Forestry Commission England

Woodland Management Plan

To be completed by the plan author:	
Woodland or Property name	**Bringsty Common**
Woodland Management Plan case Reference	**CS 467592**
The landowner agrees this plan as a statement of intent for the woodland	**Yes**
Plan author name	**D. E. Wenczek (Bearwood Associates Limited)**

For FC Use only:				
Plan Period *(dd/mm/yyyy - Ten years)*	**Approval Date:**		**Approved until:**	
Five Year Review Date				

Revision No.	Date	Status (draft/final)	Reason for Revision

Template user support:

The functionality in this version of the management plan template has been downgraded to ensure compatibility with Word 2003. This document is not protected and as such rows can be added & deleted or copied and pasted from tables where needed.

Forestry Commission England

UK Forestry Standard management planning criteria

Approval of this plan will be considered against the following UKFS criteria.
Prior to submission review your plan against the criteria using the check list below.

	UKFS management plan criteria	Minimum approval requirements	Author check ☑
1	**Plan Objectives:** Forest management plans should state the objectives of management and set out how an appropriate balance between social, economic, and environmental objectives will be achieved.	• Management plan objectives are stated. • Consideration is given to environmental, economic and social objectives relevant to the vision for the woodland.	Yes
2	**Forest context and important features in management strategy:** Forest management plans should address the forest context and the forest potential and demonstrate how the relevant interests and issues have been considered and addressed.	Management intentions communicated in ***Sect. 6*** of the management plan are in line with stated objective(s) ***Sect. 2***. Management intentions should take account of: • Relevant features and issues identified within the woodland survey (***Sect. 4***) • Any potential threats to and opportunities for the woodland, as identified under woodland protection (***Sect. 5***). • Relevant comments received from stakeholder engagement and documented in ***Sect. 7***.	Yes
3	**Identification of designations within and surrounding the site:** For designated areas, e.g. National Parks or SSSI, particular account should be taken of landscape and other sensitivities in the design of forests and forest infrastructure.	• Survey information (***Sect. 4***) identifies any designations that impact on woodland management. • Management intentions (***Sect. 6***) have taken account of any designations.	Yes
4	**Felling and restocking to improve forest structure and diversity:** When planning felling and restocking, the design of existing forests should be re-assessed and any necessary changes made so that they meet UKFS requirements. Forests should be designed to achieve a diverse structure of habitat, species and ages of trees, appropriate to the scale and context. Forests characterised by a lack of diversity, due to extensive areas of even-aged trees, should be progressively restructured to achieve age class range.	• Felling and restocking proposals are consistent with UKFS design principles (for example scale and adjacency). • Current diversity (structure, species, age structure) of the woodland has been identified through the survey (***Sect. 4***). • Management intentions aim to improve / maintain current diversity (structure, species, and ages of trees).	Yes
5	**Consultation:** Consultation on forest management plans and proposals should be carried out according to forestry authority procedures and, where required, the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.	• Stakeholder engagement is in line with current FC guidance and recorded in ***Sect. 7***. The minimum requirement is for statutory consultation to take place, and this will be carried out by the Forestry Commission. • Plan authors undertake stakeholder engagement (ref FC Ops Note 35) relevant to the context and setting of the woodland.	Yes
6	**Plan Update and Review:** Management of the forest should conform to the plan, and the plan should be updated to	• A 5 year review period is stated on the 1st page of the plan. • ***Sect. 8*** is completed with 1 indicator of	Yes

	ensure it is current and relevant.	success per management objective.	

Section 1: Property Details

Woodland Property Name			
Name	BRINGSTY COMMON	Owner	Bringsty Common Manorial Court (Mr Allan Corder)
Email	Allan.corder@gmail.com	Contact Number	01885 482505
Agent Name (if applicable)		Daniel Wenczek (Bearwood Associates Limited)	
Email	dan@bearwoodltd.co.uk	Contact Number	01544 388302
County	Herefordshire	Local Authority	Herefordshire Council
Grid Reference	SO715541	Single Business Identifier	107123675
What is the total area of this woodland management plan? (In hectares)		20.13 hectares	
You have included an Inventory and Plan of Operations with this woodland management plan?		Yes	
You have listed the maps associated with this woodland management plan?		Yes	
Do you intend to use the information within this woodland management plan and associated Inventory and Plan of Operations to apply for the following?		Felling Licence	Yes
		Thinning Licence	Yes
		Woodland Regeneration Grant	No
You declare that there is management control of the woodland detailed within the woodland management plan?		Yes	
You agree to make the woodland management plan publicly available?		Yes	

Section 2: Vision and Objectives

To develop your long-term vision, you need to express as clearly as possible the overall direction of management for the woodland(s) and how you envisage it will be in the future. This covers the duration of the plan and beyond.

2.1 Vision

Describe your long-term vision for the woodland(s). (*Suggest 300 words max*)

Manage all Ancient Semi-natural Woodlands (ASNW) and secondary, Other Semi-natural Woodlands (OSNW), with the objective of enhancing the ecological value and 'naturalness' of the all parts of these woodlands, while enhancing and improving their current productive resource. Create an appropriate level of stand structure diversity, age class diversity and species diversity in all layers.

Manage a majority of selected sub-compartments with the objective of generating firewood and wood-fuel. The woodlands will be managed using a coppice with standards regime to generate fencing materials, firewood and some timber. The coppice with standards system will create much enhanced structural and species diversity, while still generating saleable produce.

Access to and within woodland compartments will to be maintained and improved: the rationale being to facilitate extraction throughout the woodland. Manage all rides and glades according to the FC 'two-zone' cutting systems, in order to diversify the permanent open space.

Maintain the landscape and visual integrity of each woodland compartment by employing chronologically phased thinning or coppicing management regimes, favouring natural regeneration, over artificial replanting, where practical.

2.2 Management Objectives

State the objectives of management demonstrating how sustainable forest management is to be achieved. Objectives are a set of specific, quantifiable statements that represent what needs to happen to achieve the long-term vision.

