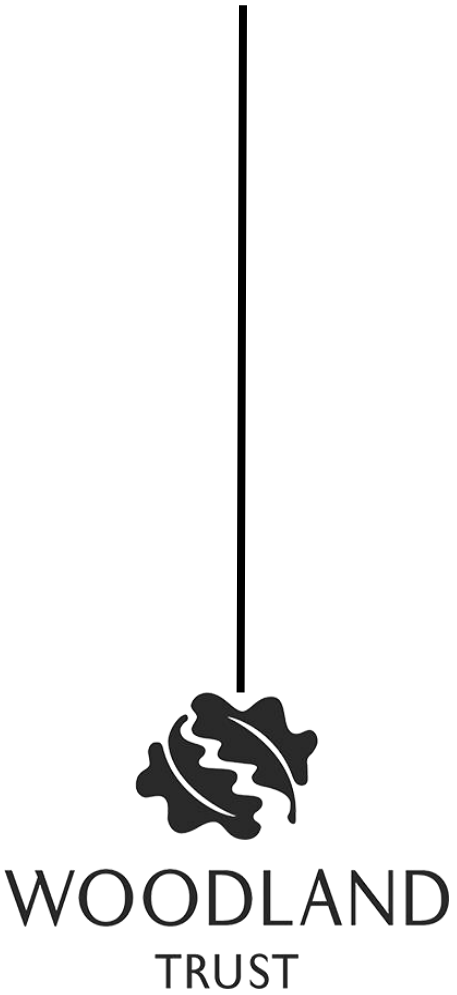
Great Chart Wood

(Plan period – 2021 to 2026)



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

Great Chart Wood

Location:	Ashford Grid reference: TQ982418 OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 189
Area:	2.32 hectares (5.73 acres)
External Designations:	NULL
Internal Designations:	Woods on Your Doorstep

2. SITE DESCRIPTION

Great Chart Wood (2.3ha) is located on the edge of Great Chart, a village close to Ashford, Kent and was leased to the Woodland Trust by Ashford Borough Council. The site was planted in 2000 both as part of Ashford Borough Councils Millennium Woodland Project and the Woodland Trust's 'Woods on your Doorstep' scheme. Seeking to create new community woodland, this site provides a valuable area for public recreation and local wildlife whilst becoming an important feature in the local landscape.

A number of organisations sponsored the planting of the wood including Sainsbury's Homebase, The National Lottery and the Forestry Commission along with help from the local community. Trees and shrubs planted included a mixture of oak, ash, birch, wild cherry, field maple, hornbeam, rowan, hazel, blackthorn, hawthorn, dogwood, willow sp. and holly. Ash dieback (Hymenoscyphus fraxineus) has impacted all the pole stage ash across the site, ranging from mid stage symptoms (5<25%) to advanced (>50%). All dead and dying ride side ash has been removed over the last management plan period, following regular autumn coppicing work undertaken by local volunteer group Ashford Green Gym.

The range of shrubs and developing ground flora has made the site an important resource for a variety of pollinators including butterflies, moths and other invetebrates, and a number of passerines including goldfinches, dunnocks and blackcaps. A number of earthworks of historical interest including a small mound and two springs were highlighted during an archaeological walkover survey prior to planting works. These features have been left as found and incorporated into the ride network as managed glades, also of benefit to wildlife.

Great Chart Wood sits on the southern boundary of the Wealden Greensand National Character Area (NCA), a wide and low lying clay vale featuring characteristic shaws and fields, alongside denser wooded areas with a high proportion of ancient woodland habitat. Many interesting nature sites can be found within the wider local landscape surrounding Great Chart, which provide significant habitat for bat species, lesser spotted woodpeckers, and many invertebrates, fungi and lichens. Great Chart Wood is 6 miles north of Orlestone Forest (347ha), a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Local Wildlife Site and Grade 1 Nature Conservation Review site. Orlestone is a remnant of a continuous oak forest that once covered the Weald, and contains a number of rare and nationally scarce invertebrates, many of which are only found at this site.

Great Chart Wood lies close to a residential area along Singleton Road and adjacent playing fields to the east, and the Great Chart Bypass (A28) is to the south of the site. A small community allotment adjoins the western boundary. Public access is available from two entrances to the east and west of the site, these lead onto a permissive path network of wide grassy paths through the wood. The main path running east to west is also a public footpath (0105/AW234/2) joining the Greensand Way to the north west, and the Wealden Cycle Trail (Ashford to Tunbridge Wells) to the south east of the site.

