



Deans Wood

Management Plan 2019-2024

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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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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 or contact the Woodland Trust (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.

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. 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.

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.

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

Site name:	Deans Wood
Location:	Livingston
Grid reference:	NT028693, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 65
Area:	16.27 hectares (40.20 acres)
Designations:	Area of Landscape Value, Long Established Woodland of Plantation Origin

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Summary Description

Deans Wood is made up of six woodland blocks in and around housing to the north west of Livingston. Dominated by mature broadleaves and Scots pine, the older sections have existed for at least 150 years and were once part of the estate of the now demolished Dechmont House. They now form a series of attractive green spaces for local residents to enjoy.

2.2 Extended Description

Dean's Woods form part of the Woodland Trust's holding in Livingston, West Lothian and consist of a complex of six woodland blocks and belts located in the northwest of Livingston. A Tree preservation order covers adjacent residential areas built on the former Dechmont House site around compartments 5 and 8 but not the woodland areas referred to in this plan. The woods lie on a shallow southwest-facing slope between the altitudes of 155m and 190m above sea level.

The underlying geology of the area is sedimentary sandstones, limestone's, shale of the Carboniferous-Dinantian period. Soils are derived from a glacial till of carboniferous sedimentary sandstones and shale. They are generally brown forest soils with gleying, of the Rowanhill association and are characterised by slowly permeable clayey horizons at varying depths between 40 and 80cm. The MLURI climate map identifies the area as fairly warm moist lowland and foothill, being moderately exposed with moderate winters.

The woodlands consist of mature policy (estate woodland) planting, with some younger Livingston Development Corporation (LDC) planting bordering the motorway. The older areas of woodland are recorded as being woodland sites on maps of the 1860's and are therefore classed as Long Established Woodland of Plantation Origin (LEPO) on the ancient woodland inventory. A number of areas are dominated by mature Scots pine. The remaining stands are predominately mature broadleaves, with high proportions of beech and occasionally sycamore and a range of other species including oak, lime, elm, downy birch, ash, horse chestnut and Norway maple. Planting to screen houses from the motorway in compartment 5a, consists of a very varied mix of pole-stage alder, cherry, rowan, ash, sycamore, beech, Scots pine, Japanese larch and Sitka spruce.

There are patches of ground flora of interest but generally it does not appear to very diverse at present. It does contain examples of the more common species found in more natural mixed broadleaved woodland habitats, and grassy areas with soft grasses and strong bramble growth where more open conditions coincide with the damper fertile soils.

The woodlands are relatively diverse compared to other areas within Livingston and important for local biodiversity as they represent reserves of more natural vegetation within the built environment. The larger blocks on the edge of Dechmont Law also have higher conservation potential as they abut large, less intensively managed areas of grassland and small areas of tree planting. In addition, there has also been a relatively long continuity of woodland cover over much of the area.

The woodland belts are an extremely important part of the infrastructure of Livingston, providing separation, screening, and an attractive backdrop to the various residential developments. The belts also function as windbreaks and provide some barrier to noise.

The woodland blocks provide good opportunities for local users and contain a number of informal paths and desire lines accessible from entrance points which link to the tarmac footpath and cycleway networks. A number of tarmac paths, including the Loan Path, also pass through or run along the edges of the various woodland blocks which link to the Trusts North Wood to the north of the M8. There are no on site car parks at any of the small woodland blocks however parking is available on adjacent streets.

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

By bus: The nearest bus stops are on Deans North Road, adjacent to the southern entrance of one of the blocks, and on Deans East Road, around 200 metres (220 yards) from the nearest block.

By train: Livingston North train station is around 1.2km (0.7 miles) from the woods.

For up-to-date information on public transport, visit travelinescotland.com (0871 200 22 33).

By car: From Edinburgh, head west along the A71 and join the M8 at Junction 1. At Junction 3, exit onto the A899 (Livingston Road) towards Livingston. Take the exit for Eliburn/Ladywell/Knightsridge/Livingston, and at the roundabout take the third exit onto Houston Road. At the next roundabout take the third exit onto Deans North Road, which is adjacent to one of the blocks of woodland.

There is no public car park, but roadside parking is possible on many nearby roads.

(February 2017)

3.2 Access / Walks

The six woodland blocks are accessible from the surrounding suburban roads and pavement network, centred around Woodlands Park. Each block has numerous entrances that are mostly barrier-free.

