

Woodland Management Plan

To be completed by the plan author:	
Woodland or Property name	Midland wood
Woodland Management Plan case reference	Can use Siti agri agreement ref here
The landowner agrees this plan as a statement of intent for the woodland	Yes
Plan author name	W. Owner

For FC Use only:			
Plan Period <i>(dd/mm/yyyy - Ten years)</i>	Approval Date:		Approved until:
Five Year Review Date	5 years from date of approval		

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

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.

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. 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. 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</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

	age class range.		
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

<u>Woodland Property Name</u>			
Name	Mrs Woodland Owner	Owner Yes	Tenant No
Email	mrsowner@mywoods.co.uk	Contact Number	01111 111 111
Agent Name (if applicable) n/a			
Email		Contact Number	
County	Midshire	<u>Local Authority</u>	Mid Midshire
Grid Reference	SS XXX YYY	Single Business Identifier	22222222
What is the total area of this woodland management plan? (In hectares)		99.46	
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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location map - 1: 25000 • 2. Compartments & rides 1:10000 • 3A. Hazards & Constraints (North) 1:5000 • 3B. Hazards & Constraints (South) 1:5000 • 3C. Hazards & Constraints (Middown Copse) 1:2500 • 4A. ASNW/PAWS (North) 1:5000 • 4B. ASNW/PAWS (South) 1:5000 • 5A. SSSI areas (North) 1:5000 • 5B. SSSI areas (South) 1:5000 • 6. Woodland type/composition/NVC • 7. Operations map • 8. Soils map 	
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*)

There has been little management input for at least 20 years when the wood was in 2 separate ownerships.

The long term work in the wood will be low key and will concentrate on gradually bringing the wood into sustained management. This will largely include thinning the broadleaves after many years of non-intervention. Much of the hazel is overstored or weak due to low light levels. A programme of thinning the overstorey should form part of the management process to increase light levels so the hazel can be coppiced and regrowth encouraged. A hazel coppice cycle can then be reinitiated. The conifer elements in the compartments in the areas of the wood designated as PAWS will be managed to maintain a small proportion of conifers in perpetuity.

As a large proportion of the wood is ash (approx. 35%) and depending on the potential impact of Ash Dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*), targeted areas of ash, in particular those where the quality is relatively poor, selection felling will be considered to help mitigate this impact and redress the balance of major native broadleaved species.

There is a significant potential to improve the wood to benefit wildlife conservation and sporting interests. This may be achieved by increasing light levels, in particular to the secondary rides which in some cases are at present under closed, or partially closed, canopy.

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	Gradually reintroduce a programme of thinning and coppicing.
2	Improve the wood for the benefit of wildlife, conservation and sporting. This should include opening up existing secondary rides to increase light levels.
3	Increase species diversity, including introducing larger proportions of oak, partly in the light of the threat of Ash Dieback and the dominance of this species in the wood.
4	Secure good quality trees for future generations.
5	
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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
Gradually reintroduce a programme of thinning and coppicing	To be completed at year 5
Improve the wood for the benefit of wildlife, conservation and sporting. This should include opening up existing secondary rides to increase light levels.	
Increase species diversity, including introducing larger proportions of oak, partly in the light of the threat of Ash Dieback and the dominance of this species in the wood.	
Secure good quality trees for future generations.	

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:

1. Location. Midland wood is about 6 miles to the east of Midtown with the mainline railway adjacent to the north west side of the wood. At almost 100 hectares, it is a relatively large wood in the county.

Middown Copse (Cpt 21) is on the eastern outskirts of Middle Village and is immediately adjacent to the north side of the B.3081. It is a very visible feature from the road when leaving Middle. A Public Right of Way passes through the wood (maps 3A and B). The wood largely comprises mature to over mature ash with oak and sycamore. All the surrounding fields are pasture land within the applicant's ownership.