No.	Objectives (include environmental, economic and social considerations)
1	Coppicing for fencing materials and firewood. Initiate an on-going policy of coppice with standards management, to create temporary open space and diversify the species and structural diversity of the woodlands. Cut stools within Compartment 1 (yr 1), Compartment 6 (yr 2), Compartment 11 (yr 3), Compartments 4 and 5 (yr 4), Compartment 12 and 13 (yr 5), Compartment 8 (yr 6), Compartment 16 and 17 (yr 9), Compartment 18 (yr 10). Coppice under-storey, thin over-storey, retain selected standard trees, enrichment plant significant canopy gaps.

No.	Objectives (include environmental, economic and social considerations)
2	Permanent open space. Manage areas of permanent open space centred upon rides and glades (ride intersections), throughout the woodlands, on an annual basis.
3	A minimum intervention area will be created and retained in Compartment 14. Here no thinning or coppicing will take place. Trees will only be felled or coppiced to maintain current access commitments and to remove any hazards posed by the trees.
4	Veteran trees and deadwood. Retain, identify and record veteran trees, throughout the woodlands. Release veteran trees, by halo-thinning, during thinning operations. Retain and create standing and lying deadwood, throughout the woodland (yrs 1, 5 and 9).
5	Notable species. Retain, identify and record notable tree and flora species, as individuals or groups, throughout the woodlands (yrs 1, 5 and 9).
6	Recreational amenity: maintain the current level of public and private amenity access.
7	Landscape: maintain the contribution of all woodland areas to the local landscape.

Section 3: Plan Review – Achievements

Use this section to identify achievements made against previous plan objectives. This section should be completed at the 5-year review and could be informed through monitoring activities undertaken.

Objectives	Achievement

Section 4: Woodland Survey

This section is about collecting information relating to your woodland and its location, including any statutory constraints i.e. designations.

4.1 Description

Brief description of the woodland property:
A woodland walkover survey visit was undertaken by the woodland management plan author, on 22 February 2018. None of the woodlands, except Compartment 8 (as a small part of 'Big Wood'), are shown on the Ordnance Survey, First Series, of 1832, although a significant area of Compartment 6, is deemed by the plan author to be of ancient origin due to the presence of Ancient Woodland Indicator (AWI) species in the ground flora layer. All of the other woodlands lack features indicative of ancient woodland, such as AWI species, ancient trees and coppice stools, wood-banks and other anthropogenic, historic features, and have arisen of agricultural, pastural common land in the last half century. Bringsty Common and surrounding areas are situated in relatively well-wooded country, with woodland mostly confined to marginal land: water-course gullies, steep river valley scarps and higher elevations. Other, significant woodland of ancient origin within the locality are: Big Wood (ASNW and PAWS, immediately to the E of Bringsty Common); Park Coppice and Grove Dingle (ASNW and PAWS, at 1km to the SE of Bringsty Common); Mitchell's Coppice (ASNW, immediately to the S of Bringsty Common); Yearsett Coppice (ASNW, at ½km to the S of Bringsty Common); Nuttage Dingle (ASNW, immediately to the SW of Bringsty Common); Woodend Coppice (ASNW, at 1km to the SW of Bringsty Common); parts of Holy Bank, Hyde Wood, Yewtree Bank and Look-out Wood, a contiguous block of woodland on the NT Brockhampton estate (ASNW, immediately to the W and NW of Bringsty Common); Limepits Wood, Paradise Wood and Brockhampton Dingle (ASNW and PAWS, at 1km to the NW of Bringsty

Common); Longfield Coppice (ASNW and PAWS, at 1km to the N of Bringsty Common); Bradleyfield Coppice (ASNW and PAWS, at ½km to the N of Bringsty Common).

The woodland is situated in mixed, 'Ancient' countryside, consisting of orchards, arable, grassland as both meadow and pasture, both small ancient, and larger modern, fields, with many connecting hedgerows, watercourses, ditches, ponds and other habitat features.

Bringsty Common lies about 4km to the east of the historic market town of Bromyard (Herefordshire) and at about 14km to the west of the historic cathedral city of Worcester.

The woodlands of Bringsty Common consist of twenty, small, scattered blocks of woodland spread across the common. The common has many areas that have become invaded by secondary woodland and scrub, on to former pasture common land. The distinction between woodland, scattered trees, thorn scrub and bracken thickets is often blurred, with many transitional areas. This woodland management plan includes all those areas deemed by the plan author to be continuously wooded.

The ancient woodlands (ASNW) are communities transitional between NVC W8 Fraxinus excelsior – Acer campestre – Mercurialis perennis woodland and NVC W10 Quercus robur – Pteridium aquilinum – Rubus fruticosus woodland, with areas of NVC W7 Alnus glutinosa – Fraxinus excelsior – Lysimachia nemorum woodland in wet stream gullies. Although, the walkover, site surveys were not undertaken at an ideal time of year (February) some Ancient Woodland Indicator (AWI) and NVC diagnostic flora species were noted. Significant NVC diagnostic or AWI species in the two Ancient Semi-natural Woodlands (ASNW) include: Acer campestre, Alnus glutinosa, Arum maculatum, Betula pendula, Blechnum spicant (AWI), Carex sylvatica (AWI), Chrysosplenium oppositifolium (AWI), Corylus avellana, Crataegus monogyna, Dryopteris dilatata, Fraxinus excelsior, Geranium robertianum, Geum urbanum, Hedera helix, Hyacinthoides non-scriptus (AWI), Ilex aquifolium (AWI), Lonicera periclymenum, Malus sylvestris (AWI), Mercurialis perennis, Phyllitis scolopendrium (AWI), Polystichum setiferum (AWI), Prunus avium (AWI), Prunus spinosa, Pteridium aquilinum, Quercus robur, Ribes nigrum (AWI), Rosa arvensis (AWI), Rubus fruticosus agg., Sambucus nigra, Scrophularia auriculata, Sorbus aucuparia, Stellaria holostea, Taxus baccata (AWI), Urtica dioica and Viola riviniana.

