WOODLAND TRUST

Half Moon Wood

Management Plan 2017-2022

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MAPS

THE WOODLAND TRUST

INTRODUCTION

The Trust's corporate aims and management approach guide the management of all the Trust's properties, and are described on Page 4. These determine basic management policies and methods, which apply to all sites unless specifically stated otherwise. Such policies include free public access; keeping local people informed of major proposed work; the retention of old trees and dead wood; and a desire for management to be as unobtrusive as possible. The Trust also has available Policy Statements covering a variety of woodland management issues.

The Trust's management plans are based on the identification of Key Features for the site and setting objectives for their management. A monitoring programme (not included in this plan) ensures that these objectives are met and any necessary management works are carried out.

Any legally confidential or sensitive species information about this site is not included in this version of the plan.

PLAN REVIEW AND UPDATING

The information presented in this Management plan is held in a database which is continuously being amended and updated on our website. Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.
Please either consult The Woodland Trust website www.woodlandtrust.org.uk or contact the Woodland Trust (wopsmail@woodlandtrust.org.uk) to confirm details of the current management programme.

There is a formal review of this plan every 5 years and a summary of monitoring results can be obtained on request.

WOODLAND MANAGEMENT APPROACH

The management of our woods is based on our charitable purposes, and is therefore focused on improving woodland biodiversity and increasing peoples' understanding and enjoyment of woodland.

Our strategic aims are to:

- Protect native woods, trees and their wildlife for the future
- Work with others to create more native woodlands and places rich in trees
- Inspire everyone to enjoy and value woods and trees

All our sites have a management plan which is freely accessible via our website www.woodlandtrust.org.uk. Our woods are managed to the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS) and are certified with the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) through independent audit. In addition to the guidelines below we have specific guidance and policies on issues of woodland management which we review and update from time to time.

We recognise that all woods are different and that the management of our sites should also reflect their local landscape and where appropriate support local projects and initiatives. Guidelines like these provide a necessary overarching framework to guide the management of our sites but such management also requires decisions based on local circumstances and our Site Manager's intimate knowledge of each site.

The following guidelines help to direct our woodland management:

1. Our woods are managed to maintain their intrinsic key features of value and to reflect those of the surrounding landscape. We intervene when there is evidence that it is necessary to maintain or improve biodiversity and to further the development of more resilient woods and landscapes.
2. We establish new native woodland using both natural regeneration and tree planting, but largely the latter, particularly when there are opportunities for involving people.
3. We provide free public access to woods for quiet, informal recreation and our woods are managed to make them accessible, welcoming and safe.
4. The long term vision for our non-native plantations on ancient woodland sites is to restore them to predominantly native species composition and semi-natural structure, a vision that equally applies to our secondary woods.
5. Existing semi-natural open-ground and freshwater habitats are restored and maintained wherever their management can be sustained and new open ground habitats created where appropriate.
6. The heritage and cultural value of sites is taken into account in our management and, in particular, our ancient trees are retained for as long as possible.
7. Woods can offer the potential to generate income both from the sustainable harvesting of wood products and the delivery of other services. We will therefore consider the potential to generate income from our estate to help support our aims.
8. We work with neighbours, local people, organisations and other stakeholders in developing the management of our woods. We recognise the benefits of local community woodland ownership and management. Where appropriate we allow our woods to be used to support local woodland, conservation, education and access initiatives.
9. We use and offer the estate where appropriate, for the purpose of demonstration, evidence gathering and research associated with the conservation, recreational and sustainable management of woodlands. In particular we will develop and maintain a network of long-term monitoring sites across the estate.
10. Any activities we undertake will conform to sustainable forest management principles, be appropriate for the site and will be balanced with our primary objectives of enhancing the biodiversity and recreational value of our woods and the wider landscapes.

