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Supplementary Woodland Management 20 Year Plan 2016 - 2036

Nor Wood & Lodge Wood Cobham Park Kent

Client
**West Kent Downs
Countryside Trust**

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UK Woodland Management Policy

This management plan has been drafted in accordance with the following UK Forestry Standard guidelines for the management of semi-natural woodland.

- Maintain the semi-natural type by using natural regeneration wherever practicable, or planting stock of locally native species adapted to the site.
- Maintain or enhance the natural diversity of species, woodland structure and habitats.
- Maintain some mature habitats and moderate the rate of change to allow species to adjust.
- Ensure strategies to meet other objectives, such as timber production and recreation, are compatible with ecological (and any statutory) requirements.
- Use operational methods which avoid excessive disturbance to the site.
- Set up a mechanism for monitoring the results of management and how successful it is at meeting the objectives and developing the key features of the wood.

West Kent Downs Countryside Trust

The West Kent Downs Countryside Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 15 September 2000 and registered as a charity on 31 October 2000. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objectives and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

The Trusts objectives are....

“To conserve, for the benefit of the public, the natural beauty and habitats of the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty around Cobham and Cuxton; and to educate the public in the practice of such conservation”.

To achieve these objectives the Trust aims to:

- Acquire by gift or purchase, woodland, agricultural land or other land and any buildings ancillary thereto.
- Manage such acquired land for conservation whilst achieving the other objectives of the charity.
- Negotiate with other landowners to secure conservation benefits and increased public access
- Provide open access to walkers on the charity’s property, subject to land management or conservation requirements.
- Produce and disseminate information concerning the conservation, natural beauty and public access of the area of operation.
- Arrange events for the participation and involvement of the community in fulfilment of the charity’s objectives.
- Create links with local educational establishments to encourage study and research within the area of operation.

The Trust is managed by a board of six Trustees who carry out a range of tasks including membership services, publicity and promotion, organising local events and outreach to local organisations including schools. All Trustees are volunteers and receive no remuneration. On average Trustees meet six times a year.

Lodge Wood & Nor Wood Woodland Management Plan 2016 – 2036

1.0 Introduction

Lodge Wood & Nor Wood (from hereon referred to as 'the site') form the southern section of an extensive area of woodland, grassland and parkland known as Cobham Woods once part of the Cobham Hall estate. The site was divided into multiple small plots and sold off to private individuals during the 1970's. The plots were initially managed in a variety of ways resulting in radically diverse vegetation cover, however over time the majority of plots have become unmaintained. The site lies within the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), the Metropolitan Green Belt and forms part of the Cobham Woods Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

Over recent years the West Kent Downs Countryside Trust (WKDCT) has purchased a number of plots and aims to continue to increase their ownership with the intention of bringing the site under uniform management to meet the Trusts objectives (see page 3).

2.0 Site History

Cobham Woods South and much of the surrounding countryside once formed the Cobham Hall estate, home to the Earls of Darnley. The renowned landscape designer Humphrey Repton was responsible for landscaping the parkland area in the late 1700's. The architect James Wyatt designed the Darnley mausoleum located at the top of the hill north of the woodland. Repton and Wyatt worked together on a number of projects on private estates at this time. The mausoleum was built in 1786, it would be reasonable to assume that the parkland trees so prominent in the surrounding landscape were planted at the same time under the instruction of Repton.

Much of the estate was sold in 1957 to the Ministry of Works, with the mausoleum and some parkland being retained by the family. The land to the south of the mausoleum (Nor Wood & Lodge Wood) was divided into plots and offered for sale to the public in the mid 1970s. Just over 90 plots were sold, varying in size from 0.2 to about 3.5 acres (approx 0.08 to 1.4 ha). Any land that was not sold to private individuals was held by two companies, Gulf Stream and Kingswood Foresters, who currently retain the most extensive land holdings on the site.

Estate plans dating from 1749 (C Price), 1758 (C Sloane) and the later 1851 plan (C.Adams), show that the central section, Warren Plain, running southwards from the mausoleum between Lodge Wood and Nor Wood, was previously a continuation of the parkland surrounding the mausoleum. The stumps of felled parkland trees can still be seen on the northern slopes.

The woodland areas to the east and west appear to have been continuously wooded, however many areas have been cleared and replanted, or allowed to regenerate, since the demise of the estate.

In 2005 six leisure plots were bequeathed to the WKDCT since then their ownership has increased to 36 plots.

3.0 Site Description

3.1 Legal/Administrative Details

- 3.1.1 *Site Name* Lodge Wood & Nor Wood
- 3.1.2 *Location* 1.5 miles south of A2 jnc 2 and 2 miles north of Bush Rd jnc. With upper Bush Rd.
- 3.1.3 *Grid Reference* TQ 75010 67405 (WKDCT interpretation sign - close to site centre).
- 3.1.4 *Area* Approx. 45ha (110 acres).
- 3.1.5 *Parish and County* Cuxton/Cobham, Kent.
- 3.1.6 *Local Authority* Part Medway/Gravesham Councils.
- 3.1.7 *Owner* West Kent Downs Countryside Trust and other private owners. Ownership details are complex.
- 3.1.8 *Management* As above.
- 3.1.9 *Project Co-ordinator* Mr R Savage, Forge Cottage, Lower Bush, Cuxton, Kent. ME2 1HF.
- 3.1.10 *Designations*
- Medway Council - Woodland Tree Preservation Order (TPO) No. R23/1975.
 - Gravesham Council - Woodland Tree Preservation Order (TPO) No. R1/1975.
 - Cobham Wood Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI),
 - Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).
 - Metropolitan Greenbelt.
 - North Downs Special Landscape Area.
 - Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland.
 - Article 4 Direction Medway Council/Gravesham Council, (Appendix VI).
- 3.1.11 *Rights of Way* 2 x Public Rights of Way - RS198, NS180.
- 3.1.12 *Previous Management Plans/Felling Licences/Grant Schemes*
- Unknown

3.1.13 Boundaries

The site adjoins arable farmland to the south-west; parkland and woodland to the north and west managed by The National Trust (NT); and a continuation of Cobham Woods and arable farmland managed by Plantlife to the north and east, Plantlife also manage a set-aside field bordering the south-eastern woodland boundary. The National Trust and Plantlife work closely to carry out extensive landscape restoration and land management with similar objectives to WKDCT, their woodlands are subject of FC Grant Schemes and approved management plans.