2. History. The wood is part Ancient Semi Natural and part Ancient Woodland Site and early records go back to 1514, although it may have been part of the Royal Forest well before this time. Until recently, that is about 12 years ago, the wood was in two separate ownerships and there are few records of management available over the time of these ownerships. Access improvements were made in the late 1980s / early 1990s and some pockets of selection felling and restocking were done around this time, in particular through the southern section of the wood. The north and southern sections of the wood are designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (a copy of the citation is included as Appendix 1); it is a good example of a large ancient woodland in the county. Currently in unfavourable condition, but Natural England have indicated that status will be amended to "Unfavourable Recovering" on completion of an approved management plan.

3. Species distribution. The vast majority of the wood comprises native broadleaves with the dominant species being ash at an estimated 35%. There is a relatively low proportion of oak in the wood at about 6% and sycamore approx 14%. Hazel represents about 27% and this is mainly in the ash understory. The conifer element (DF/NS/JL/WH) is about 13%. Open space is c 5%.

4. Soils. Heavy Oxford clay overlying limestone (map 8).

5. Rainfall. Average - 30" per annum.

6. Elevation. 60ft - 80ft (18 m - 24m) .

7. Landscape. Midland wood has a very high landscape value both locally and in a wider context. It is a very high profile feature, in particular from the road immediately to the north west and further afield from the A.359 road. It is also a very significant feature from the main line railway which is immediately adjacent to the north west side of the wood.

8. Access. There are 2 access points into the wood (see accompanying maps). Access 1 is off the B.3081 at the top of the lane on the south west side of the wood. Access 2 is via Midland Farm (the owners residence) on the south east side of the wood. There is a good network of main and secondary rides within the wood (see Map 2).

9. Topography. Much of the wood is on relatively flat ground. However, there are numerous shallow valleys throughout (see Hazards & Constraints maps - 3A & 3B) that may be potential hazards to varying degrees, in particular the deep/steep gully on the boundary between cpts 14 and 15.

10. Water. The River Mid is immediately adjacent to the western side of the wood and the Flood Alleviation Scheme (FAS) is sited between the wood and the railway immediately west of cpt 6. There are numerous valleys through the wood (see maps 3A and 3B) and these direct significant volumes of water through the wood following rainfall. There is a pond in the north east corner of cpt 12.

11. Sporting. There is a pheasant shoot on the farm with a release pen in cpt 11. Deer control is routinely carried out and there are high seats in various parts of the wood (see Hazards & Constraints - maps 3A & 3B).

12. Land use. Most of the fields adjacent to the wood are grazing land. The field to the west between the wood and the railway (opposite cpt 6) is the FAS.

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	Yes	1/2/3/4/ 10/13/15 16a/16b/ 17a/17b/ 18/19	No	5a and 5b
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	6	3a	Bat roost in high seat. Two bat surveys where carried out in 2016 and these can be provided if required.
Dormouse	Yes	All cpts			Although no specific sightings, it should be assumed that, due to the high level of hazel coppice, they may be present in the wood.
Great Crested Newt	No				
Otter	No				
Sand Lizard	No				
Smooth Snake	No				
Natterjack Toad	No				