SUMMARY

This public management plan briefly describes the site, specifically mentions information on public access, sets out the long term policy and lists the Key Features which drive management actions. The Key Features are specific to this site – their significance is outlined together with their long (50 year+) and short (5 year) term objectives. The short term objectives are complemented by a detailed Work Programme for the period of this management plan. Detailed compartment descriptions are listed in the appendices which include any major management constraints and designations. A short glossary of technical terms is at the end. The Key Features and general woodland condition of this site are subject to a formal monitoring programme which is maintained in a central database. A summary of monitoring results is available on request.

1.0 SITE DETAILS

Site name:	Half Moon Wood
Location:	Stithians, Redruth
Grid reference:	SW734364, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 204
Area:	4.41 hectares (10.90 acres)
Designations:	

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Summary Description

This easily accessible wood occupies a gentle sloping piece of land adjacent to South Road, one of the main routes into the village. The lower areas of the wood can get waterlogged but the rest of the site supports range of diverse and interesting habitats and good access facilities. There is a good choice of paths within the wood and it is well used by local people who are its main users. Parking nearby is not very easy as it is limited to on-street parking, which is often required by residents as well.

2.2 Extended Description

Half Moon wood is located on the southern edge of the village of Stithians near Redruth in West Cornwall. It abuts South Road and therefore is easily accessible to visitors.
The wood lies within the Cornish Killas National Character Area profile 152 which covers the entire county other than where granite outcrops rise through the sedimentary base rocks which have their own character profiles. The Killas are characterised by an undulating agricultural upper landform fairly devoid of trees and woods, but are incised by steep sided often heavily wooded valleys that carry watercourses to the rugged coast. As Half Moon Wood lies inland and somewhat closer to the granite spine through the middle of Cornwall than the coast it stands in a quite high and exposed area where deep valleys are not present. It is planted into a gently sloping area of ex-agricultural land which had a history of grazing for some period of time but had been planted with arable crops for the three years prior to woodland planting. Despite its location in the more exposed western end of the county the wood actually lies in a sheltered 'basin' of land which promotes good tree and plant growth and sheltered access.
The soils are generally clay loams over granite with the slopes draining quite freely however the lower areas of the land are on a level with the River Kennal which forms its southern boundary and as a consequence is often waterlogged throughout the year. The land on which Half Moon Wood is planted is bounded on three sides and divided into three fields by Cornish hedge banks. These are now generally topped and screened by gorse, bramble and scrub and form a sheltered and secluded habitat. The River Kennal offers additional habitat values as does the wet land adjacent to it which was left unplanted for its conservation values. The short period of arable management created a nutrient rich and aerated soil which has enabled the rapid establishment of the trees while not affecting the natural ground flora greatly. The land was not seeded to grass before planting and a 'natural' field and scrub layer quickly developed and which now enhance the wide range of habitats.
There appears to be no archaeological features associated with the land however there are the remains of an old well site on the northern boundary and which is still accessible from South Road. With a granite drystone retaining wall to raise it to road level the well has been capped off with a concrete slab and now forms a view point for the wood. The seat there and another in the wood were created from two locally sourced granite millstones (a rare matching pair). Two other metal and wood park type seats are also located in the wood. The wood's name comes from Half Moon House which stands across the road and which used to be a public house.
Access to the wood is via gates off South Road which runs along its northern boundary. There are two pedestrian gates and two management gates in what used to be the old field entrances through the roadside hedge. In addition there is an open gap through the hedge into the old well site/view point. The internal tracks on the drier slopes and pedestrian paths through the steeper and wetter areas offer a choice of walks through the various habitats and all are used extensively by local walkers and especially those with dogs. Parking is along the side of the adjacent road but as this is also used by resident's space can be difficult to find. As a Woods on your Doorstep site is was intended that visitors would walk rather than drive to Half Moon and so lack of parking space does not normally create a problem.