There is little evidence of the original boundaries between plots on the ground, with the exception of a few isolated fence posts and remnant fence lines. However WKDCT is currently marking out the corners of plots under their ownership.

3.2 Physical Characteristics

3.2.1 Landscape Value

The whole of Cobham woods is of particularly high landscape importance, with the woodland elements being characteristic of the wooded slopes traditionally found along the North Kent Downs. The site is an important local landscape feature, mainly located on the south facing slopes of the northern most ridge of the Kent Downs, providing spectacular views of the AONB south and east over Bush Valley and towards the River Medway

The area suffered heavy losses of mature trees during the storm of 1987, which destroyed large swathes of mature woodland across the area. However, with much of Nor Wood and Lodge Wood having previously been cleared the relatively young tree stock weathered the storm well. Although occasional individuals and groups of mature trees were severely damaged or windthrown across the site.

3.2.2 Neighbouring Land Use

The site adjoins arable farmland to the south-west; parkland and woodland to the north and west managed by The National Trust (NT); and a continuation of Cobham Woods and arable farmland managed by Plantlife to the north and east, Plantlife also manage a set-aside field bordering the south-eastern woodland boundary. The National Trust and Plantlife work closely to carry out extensive landscape restoration and land management with similar objectives to WKDCT, their woodlands are subject of FC Grant Schemes and approved management plans.

3.2.3 Topography

The woodland lies on the south facing slopes of the North Kent Downs between approximately 60-100m above sea level. Levels generally fall from the Thanet Sand capped high ground to the north, down through thin-soiled woodland over chalk, to the arable fields lining the southern boundary. Levels fall fairly uniformly across the main body of the site, whilst levels drop more sharply from the Thanet Sand in the north-east, down east facing slopes.

3.2.4 *Geology and Drainage*

The underlying geology across the majority of the site is identified in the British Geological Survey as undifferentiated Chalk Formation with no superficial deposits, a small area of more acidic Thanet Formation (sand, silt & clay) is located on the north-eastern upper slopes, just south of the Mausoleum.

3.2.5 *Access*

One Public Right of Way (PROW) (RS198) passes through the north-eastern section of the site, from the National Trust land in the north, heading southeastward to the Plantlife land adjoining the eastern site boundary. A second PROW (NS180) enters the south-western corner of the site, from the arable land to the south, running westward along the southern site boundary.

The site has been informally accessed by the public for many years, with many of the former access tracks formed to provide access for plot owners having become established as an informal network of paths through the woodland; whilst other tracks would seem to have more historic roots, following tracks identified on the 1851 survey of the estate. Officially only plot owners have right of access across the land to their respective plots.

3.2.6 *Archaeological features*

No archaeological features have been recorded. However one historical point of interest, 'The Toe Memorial', is located in the north east of the site. This is an unmaintained and overgrown monument at the spot where the 5th Earl of Darnley is said to have inflicted a fatal injury on himself while attempting to remove a tree root with an axe.

3.3 Biological Features

3.3.1 Diversity

The site includes areas of chalk grassland, coppice, ancient semi-natural woodland, conifer plantations (PAWS) and a range of scrub and hedgerow habitats. The diversity of habitats is central to the SSSI description. The most recent assessment of the SSSI by Natural England, carried out in 2013, has classed the condition of the site as:

'Unfavourable - Recovering: Work is being carried out by land owner. Unit is recovering. Not yet meeting targets set for non-natives trees and scrub (due to conifers). More open space is also needed. Good canopy cover, understory, open space, dead wood, regeneration and areas of minimum intervention'.

3.3.2 Vegetation

Due to the difference in soil types between the higher slopes to the north and the lower slopes to the south there is a transition of natural vegetation types across the woodland.

To the north over the Thanet Sands the woodland is typical of NVC type W10, moving southwards there is a transition through type W8 to areas characteristic of W12 on the more calcareous slopes and headlands.

The eastern and western sections of the site are Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW). The central section, known as Warren Plain, is an area of former parkland supporting chalk grassland. This has been left unmanaged in recent years yet remains fairly open, there is however areas of scrub incursion as well as some of the former grassland having been planted with conifer or sweet chestnut coppice, as well as a small fruit orchard.

The majority of the original parkland trees have been cleared from the site, apparently at the time the estate went into receivership. Some of these areas have naturally regenerated into mixed native woodland. The natural tree regeneration consists primarily of birch and ash, along with hornbeam, beech, cherry, whitebeam, yew and holly.

Some pine plantations have been cleared or heavily thinned resulting in areas of mixed broadleaf with remnant plantation conifers. Localised groups of young turkey oak have become established and regenerate freely across the site.

The shrub layer within the woodland areas consists primarily of elder to the north, with hawthorn, spindle, wayfaring tree, dogwood and blackthorn becoming more common to the south.

Bramble covers much of the woodland floor, although this is not particularly dense.

Honeysuckle and ivy is present but not excessive.

A ground flora survey is required.

3.3.3 *Woodland*

As a result of mixed ownership the plots have been managed in a variety of ways, some of the woodland areas appear to have been cleared of vegetation when first sold off and now support a fairly even aged cover of natural regeneration supporting a low mix of tree species. Other areas of multiple plots under single ownership have been planted with coniferous plantation and sweet chestnut coppice. Whilst others appear to have received little management and support areas of mixed woodland. The result is a rich mosaic of tree species and woodland types across the site, however the lack of holistic woodland management has given rise to a fragmented woodland with little diversity of species and age range.

The majority of the site is classified as Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland, with the exception of Warren Plain to the centre of the site.

3.3.4 *Woodland Edge*

The southern boundary is open to the adjacent fields, early estate plans show that this has been the case for many years. As such a diverse woodland edge has become established along this boundary, the main species to be found are field maple, hawthorn, dogwood, spindle, blackthorn and rose.

There are no wide rides through the site and therefore limited rideside woodland edge habitat.

3.3.5 *Veteran Trees*

A number of mature beech on the lower slopes were lost in the 1987 storm, the fallen stems can be found intermittently across the southern section of the site. Many of the former parkland sweet chestnut trees, generally found in the northeastern section of the site, have been felled, probably around the time that the estate went into receivership. The cut stumps of these trees can still be found, some of which survive as coppice stools.

