

Eliburn Woods

Management Plan 2019-2024

MANAGEMENT PLAN - CONTENTS PAGE

ITEM Page No.

Introduction

Plan review and updating

Woodland Management Approach

Summary

- 1.0 Site details
- 2.0 Site description
 - 2.1 Summary Description
 - 2.2 Extended Description
- 3.0 Public access information
 - 3.1 Getting there
 - 3.2 Access / Walks
- 4.0 Long term policy
- 5.0 Key Features
 - 5.1 Informal Public Access
 - 5.2 Long Established Woodland of Plantation Origin
- 6.0 Work Programme

Appendix 1: Compartment descriptions

Appendix 2: Harvesting operations (20 years)

Glossary

MAPS

Access

Conservation Features

Management

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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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.
- 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: Eliburn Woods

Location: Livingston

Grid reference: NT034681, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 65

Area: 7.81 hectares (19.30 acres)

Designations: Long Established Woodland of Plantation Origin, Tree Preservation

Order

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Summary Description

Eliburn is a series of long strips of broadleaf trees, once shelter belts for fields, but now peaceful tree-lined paths. Circular walk and audio tour around neighbouring Old Wood reservoir. Adventure playground and public transport nearby.

2.2 Extended Description

Eliburn Woods form part of the Woodland Trust's holding in Livingston, West Lothian and consist of seven separate woodland shelterbelts located off the Houston Road within the northwest of Livingston. Most woods have a north-south alignment, reflecting their previous function as shelterbelts. Residential areas, roads or land zoned for similar development surround all of the belts. The woods lie on a shallow south-facing slope between the altitudes of 139m and 169m above sea level.

The underlying geology of the area is sedimentary sandstones/ limestone's/ shale of the Carbonioferous-Dinatian 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. Soils beneath cmpt 1 are the least well drained. There are no watercourses within the woods. The MLURI climate map identifies the area as fairly warm moist lowland and foothill, being

moderately exposed with moderate winters.

Generally, with the exception of compartment 17c and compartment 14, all of the belts making up Eliburn Woods are remnants of an older shelterbelt complex dating from around the mid 1800's. Most appear on OS maps of 1860 as woodland and are therefore classed as Long Established Woodland of Plantation Origin on the ancient woodland inventory. Generally they are all dominated by Scots pine with occasional larch, sycamore, beech, ash, and oak. Compartments 1 and 4c are of more recent origin having been planted during the late 1980s by Livingston Development Corporation. The amount of under storey regeneration and ground flora varies and is relative to the amount beech under-planting by the LDC. Whilst the ground flora is not very diverse, it does contain examples of the more common species found in more natural mixed broadleaved woodland habitats, with soft grasses, ferns and strong bramble growth where more open conditions coincide with the damper fertile soils. Poor drainage in the south of compartment 14 has allowed both soft rush and tussock grasses to colonise here.

The woodlands are important for local biodiversity as reserves of more natural vegetation within the built environment. There has also been a relatively long continuity of woodland cover over much of the area. All compartments are relatively diverse, due mainly to the presence of edge species common to wasteland, heath and grassland. Larger mammals such as rabbits and deer are uncommon, but grey squirrels and a range of birds, smaller mammals and invertebrates can be expected to benefit from the woodland cover.

The woodland belts are an important part of the infrastructure of Livingston providing screening and an attractive backdrop to the various residential developments. The belts also function as windbreaks and provide some barrier to noise. Compartment 17 has links into other woodland and recreational paths around Eliburn Reservoir, which are managed West Lothian Council. Unfortunately litter is an on-going problem and although cleared regularly does detract from the amenity of the woods as well as creating a hazard to wildlife.