Paths within the blocks link into a wider path network throughout Livingston. Some paths, including the Loan Path, also connect to North Wood (also managed by The Woodland Trust Scotland), which lies to the north of the M8, as well as to the local hill of Dechmont Law and other public open spaces. Woodland paths are unsurfaced and can be muddy in places.

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

The woods will be managed to safeguard their public amenity and biodiversity value and in line with the Woodland Trust's corporate objectives of improving and enhancing biodiversity, encouraging public access and enhancing people's enjoyment of woodlands.

The long term intention is to maintain these woodland areas under continuous cover where possible, monitoring and ensuring that natural regeneration is occurring, and to enhance those areas which are currently predominantly coniferous through gradual conversion to predominantly native broadleaf woodland. Wherever possible, native and to a lesser degree non-native natural regeneration will be utilised. Planting gaps with native species will be considered if there is insufficient natural regeneration. Individual examples and groups of specimen conifers, particularly Scots pine which is featured throughout West Lothian, will be retained. An increase in native tree species in time help support healthy ground flora communities. In addition, standing and fallen deadwood will be retained where it is safe to do so although in most areas deadwood is stolen for firewood.

Existing footpaths will be maintained to suit local demand. Additional path upgrades and maintenance will be in response to changes in demand and with consideration to the on-going development in Livingston and its surrounds.

Livingston has been developed with an extensive network of street lit, tarmac cycleways and footpaths, linking north to south and east to west. Where the Trust's woods border these routes it often negates the need to improve internal woodland paths beyond their beaten earth standard.

Due to the woods location within the central belt and close proximity to large populations, the intention is to use the woods to improve and raise awareness, through education, of the biodiversity, recreation and health benefits woodlands provide.

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

Deans Woods are a well-used complex of woodlands to the north of Livingston. Internally there approximately 3.2km of surfaced and surfaced paths with numerous entrances. There is no onsite parking, although parking is available in adjacent streets. The paths link directly onto the Greenway and pavement network within Livingston giving access to long distance routes as well as linking onto Dechmont Law and other public open space.

Significance

The woods provide enjoyable woodland walks, within an urban setting and is used by the local community for walking and running. The site provides a chance to promote access to a safe, natural environment close to where people live. It forms an essential part of the local access network, providing varied and alternative routes as well as linking to longer distance routes.

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities-

- To further promote and use the woodland as an educational resource. Most paths have already been upgraded along key routes.

Constraints

- poorly drained soils make soft surface routes difficult
- Misuse by motorbikes and ATVs not only giving rise to degradation of path surfaces but also to regular vandalism of entrances and boundary fences
- No formal car parking, which can cause problems with neighbours and visitors parking on the local roads

Factors Causing Change

Vandalism to signs, posts, benches and other site infrastructure & motorised access,
Paths edges growing in, reducing visibility and potentially resulting in personal safety concerns by users

Increase of public use

1) Senescing beech - The ongoing senescence of the large mature mainly beech trees which are such a feature in the West Lothian landscape and tend to be of a similar age. They are becoming increasingly vulnerable to storm damage and disease which is becoming a challenge to deal with in terms of tree safety and also maintenance of the treed landscape and is expected to become even worse in coming years.

2) Windblow - Most of the spruce and larch planted as part of LDC landscaping is reaching its terminal height at which it is vulnerable to windblow.

3) Chalara on ash. Ash is a frequent species and is well suited to the clay soils of West Lothian. Young trees already badly affected and some mature trees also. Removes one of the more suitable species for replanting.

4) Phytophthora ramorum. 2 SPNs already issued in the Livingston area and likely to spread.

5) Increased development - various schemes have / are being built and large new developments are currently being planned for north, SW and SE Livingston.

6) Squirrels, rabbits and roe deer are all present and likely to prevent trees developing into healthy, mature trees.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

To maintain and enhance public access for informal recreation.

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

The short term objective of Deans wood is to ensure that public access is maintained for everyone to enjoy. This will be achieved by:

- Two path cuts annually (June and August) in all blocks where necessary
- Litter pick every month and pro-active fly tipping monitoring
- Entrance and path upgrades in block 5c and 7a (approx. 5km) (2019/2020)
- Annual inspection of fences/paths and internal structures
- Regular tree safety inspections
- Street light pruning in blocks 7, 5, 9(2019/2021)

5.2 Long Established Woodland of Plantation Origin

Description

These woodlands LEPO status is confirmed by their existence on the 1860 OS map. They are a significant natural feature within the local landscape despite fragmentation by development. The woods form an attractive backdrop and screening for the various housing developments in the area. Protected to some degree and buffered by additional planting throughout the 20th century these woods form part of the wider habitat mosaic associated with Dechmont Law. The woodlands are dominated by mature Scot's pine, sycamore, sessile oak, lime, ash and horse chestnut with rhododendron frequent in the shrub layer. Ground flora is recovering now that rhododendron has started to be removed.