One large sweet chestnut is located on one of the plots acquired by WKDCT (Plot Ref: F1 or F2). This is no doubt one of the few remaining original parkland trees, and as such an important tree with cultural, historic and ecological value. The majority of the surviving parkland trees are found on the adjacent Cobham Park site to the north, although unfortunately many of these have been severely damaged by fire during the relatively recent period of extensive anti-social behaviour on the site.

There are a number of scattered mature beech trees many of which have suffered severe storm damage, many others have been windblown, some having died whilst others continue to grow. Occasional mature yew and hornbeam can be found throughout the woodland.

A veteran tree survey is required so as to plot and manage these valuable features accordingly, as well as identifying individuals that will become veterans of the future.

3.3.6 *Open Grassland*

The large central area running north/south known as Warren Plain is a continuation of the Darnley Estate parkland found on the National Trust land to the north of the site. Much of the area remains as open grassland, although lack of management has resulted in the establishment of natural regeneration and encroachment of the woodland edge.

The parkland supports herbaceous grassland species, clarification of the extent of land to be managed as Warren Plain is required, this may require the removal of some established planted or secondary woodland. A separate grassland management plan is required to highlight objectives and management operations for this habitat.

3.3.7 *Mammals*

No specialist survey has been undertaken.

Badger, fox, rabbit, grey squirrel, deer, bats, dormice and voles are known from local knowledge and survey results for the neighbouring Plantlife property.

3.3.8 *Birds*

No specialist survey has been undertaken, however an informal survey has been carried out by a well-informed member which noted 34 species over spring and early summer.

A survey carried out on the adjacent National Trust land to the north identified 48-50 nesting bird species in the area. Four priority species were identified: Lesser spotted woodpecker; hawfinch; nightjar; and tree pipit. In addition, a survey on the neighbouring Plantlife land identified 15 species of schedule 1 birds.

3.3.9 *Invertebrates*

No specialist survey has been undertaken.

A survey carried out on the adjacent National Trust land to the north identified 73 nationally scarce and 4 Red Data Book species.

3.3.10 *Mosses/lichens*

No specialist survey has been undertaken.

3.3.11 *Fungi*

No specialist survey has been undertaken.

A survey carried out on the adjacent Plantlife land to the north-east identified 3 priority species

3.3.12 Deadwood

As a result of the windblown beech trees lost in the 1987 storm the woodland is rich with mainly fallen but also standing large diameter deadwood. The majority of the woodland has been left relatively unmanaged since the demise of the use of the Leisure Plots and as such both standing-dead and fallen small diameter trees have not been cleared from the woodland areas.

The recommended veteran tree survey is to include the mapping of all dead and fallen veteran trees in order to monitor saproxylic communities.

4.0 Current Values, Attributes and Threats

4.1 Ecological

The site forms part of the Cobham Woods SSSI, an ecologically important area of diverse woodland, parkland and downland.

4.2 Historical

The woodland was formerly part of Cobham Park Estate, providing a history of land uses and management influences which remain evident in the present character of the land. The areas of chestnut coppice, former wood pasture, tracks, paths, and individual features, such as the Toe monument, reflect the influence of estate economics and land management practices over the years.

4.3 Landscape

The Leisure Plots are an important local landscape feature and leisure resource. The south facing slope of the Kent Downs provides spectacular views of the AONB south and east over Bush Valley and towards the River Medway.

The Leisure Plots lie within the Kent Downs AONB and the Metropolitan Green Belt. These designations identify the land as being of national importance for its scenic quality and afford protection against development and strategic guidance for planning and management at a national and local level.

4.4 Amenity/Recreational

Although the land is privately owned, many local people use it for recreation and dog-walking. It also provides access, via the network of informal paths, to the neighbouring National Trust and Plantlife woodlands. The site provides the visitor with a varied experience through areas of grassland, coppice and mixed native woodland.

4.5 Timber Products

With the exception of the sweet chestnut coppice the current product values are low. However timber produced from woodland thinning operations may be used within the woodland, providing material for benches, fencing and footpath improvements, as well as potentially being sold to the local communities for firewood.

Although at the point of becoming overstood, the chestnut coppice is still within viable rotation age providing an opportunity for income from sales for fencing material.

4.6 Visitor Safety

In addition to the PROW's a network of well-used unofficial footpaths exists, tree hazard inspections along such pathways are required, along with the control of off road motorbikes and cars.

4.7 Pests, Diseases, Threats

Chalara fraxinia - Ash Dieback: is well established in east Kent and slowly moving through the remainder of the county. *Chalara* has been identified as being present on the site, as well as on the adjacent Plantlife Ranscombe Farm Reserve. Impact: reduced vigour, dieback and death.

Acute Oak Decline: has become established across central England and has spread into the south-east. Impact: reduced vigour, stem bleeding, dieback and death.

Phytophthora ramorum - has become established across the west of the UK, primarily causing the death of larch plantations, but also found to affect sweet chestnut and beech - all of these species are present on the site. Impact: bleeding stem lesions, withered shoots on Larch, reduced vigour and death.

Rabbits - if allowed to increase in numbers may present a threat to the success of tree regeneration and ground flora establishment.

Deer - present in the wider area and evidence of presence on the site. Browsed regeneration in localised areas, as well as poor understory/regeneration establishment in other areas. Presents a threat to the success of tree/shrub regeneration and ground flora establishment. Consultation with neighbouring landowners required (NT & Plantlife) to develop a control strategy.

Grey Squirrel - present in the area. Evidence of damage to tree stems and branches due to bark stripping. Consultation with neighbouring landowners required (NT & Plantlife) to develop a control strategy.

Invasive Species - Where a species becomes prolific in regeneration, resulting in a reduction of other species and often an even aged structure.

1. Sycamore has become established to seed bearing age across the south western section of the site. The young regeneration is spreading west and northward. On this particular site, Sycamore

quickly becomes a dominant species, restricting the regeneration of other plant/tree species. This has a potential impact on woodland diversity and structure.

2. Corsican Pine regeneration within Warren Plain is increasing as the surrounding plantation trees develop to produce more seed, if left uncontrolled this will result in woodland conditions establishing across the grassland to the detriment of the grassland habitat.

4.8 *Additional surveys required*

Surveys are required for all facets of diversity across the site so as to provide base data for ecological and habitat improvements included under the management proposals. The impact of management can then be compared at 5 year intervals to monitor impact/success.

