

# Woodland Management Plan

<b>To be completed by the plan author:</b>	
<b>Woodland or Property name</b>	<b>Southshire Farm Woodlands</b>
<b>Woodland Management Plan case reference</b>	<b>Can use Siti agri agreement reference here</b>
<b>The landowner agrees this plan as a statement of intent for the woodland</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Plan author name</b>	<b>Mr Agent</b>

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

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.

## 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><b>Plan Objectives:</b> 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"> <li>Management plan objectives are stated.</li> <li>Consideration is given to environmental, economic and social objectives relevant to the vision for the woodland.</li> </ul>	Yes
2	<p><b>Forest context and important features in management strategy:</b> 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 <b>Sect. 6</b> of the management plan are in line with stated objective(s) <b>Sect. 2</b>. Management intentions should take account of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relevant features and issues identified within the woodland survey (<b>Sect. 4</b>)</li> <li>Any potential threats to and opportunities for the woodland, as identified under woodland protection (<b>Sect. 5</b>).</li> <li>Relevant comments received from stakeholder engagement and documented in <b>Sect. 7</b>.</li> </ul>	Yes
3	<p><b>Identification of designations within and surrounding the site:</b> 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"> <li>Survey information (<b>Sect. 4</b>) identifies any designations that impact on woodland management.</li> <li>Management intentions (<b>Sect. 6</b>) have taken account of any designations.</li> </ul>	Yes
4	<p><b>Felling and restocking to improve forest structure and diversity:</b> 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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Felling and restocking proposals are consistent with UKFS design principles (for example scale and adjacency).</li> <li>Current diversity (structure, species, age structure) of the woodland has been identified through the survey (<b>Sect. 4</b>).</li> <li>Management intentions aim to improve/ maintain current diversity (structure, species, and ages of trees).</li> </ul>	Yes

	Forests characterised by a lack of diversity, due to extensive areas of even-aged trees, should be progressively restructured to achieve age class range.		
5	<p><b>Consultation:</b></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 Regulations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stakeholder engagement is in line with current FC guidance and recorded in <b>Sect. 7</b>. The minimum requirement is for statutory consultation to take place, and this will be carried out by the Forestry Commission.</li> <li>Plan authors undertake stakeholder engagement (ref FC Ops Note 35) relevant to the context and setting of the woodland.</li> </ul>	Yes
6	<p><b>Plan Update and Review:</b></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"> <li>A 5 year review period is stated on the 1st page of the plan.</li> <li><b>Sect. 8</b> is completed with 1 indicator of success per management objective.</li> </ul>	Yes

## Section 1: Property Details

<a href="#">Woodland Property Name</a>			
Name	Miss L	Owner	Tenant Yes
Email	<a href="mailto:landowner@woodland.co.uk">landowner@woodland.co.uk</a>	Contact Number	222222 222
Agent Name (if applicable) Mr Agent			
Email	mragent@email.co.uk	Contact Number	01222 22 22 22
County	Southshire	<a href="#">Local Authority</a>	Mid Southshire
Grid Reference	SX 777 777	Single Business Identifier	12312312
What is the total area of this woodland management plan? (In hectares)		23.1	
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 Doc 1. Compartment Details Map 1. Location Plan Map 2a. Woodland Compartments Map 2b. Sub Compartments Map 3. Woodland Designations Map 4. Public rights of Way Map 5. Soilscape Map 6. Harvesting Plan Yrs 1-10 Map 7. Hazards & Constraints Map 8. Biodiversity Operations Map 9. Access & Improvements	
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*)

At the end of this plan (20 years) the woodlands will form a mosaic of uneven aged and mixed species within compartments free of invasive and non-native species (particularly deer and squirrels), where ongoing thinning and coppicing operations are being undertaken on a sustainable basis, and managed using low impact silvicultural systems.

Long term retentions will have created areas of species rich, 'old growth' Ancient Semi – Natural Woodland with retained veteran trees and standards of varying species. The work in managing the woodlands will have had a positive effect in terms of silviculture, biodiversity and sporting potential, as well as improving the woodlands natural resilience to climate change, pests and disease.