Significance

The amount of ancient woodland left in Britain has been drastically reduced over the last century. The woodland is on the Ancient Woodland Inventory as LEPO and was present on maps of 1860, which indicates a relatively high biodiversity potential. The wood is a significant feature of the local landscape and provides screening and shelter between housing developments. It forms an integral component of the local landscape

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities

To improve the biodiversity of the woodland by continuing to replace native broadleaved species and the removal of rhododendron and snowberry.

Constraints

Small scale of woodland and high 'edge effect'.

Factors Causing Change

Rhododendron, death of over-mature trees, regeneration limited to a few shade-bearing species/pests and diseases/climate change/ squirrel damage and deer browsing.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

To restore the woodland to predominantly native species of mixed age by small scale felling, although species composition will be varied, with a proportion of conifers, beech and sycamore present. Rhododendron understory will have been removed and replaced by a thriving shrub layer of mainly native species. Improvements to the canopy should help towards providing and supporting healthy ground flora communities.

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

The short term objective at Deans is to maintain the varied composition and structural diversity of the woodland. This will be achieved by minimum intervention in the majority of the wood. This will be achieved by:

- Rhododendron survey across compartment 7a, 5c, 8a and 8b (2018)
Following the survey and mapping of rhododendron across all woodland blocks to produce a 3 year work programme of eradication of Rhododendron (2019-2021)
- The impacts of deer, rabbits, squirrels and tree diseases will be monitored through the Woodland Trust's woodland condition assessment process and monitored annually.
- Monitor garden waste dumping along boundaries in the woodland edge for increasing garden escapes across all blocks which may impact the ground flora composition (hotspots on Management maps)

6.0 WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type of Work	Description	Due By
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APPENDIX 1: COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Key Features Present	Designations
4a	0.43	Scots pine	1955	Min-intervention		Informal Public Access	
<p>Exposed stand of mature Scots pine separated by Hardie Road and bounding Deans Road to the west. A sparse understorey of sycamore, beech and hawthorn is found predominantly to the northwest. Ground flora consists of mainly soft grasses with brambles, nettles and patches of heath bedstraw. Dead wood is mainly fallen branches, old stumps and chippings from previous thinning operations.</p>							
4b	1.15	Beech	1900	Min-intervention		Informal Public Access	
<p>'Dechmont Long Drive Wood' (west) Stand of mature beech, with mixed broadleaves including sycamore, oak, lime and horse chestnut and occasional Scots pine to the north of Hardie Road. Housing to the south. Understorey of frequent beech and occasional rhododendron, holly, sycamore, willow, snowberry and broom. Sparse ground flora but where light allows there are infrequent nettles, soft grasses and brambles. Deadwood is infrequent and is generally dead branches within the canopy, fallen branches and old stumps from previous fellings. There are also occasional heaps of chippings from recent felling work.</p>							
5a	1.14	Scots pine	1975	Min-intervention	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access	
<p>Strip of polestage mixed broadleaves, alder, cherry, rowan, ash, sycamore and beech, with Scots pine, Japanese larch and Sitka spruce separating and screening Northwood Park and the M8. There is the occasional elder, rowan and hawthorn understorey, with a ground flora of soft grasses and occasional juncus predominantly down the open ride/wayleave running east west down length of sub compartment.</p>							
5b	1.24	Sycamore	1920	Min-intervention	Services & wayleaves	Informal Public Access	
<p>Stand of mature/ semi-mature beech and sycamore, with occasional lime, horse chestnut, ash and rowan. The understorey includes the occasional holly, rhododendron, hawthorn, Scots pine, Sitka spruce, elder, with ash, sycamore, beech and elm regeneration. Dead wood is occasional throughout and comprised of small log piles from thinnings, oldstumps, and shallow piles of chippings. There are also occasional standing dead elm away from paths.</p>							