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

Half Moon wood lies on the southern edge of the village of Stithians and is less than 1mile from the majority of the village residences and facilities. It can be reached from the village centre by following the road south past the Seven Stars pub, village store and chip shop to the crossroads on South Road. From there turn right and follow South Road for approximately 100m to the first pedestrian entry point on the left.
From the road and entrances the wood slopes moderately steeply downhill to a flatter area adjacent to the river on its southern boundary. The slopes remain quite dry throughout the year however the lower section has large boggy areas interspersed with driers grassy land. All of this lower area becomes seasonally wet. Paths and tracks are naturally surfaced with either bare soil in worn areas or grass sward which is mown during the year, but may have tall grasses between cuts. Tracks run across the top, middle and lower areas of the wood and these are linked by a number of paths and tracks running generally straight up and down the slope. The upper track runs parallel to and along the inside of the roadside boundary hedge and access to this can be gained via two 1m wide pedestrian gates.
There is no WT parking at the site, but limited parking is available along the opposite side of South Road. This roadside parking is also used by the local residents and therefore care should be taken to ensure parking does not obstruct their drives or access.
Buses run along South Road on route to and from the village and there is a stop at the bottom of Crellow Hill which is opposite the wood.
There is a public toilet in Church Road, Stithians offering male and female but no disabled facilities.
Information for toilet facilities and Public transport information obtained February 2017

3.2 Access / Walks

Half Moon Wood has two pedestrian entry points off South Road in Stithians. From Gribbas Corner follow South Road westwards for approximately 100m. There is a 1m wide pedestrian gate located in the roadside hedge. The gate is set back into the wood to provide visitors with children and dogs a chance to close the gate behind them when leaving the wood and still have safe, off road standing room before stepping out into the road. The second pedestrian access gate is located a further 100 m along the road and is located alongside a management access in to the wood.

From these entry points a track follows along the upper edges of the wood, parallel to the road, and from this track others extend moderately steeply downhill, at either end on the wood and along one of the internal hedge banks to the bottom of the slope where another track running along the bottom of the bulk of the wood links and forms circular routes. On the opposite of this track lies the flatter wet grassland that runs up to the River Kennal which forms the southern boundary. Much of this area is boggy throughout most of the year, but two paths cross area on drier land to another path that then runs along the side of the river.

All the paths are naturally surfaced with either grass surfaces in open areas of barer soils where well worn by visitors. The slopes are not very steep but combined with bare soils can be slippery at times. The paths pass through the woodland, wet grassland and along the river and provide close access and good views of all the various habitats during their seasonal variety.

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

Half Moon Wood will continue to help deliver the Woodland Trust's Trusts aims and objectives of protecting native woods, trees and their wildlife and helping to inspire everyone to enjoy and value woods and trees and help provide woods with open access close to everyone's home, developing the recognition that trees and woods are an essential part of a healthy environment.
Half Moon Wood will be managed as predominantly broadleaf high forest through a limited intervention continuous cover management regime. The woodland will have a diverse species, age and size woodland and shrub layer structure and a rich and varied woodland flora. The canopy will be occasionally broken with lower level shrub and wood edge habitat and integrate with associated open grassland, marshland and the adjacent River Kennal.

The shrub areas close to South Road will be managed as appropriate to help maintain a lower canopied wood edge type habitat, richer for wildlife and maintaining tree safety along the road edge itself, while also helping to reduce the impact of the wood edge on the houses on the opposite side of the road.

Invasive species such as Himalayan balsam and Japanese Knotweed will continue to be controlled and eradicated as and when they occur in order to reduce the shading and other detrimental effects they would have on woodland flora and fauna.

The wood will be managed as required to fulfil all Highways clearances, safety and other legal obligations

Open spaces and strategic tree and shrub clumps along the river corridor will create dapple shade and cover which may encourage otter presence to become more frequent. The marshland will be managed on a low intensity level to maintain its biodiversity but reduce its spread into the remaining open grassland areas by the regular mowing of the open grassland. In combination with the adjacent river and old hedgerows the conservation, amenity and landscape values of the site and surrounding area will be high.

Public access will be managed to maintain the strong local demand for quiet recreation by providing serviceable and attractive paths and tracks that offer attractive internal walks and views, especially of the grassland flowers, river and local area, that deliver the WTs standard' welcome'. Entrances, signs and furniture provided will be maintained in good condition.

