

Woodland Management Plan

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|---|-----------------|
| To be completed by the plan author: | |
| Woodland or Property name | Ruffside Estate |
| Woodland Management Plan case reference | 877007 |
| The landowner agrees this plan as a statement of intent for the woodland | Yes |
| Plan author name | Jonathan Harker |

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

| Revision No. | Date | Status (draft/final) | Reason for Revision |
|--------------|------|-------------------------|---------------------|
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| <p>Template user support:</p> <p>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.</p> |
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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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|-------------------------------|---|--|--|
| 1 | <p>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.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management plan objectives are stated. Consideration is given to environmental, economic and social objectives relevant to the vision for the woodland. | Yes |
| 2 | <p>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.</p> | <p>Management intentions communicated in Sect. 6 of the management plan are in line with stated objective(s) Sect. 2.</p> <p>Management intentions should take account of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 | <p>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.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey information (Sect. 4) identifies any designations that impact on woodland management. Management intentions (Sect. 6) have taken account of any designations. | Yes |
| 4 | <p>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.</p> <p>Forests should be designed to achieve a diverse structure of habitat, species and ages of trees, appropriate to the scale and context.</p> <p>Forests characterised by a lack of diversity, due to extensive areas of even-aged trees, should be progressively restructured to achieve age class range.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 | <p>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.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 | <p>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.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A 5 year review period is stated on the 1st page of the plan. Sect. 8 is completed with 1 indicator of success per management objective. | Yes |

Section 1: Property Details

| | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| Ruffside Estate | | | |
| Name | Mr David Gray | Owner | Sir Tom Cowie Family Trust |
| Email | | Contact Number | |
| Agent Name (if applicable) | | Jonathan Harker | |
| Email | Jonathan.harker@scottishwoodlands.co.uk | Contact Number | 07824 901664 |
| County | Durham & Northumberland | Local Authority | Northumberland County Council & Durham County Council |
| Grid Reference | NY991515 | Single Business Identifier | 106775989 |
| What is the total area of this woodland management plan? (In hectares) | | 105.59ha | |
| 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? | | Map 1 Cpt Plan & Current Species Map 2 Operations Plan 10Yrs Map 3 Site Hazards and Constraints Map 4 20yr Indicative Felling Plan Map 5 10yr Restocking Plan Map 6 Ecology plan | |
| 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 | |

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| You agree to make the woodland management plan publicly available? | Yes |
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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*)

The long term vision for the woodland is to manage the mature / semi mature conifer stands commercially improving the timber quality where applicable by thinning over there natural rotation until clearfelling. Existing broadleaf areas are to be retained where practical todo so and thinned accordingly to create some structure across the property as well as retaining there asythetic value in the local landscape.

Due to restraints on the property predominantly rabbits, areas of restocking which were previosly conifer stands are to be established with a mixture of broadleaves and conifers species which are favourable for the Red Squirrel population found across the esate. These areas of mixed native species will be asythetically pleasing within the local landscape / ANOB as well as benifiting native species of birds and flora and forna across the property.

Best practice silvicultural management is to be implemented going forward ensuring that woodland areas are successfully established and stocked, woodlands being thinned as required going forward.

The woodlands are to be managed following best practice guidelines as well as complying with the UKFS.

The woodlands will been valuated for UKWAS and the woodlands may be considered for certification in the furure.

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 | Manage the woodland commercially, improving quality through silvicultural management and best practice where appropriate. |
| 2 | Improve woodland as a landscape feature through silvicultural management and sympathetic management adjacent to areas of higher ecological value as well as converting conifer areas to mixed target species. |
| 3 | Improve the ecological value of the woodland by creating some structure and diversity across the woodland, concentrating on Red Squirrel habitat. |
| 4 | Improve access for future forestry operations, enabling both selective and clear felling as well as future thinning operations. |
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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 |
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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:

The woodlands at Ruffside are situated in south Northumberland and northern County Durham, on the south and north facing slopes surrounding Derwent Reservoir.

The property is situated in the North Pennines ANOB.

The woodlands total 105.59ha, about two thirds of which is mixed conifer, predominantly mature Scots pine and Sitka spruce. The remaining compartments are mixed broadleaves comprising of ash, sycamore, birch and oak. Most of the woodlands are predominately mature or reaching maturity and are unthinned.

None of the woodland is designated as ancient woodland and has no other land designation expect for some of the broadleaf areas which are designated as priority

habitat.

The woodland is integrated with neighbouring farms and moorland. The woodland mostly lies on south and north facing hills, making several of the compartments steep in nature. The woodland borders the public highway in some areas, indicated on the attached maps.