- Veteran Tree
- Flora
- Mammal
- Bird
- Bat
- Invertebrate
- Moss/Lichen
- Fungi

5.0 Management Aims and Objectives

Vision Statement

To restore and conserve the natural heritage of the Plotland area of Cobham Woods SSSI for the benefit of wildlife and to provide public access for study and considerate enjoyment of the countryside through single management by acquisition or by agreement.

Where appropriate, with regards to the ecological, cultural and historical context of a site, the management aims for WKDCT property will tie-in with the overall objectives of the Trust (see page 3). The aims for this particular site are also in accordance with the following UK Forestry Standard national policy aims for semi-natural woodland.

- maintain and restore natural ecological diversity.
- maintain and improve aesthetic value.
- maintain genetic integrity of populations of native species, so far as is practicable.
- take opportunities to produce utilisable wood.
- enlarge the woods where possible.

5.1 1) To conserve and enhance the diversity and number of plant and wildlife species.

- Enhance the structural diversity of the woodland by selectively thinning existing trees to form a varied age range and improve light levels to ground flora communities.
- Manage natural regeneration promoting a variety of indigenous tree species to increase diversity.
- Re-instate coppice regime within sweet chestnut creating a diverse matrix of habitat and age range.
- Control invasive species such as sycamore and Corsican pine.
- Retain standing deadwood and deadwood habitat piles.
- Install bat and bird boxes.

5.2 2) To maintain and enhance a diverse range of habitat types.

- Promote age diversity throughout the woodland structure to maintain or create an uneven age structure across the site through individual and group felling.
- Encourage the development of herb/shrub/high forest structure through thinning and the encouragement and protection of natural regeneration.
- Manage existing ride system to promote woodland edge shrub species alongside main rides and occasional widening of secondary rides to form scallops in order to promote foraging corridors for bats, birds and insects.
- Increase deadwood habitat, both standing and fallen, to a minimum of 20 m³/ha.
- Create hedgerows along woodland/arable boundaries.
- Identify protect & enhance niche habitat features, such as water filled cavities/stools; trees with woodpecker holes, cavities, cracks; veteran trees or trees with veteran characteristics.
- Maintain and enhance existing open space and create additional glades within the woodland.
- Re-instate a matrix of coppice to promote uneven aged coppice structure.

5.3 3) To improve and enhance the aesthetic, landscape and historic values of the woodland

- Identify original Cobham Park estate features such as driveways, boundary features, parkland trees, vistas, open space.
- Re-instate estate driveways as primary rides.
- Map, record and preserve any physical remains of the former estate, such as fences, gates.
- Map, record and maintain any original parkland trees through remedial pruning works and halo felling where necessary.
- Re-instate/create/maintain views out of and across the woodland to provide appreciation of the wider setting and visual links with other elements of the Cobham Park Estate and surrounding countryside.
- Maintain Warren Plain as permanent open space ensuring woodland encroachment is controlled.

5.4 4) To promote the area as an educational resource, providing information on the site and establishing links with organisations to encourage study and research.

- Provide interpretation boards at entrance points and at points of interest within the woodland, detailing historic points of interest and interesting aspects of management being undertaken.
- Maintain links with the local scout group and wider groups within the Medway/Gravesham areas.
- Investigate the potential for the use of the site as a Forest School facility.
- Promote use of the site by local conservation groups, colleges and schools for research and study projects.

5.5 5) To involve members of the local community in the management of the site and promote the site as a local countryside resource.

- Provide a stall at local events to publicise the Trust and the work being carried out.
- Investigate ways to promote and encourage the participation of Trust members on work days.
- Investigate the marketing of timber to local businesses.
- Investigate bagged firewood supply for local communities.

5.6 6) *To eventually provide public access for the quiet recreational enjoyment of the countryside.*

- Investigate the legal implications of promoting official public access through the site with the aim of providing a waymarked circular walk and access links to adjacent National Trust and Plantlife walking routes.
- Identify a permissive bridlepath route through the site.
- Seek to gain further ownership of and/or management rights over additional plots.
- Improve and maintain the existing path network to a standard suitable for walkers, cyclists and horseriders.
- In conjunction with neighbouring landowners continue to restrict access for off-road motor cross and cars by maintaining site boundaries/access points.
- Provide information to local communities explaining the value of the woodland and surrounding area, using notice boards, flyers and occasional guided walks. The intention is to encourage users to take an interest in the management of the woodland and to instil pride in the woodland whilst promoting ecological issues.
- Install benches at points of interest

6.0 Management Principles

The following general management principles describe the intended holistic management approach for the site assuming that overall management (or ownership) of the site can be gained by WKDCT. As the Trusts landholding increases, further detailed management specifications for each plot will be drafted following the principles agreed by the relevant statutory bodies i.e. Natural England, Forestry Commission, Local Authorities, under the approved management plan

6.1 Silvicultural Systems

The Forestry Commission Practice Guide 3 '*The Management of Semi-Natural Woodlands - Lowland Mixed Broadleaved Woods*' provides guidance on the application of silvicultural systems.

The programmed silvicultural operations aim to create a woodland of diverse age and species structure with high ecological and landscape value. This is to be achieved under an approved management plan, reviewed every 5-years.

6.1.1 Mixed Broadleaved Woodland - Continuous Cover Thinning

The areas of mixed broadleaved woodland on the site vary in character and can be broadly divided into two types:

- 1) Young even-aged woodland of low species diversity resulting from site clearance carried out approximately 30 years ago.
- 2) Areas relatively unmanaged, generally varied in structure, supporting a range of indigenous species and deadwood habitat (mainly Compt. 5).

Many of the mixed woodland blocks have remnant conifers present; and the south-western section of the site hosts rapidly establishing Sycamore regeneration.

In addition compartment '2c' comprises of an unthinned Corsican pine crop.

The mixed conifer/broadleaf plots have progressed through a natural transition back to predominantly native woodland, albeit with a low species/age diversity. In order to improve the age structure and species diversity of these mixed woodland areas, thinning operations are proposed to improve light levels to the woodland floor and promote the establishment of a variety of indigenous natural regeneration.

Conifers and sycamore will be targeted in the thinning programme to gradually phase out the conifer element on the site, in accordance with Natural England guidance, and to control the density of sycamore.