5.0 KEY FEATURES

The Key Features of the site are identified and described below. They encapsulate what is important about the site. The short and long-term objectives are stated and any management necessary to maintain and improve the Key Feature.

5.1 Mixed Habitat Mosaic

Description

Secondary Woodland
Woodland planted in 1999 with native broadleaf tree and shrub species planted into improved grassland and arable land. The arable cultivation was for only 2-3 years prior to planting and so the sward quickly reverted to a more native, less competitive species, ground flora giving the site a woodland appearance and habitat value earlier than would normally be expected. The woodland established quickly due to the enriched and aerated soils. Combined with the areas of wet grassland, internal stone walls and the adjacent river the woodland already provides a wide range of habitats

Hedge banks. The wood is bounded on its north and west boundaries by Cornish hedge banks built with a stone structure which then supports a shrubby hedge along its tops. Two similar hedge banks run through the wood up and down the slope and these therefore divide the wood into three parts. They offer some habitat and shelter value for wildlife and structural interest to visitors

Open grassland – the lower levels of the property between the wood and the river was too wet for agricultural management other than grazing and therefore retained a sufficient semi-natural habitat value to not plant it to woodland, however some small clumps of willow and alder were planted in a few places to provide structural diversity where drier patches of grass sward had been managed. This area is of mostly common rush, but patches of wet land species such as Cuckoo Flower, Meadowsweet, Marsh Buttercup and Hemlock Water-dropwort make it floristically attractive in the spring

The River Kennal forms SE boundary of site. Approximately two metres wide and of generally shallow depth it has a shallow bank of the woodland side and a higher (1m high) stone bank and hedge on far side from site. Water quality is generally good and has a bed of clean gravel with dense clumps of waterweed along its length. Bank on woodland side has occasional ‘ramps’ down into the river where dogs etc go to drink/paddle, but elsewhere it is protected by bramble and scrub to offer cover for otters which have been recorded in the area. The river flows from the Stithians Reservoir through predominantly open farmland with some scrubby corridors and wet woodland along its length. Wood design planned the stream side path to undulate and ‘visit’ edge in places rather than follow up along the whole stream length. In doing so existing scrub and tree growth is retained along the edges for habitat and cover and helps compliment the conditions of the river corridor off WT property.

Significance

The woodland created linkage with and extension of the adjacent river corridor, wet riverside grassland; woodland corridors and will continue to form an important mosaic of habitats close to the community and in a relatively un-wooded agricultural and mining area. The wood helps to deliver National, regional and local Biodiversity and habitat action plans for otters, and other watercourse species, Wet and lowland broadleaved woodland and wet grassland habitats and in doing so helps deliver WT outcomes of creating new native woodland and places rich in trees and enhancing woodland biodiversity locally

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities
Extend the restructuring and coppicing works along the South Road boundary area throughout the wood to open out some of the track sides and to coppice some of the shrub clumps in the wetter areas to create a greater structural diversity.
To pre-empt the effects of Ash Dieback on the 25-30% ash in the wood and help secure some of the individual and specimen trees (eg Crab apple) throughout so that they won't be suppressed and can form a part of the remaining woodland canopy.
Manage the riverside scrub and possibly leave log piles for create artificial holts if there is an agreed benefit for local otter populations
Talk to neighbours about a combined effort to control Balsam and talk to SWW regarding control of balsam/JKW in the local watercourse.

Constraints
Wet ground making management access
Wet ground and water course adjacent to the wood making the use of pesticides for the control of non-native invasive species impossible.
Water mains and overhead services affecting the long term structure and management of the wood.