The topography of the woodland is steep in nature, lying predominantly on south and north facing hills, the lowest point being 250m and the highest 320m.

The site has a cool, severely exposed and wet climate, and soils are slowly permeable wet very acid upland soils with a peaty surface. Average annual rainfall amounts are 1250mm – 1500mm.

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 | See map | Yes | 6 |
| Special Area of Conservation | No | See map | Yes | 6 |
| 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) | No | All | Non formally identified but likely to be found on site. Best Practice | |
| Dormouse | | No | | NBN Atlas | |
| Great Crested Newt | | No | | NBN Atlas | |
| Otter | | No | | Potentially found on site. Best practice to be followed. | |
| Sand Lizard | | No | | | |
| Smooth Snake | | No | | | |
| Natterjack Toad | | No | | | |
| Biodiversity - Priority Species | | | | | |
| Schedule 1 Birds | Species: | No | All | Best Practice to be followed prior to harvesting operations. | |
| Mammals (Red Squirrel, Water Vole, Pine Marten etc) | | Yes | All | 6 | Red Squirrels observed on |

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-------|--|
| | | | | the property and adjacent to Slaley Forest & Healey Reserve. |
| Reptiles (grass snake, adder, common lizard etc) | No | | | |
| Plants | No | | | |
| Fungi/Lichens | No | | | |
| Invertebrates (butterflies, moths, beetles etc) | No | | | |
| Amphibians (pool frog, common toad) | No | | | Potentially found on site. Best practice to be followed. |
| Other (please Specify): | No | | | |
| <u>Historic Environment</u> | | | | |
| Scheduled Monuments | No | | | |
| Unscheduled Monuments | No | | | |
| Registered Parks and Gardens | No | | | |
| Boundaries and Veteran Trees | No | | | |
| Listed Buildings | No | | | Grade 2 / Ruffside Hall. |
| Other (please Specify): | No | | | |
| <u>Landscape</u> | | | | |
| <u>National Character Area</u> (please Specify): | | | | |
| National Park | No | | | |
| Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty | Yes | All | Map 6 | North Pennines |
| Other (please Specify): | No | | | |
| <u>People</u> | | | | |
| CROW Access | No | | | Adjacent |
| Public Rights of Way (any) | Yes | | Map 3 | |
| Other Access Provision | No | | | |
| Public Involvement | No | | | |
| Visitor Information | No | | | |
| Public Recreation Facilities | No | | | |
| Provision of Learning Opportunities | No | | | |
| Anti-social Behaviour | No | | | |
| Other (please Specify): | No | | | |
| <u>Water</u> | | | | |
| Watercourses | Yes | | Map 3 | |
| Lakes | No | | | |
| Ponds | Yes | | Map 3 | |
| 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.

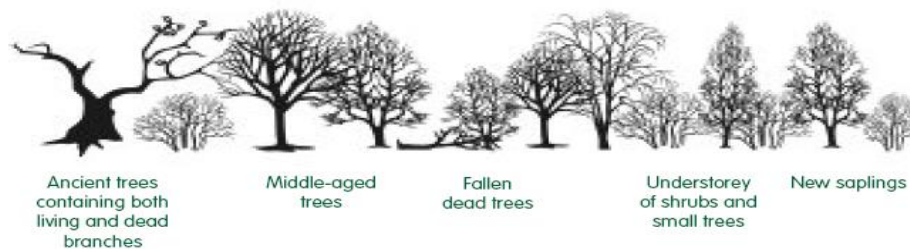
| Feature | Within Woodland(s) | Cpts | Map No | Notes |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|------|--------|-------|
| Woodland Habitat Types | | | | |
| Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland | No | | | |
| Planted Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS) | No | | | |
| Semi-natural features in PAWS | No | | | |
| Lowland beech and yew woodland | No | | | |
| Lowland mixed deciduous woodland | No | | | |
| Upland mixed ash woods | No | | | |
| Upland Oakwood | No | | | |
| Wet woodland | No | | | |
| Wood-pasture and parkland | No | | | |
| Other (please Specify): | No | | | |
| Non Woodland Habitat Types | | | | |
| Blanket bog | No | | | |
| Fenland | No | | | |
| Lowland calcareous grassland | No | | | |
| Lowland dry acid grassland | No | | | |
| Lowland heath land | No | | | |
| Lowland meadows | No | | | |
| Lowland raised bog | No | | | |
| Rush pasture | No | | | |
| Reed bed | No | | | |
| Wood pasture | No | | | |
| 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) |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Broadleaf | 31 | Uneven | |
| Conifer | 45 | Uneven | |
| Broadleaf/Conifer mix | 23 | Uneven | |
| Open ground/Other land | 1 | | |
| | | | |