### 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	To enhance the capital value of the land and timber through sound silvicultural management.
2	To provide a source of income for the woodland owner through the implementation and management of regular thinning, felling and coppicing cycles.
3	To create an uneven aged structure through the implementation and management of regular coppicing cycles.
4	To improve species and habitat biodiversity within the woodlands.
5	To develop and improve infrastructure access throughout the woodlands to enable the implementation of proposed woodland management and harvesting operations.
6	To develop and improve the sporting potential of the woodlands for the rearing and presentation of driven game.
7	To ensure all practices are met in accordance with UK Forestry Standard guidelines (UKFS) and with regard to Health & Safety regulations.
8	

## 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
1	To enhance the capital value of the land and timber through sound silvicultural management.	To be completed in 5 years
2	To provide a source of income for the woodland owner through the implementation and management of regular thinning, felling and coppicing cycles.	
3	To create an uneven aged structure through the implementation and management of regular coppicing cycles.	
4	To improve species and habitat biodiversity within the woodlands.	
5	To develop and improve infrastructure access throughout the woodlands to enable the implementation of proposed woodland management and harvesting operations.	
6	To develop and improve the sporting potential of the woodlands for the rearing and presentation of driven game.	
7	To ensure all practices are met in accordance with UK Forestry Standard guidelines (UKFS) and with regard to Health & Safety regulations.	

## 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:

#### Woodland Location:

Southshire Farm is located 14 miles south-west of Big Town approximately 20 miles to the north of Mid Town. Good transport links provide primary access to the woodlands via the B1234 from Big Town and via the A12 (Please refer to location map No.1). The woodlands at Southshire Farm comprise of 7 individual compartments totalling an area of 23.1 ha. The surrounding landscape is formed of agricultural fields with intermittent small woodlands, located adjacent to and within steep sided gills.

#### Topography & Geology:

The woodland is hilly to steeply sloping in nature with of much of the woodland area being classified as deep sided gill woodlands. The westerly compartments rise to 50m asl and fall to 10m asl towards the centre of the woodland area (Please refer to location map No.1).

The underlying geology is predominately formed of slightly acid loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage. Compartments 7 & 5c differ slightly with the soil composition being slowly permeable, seasonally wet, acid, loamy and clayey soils (Please refer to soilscape map No.5).

#### Woodland Designations:

The entire woodlands fall within the Southshire Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) with approximately 90% of the woodland area being classified as Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW) (Please refer to designations map No.3).

#### Management History & Composition:

The majority of the woodlands have been present since the 1600s and are likely to have been actively managed since the 17th century as hornbeam and alder coppice with oak standards to help produce charcoal for the numerous Southshire iron bloomeries. In the mid-17th century as the iron industry was in decline it is likely that the sweet chestnut component of the woodland would have been established for the production of hop poles to fulfil the increasing demand within the Southshire area during this period.

The woodlands were damaged in the great storm of 1987 and there is evidence of windblow clearance and re-planting in a number of compartments. In recent years the woodland has become undermanaged, with some areas containing over-mature and windblown coppice.

Shot Wood and Bird Wood to the west of the property (Cpts 5) form part of a larger pheasant shoot, located on adjacent land. An active pheasant release pen is situated within compartment 5d and feeding hoppers are situated within the woodland.

It is the owner's wishes to bring the woodlands back into active management and realise their full potential through a combination of harvesting, protection and application to available woodland grant schemes.