The recent, secondary woodlands (OSNW) are likewise communities transitional between NVC W8 Fraxinus excelsior – Acer campestre – Mercurialis perennis woodland and NVC W10 Quercus robur – Pteridium aquilinum – Rubus fruticosus woodland. These woodlands vary from the above described ASNW in being more species poor and lacking features and species associated with ancient woodland, such as coppice stools of Corylus avellana or AWI species. These woodlands are dominated by Quercus robur (e.g. Compartments 11 and 15) or Fraxinus excelsior and Acer pseudoplatanus (e.g. Compartments 1, 16 and 17), both with abundant pioneer species, such as Betula pendula and Salix spp. Other OSNW areas are at an earliest stage of succession to woodland; these are dominated by thorn species such as Crataegus monogyna and Prunus spinosa. Species of trees and shrubs also found in OSNW include: Acer campestre, Corylus avellana, Ilex aquifolium, Ligustrum vulgare, Populus tremula, Prunus avium, Rosa canina, Sambucus nigra and Ulex europaeus. The ground layer tends to be species-poor and dominated by Pteridium aquilinum, Rubus frutiocosus agg. and Urtica dioica, as well as a selection on non-AWI NVC W8 and W10 species.

The eastern part of Compartment 14 contains many non-native trees and shrubs such as Rhododendron ponticum, Prunus laurocerasus, Prunus lusitanica, Picea abies and

Thuja plicata, and is evidently the result of a piece of ‘landscape’ planting. The remainder of this compartment is OSNW.

Underlying rock geology is simple, comprising late Silurian age mudstones and sandstones, especially the latter. Such sandstone rocks generally create neutral to acidic soils, and create the floral assemblages found in the overlying woodlands today.

- Silurian, Přídolí, Downtonian, Lower Old Red Sandstone (sandstone and mudstone). These rocks were created about 410 Ma, during the late Silurian Period, by the erosion of highlands and subsequent deposition in river valleys and coastal plains, during the marine regression at the closure of the Iapetus Ocean. The Přídolí epoch marks the transition from the marine conditions of the Ludlow Series (limestones and mudstones) to the terrestrial conditions of the Přídolí Series (mudstones and sandstones), when this land was at about 20°S.

Underlying soil geology is simple, with soils generally corresponding directly to underlying rock geology:

- Overlying Silurian sandstone and mudstone is (BROMYARD): well-drained, reddish, fine, silty soils over shale and siltstone. Some similar soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging. Some well-drained, coarse, loamy soils over sandstone.

Many of the woodlands are not especially prominent from roads or settlements. The roadside woodlands, alongside the A44 road, are prominent in the landscape. However, as Bringsty Common is open access land, all of the woodlands are variably prominent from associated tracks and footpaths.

4.2 Information

Use this section to identify features that are both present in your woodland(s) and where required, on land adjacent to your woodland. It may be useful to identify known features on an accompanying map. Woodland information for your property can be found on the Magic website or the Forestry Commission Land Information Search.

Feature	Within Woodland(s)	Cpts	Adjacent to Woodland(s)	Map No
Biodiversity- Designations				
Site of Special Scientific Interest	No		No	
Special Area of Conservation	No		No	
Tree Preservation Order	No		No	
Conservation Area	No		No	
Special Protection Area	No		No	
Ramsar Site	No		No	
National Nature Reserve	No		No	
Local Nature Reserve	No		No	
Other (please Specify):	No		No	
Notes				

Feature		Within Woodland(s)	Cpts	Map No	Notes
Biodiversity - European Protected Species					
Bat	Species (if known)	Yes	All		Bats are certain to be foraging in woodland areas and are likely to be roosting in trees with appropriate roosting habitats. Local NBN records, using a 2km radius search buffer, found: Common pipistrelle bat, Brown long-eared bat, Noctule bat, Lesser horseshoe bat.
Dormouse		No			No local NBN records, within 2km radius search buffer. None known but might be present in some ASNW and OSNW compartments with a more vigorous under-storey and

					abundance of forage.
Great Crested Newt		No			No local NBN records, within 2km radius search buffer. None known but might use suitable aquatic and terrestrial habitat within woodlands, for breeding, foraging and refugia.
Otter		No			No local NBN records, within 2km radius search buffer. None known but might use suitable aquatic and terrestrial habitat within woodlands, for breeding, foraging and refugia.
Sand Lizard		No			
Smooth Snake		No			
Natterjack Toad		No			
Biodiversity – Priority Species					
Schedule 1 Birds	Species:	Yes	All		Local NBN records, using a 2km radius search buffer, for Bird Population Status red, NERC Act 2006 Section 41 and UKBAP species found: Grasshopper warbler, Grey wagtail, Lesser redpoll, Lesser spotted woodpecker, Spotted flycatcher, Song thrush, Mistle thrush, Yellowhammer, Cuckoo, Linnet, Marsh tit, Green plover, Nightingale, Redwing, Skylark, Willow tit,

					Woodcock.
Mammals (Red Squirrel, Water Vole, Pine Marten etc)		Yes	All		Local NBN records, using a 2km radius search buffer, found: Hedgehog, Polecat.
Reptiles (grass snake, adder, common lizard etc)		Yes	All		Local NBN records, using a 2km radius search buffer, found: Common lizard.
Plants		Yes			Local NBN records, using a 2km radius search buffer, found RedList Nationally Rare or Nationally Scarce, and RSPB priority, species: Lathyrus linifolius.
Fungi/Lichens		Yes			Local NBN records, using a 2km radius search buffer, found UKBAP species: Hypogymnia physodes.
Invertebrates (butterflies, moths, beetles etc)		Yes	All		Local NBN records, using a 2km radius search buffer, found UKBAP, IUCN species for the UK, vulnerable or rare Red List taxa and NERC Act 2006 Section 41 and RSPB priority, species, using a 2km radius search buffer, found the following invertebrate species: Enoicyla pusilla (Cadisfly), Ernoporicus caucasicus, Ernoporus tillae, Gnorimus nobilis (Beetles), Myopa extricata (Fly), Acronicta psi, Acronicta rumicis, Amphipyra tragopoginis,