The woodland blocks provide good opportunities for local users and contain a number of informal paths and desire lines. They are accessed from entrance points which link to the formal tarmac footpath and cycleway networks connecting into the wider complex of Livingston paths and Greenways. The woodland belts with the exception of compartment 18 all have a central, usually unsurfaced informal path, accessed from two or more entrance points. Longer belts (compartments 17 & 20) are crossed at several points by tarmac or surfaced paths. There are no on site car parks at any of the woodland blocks however parking is available in adjacent streets.

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

Eliburn Woods are located in the area of Eliburn on the north-western side of Livingston. The seven woodland blocks are generally accessible directly from the surrounding suburban roads and pavement network, centred around Houstoun Road. There are numerous entrances to each of the blocks, all of them barrier-free. There is access to all areas of the woods, though Block 18 has little in the way of paths.

Five of the blocks of woodland are continuous, but due to their layout most of the routes are linear. Return routes are available on tarmac paths outwith the woodland boundaries and the paths link into a wider network of paths and Greenways throughout Livingston, which provide links to Block 14 and 20. Most of the blocks have a mix of streetlit tarmac paths around their edge and beaten earth routes winding through the thin strips of woodland, which can be muddy in places and occasionally cross sleeper-type bridges. The site slopes gently from north to south.

There is no on-site parking, but parking is available in many surrounding suburban streets - there is access to all sites by floodlit tarmac pavements and Greenways.

Nearest public toilet: Carmondean Shopping Centre (Morrisons carpark), Deans, approximately 500m away - toilets suitable for the disabled (require a RADAR key) and open 24 hours.

Nearest bus stop: Deans East Road, immediately adjacent to Blocks 18 & 19 along pavements, and Eliburn Road, approximately 300m away from Block 17 along pavements vie Longpark Place. Livingston North train station is also approximately 200m away from Blocks 18 & 19 along tarmac pavements & Greenways.

Further information about public transport is available from Traveline Scotland - www.travelinescotland.com

3.2 Access / Walks

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

The woods will be managed as a sustainable natural resource 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 silviculture where possible to convert 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 regeneration or to enhance species diversity. Individual examples and groups of conifers, particularly Scots pine which is featured throughout West Lothian, will be retained however a predominantly broadleaved woodland is the eventual target. Along housing, industrial and roadside boundaries, woodland edges will be replaced with smaller stature trees to reduce conflicts with neighbouring land uses. Standing and fallen deadwood will be retained where it is safe to do so.

Livingston was developed with an extensive network of street lit, tarmac cycleways and footpaths, linking north to south and east to west. Many of the Trust's woods border these routes and this 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

Eliburn Woods are a very well used complex of woodlands in the northwest of Livingston. Internally there approximately 2.4km of surfaced and unsurfaced paths with approx. 35 entrances. There is no on-site parking, although parking is available nearby with toilets in Eliburn Park which has a car park (West Lothian Council). The paths are generally straight 'through' routes and link directly into the Greenway and pavement network within Livingston as well as linking directly onto Livingston Oldwood and Park (West Lothian Council). This provides access to long distance routes as well as shorter circular routes using soft and surfaced paths.

Significance

These woods provide enjoyable woodland walks within an urban setting and are used by the local community for walking and running. They provide a chance to promote access to a safe natural environment close to where people live. They form 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 improve access facilities and respond reactively to user demand. To further promote and use the woodlands as an educational resource Constraints - Linear nature of site constrains potential for circular routes within the site.

Factors Causing Change

Adjacent developments impacting on access routes and increasing use of the area.