Biodiversity – Priority Species					
Schedule 1 Birds	Species:	Yes			Kingfisher Red Kite Barn Owl Tree Creeper
Mammals (Red Squirrel, Water Vole, Pine Marten etc)		No			
Reptiles (grass snake, adder, common lizard etc)		Yes			Grass snakes
Plants		Yes	Cpts 13 & 17a		Herb Paris Greater Butterfly Orchid
Fungi/Lichens		Yes			
Invertebrates (butterflies, moths, beetles etc)		Yes			Numerous butterfly species
Amphibians (pool frog, common toad)		Yes	Cpt 12	3a and 3b	Common frogs, common toads, smooth newts
Other (please Specify):		No			
Historic Environment					
Scheduled Monuments		No			
Unscheduled Monuments		No			
Registered Parks and Gardens		No			
Boundaries and Veteran Trees		Yes	9 and 15	3a and 3b	Oak(cpt 9) Beech (cpt15)
Listed Buildings		No			
Other (please Specify):		No			
Landscape					
National Character Area (please Specify):					
National Park		No			
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty		No			
Other (please Specify):		No			
People					
CROW Access		No			
Public Rights of Way (any)		Yes	16a	3b	Adjacent to western side of wood, but not within wood.
			21	3c	Middown Copse. PRW passes east/west through wood
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			
Water				
Watercourses	Yes	Most cpts	3a and 3b	Gullies. River Mid is adjacent to the western side of the wood.
Lakes	No			
Ponds	Yes	12	3a and 3b	Small pond at the eastern end of the cpt
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	1/2/3 4/10 13 13 15 16a 17b 18 19 20	4a 4b	The majority of the wood consists of ash standards, both maiden and stool grown, with an understory of hazel, much of which is overstored. The ash is largely even aged.
Planted Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS)	Yes	5 6 7 8 9 11 12 --- 11 12 14 16B 17A	5a 5b	The main exotic species is Douglas fir with smaller amounts of larch and Norway spruce. A small amount of Western hemlock in cpt 9.

Semi-natural features in PAWS	Yes	Most cpts		Hazel
Lowland beech and yew woodland	No			
Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	Yes	All cpts		Mainly ash but also including smaller proportions of oak and sycamore
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)
Native Broadleaves	60%	Even aged	Overstorey composed largely of ash, with some oak and sycamore. There is a significant understory of hazel in most areas of the wood.
Coniferous	13%	Even aged	The majority of conifer is Douglas Fir, Norway Spruce & Larch, together with very small quantities of Scots pine (cpt 7) Western Hemlock (cpt 9).
Coppice	27%	Uneven aged	Most of the coppice is overstored and of a similar age. Some has been relatively recently coppiced in cpt 16b with some success and also in cpt 4 and 15 but with little sign of regrowth here.
Intimate mix		Uneven aged	The proportions of intimate mix fall into the percentages given for the native broadleaves.
			Generally there is little sign of natural regeneration except for ash of which there are seedlings present in many areas. A small amount of Douglas Fir present in cpt 9.

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
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	High
Response (inc protection measures)	Given the high proportion of ash in the wood the impact of ash dieback will be significant. Monitor the situation and take appropriate action to include following advice issued by the Forestry Commission. Coppicing of ash is likely to result in stool death, so high forest thinning only will be undertaken. Small areas (0.25 to 0.5ha) of selection felling and restocking with other native broadleaves, in particular oak which is of a low percentage in the wood at present (as well as hornbeam, field maple and small-leaved lime). Sycamore (which has a similar bark pH for ash obligates) will be coppiced, but regeneration will be controlled.

Threat (e.g. Ash Dieback, <i>Phytophthora</i> , Needle Blight etc)	Phytophthora ramorum (Larch)
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	High
Response (inc protection measures)	Carry out a thinning of the larch (cpts 6 & 7) to help the flow of air round the crowns of the trees. Reduce the amount of Larch present in the crop where in an intimate mixture This may lessen the risk of Phytophthora.

5.3 [Deer](#)

Species - Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High (Roe and fallow)
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	A revised Deer Management Plan will be written. Ongoing deer management is undertaken in the wood and the surrounding land. Collaborative culls of fallow are undertaken with neighbours. There are strategically located high seats within the wood. There is little sign of browsing in areas where young hazel growth is present.

5.4 [Grey Squirrels](#)

Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Ongoing control by trapping and shooting is significantly reducing numbers. Trapping will be the preferred control measure going forward, following FC best practice guidelines.

5.5 Livestock and Other Mammals

Threat (Sheep, Horse, Rabbit etc)	Sheep and Cattle (from outside woodland)
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	Check fencing and gates frequently but at least annually. Repair or replace as needed.