				Arctia caja, Asteroscopus sphinx, Atethmia centrago, Boloria euphrosyne, Chesias rufata, Coenonympha pamphilus, Diarsia rubi, Diloba caeruleocephala, Ennomos fuscantaria, Ennomos quercinaria, Eugnorisma glareosa, Hepialus humili, Hipparchia semele, Hydraecia micacea, Lasiommata megera, Leptidea sinapis, Lycia hirtaria, Malacosoma neustria, Melanchra persicariae, Pyrgus malvae, Spilosoma lubricipeda, Tholera decimalis, Trichiura crataegi (butterflies and moths); Dicranomyla chorea, Aeshna cyanea, Aeshna grandis, Aeshna mixta, Anax imperator, Calopteryx splendens, Enallagma cyathigerum, Ischnura elegans, Orthetrum cancellatum, Platycnemis pennipes, Pyrrhosoma nymphula, Sympetrum fonscolombii, Sympetrum striolatum

				(Dragonflies and Damselflies).
Amphibians (pool frog, common toad)	Yes			Local NBN records, using a 2km radius search buffer, found: Common toad.
Other (please Specify):	No			
Historic Environment				
Scheduled Monuments	No			
Unscheduled Monuments	No			None known to author.
Registered Parks and Gardens	No			
Boundaries and Veteran Trees	Yes	2, 5, 6, 8, 11, 16, 19, 20	Designations and Constraints Maps 01-02	The woodlands themselves contain few trees of over-mature or older age-classes. Such trees tend to be situated close to woodlands on scrub and grassland habitats, often as pollards. A good example is the 'Gospel Oak' which is situated close to Compartment 15. Compartment 2 contains an over-mature Fagus sylvatica. A selection of the woodland areas do contain mature Alnus glutionosa, Corylus avellana, Crataegus mongyna Fagus sylvatica, Fraxinus excelsior and Quercus robur.
Listed Buildings	No			
Other (please Specify):	No			
Landscape				
National Character Area (please Specify): 101 Herefordshire Plateau				
National Park	No			
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	No			
Other (please Specify):	No			
People				

CROW Access	No			
Public Rights of Way (any)	Yes	6, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17	Designations and Constraints Maps 01-02	Footpaths and roads adjacent to certain woodlands.
Other Access Provision	No			
Public Involvement	No			
Visitor Information	Yes	15		Information board and car-park close to Cmpt 15.
Public Recreation Facilities	No			
Provision of Learning Opportunities	No			
Anti-social Behaviour	No			
Other (please Specify):	No			
Water				
Watercourses	Yes	1, 4, 5, 6	Designations and Constraints Maps 01-02	Tributaries of the River Teme flow through or past Bringsty Common, and flow through or close to some woodlands.
Lakes	No			
Ponds	Yes	1, 6, 18	Designations and Constraints Maps 01-02	Large, man-made pond close to Cmpts 1 and 6. Smaller natural pond beside Cmpt 18, and other small ponds reasonably close to other woodlands.
Other (please Specify):	No			

4.3 Habitat Types

This section is to consider the habitat types within your woodland(s) that might impact/inform your management decisions. Larger non-wooded areas within your woodland should be classified according to broad habitat type where relevant this information should also help inform your management decisions. Woodlands should be designed to achieve a diverse structure of habitat, species and ages of trees, appropriate to the scale and context of the woodland.

Feature	Within Woodland(s)	Cpts	Map No	Notes
Woodland Habitat Types				
Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland	Yes	6, 8	Designations and Constraints Maps 01-02	All ASNW areas are NVC 7, W8 or W10, with transitional elements of NVC W8 to W10. See 4.1 Description for details.
Planted Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS)	No			
Semi-natural features in PAWS	No			
Lowland beech and yew woodland	No			
Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	Yes	All	Designations and Constraints Maps 01-02	Both ASNW and OSNW woodlands are within this category.
Upland mixed ash woods	No			
Upland Oakwood	No			
Wet woodland	Yes	1, 5, 6	Designations and Constraints Maps 01-02	Some woodlands contain small areas of NVC W7.
Wood-pasture and parkland	Yes	All	Designations and Constraints Maps 01-02	All woodland areas are adjacent to, or were once, part of Bringsty common wood-pasture habitats.
Other (please Specify):	No			
Non Woodland Habitat Types				
Blanket bog	No			
Fenland	No			
Lowland calcareous grassland	No			
Lowland dry acid grassland	Yes??			
Lowland heath land	No			

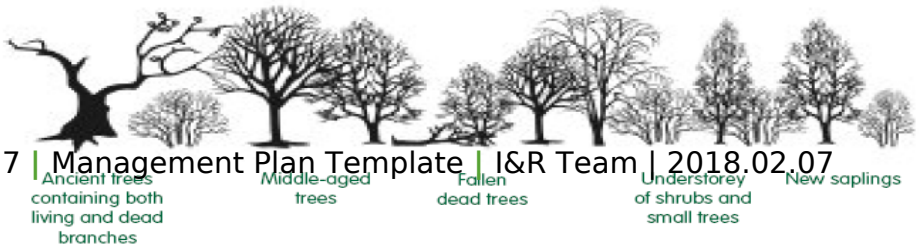
Lowland meadows	No			
Lowland raised bog	No			
Rush pasture	No			
Reed bed	No			
Wood pasture	Yes	All	Designations and Constraints Maps 01-02	All woodland areas are adjacent to, or were once, part of Bringsty common wood-pasture habitats.
Upland hay meadows	No			
Upland heath land	No			
Unimproved grassland	No			
Peat lands	No			
Wetland habitats	No			
Other (please Specify):	No			

4.4 Structure

This section should provide a snapshot of the current structure of your woodland as a whole. A full inventory for your woodland(s) can be included in the separate Plan of Operations spreadsheet. Ensuring woodland has a varied structure in terms of age, species, origin and open space will provide a range of benefits for the biodiversity of the woodland and its resilience. The diagrams below show an example of both uneven and even aged woodland.