Thinning will be restricted to no more than 30% of the overall existing canopy within each management unit.

The conifer plantation (Compt 2c) is to be converted back to mixed native woodland through a long-term group selection process, with natural regeneration managed and promoted.

6.1.2 *Coppicing*

The majority of the coppice is sweet chestnut and found to the east of the site (Compt. 4), with minimal difference in coppice age structure presented. The coppice sweet chestnut stools in this area do not appear to be particularly historic; very few, if any, standard trees are located within the coppice blocks.

The scale of future coppicing operations are to be reduced in order to create a mixed age range of coppice regeneration, increasing diversity of habitat types and reducing the landscape impact of coppice operations.

A matrix of coppice coupes, are to be created ranging in rotation length from 15-25 years, providing saleable material for the post and rail industry.

Occasional coppice stools of various species are also found within the areas of mixed high forest. All coppice within high forest compartments is to be managed during the thinning operations proposed over the 20 year plan period.

Coppice conversion - The easternmost block of coppice (Compt 4b) is comprised of primarily sweet chestnut, however seemingly much older ash coppice stools are present amongst the sweet chestnut. The management aim for blocks containing a sweet chestnut/ash coppice mix, is to gradually remove the sweet chestnut so as to convert to a mixed native woodland with the occasional ash coppice stools retained.

6.1.3 *Non-Intervention*

The more diverse areas of woodland that support a variety of habitats, age classes and species (Compt. 5) are to be minimally managed as areas of non-intervention, with the exception of the control/removal of invasive and non-native species.

6.2 *Open Space*

The central section of the site, Warren Plain (Compt. 3a), is an area of unmanaged former parkland/grassland. Definition of the area to be managed as grassland is to be determined from historic maps. Once determined clearance of encroaching scrub/tree regeneration and ongoing management of the grassland to promote diversity of grassland species is proposed.

A programme of grass-cutting and/or grazing will be required. Specialist advice is to be sought for the detailed management of this area.

Maintenance of all existing open space and the creation of additional glades and trackside scallops is proposed to maintain areas of permanent open space throughout the woodland.

6.3 *Ride Management*

All existing access tracks are to be managed to the following specification:

- Clear existing tracks of all vegetation less than 200mm DBH to provide a 3m wide access track with a maximum of 2m cleared either side, totalling 7m.
- Trees larger than 200mm DBH are to be retained and re-assessed following completion of works and removed/retained as required under the single/group selection works.
- Crown lift all retained trees as required to provide a 3m height clearance over tracks.

Occasional scallops are to be created and maintained alongside existing tracks to provide permanent, open canopy, foraging areas.

6.4 *Orchard*

The orchard that has been planted on part of Warren Plain (Compt. 3a), has recently been acquired by WKDCT. The orchard trees were planted when the land was originally sold off as leisure plots.

The management of the orchard has been discussed with Natural England and it has been agreed that the phased removal of the orchard trees will be carried out as individuals naturally decline in health, the area will be maintained under the general grassland management principles agreed for Warren Plain.

6.5 *Felling and Extraction*

Tree felling is to be carried out sensitively with consideration for the surrounding vegetation and particular consideration for natural regeneration. Pre-determined extraction routes are to be defined using existing/historic tracks wherever possible. Extraction of timber is to be carried out by skidding (winching) to mgt tracks where appropriate, so as to reduce damage to regeneration, ground flora and soil structure. Alternatively, the potential for horse-logging will be explored.

A percentage of brushwood arising from thinning operations is to be cut and stacked in habitat piles/rows, the location and size of brushwood piles is to be determined within the specific contract document. Remaining brushwood may be chipped to provide a stockpile of material to be used as mulch and footpath improvements, or otherwise burnt at controlled firesites.

6.6 *Restocking and Regeneration*

Sensitive thinning operations will create gaps in the woodland canopy to allow the natural regeneration of tree species. The natural regeneration is to be monitored in order to control undesirable species, whilst encouraging indigenous and poorly represented species.

Within the mixed native blocks ash is often the primary species. Due to the concerns facing the future of ash, with the presence of Chalara Dieback on the site and throughout the county, the promotion of ash regeneration as the primary species is to be avoided and the establishment of mixed natives promoted. Cherry, hornbeam, field maple, oak and beech are indigenous to the site, along with yew, whitebeam and hawthorn; the regeneration of these species is to be promoted and will become increasingly successful over time. In accordance with UKWAS the primary species will not exceed 65% and the aim for the density of secondary species is to be greater than 20%.

Additional planting within the woodland may be required to add to the diversification of species if natural regeneration does not provide the required diversity.

Any planting stock used is to be sourced from nurseries guaranteeing provenance, with small scale planting ideally using transplants raised from seed gathered from the woodland/local area.

6.7 *Deadwood Management*

Deadwood is an important food source for invertebrates, provides shelter for many animals and is colonised by a variety of fungi. The retention of deadwood piles and standing dead trees will help to improve the condition of the woodland and help with species diversification. Deadwood habitat is to be maintained at a minimum of approximately 20m³/ha.

Deadwood stacks or 'habitat piles' are to be created from a proportion of the timber and brushwood resulting from felling operations.

Dead trees are to be made safe and where appropriate left standing to provide standing deadwood habitat, an under-represented habitat in many woodlands.

6.8 *Invasive Species Control*

Sycamore - The management proposals aim to control the distribution of sycamore on the site. It is evident that site conditions allow this species to quickly become the dominant tree within areas of secondary woodland. It is apparent on site that this is to the detriment of other species, with sycamore regeneration dominating areas once established. Sycamore seed trees are to be targeted in thinning operations and sycamore regeneration managed, with the intention of controlling distribution and promoting the development of mixed regeneration.

It should be noted that Sycamore has a number of ecological similarities to Ash. With the unavoidable decline in Ash expected due to Chalara, the density of Sycamore on the site is to be controlled but not eradicated, with an element of Sycamore retained within the species mix to serve as an ecological replacement for Ash.

Corsican Pine - As the surrounding plantation trees are maturing and producing more seed, regeneration of the species has been successful on Warren Plain. The management of the grassland areas is to ensure that the young regeneration is controlled. The future of the pine plantation and remnant conifers throughout the site have been discussed with Natural England and their phased removal agreed.