Factors Causing Change

Tree diseases – esp. Ash Dieback
Squirrel damage of pole stage trees, especially species other than ash which will become more valuable part of the highforest if Ash Dieback affects the wood
Deer browsing especially to natural regeneration and coppice regrowth
Maintenance access for services, especially excavation to maintain/replace the water mains.
Invasive species travelling along River Kennal, or introduced by garden waste tipping.
Damage due to vandalism, site mis-use(mountain biking etc.)
Lack of Natural regeneration esp. if needed to help regenerate the wood after Ash Dieback.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

A healthy native broadleaf species high forest with open glades, wet grassland and woodland fringe areas along rides and boundary edges providing a diverse age and size structure. Minor trees and shrubs will form a diverse understorey and woodland edge element around glades and wide rides. Areas of land planted with clumps of minor trees and shrubs will have naturalised with a reduced canopy height and size to retain views and reduce roadside tree safety issues in the future. Existing specimen trees on boundary hedge banks will have matured and developed as veteran trees, but otherwise boundary hedges will have colonised and developed naturally other than where power line constraints restrict growth. Open glades, grassland areas and wide ride sides will have become colonised by rough grasses, wild flowers and scrub providing varied habitats, and nectaring areas for wildlife. The River Kennal will remain a clear, fast flowing 'natural' watercourse with dapple shade, and scrub cover to protect wildlife using it whilst also providing an attractive amenity for visitors to the wood. Non-native and invasive species such as Balsam and Japanese knotweed will have been controlled

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

A healthy and vigorous, well stocked native broadleaf woodland with a developing varied size structure, range of habitat types and open rides and glades.

Manage the woodland via a selective thinning regime to open up the closed canopy and encourage growth within the retained trees. Possibly targeting ash where they have overtopped and are suppressing other species to make them more resilient should Ash Dieback affect the ash

Manage the woodland edges and tracksides via a selective coppicing regime to create structural diversity while allowing increased light and air circulation to improve track surface quality

Encourage natural regeneration of shrub and tree species to develop to provide a more diverse spacing and give natural gradation between planting blocks, hedges, glades and rides

Manage occasional misuse and abuse of the wood (e.g. unauthorised mountain bike access, litter, fly-tipping) as necessary to protect the woodland habitat from damage

Maintain watercourses in a healthy condition with good levels of dapple shade and by allowing natural processes to build up riffles, etc where these do not threaten other woodland habitats or other land.

Manage the wet grassland areas, by mowing drier areas for visitor use, mowing periphery of rush colonisation to help reduce rate of spread, manage natural colonisation of shrubs within the areas to maintain structural diversity, but not colonisation to woodland.

Increase levels of standing and fallen deadwood throughout the whole woodland as part of on-going thinning and the retention of natural ‘self-thinning’ processes to benefit fungal and invertebrate species

Undertake deer impact assessments as a part of the 5 yearly Woodland Condition assessment to monitor population and damage levels and to guide deer damage control measures, such as erecting exclosures, as necessary

Continue management of the roadside wood edge and hedge via tree safety works and trimming to deliver statutory highways clearances, aesthetic benefits and to maintain user safety.

5.2 Informal Public Access

Description

The woodland was acquired as part of the Trust's Millennium 'Woods on your Doorstep' project. The acquisition was well supported by the Parish Council, school and residents and the wood has been well used since then. Public access is facilitated by a network of natural and grass surfaced paths and tracks meandering in and around the woodland, the retained marshland areas and along the river edges and meets the Trusts site portfolio and access categories of 2/C. Pedestrian access is via 2 'hunter's gates off South Road. Tracks and paths along the contours of the slope are quite level while those that go up and down the slopes having more moderate inclines but over relatively short distances. Paths around the lower areas tend to be wetter and susceptible to become swampy in winter. As this is situated right on the edge of the community it is easily accessible and a popular site well supported by the locals. It is well used for dog walking and the PC have in recent years supplied poo bins to reduce the impact dog mess had on other visitors.