Woodland Type (Broadleaf, Conifer, Coppice, Intimate Mix)	Percentage of Mgt Plan Area	Age Structure (even/uneven)	Notes (i.e. understory or natural regeneration present)
Native broadleaves	41%	Uneven aged	Mature ASNW and OSNW. Generally high-forest woodland, with a variation of species, stand structures and age-classes, including a variable under-storey and differing amounts of natural regeneration. These areas contain plentiful standards of various species, diagnostic and representative, of NVC W7, W8 or W10, including: *Fraxinus excelsior, Quercus robur, Acer campestre, Acer pseudoplatanus, Alnus glutinosa, Betula pendula, Corylus avellana, Malus sylvestris, Taxus baccata, Prunus avium, Sorbus aucuparia, Salix spp.* and *Populus tremula*.
Native broadleaves	59%	Even aged	Early successional OSNW usually has a species composition and structure, being dominated by *Crataegus monogyna, Prunus spinosa, Betula pendula* and *Fraxinus excelsior*, with a species-poor ground layer. This stand type includes variable amounts of natural regeneration.

Uneven-aged woodland – many wildlife habitats because of high diversity



Even-aged woodland – tidy but of low diversity

Section 5: Woodland Protection

Woodlands in England face a range of threats; this section allows you to consider the potential threats that could be facing your woodland(s). Use the simple Risk Assessment process below to consider any potential threats to their woodland(s) and whether there is a need to take action to protect their woodlands.
Note: To add more tables, Copy the table and Paste below.

5.1 Risk Matrix

The matrix below provides a system for scoring risk. The matrix also indicates the advised level of action to take to help manage the threat.

Impact	High	Plan for Action	Action	Action
	Medium	Monitor	Plan for Action	Action
	Low	Monitor	Monitor	Plan for Action
		Low	Medium	High
		Likelihood of Presence		

5.2 Plant Health

Threat (e.g. Ash Dieback, *Phytophthora,* Needle Blight etc)	Ash Dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*)
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium to locally high
Response (inc protection measures)	This is not a significant component of the woodlands. Monitor trees for symptoms. If *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus* is suspected, report to FC using tree alert. Take all necessary biosecurity measures to prevent cross-contamination.

Threat (e.g. Ash Dieback, *Phytophthora,* Needle Blight etc)	Acute Oak Decline (AOD)
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium to locally high
Response (inc protection measures)	Monitor trees for symptoms, and if found, fell trees showing symptoms, and report to FC using tree alert. Take all necessary biosecurity measures to prevent cross-contamination.

Threat (e.g. Ash Dieback, *Phytophthora,* Needle Blight etc)	*Phytophthora ramorum* and *Phytophthora alni*

Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	Susceptible species –*Alnus glutinosa* and *Rhododendron ponticum* – are present within certain woodlands. Monitor trees for symptoms, and if found, fell trees showing symptoms, and report to FC using tree alert. Take all necessary biosecurity measures to prevent cross-contamination.

5.3 Deer

Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Most of the woodlands are spread across the common, with high levels of human activity, especially from walkers and dog-walkers, which will deter deer. The unenclosed coppice coupes will be vulnerable to deer browsing, but it is anticipated that the high levels of disturbance combined with the larger size of coppice coupes will mitigate and reduce deer browsing pressure. Deer are known to be present in the local area, in relatively high numbers at the present time. The current populations are having a deleterious impact upon natural regeneration and ground flora, and would, in the future if unchecked, damage coppice stool regrowth. If deer browsing should prove to be unsustainable, the landowner will liaise with neighbouring landowners and woodland owners with regard to the implementation of a co-ordinated deer control policy. The landowners will employ a professional and qualified deer stalker to implement the plan. The high level of public usage of the woodlands will make this difficult and potentially hazardous to woodland users and stakeholders. The timing of interventions and locations of deer-seats will be planned to

	minimize the risks. Deer exclosure plots, of 4m x 4m dimensions, will be installed (to assess the levels of deer browing) into woodland areas where coppice working is undertaken. New planting and areas of natural regeneration should be protected, as necessary, from damage by appropriate use of guards or deer fencing. Brash-piling should be used to protect coppice regrowth; the effectiveness of this method should be monitored. In the first year (2019/20) a Deer Initiative Management Plan will be completed. New planting and areas of natural regeneration should be protected, as necessary, from damage by appropriate use of guards or deer fencing. Management will follow FC guidelines as set out in FCPN6 Managing Deer in the Countryside.

5.4 Grey Squirrels

Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	The employment of a coppice with standards management regime means that the impact of Grey squirrels on the value of the woodland produce will not warrant direct action.

5.5 Livestock and Other Mammals

Threat (Sheep, Horse, Rabbit etc)	Livestock
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	The common is not currently grazed by livestock. Therefore, the unenclosed woodlands will not be at peril from livestock

	ingress. If this situation changes, woodlands will need to be enclosed, permanently or temporarily, to an extent adequate to protect coppice regrowth.

Threat (Sheep, Horse, Rabbit etc)	
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	
Impact (high/medium/low)	
Response (inc protection measures)	

5.6 Water & Soil

Threat (Soil Erosion, Pollution, Acidification of Water etc)	Soil erosion
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Most compartments that are situated on flat ground or only slight slopes, and have less susceptible, heavy clay soils. Some woodlands are situated on steeper stream gullies with associated watercourses. There is a risk of rutting, soil compaction, soil structure damage and run-off from these woodlands. The risk will be minimised and mitigated by using buffer-zones alongside watercourses and waterbodies (as set out in FC UKFS Standard Guidelines 'Forests and water'), by only undertaking high impact works in suitable weather/ground conditions, and by using brash-mats where possible throughout extraction operations.