Rhododendron - The management proposals aim to control the occurrence of rhododendron on the site which occurs on the higher, acidic land, to the north and east. Rhododendron is allelopathic (restricts germination of other flora) and can rapidly dominate the woodland understorey, preventing natural regeneration and ground flora development. A phased programme of mapping, control/removal of rhododendron is included in the management proposals.

6.9 *Weed Control*

The use of chemicals on the site is to be minimised. Any weed control required around young trees is to be carried out by hand on volunteer days and if necessary controlled by mulching provided from the chipped brushwood arising from thinning operations.

Where hand weeding is not practicable selective herbicide spot spraying may be required.

6.10 *Pest Control*

Deer

Significant browsing of regen is evident in places, with limited regen establishing in other areas, partly due to canopy cover but possibly also due to deer activity. Deer exclosures are to be installed throughout the site to monitor impact of deer activity. Selected regeneration of mixed natives in thinned coupes to be protected with tubes. Coppice regrowth to be monitored and temporary fencing installed if deer activity is affecting regrowth development. Periodic monitoring to be carried out following The Deer Initiative 'Woodland Impact Survey' methodology and the Forestry Commission Field Book 018 'How Many Deer? A guide to estimating deer population size' and Practice note 006 'Managing Deer in the Countryside'. Consult with neighbouring landowners (NT & Plantlife) to formulate a combined approach to the management of deer numbers.

Grey Squirrel

Squirrel damage at the base of Hornbeam and Beech within the south-eastern section of the site is fairly extensive and impacting on the health of young/semi-mature trees, upper canopy damage is also likely. Periodic surveys of the affected area are to be carried out, to monitor impact and the extent of damage. Results are to be recorded, with wider monitoring throughout the site carried out during volunteer work days. Carry out consultation with neighbouring landowners (NT & Plantlife) to develop a control strategy. Control to follow guidance provided in FC Practice Note 4: 'Controlling Grey Squirrel Damage to Woodlands'.

6.11 Veteran/Notable Tree Management

Veteran/notable trees and their surroundings are to be managed in order to protect and prolong the life of the tree and the associated ecology.

A veteran/notable tree survey is to be carried out in order to plot the individual trees and to give individual management prescriptions for each tree.

The survey is to include windthrown veterans detailing whether the tree is dead or alive. This will provide valuable data for ongoing monitoring of saproxylic species, as well as providing a historic record of events where, in time, a fallen veteran may take on the appearance of a group of semi-mature trees.

Three main points to consider in the inspection of veteran/notable trees are:

- i) *Structural Condition* – identification of structural faults which may pose a threat to the longevity of the tree. A remedial prescription will be required in order to address such issues and prolong the life of the tree.
- ii) *Health and Safety* - potential threat of injury or damage to property is to be assessed and addressed as required. The primary consideration is to be given to relocating the potential target ie. re-directing pathways away from beneath a tree, or restricting access, for instance dead hedging, as opposed to remedial work being the first option.
- iii) *Local Environment* – The condition of the surrounding environment plays an important part in the vitality of old trees. Paths, bridlepaths and vehicle tracks running next to the trees will compact soils and damage roots; surrounding trees can compete with veterans for light, reducing the vitality of the older trees.

Individual mature trees are to be identified for retention as potential veteran trees and plotted on the veteran tree plan, thus providing the next generation of veterans.

6.12 Interpretation

On site information boards to be erected giving an overview of the management objectives, along with the details of the flora and fauna to be found on the site and details of events to be held throughout the year. Temporary notices are to be displayed explaining any current or on-going management operations.

7.0 20 Year outline proposals

- i) Improve woodland structure, age range and species diversity of native woodland areas.
- ii) Achieve the phased removal of the conifer element.
- iii) Diversify the rotations of sweet chestnut coppice to create a variety of age/habitat types.
- iv) Increase the size of mixed native woodland through the reduction of sweet chestnut coppice.
- v) Carry out a phased thinning programme to gradually remove non-native and invasive species.
- vi) Promote the natural regeneration of tree species characteristic to the NVC.
- vii) Initiate management, define extent and remove plantation/scrub incursion from grassland.
- vii) Improve/maintain boundaries and entrances to prevent access for unauthorised vehicles.
- viii) Maintain and improve paths, fences, signs, benches.
- ix) Increase community involvement and awareness of the intentions of the WKDT for the area.
- ix) Carry out tree safety inspections.
- x) Carry out remedial work resulting from safety inspections.
- xi) Acquire additional plots to extend the management principles across the site.

8.0 Implementation

8.1 Five Year Overview of General Management Required for 2016-2021

The tasks set out below give a general overview for the timing of management operations, further detail on the specific operations is given at the corresponding paragraph number. Specific felling works to be carried out on plots currently under the ownership of the Trust are provided on the Plan of Operations submitted to the FC in application for a Felling Licence.

	Task	Details at Paragraph	Yr. 1	2	3	4	5
General Management (See S.8.2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce/revise management Plan with NE, FC & LA approval. 		✓				✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research site history 	8.2.1	✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant application 	8.2.2	✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Felling Licence / TPO Application 	8.2.3	✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation with local residents, landowner, conservation groups. 	8.2.4	✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insurance 	8.2.5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk Assessments / Appraisal 	8.2.6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify workforce ie.volunteer groups / professional contractors 	8.2.7	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pursue acquisition of adjacent plots 		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor and review 	8.2.8					✓
Surveys (See S.8.3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site Survey 		✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ecological Surveys – Flora/Fauna 	8.3.1	✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tree Safety/Condition Inspection 	8.3.2	✓		✓		✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Veteran Tree Survey/Inspection 	8.3.3	✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pest Assessment (Deer/Squirrel) 	8.3.4	✓				
Design (See S.8.4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ride/Path/Glade Management 	8.4.1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restocking 	8.4.2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Operations (See S.8.5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety Work 	8.5.1	✓		✓		✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Veteran Tree Management 	8.5.2		✓			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Litter Clearance 		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ride and pathway maintenance 	8.5.3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bench Installation 	8.5.4	✓		✓		✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary Maintenance 	8.5.5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interpretive material – Signs/leaflets 	8.5.6		✓		✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make/Install Bat/Bird Boxes 			✓	✓		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Woodland Thinning 	8.5.7	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rhododendron Monitor/Control 	8.5.8			✓		✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural Regeneration Management 	8.4.2; 8.5.9	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

8.2 General Management

8.2.1 Research Site History

Site history is to be researched to ascertain historic land use across the site in order to define future management prescriptions. The main issue is to identify the former extent of Warren Plain and the ancient woodland boundary so as to reclaim any areas of grassland that have become established as woodland.