Significance

The woodland is very important locally for recreation. The original Woods on your Doorstep identified was rejected by the community because it was on the edge of the parish and not ideal for visiting. The community found this alternative and better site within 24hours of the project launch and have been supporters since. Community requests brought about the installation of dog poo bins at the entrance. The wood delivers WT outcome of enhancing public access to and awareness and appreciation of woodland

Opportunities & Constraints

Path and tracks becoming too shaded and wet and muddy leading to poorer access facilities that required
Ash dieback resulting in high tree death with a dramatic change in the woodland appearance and access provision.
Many visitors are dog walkers a few of whom do not pick up after their dogs and occasionally issues regarding dogs mess arise.
There is recorded otter population in the locality, and there may be a conflict between otters and visitors however as trees and scrub develop particularly along the river corridor there may be sufficient cover to encourage them or at least hunt this stretch of water undisturbed.
Lack of parking means that there may be conflicts/obstruction with neighbours if access levels increase

Factors Causing Change

Tree diseases – esp. Ash Dieback killing a lot of trees and adversely affecting the safety and appearance of the wood
Maintenance access for services, especially excavation to maintain/replace the water mains damaging tracks or excavating the wood.
Invasive species travelling along River Kennal, or introduced by garden waste tipping.
Damage due to vandalism, site mis-use(mountain biking etc.).
High levels of canopy shade or flooding of the river making tracks surfaces muddy and slippery

Long term Objective (50 years+)

An attractive and serviceable network of tracks and paths that meet the needs of visitor levels and the WTs access standards. They will provide access through the woodland and open ground habitats and along the river and also provide views and vistas of the local landscape and encourage the appreciation of the woodland both on the site and in the locality.

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

Easily accessible network of naturally surfaced and grassy tracks and paths through the woodland areas that will maintain the present level of local access. Currently the access at this site is judged as a category C
Maintain gates and entrances, seats, footbridges and viewpoints including the wall of the well site to provide safe and acceptable access.
Manage grass tracks by mowing twice year, once, a narrow cut, in spring to maintain access, but conserve floral growth which is an attraction in the wood and again late in the summer to full width and including the drier areas of open grassland to prevent nettle, bramble and coarse growth encroaching.
Mow track and open space edges on an irregular 2-4 year regime according to amounts of coppice growth and colonisation to improve structural diversity.
Manage track and path side woodland to create structural diversity, reduce overhang, encroaching growth and shade etc. to help path surfaces dry more quickly and to create lighter and brighter and more attractive access routes.
Inspect the small number of semi-mature trees along the tracks according to Tree safety zoning (currently zone B due to level of usage)
Monitor the growth of shrubs close to the South Road boundary and undertake work to maintain road safety or to maintain views Manage the well site to maintain its value as a safe and attractive viewing point

6.0 WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type of Work	Description	Due By
2017	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Selective thinning/coppicing of shrubs along top track, around entrances and near boundary hedge to reduce canopy height as agreed at beginning, to open out tracks and improve vistas that are now enclosing.	28/02/17
2017	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Collect all site litter and dispose	31/05/17
2017	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Manage all entrances and furniture. Mow track centres 3m wide to 10cm high, outer strip of uneven width to 15 cm and unmown grass strip against tree line. Mow paths 1.5m wide to 10cm ensuring no side growth will fall/grow into path before next cut.	31/05/17
2017	WC - Invasive Plant Control	Control of Himalayan Balsam. MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO FLOWERING. CHEMICAL CONTROL NOT PERMITTED. Method to be agreed but could involve brushcutting of undergrowth in worst areas early in year to allow easy access for pulling during visits later in year or for a one off cut and pull operation.	31/07/17
2017	WMM - General Site Management	Mow all open grassland areas to control bracken,gorse and bramble encroachment from edges and hedges. Leave wet rush area uncut but do cut 3m strip along edge of rushes to reduce vigour and stop spread. Discuss with MDA if ground conditions too wet	01/08/17
2017	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Manage all entrances and furniture. Mow track centres 3m wide to 10cm high, outer strip of uneven width to 15 cm and unmown grass strip against tree line. Mow paths 1.5m wide to 10cm ensuring no side growth will fall/grow into path before next cut.	31/08/17
2017	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Collect all site litter and dispose	31/08/17