Threat (Soil Erosion, Pollution, Acidification of Water etc)	Point pollution
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	There is a potential risk of point pollution from inappropriate chemical (herbicide and pesticide) usage and oil spillage. All contractors will be properly trained and

	certificated to complete the various tasks where point pollution is a risk. All contractors will follow manufacturer's instructions when using chemicals, store fuel and oil correctly, and maintain adequate spillage kits. Where possible, biodegradable lubricants will be used.

Threat (Soil Erosion, Pollution, Acidification of Water etc)	Diffuse pollution
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	As the woodlands are surrounded by very little intensively farmed land, there is a low risk of diffuse pollution of woodland areas from fertiliser, pesticide and herbicide spray drift, or contamination from organic farm effluent/manure.

5.7 Environmental

Threat (Pollution, Fire, Flood, Wind, Invasive Species, Anti-social Behaviour etc)	Fire
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	As the woodlands are almost exclusively composed of broadleaved species, there is a very low risk of forest-fire. In the unlikely event of forest-fire the appropriate emergency services (999) will be contacted.

Threat (Pollution, Fire, Flood, Wind, Invasive Species, Anti-social Behaviour etc)	Invasive species
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	This is limited to *Acer pseudoplatanus*, which is present in OSNW where it is not causing any deleterious effects. However, in order to prevent its spread into ASNW all trees of *Acer*

	pseudoplatanus should be preferentially coppiced and stool regrowth cut on a regular basis to prevent seed formation. Natural regeneration should be monitored and recorded, to anticipate the spread of this species within the woodlands, and if appropriate control measures implemented.

5.8 Social

Threat (Rights of Way, CROW, permissive access, events sporting rights etc)	
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	
Impact (high/medium/low)	
Response (inc protection measures)	

Threat (Rights of Way, CROW, permissive access, events sporting rights etc)	
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	
Impact (high/medium/low)	
Response (inc protection measures)	

5.9 Economic

Threat (Timber forecasting, markets, products, operational costs etc)	
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	
Impact (high/medium/low)	
Response (inc protection measures)	

Threat (Timber forecasting, markets, products, operational costs etc)	
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	
Impact (high/medium/low)	
Response (inc protection measures)	

5.10 Climate Change Resilience

Threat (Uniform Structure, Provenance, Lack of Diversity etc)	Lack of tree species diversity
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Tree species diversity is rather polarized throughout the woodlands, with some areas displaying a significant preponderance of *Quercus robur,* while others are dominated by threatened *Fraxinus excelsior*. This is largely a consequence of being recent and isolated OSNW that not had long enough to accumulate a greater diversity of so-called 'climax' species. The threat to all woodland areas posed by Ash Dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*) is acute and might lead to woodlands dominated by *Acer pseudoplatanus* if the vast majority of *Fraxinus excelsior* succumbs to the disease. The threat might become more deleterious if Acute Oak Decline disease starts to destroy a high proportion of the population of *Quercus spp.* The coupling of the potential effects of climate change with known trees diseases, for some of these species, could pose a threat. This threat will be mitigated by employing coppice with standards management regimes in some compartments, a system that will 'break' the monopoly of certain tree species in the over-storey and shrub/tree species in the under-storey, and lead to a greater abundance of rarer, minor species within the regenerating under-storey. It is hoped that, by promoting natural regeneration through active woodland interventions, and by appropriate planting introductions of site native tree and shrub species into canopy gaps, rarer site native tree and shrub species, will have the opportunity to establish within thinned or coppiced areas.

	Furthermore, some site native species, are known to be thermophilic, with natural range distributions that extend into warmer, continental parts of Eurasia. Such species might respond well to increasing temperatures (e.g. *Carpinus betulus, Malus sylvestris, Sorbus torminalis, Tilia cordata* and *Tilia platyphyllos*). Therefore, the woodlands could be buffered from the potential effects of climate change and disease upon biodiversity. Management will ensure that a wide range of locally native tree and shrub species are retained and aim to increase their proportion within the woodland.

Threat (Uniform Structure, Provenance, Lack of Diversity etc)	Uniform structure
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Due to young age of many OSNW areas there can be a tendency towards structural, age-class and species uniformity. Proposed coppice with standards management will begin the process of rectifying this by breaking up and diversifying the structure of individual woodlands and by introducing a chronologically phased approach to the management of the whole woodland holding, thus creating a much more varied, overall woodland resource.

Threat (Uniform Structure, Provenance, Lack of Diversity etc)	
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	
Impact (high/medium/low)	
Response (inc protection measures)	

Section 6: Management Strategy

This section requires a statement of intent, setting out how you intend to achieve your management objectives and manage important features identified within the previous sections of the plan. A detailed work programme by sub-compartment can be added to the Plan of Operations.

Management Objective / Feature	Management Intention
1. Coppicing for firewood.	COPPICE WITH STANDARDS: manage designated woodland areas with a coppice with standards silvicultural system. All of those woodland areas that currently display a high forest character, will initially be thinned, to begin the process of selecting standard trees. Stool regrowth, from cut stems, will be recruited as new coppice stools, along with extant coppice stools that can be cut. It is envisaged that beyond year 20 the process of the coppicing of uncut trees will continue, to increase the number of new coppice stools, while decreasing the proportion of standard trees, within these compartments; thus, effecting a gradual transition to a coppice with standards management system, while reducing undue exposure to windthrow that might occur if a stand is opened up too quickly. Standards will be single tree selection thinned on a 10-20 year cycle, with the objective of retaining 10-30% of standard tree canopy cover in coppice with standards areas. With regard to the actual number of standards retained, within coppice with standards areas, at any given moment, the fundamental principle of the method is that the number of trees in each age-class should be approximately half that in the younger age-class, with about 50-100 standards per hectare, of all age-classes, most of which will be young. An apposite possible age-class structure for retained standards, within coppice with standards areas, is shown in Table 5.1, page 60, of 'The Silviculture and Management of Coppice Woodlands, Forestry Commission, Harmer.R. and Howe.J. 2003'. Coppice stool regrowth will be protected, as necessary, with deer fences, if other measures, such as deer-culling and brash-piling prove insufficient.