5c	2.23	Beech	1900	Min-intervention	People issues (+tve & -tve), Services & wayleaves	Informal Public Access	
<p>'Dechmont Long Drive Wood' (east) Mature stand of beech, with occasional pedunculate oak, horse chestnut, lime, downy birch, ash, sycamore, Norway maple, Scots pine and Sitka spruce. The sub compartment forms part of the extended policy woods to Dechmont House and now provide screening between Northwood Park to the north and Woodlands Park road to the south. Understorey includes frequent rhododendron, occasional snowberry, hawthorn, and elder, with regeneration of beech, ash, rowan and sycamore where light allows. Sparse ground flora consists of soft grasses, brambles, bracken and ivy mainly associated with the old ditch running along the north of the roadside. Varied dead wood ranging from some larger felled stems along with some smaller branchwood.</p>							
6a	0.62	Scots pine	1955	High forest		Informal Public Access	
<p>'Middlewood' Mature stand of Scots pine with occasional pedunculate oak, beech and sycamore around the edges. Pinewood park bounds the wood to the west with Middlewood Park to the north east and Meldrum Primary School and grounds to the east. Understorey includes frequent beech regeneration, occasional rowan and sycamore regeneration with occasional elder, hawthorn and whin. Remnant field hedges run in parts down east and west boundaries. Ground flora of soft grasses. Deadwood is limited to fallen branches, occasional stumps and chippings from safety felling. There is a ditch running down the eastern boundary.</p>							
7a	4.86	Beech	1900	Min-intervention	Services & wayleaves	Informal Public Access	Area of Landscape Value
<p>'Dechmont Park Woods' Originally part of the policy woodland surrounding Dechmont House this subcompartment is a stand of mature beech and sycamore with lime, ash, horse chestnut, Norway maple, pedunculate oak, elm and birch. Occasional Sitka spruce, Scots pine and hybrid larch. The woodland provides a link between Dechmont Law parkland to the north with the housing areas to the west and south, Westwood Park, Elmwood Park and Beechwood Park. Understorey includes occasional hybrid larch, ash, elm, Scots pine, sycamore, beech regeneration, with snowberry, elder, holly and rhododendron. Rhododendron is both dense and extensive particularly in the west and south of the compartment. Ground flora is sparse throughout. There is occasional deadwood from previous safety work as well as small dead elm withing the canopy.</p>							
8a	1.18	Sycamore	1900	Min-intervention		Informal Public Access	
<p>'Woodlands Park Wood' Originally part of the policy woodland surrounding Dechmont House this sub compartment, separated by 5b, is made up of 2 discreet stands of mature mixed broadleaves; beech, sycamore, ash, lime, elm and horse chestnut. The woodland provides a backdrop for the houses at the eastern end of Woodland Park. Understorey includes frequent ash and beech regeneration, with occasional sycamore and larch regeneration and brambles. There is also a dense patch of rhododendron in the middle of the western stand. Ground flora of soft grasses, brambles and some nettles. Deadwood is occasional but varied from large stems to small fallen branchwood.</p>							

8b	1.83	Scots pine	1950	Min-intervention		Informal Public Access	Area of Landscape Value
<p>'Woodlands Park Wood' Stand of dense mature Scots pine with occasional hybrid larch and mixed broadleaves, consisting of sycamore, lime, beech and downy birch. The sub compartment separates 5a to the west and south and also bounds part of Woodlands Park housing. Understorey includes beech and sycamore regeneration, elder, and occasional hawthorn and holly. Ground flora of ferns with heavy brambles and occasional wild raspberries. Dead wood is varied from dead trees, old stumps to the arisings from thinning operations.</p>							
9a	1.55	Scots pine	1955	Min-intervention	Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Informal Public Access	
<p>'Nether Dechmont Woods' Separated into 3 discreet blocks by Knightsridge West and Golf Course road, this is a stand of mature Scots pine with occasional mature beech and sycamore with mixed broadleaves, sycamore, pole-stage ash, beech, willow, sweet chestnut, horse chestnut, alder, cherry and red oak. Understorey of Sitka spruce, mixed broad leaves, Scots pine with dog rose, hawthorn, holly and yew. Ground flora consists of soft grasses with brambles, nettles and willowherb. Mixed levels of dead wood throughout mainly from previous safety felling.</p>							

Appendix 2: Harvesting operations (20 years)

Forecast Year	Cpt	Operation Type	Work Area (ha)	Estimated vol/ha	Estimated total vol.
2020	5c	Clear Fell	0.18	11	2

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.