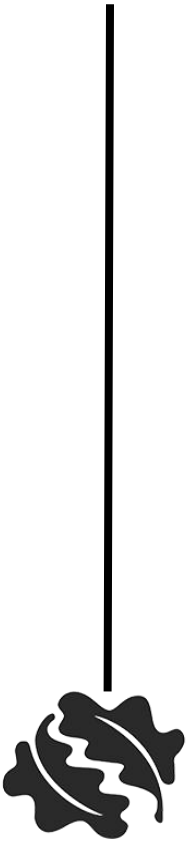
Northfield Wood

(Plan period – 2025 to 2035)



WOODLAND
TRUST

Management Plan Content Page

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

1. SITE DETAILS

Northfield Wood

Location:	Onehouse Grid reference: TM024600 OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 155
Area:	33.25 hectares (82.16 acres)
External Designations:	Ancient Woodland Site, Planted Ancient Woodland Site
Internal Designations:	Ancient Woodland Restoration Project

2. SITE DESCRIPTION

Northfield Wood sits adjacent to the Suffolk village of Onehouse. As an ancient woodland site, the wood dates back pre 1600's and has seen many changes throughout its history. Historically it would have been in part, a coppice with standards broad-leaved woodland, with other areas probably being comprised of high forest. Many of the original standards are still present throughout the site as mature ash and oak. Also of interest to the site is a good population of mature elms that are in the main healthy specimens. In more recent times in the late 1960's it was intensively modified with the planting of conifers. Since the 1980's the conifers have been gradually removed to restore it to a predominantly broadleaved woodland. Although, there is still a conifer presence, Northfield Wood now looks like an ancient woodland again.

The ground flora throughout Northfield wood varies, but where restoration has taken place, the associated ancient woodland species have responded well. With the notable species such as wood spurge, primrose, herb paris, bluebells, early purple orchids, and wood sorrel forming an impressive display in springtime. The floristically rich rides also supports an abundance of invertebrates including butterfly species such as silver wash fritillaries and white admirals.

The majority of the site is bordered by intensive arable farmland apart from the southern boundary which is developed residential housing of the village of Onehouse. A public footpath runs north to south through the site linking into the local area and a variety of well used internal network of permissive footpaths.

The wood has some archaeological features relating to past management use, which are still present today. Two charcoal mounds are present, indicating that the wood was used for, among other products, the production of charcoal. Some of the timber harvested today still is used for charcoal production locally therefore maintaining the tradition. Many of the old woodland ditches can still be seen throughout the site, which would have been used as boundary markers in the past.

3. LONG TERM POLICY

The long term intention for Northfield Wood is to stabilise and develop the ancient woodland ground flora, trees and natural regeneration from the native remnant trees within the wood, whilst reducing the localised coniferous dominance. This will be achieved by gradually continuing to remove the conifers species through low impact thinning from the areas of planted ancient woodland (PAWS). Once the conifer dominance has been reduced to where it does not affect the remaining ancient woodland components the long term policy will be to continue to manipulate the woodland canopy to create favourable conditions to allow natural regeneration and the ancient woodland ground flora to develop.

The eventual desired condition of Northfield wood being robust multi-structured and multi-aged native broad-leaved high forest woodland, with a dominant native ground flora and a rich and abundant deadwood component. Some conifer will be retained as it forms a different habitat niche within the wood and is part of the history of the site. With ash dieback being present within Northfield wood there will be a decline in the overall health of one of the main native broadleaf species within the wood. The long-term intention here will be to sympathetically manage the decline of the common ash within the wood and help promote natural regeneration of other native broadleaved species. Some areas will be actively managed as coppice with standards and others as high forest with minimum intervention allowing the woodland to naturally reach maturity.

Open ground

The intention will be to maintain the current floristically diverse areas of open ground within the wood, enriching the overall diversity of habitats within the wood. The desired condition of the open ground habitat will be to have a wide floristically rich ride with good scrubby edge habitat. This will be achieved by annual cut and removal of arising's and rotational ride edge coppicing.