	An 20 year, firewood, coppice cycle will be maintained; the exact timing of the cutting of each coupe will depend upon the level of development of stool regrowth and may need to be adjusted.
2. Permanent open space.	Most of the woodlands are too small to require a ride system. The exceptions are Compartments 1, 8, 8 and 11 which already have a network of paths and tracks. The tree and shrub canopy adjacent to rides and glades, in both coppice with standards and high forest areas, should be variably thinned/cut to create a diversity of light and shade, retaining arboreal linkages for Hazel dormice. Maintain selected rides using a 2-zone cutting system, according the FC guidelines as set out in operations note 011, managing woodland open space for wildlife. All 3-zone rides will have an overall width of 15m to 30m; all 2-zone rides will have an overall width of 8m to 15m. This range of widths for the rides will allow for ride-edge scallops. Pinch points, where the tree canopy will meet (or come within 1.5m of each other) will be included at no more than 100m intervals. 1-zone rides are no more than a track/path through the woodlands, with no widening, or other allowance for overhead canopy opening or ride-edge enhancement; these will be either a dirt track or a ~4m wide mown grass strip.
3. Minimum intervention.	A minimum intervention area will be created and retained in Compartment 14, in order to maintain a visual and sonic buffer between the A44 road and the dwelling to the south of this woodland. Here no thinning or coppicing will take place. Trees will only be felled or coppiced to maintain current access commitments and to remove any hazards posed by the trees.
4. Veteran trees and deadwood.	Designate, tag and record, for long-term retention, existing and potential veteran trees of a wide variety of locally native species, throughout all woodland areas, where practical, at a rate of 4 per hectare. Review every five years. Release the crowns of veteran trees, by halo-thinning, as necessary. Retain and create deadwood habitats to

	achieve a density, throughout all woodland areas, of 3 lying dead trees, >20cm diameter, per hectare. Management interventions will aim to create and/or retain 5m³, per hectare, through all woodland areas, during the first 5-year woodland management plan period, with the long-term aspiration to create and/or retain 20m³, per hectare, as set out in the UK Forestry Standard. Conserve and create additional deadwood habitats by retention of standing and lying deadwood, and ring-barking 'wolf' and undesirable trees, during thinning/felling operations, and by retention of all wind-blown trees where they do not impede a 2-zone ride or pose a hazard.
5. Notable species.	Locally-native species of trees, shrubs and ground flora, which have a locally or nationally restricted distribution, and/or are site-rare, shall be identified, mapped and designated for long-term retention, prior to ride creation or other high impact interventions. Release the crowns of such notable trees, by halo-thinning, as appropriate and necessary. This measure is designed to conserve site-rare trees, increase their range within the woodland, and help to maintain a good diversity of locally-native species that might help to buffer the woodland against the potential, negative effects of climate change. Such notable tree species would include: *Acer campestre, Crataegus laevigata, Carpinus betulus, Fagus sylvatica, Malus sylvestris, Sorbus torminalis, Sorbus aucuparia, Tilia cordata, Tilia platyphyllos* and *Taxus baccata*.
6. Woodland regeneration.	Use natural regeneration in preference to planting where possible. Natural regeneration of all site native species should be recruited, and any individuals deemed to be resistant to Ash Dieback *Hymenoscyphus fraxineaus* retained while displaying no disease symptoms. When resorting to artificial regeneration using planted stock, all plants will be ROP (Region of Provenance) 403. Appropriate species for enrichment planting, within the woodland, would be a representative

	assemblage of NVC W8 or W10 tree and shrub species: Quercus petraea and Quercus robur (40-60%), Prunus avium, Tilia cordata, Tilia platyphyllos, Sorbus torminalis, Sorbus aucuparia, Ilex aquifolium, Taxus baccata, Populus tremula, Fagus sylvatica, Carpinus betulus, Malus sylvestris (mixed totalling 20-40%), with NVC W8 or W10 woody shrubs (mixed totalling 10-20%). Regeneration, whether by natural regeneration of seedlings or coppice sprouting, or by artificial planting, will achieve a minimum of 1100 stems, per hectare, within 5 years of felling, in all selection- or clear- fell or felled coppice areas.
7. European Protected Species.	A European Protected Species and woodland operations checklist will be completed before each woodland management operation, as appropriate, to ensure that all operations adhere to relevant wildlife legislation. It is envisaged that this will be particularly relevant to Hazel dormice, Great crested newts, Otters and bats.
8. Recreational amenity: maintain the current level of private amenity access.	Maintain the current level of public and private access features and furniture through and adjacent to woodland areas. It is not envisaged that any special or different management practices – other than those already mentioned, such as maintaining paths and rides – will be necessary to maintain a level of public and private amenity access.
9. Landscape: maintain the contribution of all woodland areas to the local landscape.	Manage selected areas using a coppice with standards system, using a chronologically phased approach that mitigate the impact of woodland interventions on the overall, local landscape aesthetic.

Section 7: Stakeholder Engagement

There can be a requirement on both the FC and the owner to undertake consultation/engagement. Please refer to Operations Note 35 for further information. Use this section to identify people or organisations with an interest in your woodland and also to record any engagement that you have undertaken, relative to activities identified within the plan.

Work Proposal	Individual/ Organisation	Date Contacted	Date feedback received	Response	Action
WMP (all works). Landowner will contact the local parish council, stating the intention to create a WMP, and inviting stakeholder engagement and feedback.	Parish Council				
WMP (all works). Landowner will contact all commoners, stating the intention to create a WMP, and inviting stakeholder engagement and feedback.	Bringsty Common commoners				

Section 8: Monitoring

Indicators of progress/success should be defined for each management objective and then checked at regular intervals. Other management activities could also be considered within this monitoring section. The data collected will help to evaluate progress.

