entrance maintenance - For all entrance points indicated with 'P' (pedestrian access) or 'PM'(maintenance/vehicle access) on EMC map provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Cut ground vegetation and/or overhanging branches</li> <li>•Pick &amp; dispose of litter</li> <li>•Clean all signs &amp; information boards</li> <li>•Carry out small scale repairs, including provision of small consumable items such as wire, nails, screws, staples etc. Include removal or rounding off of sharp edges on any infrastructure or fittings. (Ensure that any repairs/replacement parts match the original specification)</li> <li>•Clear any obstructions (e.g. fly tip)</li> <li>•Carry out any hand maintenance of ditches required</li> <li>•Report on work completed and if any further works are required</li> </ul>	31/07/18

## APPENDIX 1: COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Key Features Present	Designations
1a	6.84	Oak (pedunculate)	1900	Min-intervention	Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/Rocky ground, Services & wayleaves	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Informal Public Access	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, County Wildlife Site (includes SNCI, SINC etc)
<p>Streamside mixed broadleaved woodland along the W boundary of the wood. The subcpt slopes down from main management track that runs north from the entrance on the A272, with the stream (a tributary of the river Ouse) forming the western boundary. There is mature oak with an understorey of birch, hornbeam, hazel, holly and hawthorn. Along the stream the wet ground conditions allow mature coppiced ash and alder to predominate. Ground flora includes bluebells, wood anemones, bracken, bramble and honeysuckle. In the wetter areas by the stream sedges, mosses and liverworts are abundant. To the west there is an area of mixed coppice with semi-mature oak standards. The last cant was coppiced in 1999. To the north is an area of mostly semi-natural open ground under powerlines. It is dominated by bracken in summer. There are occasional birch and elder and remnants of ancient woodland flora under the bracken including bluebells and wood anemones.</p>							
1b	5.34	Birch (downy/silver)	1950	Min-intervention	Services & wayleaves	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Informal Public Access	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, County Wildlife Site (includes SNCI, SINC etc)
<p>This is an area of valley/ghyll woodland along the north east boundary of the wood. The boundary of the wood is defined by the public footpath, known as the Bunny Walk, which approximately follows the overhead power lines that run in a regularly cleared swathe, 8-10m wide. The stream flows north west into a restored pond with a weir at the north west end of the subcpt. From here it flows west into the stream on the western boundary. There is also a tributary stream joining from the south. There are 2 smaller ponds along the valley. There is a woodbank running parallel to, but some distance from, the footpath. The area between this bank and the path appears to be secondary woodland with mainly birch and hazel. Within the ghyll tree species include standard oaks, coppiced hornbeam, birch, hazel, alder and holly. Ground flora in this part of the subcpt includes extensive bluebells and wood anemones with ferns, mosses and liverworts along the stream. There are permissive paths within as well as around the subcpt, with various steps and footbridges.</p>							

1c	8.96	Birch (downy/silver)	1970	Min-intervention	Services & wayleaves	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Informal Public Access	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, County Wildlife Site (includes SNCI, SINC etc)
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This is the central part of the wood occupying a level and heathy area dominated by open-grown oak and mature Scots pine. There are also birch, rowan and holly. Ground flora is dominated by bracken, particularly in the open areas with bilberry, honeysuckle and heather also frequent. This area has a very different character to the rest of the wood with a very open aspect, little or no understorey and a heathy ground flora. There is an extensive network of permissive paths. The main entrance to the wood is in the south east corner of this subcpt which is similar to the other subcpts with mature oak, ash and sycamore with a mixed coppiced understorey. There is a spur power line running south west from the lines along the north east boundary. There is a 10m swathe under these lines cleared regularly through the wood. The southern boundary of this area is with houses in Costells Edge and an area of the wood privately owned, marked with concrete posts. In the south west corner, adjacent to the A272 there is a small area of hazel coppice with oak and ash standards.

## GLOSSARY

### **Ancient Woodland**

Ancient woods are defined as those where there has been continuous woodland cover since at least 1600 AD. In Scotland ancient woods are defined strictly as sites shown as semi-natural woodland on the 'Roy' maps (a military survey carried out in 1750 AD, which is the best source of historical map evidence) and as woodland all subsequent maps. However, they have been combined with long-established woods of semi-natural origin (originating from between 1750 and 1860) into a single category of Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland to take account of uncertainties in their identification. Ancient woods include Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland and plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (see below). May support many species that are only found in ancient woodland.