Public access

The long-term intention will be to maintain a sustainable level of public access by managing the existing access features and paths, so they continue to remain in a safe and useable condition, whilst not degrading or damaging the ancient woodland component

4. KEY FEATURES

4.1 f1 Planted Ancient Woodland Site

Description
Northfield wood is a diverse ancient woodland site that was planted with conifers and is now mostly restored where the conifer is no longer a significant threat. Traditionally the majority of the wood was managed as a coppice with standards, but this was cleared and norway spruce and western red cedar was planted as a commercial conifer crop in the 1960's. Despite previous heavy shading from the conifers, the ground flora has recovered and is exceptional in places, being characteristic of ancient woodland in East Anglia. Restoration of Northfield wood was started in the late 1980's and the conifers have been removed through a combination commercial thinning initially and the use of volunteers. Through the restoration process the remnant ancient woodland components (ground flora and existing remnant trees) and new natural regeneration has responded well and is beginning to create a structurally diverse broadleaf dominated high forest. Ash dieback continues to kill many ash within the wood. In some areas where conifer was removed and ash subsequently flourished, there is now the dilemma of having to slow down with the removal of more conifer as the ash continues to decline and die, there could be scenario of losing canopy cover. As the conifer is broadly speaking less of a threat across the wood as a whole the removal of conifer as the main agent of threat can be downgraded and some retained as a important ecological niche in its own right. Some focus on Norway Spruce has recently come to the fore front due to the recent spread of Ips typographus across the region so some flexibility will be required if this develops further in the locality.
Significance
Nationally Ancient woodland is a scarce resource. In Suffolk Ancient woodland covers approximately 1% of the land area (Spencer and Thomas, 1992), making Northfield wood of regional importance. Given there is little opportunity to link Northfield with other ASNW, the fact that the wood is of a reasonable size, makes it very significant in contributing to the biodiversity value of the local area.
Opportunities & Constraints
Opportunities: Conserve and develop the existing ancient woodland components. Gradually reduce the remaining coniferous element and increase natural regeneration and ground flora Constraints: High deer pressure across the Suffolk Landscape, and grey squirrel populations.

Ash dieback and the loss of a significant canopy species.

Factors Causing Change

Deer browsing causing damage to natural tree regeneration, and grazing on native woodland ground flora resulting in the eventual failure of the ancient woodland plant colonies.
Squirrel populations causing significant damage to Hornbeam, Oak and Sycamore.
Ash Dieback causing the major decline of common ash within the wood.
Ips typographus or the eight toothed spruce beetle, is now present locally and if found on site could lead to a statutory plant health notice on the norway spruce.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

To protect and develop the key ancient woodland components, whilst diversifying the age and species structure of the woodland through natural regeneration. Creating a diverse multi-structure broadleaved woodland with abundant understory, deadwood structure and ancient woodland ground flora.
Supplementary underplanting of broad leaved canopy and shrub trees would be beneficial in some areas particularly where ash decline causes significant gaps in the canopy.
Continue to manage the populations of deer and grey squirrels to prevent ongoing damage.

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

Maintain and develop the ancient woodland characteristics of Northfield wood by continuing to thin the remaining pockets of shade dominant conifers and managing light levels of the existing restored broadleaved areas of the wood to support development of existing and diverse regeneration where it already exists. These areas need careful consideration to ensure the canopy is maintained as ash numbers continue to decline.

To implement this practically, measures can be undertaken to assess and then focus on the most important areas of natural regeneration that contains a variety of species. Any thinning works undertaken will be low key, focused in areas to best support the promotion of diverse regeneration and occupy around 10 ha being worked over the work plan period. Thinning locations will be in response to annual observations, and directed at areas where maximum benefit can be achieved.

Annual deer monitoring and culling will continue as part of the on-going control of deer population within the site to reduce browsing pressure on developing natural regeneration. Herbivore impact assessments will be carried out alongside exclusion plots to help assess browsing levels. Develop plans for grey squirrel control and begin to implement on site.

Ride side coppicing by volunteers will be undertaken to maintain the current floristic diverse ride structure by coppicing ride edge verge woodland scrub on a 5-7 year rotation to keep the ride edges from developing in to mature woodland. The aim will to be to work between 500-1500m, annually over the length of the plan. This will maintain and develop a thick scrub layer between the woodland and the herbaceous rich rides.

4.2 f2 Informal Public Access

Description
Northfield wood has open public access at all times for the pedestrian, with 5 access points and a good network permissive paths of over 3km throughout the site for people to enjoy the ancient woodland. A public footpath runs through the centre of the wood from Stowmarket. The woodlands topography is flat, and has a variety of open wide sunny rides and narrower woodland paths. During the summer the pathways are dry and firm, but in the winter they can become muddy and slippery under foot. There is roadside parking locally nearby in Onehouse village along Ash Road and Northfield road which is only a short walk from the site main entrance at the end of Woodland close.
Significance
Northfield is a relatively large area of woodland with free open public access, which is easily accessible. Being on the outskirts of Stowmarket, adjacent to a housing estate, the site is an important resource to many people.
Opportunities & Constraints
Opportunities. 1. To maintain the network of paths for locals to access the natural environment. Constraints 1. Significant population expansion of Stowmarket through housing developments are bringing more visitors to the woods. This will lead to increased pressure on the woodland habitats and could be detrimental. 2. The visitor enjoyment is constrained in the winter as many of the paths become very wet and difficult to pass.
Factors Causing Change
Ground conditions (wet clay site). Increasing local populations.
Long term Objective (50 years+)
Maintain the existing path network in a safe usable condition with all entrances being in a welcoming conditions. Signage will be appropriate for the expected usage and maintained in good condition.
Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)
Maintain site as an area of public open access, with all main internal paths being minimum of 2m width (Cut all main paths annually during August/September to a width of 2 metres), unhindered by ride edge woody scrub and fallen trees. Internal structures (i.e seats and boardwalk) will be maintained in a safe usable condition. Install culverts at low wet points/ditches across the footpaths. Annually September – Path cut to a width of 2 metres to maintain all main rides open to the public.