Management Objective/Activities	Indicator of Progress/Success	Method of Assessment	Frequency of Assessment	Responsibility	Assessment Results
Coppicing for firewood.	Vigorous regrowth of coppice stools with acceptable levels of deer damage.	On-site inspection; deer exclosure plots monitoring; fixed point photography of coppice within and without exclosure plots.	Annually.	Owner/agent.	Feedback into the requirements for further deer culling/control and/or protection (probably deer fencing).
Success of restock coupes and gapping-up planting.	Vigorous growth of planted plant-stock and desirable natural regeneration; acceptable levels of weed competition; lack of damage or disease.	On-site inspection by silviculturalist.	Annually.	Owner/agent.	Feedback into the requirements for beat-up planting, and weed and vermin control.
Permanent open space.	Appropriate levels of light and shade; diversity and	On-site inspection; fixed point	Annually.	Owner/agent.	Feedback into the requirements for further management interventions.

	abundance of flora; diversity of woodland edge structure.	photography of rides, glades, ponds and watercourses.			
Veteran trees and deadwood.	Regularly updated database and GPS mapping of designated veteran trees. Sufficient quantity and quality of deadwood throughout woodland.	On-site inspection by silviculturalist; fixed point photography of veteran trees. Regular updated database and map of veteran trees.	Fixed point photography: biennially. Update of database and map: every 4 years.	Owner/agent.	Feedback into the requirements for further management interventions to conserve or enhance veteran trees, or to designate further veteran trees.
Notable species.	Regularly updated database and GPS mapping of notable species.	On-site inspection by silviculturalist; fixed point photography of notable trees. Regular updated database and map of notable trees.	Fixed point photography: biennially. Update of database and map: every 4 years.	Owner/agent.	Feedback into the requirements for further management interventions to conserve or enhance notable
Recreational amenity.	Condition of access furniture and footpaths.	On-site inspection.	Annually.	Owner/agent.	Feedback into requirements for access furniture repair, upgrade or footpath clearance.
Landscape.	Prominence and impact in the local landscape.	On-site inspection, especially fixed-point	Before and after woodland thinning	Agent.	Feedback into operational planning future thinning interventions

		photography of woodland exterior edges from surrounding areas.	interventions		
Damage from livestock, pests and diseases.	Lack of incidence of diseases, or identification and appropriate action taken when diseases are encountered. Lack of damage by pests and livestock.	On-site assessment for diseases, pests, damage, or ineffective stock-proofing, exclosure fences or guards.	Annually and on-going.	Owner/agent.	Feedback into requirements for interventions to control or exclude pests; record incidents of disease and take appropriate action (following FC guidelines); repair and upgrade fencing and guards, as necessary.
Invasive Species	Extent of invasive species: increase or decrease.	On-site inspection, especially mapping and fixed-point photography of extent of invasive species woodland.	Annually and on-going.	Owner/agent.	Feedback into requirements for interventions to control or eradicate, and take appropriate action (following FC, EA and other published guidelines), as necessary.

Forestry Commission England

UK Forestry Standard woodland plan assessment

For FC office use and approval only:

UKFS management plan criteria	Minimum approval requirements	Achieved	Review notes
Plan Objectives: Forest management plans should state the objectives of management and set out how an appropriate balance between social, economic, environmental objectives will be achieved.	• Management plan objectives are stated. • Consideration is given to environmental, economic and social objectives relevant to the vision for the woodland.	**Yes/No**	
Forest context and important features in management strategy: Forest management plans should address the forest context and the forest potential and demonstrate how the relevant interests and issues have been considered and addressed.	Management intentions communicated in ***Sect.6*** of the management plan are in line with stated objective(s) in ***Sect. 2***. Management intentions should take account of: • Relevant features and issues identified in the woodland survey (***Sect. 4***). • Any potential threats to and opportunities for the woodland, as identified under woodland protection (***Sect. 5***). • Relevant comments received from stakeholder engagement are documented in ***Sect. 7***.	**Yes/No**	
Identification of designations within and surrounding the woodland site: For designated areas, e.g. National Parks or SSSI, particular account is taken of landscape and other sensitivities in the design of forests and forest infrastructure.	• Survey information (***Sect. 4***) identifies any designations that impact on woodland management. • Management intentions (***Sect. 6***) have taken account of any designations.	**Yes/No**	
Felling and restocking to improve forest structure and diversity: When planning felling and restocking, the design of existing forests should be re-	• Felling and restocking proposals are consistent with UKFS design principles (for example scale and adjacency). • Current diversity (structure, species, age	**Yes/No**	

assessed and any necessary changes made to meet UKFS requirements. Forests should be designed to achieve a diverse structure of habitat, species and age range of trees, appropriate to the scale and context. Forests characterised by a lack of diversity, due to extensive areas of even-aged trees, should be progressively restructured to achieve age class range.	structure) of the woodland has been identified through the survey (***Sect. 4***). • Management intentions aim to improve / maintain current diversity (structure, species, and ages of trees).		
Consultation: Consultation on forest management plans and proposals should be carried out according to forestry authority procedures and, where required, the Environmental Impact Assessment (Forestry) Regulations.	• Stakeholder consultation is in line with current FC guidance, and recorded in ***Sect. 7***. The minimum requirement is for statutory consultation to take place, and this will be carried out by the Forestry Commission. • Plan authors undertake stakeholder engagement (ref FC Ops Note 35) relevant to the context and setting of the woodland.	**Yes/No**	
Plan update and review: Management of the forest should conform to the plan, and the plan should be updated to ensure it is current and relevant.	• A 5 year review period is stated on the 1st page of the plan • ***Sect. 8*** is completed with 1 indicator of success identified per management objective	**Yes/No**	

Approved in Principle *This means the FC is happy with your plan; it meets UKFS requirements.* *a) You can use it to support a CS-HT or other grant application.* ***b) You do not yet have a licence to undertake any tree felling in the plan.***	**Name (WO or FM):**	**Date:**
Approved *This means FC is happy with your plan; it meets UKFS requirements, and we have also approved a felling licence for any tree felling in the plan (where required).*	**Name (AO, WO or FM):**	**Date:**