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, <i>Phytophthora</i> , Needle Blight etc) | Ash Dieback (<i>Chalara fraxinea</i>) |
| Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low) | High |
| Impact (high/medium/low) | Medium |
| Response (inc protection measures) | Monitor and report as identified. Woodland is of mixed species, but with a considerable element of ash, so impact would be noticeable. Ash has not been included in restocking species. |

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|--|---|
| Threat (e.g. Ash Dieback, <i>Phytophthora</i> , Needle Blight etc) | <i>Phytophthora ramorum</i> |
| Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low) | Medium |
| Impact (high/medium/low) | Low |
| Response (inc protection measures) | Monitor and report as identified. Infected larch trees would be felled as soon as possible after detection of the disease. Woodlands are of mixed species with low percentage of larch so impact would be minimal. Larch has not been included in restocking species. |

5.3 [Deer](#)

| | |
|--|--|
| Species - Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low) | High |
| Impact (high/medium/low) | High |
| Response (inc protection measures) | Monitor replanting. Trees to be individually protected. Control as required following best practice. |

5.4 [Grey Squirrels](#)

| | |
|--|--|
| Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low) | High |
| Impact (high/medium/low) | Medium |
| Response (inc protection measures) | Few stands of vulnerable age and species present. Monitor replanting. Squirrels to be controlled as required following best practice. Do pose a threat to Red Squirrel Population. |

5.5 Livestock and Other Mammals

| | |
|--|--|
| Threat (Sheep, Horse, Rabbit etc) | Rabbit |
| Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low) | High |
| Impact (high/medium/low) | High |
| Response (inc protection measures) | Monitor natural regeneration and replanting. Control carried out as required, following best practice. Trees to be individually protected. |

| | |
|--|---|
| Threat (Sheep, Horse, Rabbit etc) | Sheep (Livestock) |
| Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low) | Medium |
| Impact (high/medium/low) | Low |
| Response (inc protection measures) | Boundary fences to be inspected and maintained as required. |

5.6 Water & Soil

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|--|--|
| Threat (Soil Erosion, Acidification of Water, Pollution incidents etc) | Diffuse pollution |
| Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low) | Medium |
| Impact (high/medium/low) | High |
| Response (inc protection measures) | Harvesting and establishment operations to follow best practice, forest & water guidelines. Woodlands adjacent to reservoir. |

| | |
|--|--|
| Threat (Soil Erosion, Acidification of Water, Pollution incidents etc) | Point pollution |
| Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low) | Medium |
| Impact (high/medium/low) | Medium |
| Response (inc protection measures) | Harvesting and establishment operations to follow best practice, forest & water guidelines. Woodlands adjacent to reservoir. |

5.7 Environmental

| | |
|--|--|
| Threat (Pollution, Fire, Flood, Wind, Invasive Species, etc) | Wind |
| Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low) | Medium |
| Impact (high/medium/low) | Medium |
| Response (inc protection measures) | Stands to be thinned only where appropriate, following best practice retaining target species. |

| | |
|--|----------|
| Threat (Pollution, Fire, Flood, Wind, Invasive Species, etc) | Fire |
| Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low) | Low |
| Impact (high/medium/low) | High |
| Response (inc protection measures) | Monitor. |

5.8 Social

| | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Threat (Rights of Way, CROW, permissive access, events sporting) | Anti-social behaviour/fly tipping? |
|--|------------------------------------|

| | |
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| rights, Anti-social Behaviour etc) | |
| Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low) | Low |
| Impact (high/medium/low) | Low |
| Response (inc protection measures) | Authorities to be informed if appropriate. |

| | |
|---|--|
| 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) | Operational costs. |
| Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low) | Medium |
| Impact (high/medium/low) | High |
| Response (inc protection measures) | |

5.10 [Climate Change](#) Resilience

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|---|--|
| Threat (Uniform Structure, Provenance, Lack of Diversity etc) | Uniform structure |
| Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low) | Medium |
| Impact (high/medium/low) | Medium |
| Response (inc protection measures) | Existing woodland to be thinned to encourage natural regeneration in open areas. |

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|--|-------------------------------------|
| Threat Lack of Diversity | |
| Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low) | Low |
| Impact (high/medium/low) | Low |
| Response (inc protection measures) | Restocking of mixed native species. |