5.6 Water & Soil

Threat (Soil Erosion, Acidification of Water, Pollution incidents etc)	Soil erosion
Likelihood of presence	Low

(high/medium/low)	
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	There are numerous old gullies / watercourses within the wood to take away excess water into the River Mid . Operations will follow UKFS Water guidelines

Threat (Soil Erosion, Acidification of Water, Pollution incidents etc)	Diffuse pollution
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	Operations will follow UKFS Water guidelines. Particular care will be taken during felling operations (see Operations map)

Threat (Soil Erosion, Acidification of Water, Pollution incidents etc)	Point pollution
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	Refueling and timber stacking areas will be defined (Map 7) as part of the Plan of Ops and contract specifications. Ensure contractors carry spill kits. Operations will follow UKFS Water guidelines

5.7 Environmental

Threat (Pollution, Fire, Flood, Wind, Invasive Species, etc)	Fire
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	Adopt measures to avoid fire. A. Refuel machinery, in particular chainsaws & brushcutters, with care. B. Avoid burning lop & top in the wood if possible. If clearance of brush is required, consider using a mulching machine. C. Establish a rendezvous point for Fire & Rescue services

Threat (Pollution, Fire, Flood, Wind, Invasive Species, etc)	Wind
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Exercise caution when marking thinnings, in particular in respect of conifers.

5.8 Social

Threat (Rights of Way, CROW, permissive access, events sporting rights, Anti-social Behaviour etc)	Rights of Way. A single footpath crosses the wood (Maps 3a and b). It is reasonably well used by local dog walkers, particularly during the summer.
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	No current issues other than dog faeces near footpath entrances. A small sign encouraging owners to "bag and bin" will be erected at the entrances.

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)	Timber markets
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Although commercial forestry is not an objective, the reintroduction of woodland management is conditional on a reasonably buoyant firewood market. Current standing prices of c£20/m ³ provide a tolerable baseline.

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)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	High
Response (inc protection measures)	Given the threat posed by Ash Dieback and the high proportion of the species in the wood, a wider variety of species should be introduced when carrying out selection felling operations. Further oak, hornbeam, field maple and small leaved lime will be planted to help redress the balance of major tree species.

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)	Much of the wood is even aged and any selection felling/restocking should help address this situation.

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
<p>Gradually reintroduce a programme of thinning and coppicing</p>	<p>As a result of non intervention in recent years a comprehensive programme of thinning should be undertaken over the period of the Plan. This applies in particular to ash, of which there is a high content.</p> <p>Thinning will focus on removing poorer, suppressed ash together with singling stool grown ash to the better stems.</p> <p>The conifers will be lightly thinned with the intention of retaining the crop for the duration of the Plan.</p>
<p>Improve the wood for the benefit of wildlife, conservation and sporting. This should include opening up existing secondary rides to increase light levels.</p>	<p>There has been limited hazel coppicing in recent years and stools in many areas are either overstored or weak due to limited light levels. Those areas that have been coppiced recently have either regrown satisfactorily (Cpt 16b) or have failed largely due to the stools being covered by dense brash (Cpts 4 and 15). Regrowth in some areas suggested that deer browsing pressure was low.</p> <p>Bring the hazel into a sustained programme of coppicing, with the priority being the more overstored stools, mainly in the east and south east sides of the wood.</p> <p>Some of the secondary rides in the wood (Map 2) have relatively low light levels due to a close canopy. Increase light levels in the secondary rides by thinning and creating scalloped ride edges. Also, there are sections of the main ride, between cpts 8 and 9 that may benefit from opening up.</p> <p>Sporting is an important activity in the wood and on the surrounding land.</p>