4.3 f3 Open Ground Habitat

Description
Northfield wood has a long established network of rides. They vary in the amount of shade they receive and in width being typically between 2 to 10 m wide. Of particular interest is the main ride running North – South; the ride supports a large number of plants including good populations of early purple orchid, oxslip and primrose.
Significance
The open space provided by the ride network supports many of the important species in the wood, particularly along the ride margins and is therefore an important component in the overall diversity of the wood.
Opportunities & Constraints
There is an opportunity to maintain and improve the rides through management of the edges and open areas, promoting the continuity of open ground and many of the vascular plants with their associated invertebrate interest which are important in the woodland.
Factors Causing Change
Encroachment of woody scrub. Deer browsing.
Long term Objective (50 years+)
Continue to provide a floristically diverse open ground habitat and ride system within Northfield wood.
Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)
Maintain the floristic diversity within existing open ground habitat within main North – South and East – West rides. Cut main ride to a minimum width of 10 metres after seeding (August/September) removing arising from site. Work Programme Annually cut the main north/south and east/west open rides to full width and remove all cutting to maintain a floristically rich structure.

5. WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
2025	AW - Management Access Capital	Works associated with installing new or replacement management access infrastructure. Such as management access gates, vehicle bridges, fencing and surfacing works.	December
2025	AW - Management Access Capital	Works associated with installing new or replacement management access infrastructure. Such as management access gates, vehicle bridges, fencing and surfacing works.	December
2025	PE - Volunteer on site activity	Support for activities at the site of visiting volunteer groups, such as corporate partners, local groups. Support could include tools, external trainers or materials for work parties	December
2025	PE - Volunteer on site activity	Support for activities at the site of visiting volunteer groups, such as corporate partners, local groups. Support could include tools, external trainers or materials for work parties	January
2025	PE - Volunteer on site activity	Support for activities at the site of visiting volunteer groups, such as corporate partners, local groups. Support could include tools, external trainers or materials for work parties	January
2025	AW - Management Access Capital	Works associated with installing new or replacement management access infrastructure. Such as management access gates, vehicle bridges, fencing and surfacing works.	April
2026	SL - Tree Safety Silviculture Work	Retrieving data. Wait a few seconds and try to cut or copy again.	October
2026	WMM - Ride Management	Works associated with the management of existing rides/open areas for biodiversity - ride edge coppicing and thinning programmes, ditch works	November
2026	AW - Management Access Capital	Works associated with installing new or replacement management access infrastructure. Such as management access gates, vehicle bridges, fencing and surfacing works.	December
2026	PC - Squirrel Control - Trapping	Works associated with grey squirrel control by live trapping / air rifle shooting / good nature traps – such as controller and volunteer costs, baits, traps, feeding stations etc	February
2027	WMM - Ride Management	Works associated with the management of existing rides/open areas for biodiversity - ride edge coppicing and thinning programmes, ditch works	November

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
2027	PC - Squirrel Control - Trapping	Works associated with grey squirrel control by live trapping / air rifle shooting / good nature traps – such as controller and volunteer costs, baits, traps, feeding stations etc	February
2028	WMI - PAWS Restoration	Works associated with the restoration phase of Planted Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) such as halo thinning around existing native trees, thinning and felling works, ride restoration, access improvements to aid restoration.	October
2028	WMM - Ride Management	Works associated with the management of existing rides/open areas for biodiversity - ride edge coppicing and thinning programmes, ditch works	November
2028	PC - Squirrel Control - Trapping	Works associated with grey squirrel control by live trapping / air rifle shooting / good nature traps – such as controller and volunteer costs, baits, traps, feeding stations etc	February
2029	WMI - PAWS Restoration	Works associated with the restoration phase of Planted Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) such as halo thinning around existing native trees, thinning and felling works, ride restoration, access improvements to aid restoration.	October
2029	WMM - Ride Management	Works associated with the management of existing rides/open areas for biodiversity - ride edge coppicing and thinning programmes, ditch works	November
2029	PC - Squirrel Control - Trapping	Works associated with grey squirrel control by live trapping / air rifle shooting / good nature traps – such as controller and volunteer costs, baits, traps, feeding stations etc	February
2030	WMM - Ride Management	Works associated with the management of existing rides/open areas for biodiversity - ride edge coppicing and thinning programmes, ditch works	November
2030	WMM - AWS silviculture	Works associated with silvicultural operations within ancient woodlands to meet our primary aims of conserving woodlands and encouraging public enjoyment– such as the removal of non-natives, thinning and promotion of native trees and shrubs, creating and managing view points and providing welcoming sites for visitors	November
2030	PC - Squirrel Control - Trapping	Works associated with grey squirrel control by live trapping / air rifle shooting / good nature traps – such as controller and volunteer costs, baits, traps, feeding stations etc	February