8.2.2 Grant Aid

The Countryside Stewardship scheme provides grant aid for approved woodland management operations. Once the management plan has been approved the opportunity for funding is to be explored.

8.2.3 Permissions and Licenses Required

The woodland and surrounding area is classified as a SSSI, this requires that Natural England (NE) be consulted over management proposals. This management plan and a 'Supplementary Notice of Operations' is to be submitted for NE approval.

A Forestry Commission felling licence is required for felling more than 2m³ of timber for sale, or 5m³ for own use per calendar quarter. This management plan and the Plan of Operations is to be submitted to the FC in application for a Felling Licence.

The site is protected under a 'Woodland' Tree Preservation Order, permission must be obtained from the local authority to carry out any felling or pruning of trees. The TPO is a woodland classification, this covers all existing trees as well as any trees planted or that may naturally grow on the land in the future. The two Local Authorities will be consulted by the FC upon receipt of the Felling Licence application. Any works that may ultimately be approved under the Felling Licence and/or Management Plan will also have TPO approval.

8.2.4 Consultation Required

The management of the adjacent properties, National Trust and Plantlife, are to be consulted to ensure management aims and objectives are compatible, and do not conflict with, their own management objectives.

Trust members are to be informed of the management proposals and provided with access to the draft management plan and an opportunity to comment.

8.2.5 ***Insurance***

Insurance is required to cover the volunteer workforce as well as visitors to the woodland.

Proof of adequate insurance cover is to be provided by any contractor employed to carry out work on the site. This should normally be Public Liability cover to £5 million, as well as Professional Indemnity cover for those carrying out tree hazard inspections.

8.2.6 ***Risk Assessments***

The Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 require that risk assessments are made and recorded for all operations carried out on the site. This requirement is a legal obligation.

Standard risk assessments are to be drawn up and annually revised, with job specific risk assessments carried out prior to all contractor and volunteer works carried out on the site.

8.2.7 ***Resources***

The management of the plots owned by WKDCT is the responsibility of the WKDCT Trustees.

The Trust has both amateur and professional members who are specialists in a variety of countryside skills. These individuals will be responsible for some ecological surveys and future monitoring and will also form a volunteer workforce responsible for small-scale practical work.

Contractors and specialists will occasionally be employed to carry out other surveys and operations.

8.2.8 ***Monitoring and Review***

Woodland Monitoring

With the exception of tree hazard inspection, the ecological surveys listed in section 4.8 are to be carried out initially to provide baseline data. Further surveys will then be carried out at the end of each five-year management plan in order to evaluate the success of management operations meeting the overall ecological aims.

Implementation of Management Plan

The 5-year management plan is to be used to create an annual work schedule, which is to be reviewed annually to confirm completion of works so as to stay on course for accomplishing the 5-year targets.

Management Plan Review

The management plan is to be reviewed every five years.

8.3 Surveys

8.3.1 Ecological Surveys

The following ecological surveys will help inform the effects of management on the flora and fauna of the site.

- Mammal
- Bird
- Bat
- Invertebrate
- Moss/Lichen
- Fungi

Initial surveys will provide baseline data to measure the success of the management programme, with subsequent surveys taking place every five years.

8.3.2 Tree Safety/Condition Inspection

A property owner has a duty in law to ‘regularly’ inspect the trees on their property so as to ensure that they are in a safe condition and do not pose a risk to invited or uninvited visitors to their property. All trees within falling distance of pathways are to be inspected, with a record of inspection and remedial works maintained.

Visual assessments of tree health on the plots being worked on during the monthly work day events are to be carried out to monitor for the presence/development of any wider pests & diseases.

8.3.3 Veteran Tree Survey

The initial veteran/notable tree survey is to inspect and plot all veteran/notable trees both standing and fallen (including dead trees), providing detail of condition and management requirements.

A veteran/notable tree inspection is to be carried out at the beginning of each 5-year management phase in order to assess the condition of the trees and monitor the effects of management.

The inspection is to be based on guidance given in the English Nature publication ‘Veteran trees: A Guide to Good Management’.

Individual mature trees are to be identified on site and plotted on the veteran/notable tree plan for retention to provide the next generation of veteran trees. These trees will ideally be located close to existing veterans and away from public access routes to avoid future safety implications.

8.3.4 Pest Damage Survey

The extent and impact of browsing by deer and bark stripping by squirrels is to be mapped/monitored and with deer exclosures installed to assess the effect of deer on regeneration success. A combined approach to control measures with adjacent landowners is required.

8.4 Design

8.4.1 Open Space

Due to the scale of the site, wide rides are not considered to be appropriate, as such a series of widened scallops are to be created alongside existing pathways and tracks.

Plots that have been cleared in the past and show limited woodland regeneration success are to be identified for the creation and management of permanent open space (glades).

The central open grassland area, Warren Plain, is to be managed under Natural England advice.

8.4.2 Restocking

Restocking is primarily to be achieved through natural regeneration developing within woodland compartments after single tree selection or group thinning operations. The natural regeneration is to be monitored, with tubes installed around the less common species and the development of invasive species controlled.

The Trust is to promote the collection of local provenance seeds and seedlings by Trust members and the local community. The seedlings may be cared for at home, with the aim of planting the young trees in thinned areas to promote the development of a rich species mix. Seed collection events and tree planting events are to be arranged by the Trust.

8.5 Operations

8.5.1 Safety Work

Any required remedial works identified in the Tree Safety Inspection are to be prioritised by the inspector. All advised safety work is to be carried out within the timescale recommended within the inspection report.

8.5.2 Veteran Tree Management

Veteran tree management is to be carried out as recommended in the Veteran Tree Inspection report.

8.5.3 Ride and Pathway Maintenance

Initial path/ride widening and ongoing cyclical maintenance of glade/woodland edge, consistent with plot ownership, will be carried out as set out in the design plan (see 8.4.1).