2017	SL - Legal Obligation Work	Flail roadside hedge along outside and top tilting flail head over to cut top of inside face and extending shrub growth as well	30/09/17
2018	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Selective thinning/coppicing of shrubs along top track, around entrances and near boundary hedge to reduce canopy height as agreed at beginning, to open out tracks and improve vistas that are now enclosing.	28/02/18
2018	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Collect all site litter and dispose	31/05/18
2018	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Manage all entrances and furniture. Mow track centres 3m wide to 10cm high, outer strip of uneven width to 15 cm and unmown grass strip against tree line. Mow paths 1.5m wide to 10cm ensuring no side growth will fall/grow into path before next cut.	31/05/18
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2018	SL - Legal Obligation Work	Flail roadside hedge along outside and top tilting flail head over to cut top of inside face and extending shrub growth as well	30/09/18

2019	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Collect all site litter and dispose	31/05/19
2019	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Manage all entrances and furniture. Mow track centres 3m wide to 10cm high, outer strip of uneven width to 15 cm and unmown grass strip against tree line. Mow paths 1.5m wide to 10cm ensuring no side growth will fall/grow into path before next cut.	31/05/19
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2019	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Manage all entrances and furniture. Mow track centres 3m wide to 10cm high, outer strip of uneven width to 15 cm and unmown grass strip against tree line. Mow paths 1.5m wide to 10cm ensuring no side growth will fall/grow into path before next cut.	31/08/19
2019	SL - Legal Obligation Work	Flail roadside hedge along outside and top tilting flail head over to cut top of inside face and extending shrub growth as well	30/09/19
2020	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Manage all entrances and furniture. Mow track centres 3m wide to 10cm high, outer strip of uneven width to 15 cm and unmown grass strip against tree line. Mow paths 1.5m wide to 10cm ensuring no side growth will fall/grow into path before next cut.	31/05/20
2020	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Collect all site litter and dispose	31/05/20

2020	WMM - General Site Management	Mow all open grassland areas to control bracken,gorse and bramble encroachment from edges and hedges. Leave wet rush area uncut but do cut 3m strip along edge of rushes to reduce vigour and stop spread. Discuss with MDA if ground conditions too wet	01/08/20
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2021	LC - Routine Litter Picks	Collect all site litter and dispose	31/08/21

2021	SL - Legal Obligation Work	Flail roadside hedge along outside and top tilting flail head over to cut top of inside face and extending shrub growth as well	30/09/21

APPENDIX 1: COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Key Features Present	Designations
1a	4.80	Mixed native broadleaves	1999	High forest		Informal Public Access, Mixed Habitat Mosaic	
Woodland creation as part of the Woods on your Doorstep project and planted with native broadleaf tree and shrub species into ex-arable/improved grassland. A dense strip of shrubs and minor tree species (F/Maple, Hazel, Hawthorn, Guelder rose and Dog Wood) was planted inside the roadside boundary. Lower down the slopes a 'band' of mainly minor tree species (Birch, Holly, White Beam, Crab Apple and Rowan were planted to give a gradually higher canopy level further down the slope of the land. These tend to be in large pockets along the contour so that the tree species below and the shrubs from above can penetrate down through to retain views from the main viewpoints. Area of larger broadleaf species Ash, Oak, with Gean for amenity and Alder in the lower and wetter areas. These will be able to reach full height without too much effect on the views etc. Lower edges border part of the management track and water main corridor and have shrub fringing in places. Small clump plantings of willow and alder are dotted t throughout the wet marsh to break up openness, offer some habitat and shelter and to help in reducing spread of rush and marsh areas. Site slopes from north boundary gently down to a lower area level with the adjacent River Kennal. Upper slopes remain well drained but lower areas are almost permanently wet throughout the year and often become very boggy in winter. The retained wet rush/marshland area proved too difficult during its agricultural history to manage and is therefore an interesting component of the site, but is not of high conservational value. Open, wet throughout the whole year, but very wet in winter and liable to flooding when weather wet and reservoir is over flowing							

GLOSSARY

Ancient Woodland

Ancient woods are defined as those where there has been continuous woodland cover since at least 1600 AD. In Scotland ancient woods are defined strictly as sites shown as semi-natural woodland on the 'Roy' maps (a military survey carried out in 1750 AD, which is the best source of historical map evidence) and as woodland all subsequent maps. However, they have been combined with long-established woods of semi-natural origin (originating from between 1750 and 1860) into a single category of Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland to take account of uncertainties in their identification. Ancient woods include Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland and plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (see below). May support many species that are only found in ancient woodland.