Damage to signs, posts, benches and other site infrastructure and paths becoming overgrown. Fly tipping and garden waste

- 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) Phytophthera ramorum. confirmed in block 17c (Oct 2018)
- 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)

During this plan period, the short term objective is to continue to provide public access at Eliburn which is safe and welcoming. 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 upgrades at 16 entry points with 3km of path upgrades
- Annual inspection of fences/paths and internal structures
- Regular tree safety inspections

5.2 Long Established Woodland of Plantation Origin

Description

The woodlands' LEPO status is confirmed by its existence on the 1860 OS. They are a significant natural feature within the local urban landscape, despite fragmentation by development. The woods form a landscape infrastructure and attractive backdrop and screening for the various housing developments in the area and are an integral part of the wider habitat mosaic associated with Livingston Oldwood and Eliburn Reservoir. The woods consist of mature Scots pine, larch, ash, oak, birch, and beech. There is generally a good understory and natural regeneration of ash is prolific. Ground flora is patchy due to understory of beech planted in 1990s. Generally the narrow belts are approximately 30m wide and are severely pressured by development with neighbouring houses as little as 10m from the mature trees

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 has existed since at least 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.

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities

To improve the biodiversity value of the woodland and ground flora by continuing to manipulate the canopy and species composition through safety fellings and light thinning. Where practical, the woodland edge will be gradually pulled back and replaced with woodland shrubs Constraints

Small scale of woodland and high 'edge effect'.

Factors Causing Change

Windblow/ pests and diseases/increasing squirrel damage/climate change/ development Garden waste.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

To create and maintain a diverse, mixed age and mixed species woodland habitat in perpetuity. Species composition will be mostly native though a proportion of conifers and non-native broadleaves will be accepted. Improvements to the canopy should help towards supporting a variety of ground flora communities.

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

To maintain the varied composition and structural diversity of the woodland. This will be achieved by minimum intervention in the majority of the wood.

- •The impacts of deer, rabbits, squirrels and tree diseases will be monitored through the Woodland Trust's woodland condition assessment process.
- •Monitor garden waste/ dumping along boundaries in the woodland edge for increasing garden escapes across all blocks monthly throughout each year (hotspots marked on management plan map)
- •Assess natural tree regeneration and browsing within open areas every 5 years when management plan is reviewed to ensure that native species are abundant or dominant and successfully establishing.

6.0 WORK PROGRAMME

Year Type of Work Description Due By

APPENDIX 1: COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

| Cpt No. | Area (ha) | Main Species | Year | Management Regime | Major Management Constraints | Key Features Present | Designations |
|------------|--------------|-----------------|------|----------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| 14a | 0.59 | Hybrid larch | 1980 | Min-intervention | · • | Informal Public Access | |

'Barracks Strip' A mixed stand comprising young hybrid larch in the north with groups of Sitka spruce, beech, Scots pine and sycamore to the south (thinned 2006). The stand is surrounded to the east and west by land allocated for development for business uses and borders a road to the south and a small strip of land, before the railway, borders it to the north. Mixed areas of open ground. The ground flora is of soft grasses and ferns.

| 15a | 0.54 Sc | ots 1950 | Min-intervention | Informal Public | |
|-----|---------|----------|------------------|-----------------|--|
| | pin | e | | Access | |

'Carmondean Wood' Stand of mature Scots pine that borders housing to the east and industrial units to the west and the railway to the south. There is also occasional mature pedunculate oak and downy birch. The understory includes hawthorn, Scots pine and birch, with a ground flora of soft grasses and brambles. Deadwood in the form of fallen or felled to waste timber as well as limited dead wood in the mature canopy.

| 16a | 0.51 | Scots | 1950 | Min-intervention | Informal Public | |
|-----|------|-------|------|------------------|-----------------|--|
| | | pine | | | Access | |

'Kirk Road Strip:north'Stand of mature Scots pine with occasional ash, which borders the railway to the north and road to the south with housing east and west. The understorey includes frequent beech with occasional Scots pine, hawthorn and oak. Ground flora of soft grasses, brambles and ferns. Deadwood is in the form of standing and fallen dead trees and trees felled to waste for safety issues.

| 17a | 3.42 | Scots | 1950 | Min-intervention | Informal Public | |
|-----|------|-------|------|------------------|-----------------|--|
| | | pine | | | Access | |