<p>Increase species diversity, including introducing larger proportions of oak, partly in the light of the threat of Ash Dieback and the dominance of this species in the wood.</p>	<p>Small areas (0.25 to 0.5ha) of selective felling coupes will be felled and restocked with oak, hornbeam, field maple and small leaved lime. These will be concentrated on areas with higher proportions of ash and any area of conifer felled will also be restocked with native broadleaves. See Plan of Operations for details.</p>
<p>Secure good quality trees for future generations.</p>	<p>See above. Advice will be taken on seed sources</p>
<p>Extraction of timber during adverse weather conditions.</p>	<p>Care should be taken to avoid extraction during wet conditions when damage to the woodland floor may result. The owner or his agent should ensure that the contractor takes all reasonable steps to avoid damage. This may include laying brushmat in vulnerable areas or choosing firmer routes through a compartment and keeping off grass rides whenever prudent or feasible.</p>
<p>Operational Site Assessment (OSA).</p>	<p>This assessment will be drawn up with the contractor prior to work commencing to identify potential site issues / constraints such as wayleaves, underground services, protected species (EPS) and ground nesting birds.</p>
<p>Ride management.</p>	<p>Managing the secondary (grass) rides by topping is an ongoing operation as is maintaining the margins of the primary hard tracks. proposals for future management include opening up some of the secondary rides to increase light levels</p>

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
Thinning and coppicing in areas covered by SSSI and adjacent compartments.	Natural England	28.10.17	29.11.17	Protection of ground nesting birds required during ops. Inclusion of NE recommendations on extraction principles outlined in section 5.5 of S.15 agreement. Recoppicing of old ash stools should not be undertaken but thinning to strongest single stem is acceptable. Following thinning of ash look to diversify native broadleaves, rather than move to oak dominated plantation.	Complete a Supplementray Note of Operations (SNO) Implementation of use of OSA when planning future ops. Recognition of requirements to avoid ground damage during timber extraction included to Management Strategy. Ash coppice management fed into Management Strategy. Redress species diversity - see Section 6.
Felling in areas of water courses, gullies etc.	Environment Agency	August 9 th 2017 (by email)	Email acknowledged 9/8/2017	No response.	No action.

Thinning & coppicing in northern section of wood adjacent to neighbouring property.	Mr Midlander	August 9 th 2017 (by letter)	17/08/17	Voicemail from Mr Midlander welcoming the prospect of proposed management.	Contact as and when work commences.

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
Gradually reintroduce a programme of thinning and coppicing	Intensity of thinning, in particular relating to ash. Area of coppicing	Visual Timber volumes from thinning	Annual	Owner's representative and agent	
Improve the wood for the benefit of wildlife, conservation and sporting. This should include opening up existing secondary ride to increase light levels.	Improved light levels to secondary rides.	Fixed point photography .	Year following thinning	Owner's representative and agent	
Increase species diversity, including introducing larger proportion of oak, partly in the light of the threat of ash dieback and the dominance of this species in the wood.	Numbers of coupes; percentage of woodland regenerated; species replanted	Age class graph at Year 10	Following selection felling	Owner's representative and agent	
Secure good quality trees for future generations	Formative pruning of selected trees.	Visual	Once young trees reach pruning stage	Owner's representative and agent	

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. 		
<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. 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. 		
<p>Identification of designations within and surrounding the woodland site: For designated areas, e.g. National Parks or SSSI, particular account is</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey information (Sect. 4) identifies any designations that impact on woodland management. • Management intentions (Sect. 6) 		

<p>taken of landscape and other sensitivities in the design of forests and forest infrastructure.</p>	<p>have taken account of any designations.</p>		
<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 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.</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). 		
<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 (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>Plan update and review:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 5 year review period is stated 		

<p>Management of the forest should conform to the plan, and the plan should be updated to ensure it is current and relevant.</p>	<p>on the 1st page of the plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sect. 8 is completed with 1 indicator of success identified per management objective 		
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<p>Approved in Principle <i>This means the FC is happy with your plan; it meets UKFS requirements.</i> <i>a) You can use it to support a CS-HT or other grant application.</i> 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 <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>