Ancient Semi - Natural Woodland

Stands in ancient woods defined as those consisting predominantly of native trees and shrubs that have not obviously been planted, which have arisen from natural regeneration or coppice regrowth.

Ancient Woodland Site

Stands in ancient woods that have been converted to plantations, of coniferous, broadleaved or mixed species, usually for timber production, including plantations of native species planted so closely together that any semi-natural elements of the understorey have been suppressed.

Beating Up

Replacing any newly planted trees that have died in the first few years after planting.

Broadleaf

A tree having broad leaves (such as oak) rather than needles found on conifers (such as Scots pine).

Canopy

The uppermost layer of vegetation in a woodland, or the upper foliage and branches of an individual tree.

Clearfell

Felling of all trees within a defined area.

Compartment

Permanent management division of a woodland, usually defined on site by permanent features such as roads. See Sub-compartments.

Conifer

A tree having needles, rather than broadleaves, and typically bearing cones.

Continuous Cover forestry

A term used for managing woods to ensure that there are groups or individual trees of different ages scattered over the whole wood and that some mature tree cover is always maintained. Management is by repeated thinning and no large areas are ever completely felled all at once.

Coppice

Trees which are cut back to ground levels at regular intervals (3-25 years).

Exotic (non-native) Species

Species originating from other countries (or other parts of the UK) that have been introduced by humans, deliberately or accidentally.

Field Layer

Layer of small, non-woody herbaceous plants such as bluebells.

Group Fell

The felling of a small group of trees, often to promote natural regeneration or allow planting.

Long Term Retention

Discrete groups of trees (or in some cases single trees) that are retained significantly past their economic felling age. Operations may still be carried out within them and thinning is often necessary to maintain stability.

Minimum Intervention

Areas where no operations (such as thinning) will take place other than to protect public safety or possibly to control invasive exotic species.

Mixed Woodland

Woodland made up of broadleaved and coniferous trees.

National vegetation classification (NVC)

A classification scheme that allows an area of vegetation to be assigned to the standardised type that best matches the combination of plant species that it contains. All woodlands in the UK can be described as being one of 18 main woodland types (W1 - W18), which principally reflect soil and climatic conditions. For example, Upland Oakwoods are type W11, and normally occur on well drained infertile soils in the cooler and wetter north and west of Britain. Each main type can be subdivided into numerous subtypes. Most real woods contain more than one type or sub-type and inevitably some woods are intermediate in character and can't be properly described by any sub type.

Native Species

Species that arrived in Britain without human assistance.

Natural Regeneration

Naturally grown trees from seeds falling from mature trees. Also regeneration from coppicing and suckering.

Origin & Provenance

The provenance of a tree or seed is the place where seed was collected to grow the tree or plant. The origin is the geographical location within the natural range of a species from where seeds/tree originally derives. Thus an acorn collected from a Turkey oak in Edinburgh would have an Edinburgh provenance and a southern European origin.

Re-Stocking

Re-planting an area of woodland, after it has been felled.

Shrub Layer

Formed by woody plants 1-10m tall.

Silviculture

The growing and care of trees in woodlands.

Stand

Trees of one type or species, grouped together within a woodland.

Sub-Compartment

Temporary management division of a compartment, which may change between management plan periods.

Thinning

The felling of a proportion of individual trees within a given area. The remaining trees grow to fill in the space created.

Tubex or Grow or Tuley Tubes

Tubes placed over newly planted trees or natural regeneration that promote growth and provide protection from animals such as rabbits and deer.

Weeding

The control of vegetation immediately around newly planted trees or natural regeneration to promote tree growth until they become established. Either by hand cutting or with carefully selected weed killers such as glyphosate.

Windblow/Windthrow

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