### **Ancient Semi - Natural Woodland**

Stands in ancient woods defined as those consisting predominantly of native trees and shrubs that have not obviously been planted, which have arisen from natural regeneration or coppice regrowth.

### **Ancient Woodland Site**

Stands in ancient woods that have been converted to plantations, of coniferous, broadleaved or mixed species, usually for timber production, including plantations of native species planted so closely together that any semi-natural elements of the understorey have been suppressed.

### **Beating Up**

Replacing any newly planted trees that have died in the first few years after planting.

### **Broadleaf**

A tree having broad leaves (such as oak) rather than needles found on conifers (such as Scots pine).

### **Canopy**

The uppermost layer of vegetation in a woodland, or the upper foliage and branches of an individual tree.

### **Clearfell**

Felling of all trees within a defined area.

### **Compartment**

Permanent management division of a woodland, usually defined on site by permanent features such as roads. See Sub-compartments.

### **Conifer**

A tree having needles, rather than broadleaves, and typically bearing cones.

### **Continuous Cover forestry**

A term used for managing woods to ensure that there are groups or individual trees of different ages scattered over the whole wood and that some mature tree cover is always maintained. Management is by repeated thinning and no large areas are ever completely felled all at once.

### **Coppice**

Trees which are cut back to ground levels at regular intervals (3-25 years).

### **Exotic (non-native) Species**

Species originating from other countries (or other parts of the UK) that have been introduced by humans, deliberately or accidentally.

### **Field Layer**

Layer of small, non-woody herbaceous plants such as bluebells.

### **Group Fell**

The felling of a small group of trees, often to promote natural regeneration or allow planting.

### **Long Term Retention**

Discrete groups of trees (or in some cases single trees) that are retained significantly past their economic felling age. Operations may still be carried out within them and thinning is often necessary to maintain stability.

### **Minimum Intervention**

Areas where no operations (such as thinning) will take place other than to protect public safety or possibly to control invasive exotic species.

### **Mixed Woodland**

Woodland made up of broadleaved and coniferous trees.

### **National vegetation classification (NVC)**

A classification scheme that allows an area of vegetation to be assigned to the standardised type that best matches the combination of plant species that it contains. All woodlands in the UK can be described as being one of 18 main woodland types (W1 - W18), which principally reflect soil and climatic conditions. For example, Upland Oakwoods are type W11, and normally occur on well drained infertile soils in the cooler and wetter north and west of Britain. Each main type can be subdivided into numerous subtypes. Most real woods contain more than one type or sub-type and inevitably some woods are intermediate in character and can't be properly described by any sub type.

### **Native Species**

Species that arrived in Britain without human assistance.

### **Natural Regeneration**

Naturally grown trees from seeds falling from mature trees. Also regeneration from coppicing and suckering.

## **Origin & Provenance**

The provenance of a tree or seed is the place where seed was collected to grow the tree or plant. The origin is the geographical location within the natural range of a species from where seeds/tree originally derives. Thus an acorn collected from a Turkey oak in Edinburgh would have an Edinburgh provenance and a southern European origin.

## **Re-Stocking**

Re-planting an area of woodland, after it has been felled.

## **Shrub Layer**

Formed by woody plants 1-10m tall.

## **Silviculture**

The growing and care of trees in woodlands.

## **Stand**

Trees of one type or species, grouped together within a woodland.

## **Sub-Compartment**

Temporary management division of a compartment, which may change between management plan periods.

## **Thinning**

The felling of a proportion of individual trees within a given area. The remaining trees grow to fill in the space created.

## **Tubex or Grow or Tuley Tubes**

Tubes placed over newly planted trees or natural regeneration that promote growth and provide protection from animals such as rabbits and deer.

## **Weeding**

The control of vegetation immediately around newly planted trees or natural regeneration to promote tree growth until they become established. Either by hand cutting or with carefully selected weed killers such as glyphosate.

## **Windblow/Windthrow**

Trees or groups of trees blown over (usually uprooted) by strong winds and gales.