APPENDIX 1 : COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
1a	11.14	Mixed native broadleaves	1966	High forest		Planted Ancient Woodland Site
Historically planted with Norway Spruce 1970 with every 6th row planted with broadleaves, mainly ash. Recovering ancient woodland ground flora exists in particular dogs mercury, oxslip, primrose, Herb paris and common spotted orchids. Mature broadleaves are now dominant throughout, mainly oak, ash, hornbeam, field maple, mature elms and occasional lime. the understorey consists of common hazel, common hawthorn. The majority of conifers have have been removed and the ancient woodland components are secure.						
1b	1.12	Ash	1966	High forest		Planted Ancient Woodland Site
Compartment 1 b was planted in 1967 with Norway spruce. Having thinned many of the conifers in 1998 part of the compartment contains open spaced, semi mature ash. The ground flora under the ash responded well, in particular the early purple orchid, oxslip, primrose and dog's mercury.						
1c	1.59	Mixed native broadleaves	1995	High forest		Planted Ancient Woodland Site
Running along western boundary. Following conifer clear fell in 1995. Mature broadleaves retained during the clear fell are present, many seemingly tolerant elm, oak, ash, hornbeam field maple, with a sparse understorey of hazel and some hawthorn. ground flora is sparse also with bramble, dogs' mercury, primrose, dog violet and wood anemome dispersed through the compartment. One small area has been fenced off to reduce visitor pressure and has a good population of elms within it.						
2a	8.78	Mixed native broadleaves	1963	High forest		Planted Ancient Woodland Site
Planted in 1967, compartment 2a now contains remnant Norway spruce and some western red cedar. This compartment also has relic hazel coppice and old ash stools, surviving from before the conifers were planted. Broadleaves now mostly dominate (apart from one area of WRC) which include standards of oak and ash with semi mature species such as hornbeam and birch filling gaps. The ground flora, particularly under the western red cedar is patchy, but contain a wide variety of ancient woodland ground flora species, which include spurge laurel, twayblades, early purple orchid, oxslip, primrose, dog's mercury, wood sorrell, wood anemome and dog violet.						

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
2b	3.93	Mixed native broadleaves	1989	High forest		Planted Ancient Woodland Site
Compartment 2b was originally planted 1961 with western red cedar and Norway spruce. Following excessive wind blow in 1987, the area was clear felled and restocked with native broadleaves in 1990. Oak, ash and hornbeam are the predominant species, with field maple. Natural regeneration has been prolific between the planting, birch and ash becoming established well. The ground flora is predominantly rank grasses and bramble, but in dispersed ares of the compartment there are abundant areas of wild garlic, bluebell and dogs mercury, wood anemome and dog violet.						
2c	2.57	Scots pine	1964	High forest	Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/Rocky ground	
Back in history there is evidence that compartment 2c was open in character, and may have been internal meadows. Presently the area is stocked with Scots pine, planted 1968. The compartment has been thinned several times and natural regeneration is slowly developing. The understorey is predominantly dogs mercury with herb robert.						
2d	1.89	Oak (pedunculate)	1880	High forest		Ancient Woodland Site
Compartment 2d is one of the few areas comprised purely of broadleaved trees. The area has the highest density of mature trees, approximately 80% oak which are thought to have been planted around 1900. A few good mature common ash are also interspersed throughout the compartment. A sparse Hazel and Hawthorn understorey is present. The ground flora consists of mainly bramble and some dogs mercury with some wood anemome.						
2e	2.14	Mixed native broadleaves	1985	High forest		Planted Ancient Woodland Site
Compartment 2e is comprised of recent planting, first planted in 1985 and restocked again in 1991. Planting species were oak, ash, field maple with birch regeneration towards the northern end of the compartment. The ground flora is wood anemome, dog violet, with some oxslips and dogs mercury interspersed. Two seasonal ponds are located along the eastern boundary and in the centre of the compartment.						

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.

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