3. LONG TERM POLICY

Great Chart Wood will continue to mature into a diverse, semi natural woodland for people to enjoy, whilst providing an important habitat for pollinators, birds and other wildlife. Ash dieback will have an impact on the composition of this woodland given that ash dominates some areas of the canopy, making up around 40-50% of the composition within the stands. However, with the loss of a high proportion of the ash, comes an increased decaying wood habitat, which will help to encourage invertebrate and fungal communities. Throughout the site there is a developing understorey of shrubby varieties such as blackthorn, hawthorn, hazel, holly, goat and grey willow and elder, and natural regeneration of oak, field maple and some cherry and rowan, and alongside ash saplings. These species will all help to further diversify the site in terms of both structure and habitat. Small scale interventions of thinning of the canopy trees will be required. Coppicing of ride edges and scalloping of shrub thickets will help to support a good network of sunny rides producing a rich and varied habitat of benefit to wildlife. Identified archaeological earthworks will continue to be incorporated into glade management work with the support of local volunteers.

This site will continue to act as an important conservation and recreational space in Great Chart. The provision of safe and informal public access will remain across this site and it is expected that local residents will continue to make up the main visitor demographic. Management will entail regular path and access point works, safety inspections of site infrastructure and higher risk tree zones along the path network and site boundaries. All Woodland Trust sites are focused on improving woodland biodiversity and increasing people's understanding and enjoyment of woodland, to help create a UK rich in native woods and trees, for people and wildlife.

4. KEY FEATURES

4.1 f1 Secondary Woodland

Description
Planted in 2000 as part of the Woodland Trust's 'Woods on Your Door Step' (WOYD) scheme, the secondary woodland at Great Chart Wood comprises a mix of native broadleaf species including a mixture of oak, ash, birch, wild cherry, field maple, hornbeam, rowan, hazel, blackthorn, hawthorn, dogwood, willow spp. and holly. The site has been heavily impacted by ash dieback (Hymenoscyphus fraxineus), and a number of the impacted pole stage ash trees on site in falling distance of paths and boundaries were coppiced over the last management plan period (2016-2021) with support from volunteer group Ashford Green Gym. Those that remain are set within the stands and are showing mid to advanced stage symptoms. Although ash regeneration is taking hold, it is difficult to ascertain how disease impacted these new seedlings will be, and as such the site will see changes to the overall species composition, with regeneration of oak, cherry, field maple, willow spp., hawthorn, elder and blackthorn further taking hold to gradually replace any ash that has been lost. Prior to planting an archaeological survey conducted by the Oxford Archaeological Unit revealed a number of earthworks of potential historical interest, including depressions, a small mound and two springs. A sunken track and probable quarry scoop also lies just past the western boundary of the site. Earthworks have been left as found and incorporated into the ride network as managed glades. Great Chart Wood sits on the southern boundary of the Wealden Greensand National Character Area (NCA), characterised by a broad, low lying clay vale and a rolling landscape of pastoral agricultural smallholdings, and a high proportion of ancient woodland. 'Chart' means 'rough' or 'rocky, sterile soil'- the Greensand Ridge itself becomes indistinct beyond Great Chart. The site soils are composed from clay, silt, sand and gravel, and can become slightly waterlogged in the wetter months. Great Chart Wood has a developing ground flora found along the ride edge and glade habitats. Species found include common vetch, black medick and red and white clover, and patches of hedge woundwort, slender St. John's wort, white dead nettle and wood forget-me-not are also scattered throughout the site. The range of shrubs and developing ground flora has made the site an important resource for a variety of pollinators including butterflies, moths and other invetebrates, and a number of passerines including goldfinches, dunnocks and blackcaps which utilise some of the thickets along the wide ride edge.
Significance
The broadleaved tree species planted at Great Chart Wood contribute towards increasing the area of native woodland in a part of the country with intense development pressures such as road construction and housing, whilst of course also providing key habitat for fauna and other flora. This work promotes conservation and enhancement of the quality of the landscape and scenic significance in a Kent-wide context, whilst also facilitating the social and economic well-being of the local community.