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 |
|---|--|
| Manage the woodland commercially, improving quality through silvicultural management and best practice where appropriate. | Mature stands of conifer to be felled accordingly, stands suffering of windblow as well as Larch etc. |
| Improve woodland as a landscape feature through silvicultural management and sympathetic management adjacent to areas of higher ecological value as well as converting conifer areas to mixed target species. | Best practice and UKFS to be followed. Open ground to be concentrated adjacent to watercourses and areas of ecological interest. Conversion of single species conifer woodland to mixed species NBL/SP |
| Improve the ecological value of the woodland by creating some structure and diversity across the woodland, concentrating on Red Squirrel habitat. | Restocking of felled areas to be of target species for Red Squirrels. Best Practice to be followed. |
| Improve access for future forestry operations, enabling both selective and clear felling as well as future thinning operations. | Improvements to access points with HGV will be required. Liaise with DCC/NCC. Grant funding to be investigated through FC/NE schemes. |
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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 |
|-----------------|--|-------------------|---------------------------|----------|--------|
| Management Plan | Natural England enquiries@natu ralengland.org. uk | | | | |
| | Environment Agency enquiries@envi ronment- agency.gov.uk | | | | |
| | Northumberlan d County Council Planning@north umberland.gov. uk | | | | |
| | Durham County Council Simon.McGinne ty@durham.go | | | | |

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|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| | v.uk | | | | |
| | Blanchland Parish Council blanchlandparishcouncil@outlook.com | | | | |
| | Northumberland Wildlife Trust Mike.Denbury@rsne.org.uk | | | | |
| | Durham Wildlife Trust mail@durhamwildlife.co.uk | | | | |
| | North Pennines AONB Partnership info@northpenninesaonb.org.uk | | | | |
| | Luke Hemmings FE Luke.Hemmings@forestrycommission.gov.uk | | | | |
| | Northumberlandian | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | Water stuart.pudney@ nwl.co.uk | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|

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 |
|---|--|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Manage the woodland commercially, improving quality through silvicultural management and best practice as identified in UKFS. | Standing assessment of crop. Best practice followed. Record of timber income against budget. | Visual assessment/ Records against current baseline. | 10yr | Landowner | |
| Improve woodland as a landscape feature through silvicultural management and sympathetic management adjacent to areas of higher ecological value. | Response from public and neighbouring landowners. Comparison to original operational plan. | Visual assessment. | 10yr | Landowner | |
| Improve ecological value of the woodland by creating some structure and diversity across the woodland. | Diversity of species within woodland. Improvement in species and structural diversity. | Visual assessment. Updating of Cpt records and plans. | 10yr | Landowner | |
| Improve access for future forestry operations, enabling both selective felling as well as future thinning operations | Visual assessment. Records of work undertaken. | Visual assessment. | 10yr | Landowner | |
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UK Forestry Standard woodland plan assessment

For FC office use and approval only:

| UKFS management plan criteria | Minimum approval requirements | Achieved | Review notes |
|--|--|----------|--------------|
| <p>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.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management plan objectives are stated. • Consideration is given to environmental, economic and social objectives relevant to the vision for the woodland. | Yes/No | |
| <p>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.</p> | <p>Management intentions communicated in Sect. 6 of the management plan are in line with stated objective(s) in Sect. 2.</p> <p>Management intentions should take account of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 | |
| <p>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.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey information (Sect. 4) identifies any designations that impact on woodland management. • Management intentions (Sect. 6) have taken account of any designations. | Yes/No | |
| <p>Felling and restocking to improve forest structure and diversity: When planning felling and restocking, the design of existing forests should be re-</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Felling and restocking proposals are consistent with UKFS design principles (for example scale and adjacency). • Current diversity (structure, species, age | Yes/No | |

| | | | |
|---|--|----------------------|--|
| <p>assessed and any necessary changes made to meet UKFS requirements.</p> <p>Forests should be designed to achieve a diverse structure of habitat, species and age range of trees, appropriate to the scale and context.</p> <p>Forests characterised by a lack of diversity, due to extensive areas of even-aged trees, should be progressively restructured to achieve age class range.</p> | <p>structure) of the woodland has been identified through the survey (Sect. 4).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management intentions aim to improve / maintain current diversity (structure, species, and ages of trees). | | |
| <p>Consultation:</p> <p>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.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. | <p>Yes/No</p> | |
| <p>Plan update and review:</p> <p>Management of the forest should conform to the plan, and the plan should be updated to ensure it is current and relevant.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 | <p>Yes/No</p> | |

| | | |
|--|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <p>Approved in Principle</p> <p><i>This means the FC is happy with your plan; it meets UKFS requirements.</i></p> <p>a) You can use it to support a CS-HT or other grant application.</p> <p>b) You do not yet have a licence to undertake any tree felling in the plan.</p> | <p>Name (WO or FM):</p> | <p>Date:</p> |
| <p>Approved</p> <p><i>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).</i></p> | <p>Name (AO, WO or FM):</p> | <p>Date:</p> |