General maintenance of pathways to maintain access, to the following specification:

- Clear existing tracks of all vegetation less than 200mm DBH to provide a 3m wide access track with a maximum of 2m cleared either side, totalling 7m.
- Trees larger than 200mm DBH are to be retained and re-assessed following completion of works and removed/retained as required under the single/group selection works.
- Crown lift all retained trees as required to provide a 3m height clearance over tracks.

8.5.4 Bench Installation

Benches are to be installed at viewpoints and rest-stops under consultation with Natural England.

8.5.5 Boundary Maintenance

In conjunction with adjacent property owners a combined effort is to be made to ensure that access points for vehicles are gated and remain locked. All fences and boundaries are to be maintained to a high standard in order to prevent damage by off-road cars and motorbikes.

Where definition of boundaries is required dead-hedging or the introduction of hedgelaying is to be carried out in preference to fencing.

8.5.6 Interpretive Material

Signs are to be installed as appropriate explaining management operations taking place, as well as providing details the wildlife that may be found in the woodland. Information on the history of the site is important in order to convey the cultural, historical and ecological importance of the area. Leaflets should be circulated around the local communities in order to publicise the work of the Trust, this will promote membership of the Trust and volunteer recruitment.

8.5.7 *Woodland Management - Continuous Cover*

The woodland areas are to be thinned using single tree and small group selection to improve the age and species range of trees as well as increasing light levels to the forest floor so as to promote tree regeneration and encourage ground flora. Where appropriate, invasive and non-indigenous tree species, are to be targeted in thinning operations. Care is to be taken to retain and protect from damage under-represented species within each block.

Thinning will not remove more than 30% of the overall woodland canopy in any one operation and is to be carried out uniformly across each plot. The aim of thinning operations is to increase light levels to the woodland floor and to create an even distribution of trees.

8.5.8 *Rhododendron Monitor/Control*

Areas of rhododendron are to be plotted on a plan and broken down into manageable compartments in order to carry out phased removal.

Removal is to be achieved through a combination of cutting, stump treatment and the application of herbicide to regrowth.

Application of herbicide must comply with the Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986 as well as other health and safety legislation.

Consultation with neighbouring land owners is required to formulate a combined programme of control/eradication of Rhododendron.

8.5.9 *Natural Regeneration Management*

Thinning operations will result in an increase in natural regeneration. Success of natural regeneration varies from site to site, however in most cases the young trees that arise may require weed control ie. removal of herbaceous competition, weeding of inappropriate tree species and protection.

Where natural regeneration is successful the first management stage is weeding out competition in order to assist the establishment of the selected trees. Volunteers may carry this out by hand, alternatively in larger areas spot spraying of approved herbicide such as glyphosate may be required.

Those young trees selected for retention will benefit from tree shelters being installed in order to encourage growth, limit weed competition and minimise damage from pests such as deer.

8.6 *Health and Safety*

Health and safety legislation requires that Risk Assessments and Method Statements be written and made available to the workforce covering all operations carried out on the property.

All contractors employed must provide evidence that they are qualified, competent and insured to carry out the work that they are employed to carry out.

11.0 Work Programme

11.1 Short-term work programme (2016- 2021)

Note: The following work specifications only apply to those plots owned by WKDCT.

In addition, Compt 5 is identified as minimal intervention, only invasive/non-indigenous species control undertaken.

Cpt. Ref	Area (ha)	Main Species	Activity	Year				
				1	2	3	4	5
1 i/ii	0.48	SY/AH// MB/MC	Control of invasives and conifer using 'Single Tree/Group Selection' - To promote mixed native regeneration.	✓	✓			
1 iii	0.35	AH/MB/N S	Control of invasives and conifer using 'Single Tree/Group Selection' - To promote mixed native regeneration.	✓	✓			
2a) i	0.13	AH/SP/M B	Control of invasives and conifer using 'Single Tree/Group Selection' - To promote mixed native regeneration.		✓			
2b) i	0.22	SY/CP/M B	Control of invasives and conifer using 'Single Tree/Group Selection' - To promote mixed native regeneration.			✓	✓	
2d) i/ii	0.47	MB/SY	Young Sycamore developing in group to west. Remove to form permanent glade.				✓	
3a) i/ii/iii	0.94	Open Space CP/MB	Pine located around boundary of open space, orchard trees planted on open space. Pine to be removed, orchard gradually removed, open space maintained with contained groups of thicket.	✓		✓		✓
4a) i	0.05	SC/AH/M B	Pure sweet chestnut coppice regime.	✓				

Cpt. Ref	Area (ha)	Main Species	Activity	Year				
				1	2	3	4	5
All	-	Mixed B/L	Commission an ecological survey to identify existing important features and to inform on the impact of mgt operations	✓				
All	-	Mixed B/L	Ongoing programme of dead hedge creation/habitat piles using brushwood resulting from thinning & coppicing operations.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
All	-	Mixed B/L	Ongoing programme of ride mgt. Widening, forming scallops etc	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
All	-	Mixed B/L	Ongoing programme of natural regeneration mgt. Monitoring, protection i.e. guards as required, control of invasive/dominant species.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
All	-	Mixed B/L	Ongoing programme of monitoring/clearing litter as required.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
All	-	Mixed B/L	Health & safety tree condition assessment	✓	Periodic inspections as recommended in inspection report.			

11.2 Outline long-term work programme (2021- 2036)

Cpt. Ref	Activity	Silvicultural System	Year		
			6-10	11-15	16-20
1	Selective thinning Regeneration Mgt/Protection	Continuous Cover Single tree/group selection		✓	
2	Selective thinning Regeneration Mgt/Protection	Continuous Cover Single tree/group selection		✓	
3a	Scrub/regeneration control	Open Space	✓	✓	✓
3b	Coppicing Selective thinning Regeneration Mgt/Protection	Continuous Cover Single tree/group selection	✓		✓
3c	Selective thinning Regeneration Mgt/Protection	Continuous Cover Single tree/group selection	✓		✓
4a	Re-Coppice Coppice Conversion Regeneration Mgt/Protection	Coppicing	✓		✓
4b	Re-Coppice Coppice Conversion Regeneration Mgt/Protection	Coppicing	No Ownership		
4c	Selective thinning Regeneration Mgt/Protection	Continuous Cover Single tree/group selection	✓		✓
5	Invasive/ Non-Indigenous species control	Continuous Cover Minimal Intervention	No Ownership		