The site is part surrounded by arable fields and areas of ancient semi natural woodland, and as such the creation of this woodland has helped to provide a more connected landscape of great benefit to wildlife and a key resource in combating climate change.

Opportunities & Constraints

Constraints:

Access is limited at this small site, and it can sit waterlogged during wet winters.

Secondary woodlands are less viable habitats for specialist species that benefit from old growth characteristics and structural diversity of ancient woodland sites.

Dense thickets of blackthorn can dominate the wide ride edge and smother out opportunities for more diverse shrub composition and ground flora.

Factors Causing Change

Ash dieback- This will threaten the species mixture of the secondary woodland areas due to the likely loss of the majority of ash on site. However, the effects of ash dieback will also create opportunities, through the increasing decaying wood habitat provided by dying ash trees and regeneration of an understorey prompted by increasing light levels in the ash stands.

Potential for increased shrub and coarse vegetation shading of wildflowers in areas, through further encroachment onto the ride edges

Potential for invasive or threatening plants (eg: convolvulus spp.) or use of pesticides to encroach from boundaries with the parkland and allotment.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Great Chart Wood will be encouraged to grow and develop into a resilient, native broadleaf woodland benefiting wildlife and enhancing the aesthetics of the site and the surrounding area.

Although any disease-tolerant ash trees will be retained where possible, it is likely that ash will become a very minor species within the next 10 years due to the impacts of ash dieback. Natural regeneration of other native broadleaves such as oak, field maple and cherry will establish in the areas where ash has died, to close up any gaps in the canopy and achieve greater structural diversity within the planted woodland.

In 50 years the secondary woodland managed by minimum intervention will be showing the development of semi-natural woodland characteristics with increasing signs of regeneration and a developing woody shrub layer. The growing accumulation of decaying wood from dying ash will also provide an important habitat for invertebrates and fungi, which will in turn support the development of a healthy woodland ecosystem. Periodic interventions maybe necessary to encourage the development of an understory. The presence of threatening invasive species to be absent or minor with containment and eradication work as necessary.

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

The short term objective is to contribute towards the maintenance of a structurally diverse woodland, aiming to continue to maximise biodiversity potential and woodland resilience, particularly in relation to ash dieback. In the next 5 year plan period work will concentrate on dealing with the effects of ash dieback and ride management. The ongoing development of conservation rides will form an important feature of this secondary woodland and support the creation of a mosaic of microhabitats, in order to fulfil all of the requirements for wildlife. Due to the compact nature of this site, the work will be staggered and where possible undertaken by a local volunteer group.

This will be achieved by:

In 2022, felling up to 0.2ha of ash affected by ADB in tree safety zone B bordering the northern edge of the site.

Development of a two zone ride management programme, including scalloping of dominant blackthorn thickets (up to 30m per annum), due 2022, 2023 and 2024.

4.2 f2 Connecting People with woods & trees

Description

Great Chart Wood is a small secondary woodland site located within the village of Great Chart (population 6800 as per 2011 census), in the parish of Great Chart with Singleton. The site is 2 miles west of Ashford town centre and close to the A28 bypass which has direct links to the M20. The public have access to the wood via two entrances, with the main entrance located at the east of the wood off Singleton Road through a large playing field. There is an established network of mown grass pathways in place (totalling 0.5km), and a public right of way (0105/AW234/2) cuts through the site from the east to west entrances, joining the Greensand Way to the north west, and the Wealden Cycle Trail (Ashford to Tunbridge Wells) to the South east of the site.

The site remains relatively quiet with around 5 to 15 people using the site daily. Great Chart Wood offers the opportunity for informal recreation to local residents and dog walkers, and the occasional rambler. The site is a medium priority, maintained woodland. Due its small size, it would not be appropriate for more frequent use.

Due to its close proximity to Ashford and the main road network, Great Chart is vulnerable to further residential development. As such, Great Chart Wood forms an important open, recreational and ecological space within this area.

Other nearby outdoor recreational and conservation sites include Forestry Commission managed Orlestone Forest, Bybrook Nature Reserve, Ashford Community Woodland, and Singleton Environment Centre, which seeks to preserve, protect and improve the natural environment for public benefit, enhancing environmental education, and also promoting and supporting the creation and maintenance of green spaces within the Ashford area.

Great Chart Wood is also a short distance from two nearby Woodland Trust sites- Packing Wood (6 miles) in Hamstreet, and Dering Wood, Pluckley (7.5miles).