'Kirk Road Strip:south/Newyearfield Strip''L' shaped stand of mature Scots pine with occasional mixed broadleaves including, ash, oak, sycamore and some mature hybrid larch in the southwest corner. The sub-compartment is bordered to the south, east and west by housing and to the north and far west by roads. Understorey of frequent beech, ash, rowan, gean, birch, sycamore, horse chestnut and red oak. Some underplanted Sitka spruce is present. The ground flora consists mainly of patchy soft grasses, ferns and brambles. Deadwood in the form of fallen or felled trees and some minor canopy deadwood in both conifer and broadleaf trees.

| 17b | 0.42 | Mixed native broadlea ves | 2012 | Wood establishment | Housing/infrastru cture, structures & water features on or adjacent to site | | | |
|--------|---|------------------------------------|------|-----------------------|---|--|--|--|
| A ctan | A stand of SP and LX was felled in 2010, due to close proximity of new houses and unthinned state | | | | | | | |

A stand of SP and LX was felled in 2010 due to close proximity of new houses and unthinned state of the woodland. Replanted with native broadleaves in 2012. Species mix includes alder, ash, birch, oak, rowan, hawthorn, bird cherry.

| 17c | 0.28 | Alder | 1985 | High forest | No/poor | Informal Public |
|-----|------|---------|------|-------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | | species | | | vehicular access | Access |
| | | | | | within the site | |

Stand of semi-mature mixed broadleaves including birch, sycamore, oak, alder, ash, rowan and hawthorn with occasional larch, Sitka spruce, Scots pine and odd grand fir. The stand is a dense belt that runs between housing to the north and housing and retail to the south and is separated from sub-compartment 4a by a paved footpath with Eliburn Road creating the eastern boundary. No significant understorey due to the age of the trees but occasional young birch and gean present. Ground flora of soft grasses in more open areas. No significant deadwood due to the age of the stand.

| 18a | 0.31 | Scots | 1950 | Min-intervention | Informal Public | |
|-----|------|-------|------|------------------|-----------------|--|
| | | pine | | | Access | |

'Newyearfield Strip: South' Originally connected to cpt 19, this is a stand of mature Scots pine with occasional mixed broadleaves including ash, beech, sycamore and oak. Bounded to the east by Deans East Road, to the south by Houstoun road and the west by new housingUnderstorey includes sycamore, birch, hawthorn, rowan and hazel. Ground flora of soft grasses, nettles, brambles, bracken and odd fern. No significant deadwood.

| 19a | 0.54 | Scots | 1950 | Min-intervention | Informal Public | |
|-----|------|-------|------|------------------|-----------------|--|
| | | pine | | | Access | |

'Newyearfield Strip: North'Originally connected to cpt 18 & 17, this is a stand of mature Scots pine with occasional mixed broadleaves including; ash, beech and oak. To the west is Deans East Road and west is housing with the railway to the north. Understorey includes; oak, beech, hawthorn, ash, beech, hazel and rowan. Ground flora of soft grasses and occasional brambles. No significant deadwood.

| 20- | 1 15 | 0 | 1050 | NAtional transportations | Information Dublic | |
|-----|------|-------|------|--------------------------|--------------------|--|
| 20a | 1.15 | Scots | 1950 | Min-intervention | Informal Public | |
| | | pine | | | Access | |

'Newyearfield Strip:East'Stand of mature Scots pine with occasional mixed broadleaves including beech, birch, rowan, oak and sycamore. Understorey includes oak, beech, hawthorn, ash, birch, Scots pine, holly and rowan. Ground flora of soft grasses, ferns, brambles, raspberries, willow herb and gorse. Some deadwood present as fallen or felled but majority present in mature canopy.

Appendix 2: Harvesting operations (20 years)

| Forecast Year | Cpt | Operation Type | Work Area (ha) | Estimated vol/ha | Estimated total vol. |
|------------------|-----|----------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 2019 | 17a | Clear Fell | 0.11 | 351 | 38.6 |

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.