Significance

Great Chart Wood is an important space for quiet, informal recreation within Great Chart and Singleton, especially given its close proximity to central Ashford.

Public access to Great Chart Wood helps fulfil one of the Woodland Trust's key objectives; to inspire everyone to enjoy and value woods and trees

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities:

The consistent level of regular visitors to this wood offers opportunity for positive community engagement. The developing ground flora and range of broadleaf trees and shrubs provide interesting focal points within the site and a display of colour throughout the seasons.

Established third party volunteers at Great Chart Wood are able to act as ambassadors for the Woodland Trust and support habitat enhancement works at the site.

Constraints:

The unsurfaced paths and width restricted access points make this site challenging for visitors with prams and wheelchairs.

The small size of this wood limits the expansion or development of further public access facilities or increased visitor numbers

Factors Causing Change

Antisocial behaviour- The site has previously suffered vandalism to the on site interpretation which has since been removed. A small number of trees and shrubs including holly were also illegally felled during the winter season.

Litter and invasive species- Although it is not significant problem, there has occasionally been some encroachment of litter and garden waste near to the access points.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

There will be a well maintained and safe network of paths for informal public access in Great Chart Wood where responsible visitors can appreciate and enjoy the site, utilising it for short local walks. The site will continue to be valued by the local community, particularly for its ease of use and recognised importance as a developing woodland habitat within the local landscape.

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 Great Chart Wood which is both safe and enjoyable.

This will be achieved by:

-Biannual path cuts to the network of paths on site totalling approximately 0.5km, and strimming of any overhanging or encroaching vegetation along the paths.

-Entrance maintenance works including:
Removal of overhanging/encroaching branches along paths.
Strimming a 1m radius around pedestrian/vehicle gates, and litter picks undertaken

-Replacement of breadboard signage at the main entrance in line with anticipated wear and tear, due 2025 or earlier if required
-Upgrades to infrastructure where appropriate

-Annual inspections of site access points, signage, furniture and general infrastructure to ensure that all are in good condition and adequate for visitor numbers and all user groups

-Biennial Zone B tree safety inspections during the summer following work to ash along northern boundary

5. WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
2021	WMM - Ride Management	Works associated with the management of existing rides/open areas for biodiversity - ride edge coppicing and thinning programmes, ditch works	December
2022	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Planned/routine litter picks using contractors	March
2022	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	June
2022	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	August
2022	WMM - Ride Management	Works associated with the management of existing rides/open areas for biodiversity - ride edge coppicing and thinning programmes, ditch works	October
2022	SL - Tree Safety Silviculture Work	Retrieving data. Wait a few seconds and try to cut or copy again.	November
2023	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Planned/routine litter picks using contractors	March
2023	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	June
2023	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	August
2023	WMM - Ride Management	Works associated with the management of existing rides/open areas for biodiversity - ride edge coppicing and thinning programmes, ditch works	October
2024	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Planned/routine litter picks using contractors	March

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
2024	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	June
2024	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	August
2024	WMM - Ride Management	Works associated with the management of existing rides/open areas for biodiversity - ride edge coppicing and thinning programmes, ditch works	October
2025	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Planned/routine litter picks using contractors	March
2025	PE - Interpretation & Signage	Works associated with the provision of visitor signage, waymarking, interpretation features and leaflets	March
2025	PE - Interpretation & Signage	Works associated with the provision of visitor signage, waymarking, interpretation features and leaflets	March
2025	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	June
2025	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	August
2025	WMM - Ride Management	Works associated with the management of existing rides/open areas for biodiversity - ride edge coppicing and thinning programmes, ditch works	October
2026	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Planned/routine litter picks using contractors	March
2026	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	June
2026	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Works associated with the maintenance of existing visitor access infrastructure and paths. Work could include items such as repairing	August

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
		pot-holes and path surfaces, mowing grass paths, path widening, maintaining footbridges and steps, cleaning signage etc,	

APPENDIX 1 : COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
1a	2.32	Ash	2000	Min-intervention		
Mixed broadleaves of ash, hornbeam, oak, birch, rowan, willow, wild cherry and woody shrubs planted in 2000. Unplanted areas form the path network with shrubs including blackthorn, hawthorn and elder concentrated along the edges.						

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.