## 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
<b><u>Biodiversity- Designations</u></b>				
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	
<b>Notes</b>				

Feature	Within Woodland(s)	Cpts	Map No	Notes
<b><u>Biodiversity - European Protected Species</u></b>				
Bat	Species (if known) Pipistrelles	Yes	All	Southshire Bat Group have surveyed: Pipistrelles seasonally present throughout
Dormouse		Yes	All	Southshire Wildlife Trust surveyed: low density population throughout
Great Crested Newt		Yes	1, 2, 3, 4, 5a, 7	8 Southshire Wildlife Trust surveyed: presence within riparian zones
Otter		No		
Sand Lizard		No		
Smooth Snake		No		
Natterjack Toad		No		

<b>Biodiversity – Priority Species</b>					
<a href="#">Schedule 1 Birds</a>	Species:	Yes	All		No known survey. Presence likely due to suitable habitat.
Mammals (Red Squirrel, Water Vole, Pine Marten etc)		No			
Reptiles (grass snake, adder, common lizard etc)		Yes	All		Presence likely due to suitable habitat
Plants		Yes	All		Survey carried out for this plan. Despite ancient woodland habitat, flora poor due to deer browsing levels.
Fungi/Lichens		Yes	All		Deadwood habitat no known survey.
Invertebrates (butterflies, moths, beetles etc)		Yes	All		Presence likely due to suitable habitat along managed rides and within dead wood.
Amphibians (pool frog, common toad)		Yes	1, 2, 3, 4, 5a, 7	8	Likely presence within riparian zones.
Other (please Specify):		No			
<b>Historic Environment</b>					
Scheduled Monuments		No			
Unscheduled Monuments		No			
Registered Parks and Gardens		No			
Boundaries and Veteran Trees		No			
Listed Buildings		No			
Other (please Specify):		Yes		7	A series of wood banks and other minor earthworks surveyed for this plan and noted on map.
<b>Landscape</b>					
<a href="#">National Character Area</a> (please Specify):					
National Park		No			
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty		Yes	All	3	Southshire AONB. Woodland management complies with design guidelines.
Other (please Specify):		No			
<b>People</b>					
CROW Access		No			

Public Rights of Way (any)	No		4	Footpath runs adjacent to 1, 2, 3, 6 & 7
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			
<b><u>Water</u></b>				
Watercourses	Yes	1, 2, 3, 4, 5a, 7	7	
Lakes	No			
Ponds	Yes	5a & 7	7	
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.

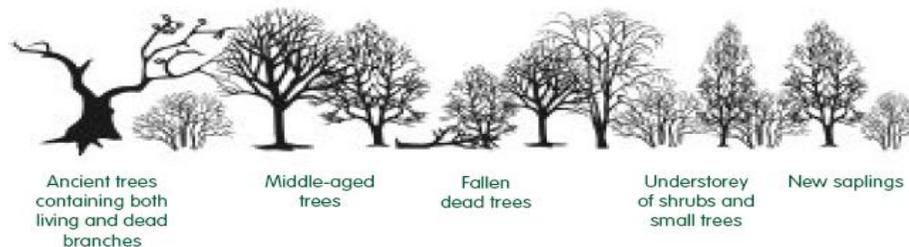
Feature	Within Woodland(s)	Cpts	Map No	Notes
<b>Woodland Habitat Types</b>				
Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland	Yes	1, 2, 4, 5, 6	3	
Planted Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS)	No			
Semi-natural features in PAWS	No			
Lowland beech and yew woodland	No			
Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	Yes	All	Doc 1	Compartment survey
Upland mixed ash woods	No			
Upland Oakwood	No			
Wet woodland	No			
Wood-pasture and parkland	No			
Other (please Specify):	No			
<b>Non Woodland Habitat Types</b>				
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	47%	Uneven aged	Coppice understorey, plantations and natural regeneration.
Coppice	53%	Uneven aged	Sweet chestnut, alder, ash and hornbeam coppice.

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.

<b>Impact</b>	High	Plan for Action	Action	Action
	Medium	Monitor	Plan for Action	Action
	Low	Monitor	Monitor	Plan for Action
		Low	Medium	High
<b>Likelihood of Presence</b>				

### 5.2 Plant Health

Threat (e.g. Ash Dieback, <i>Phytophthora</i> , Needle Blight etc)	Ash Dieback ( <i>Hymenoscyphus fraxineus</i> ) aka Chalara
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Ash forms a significant proportion of the canopy cover within the woodland, particularly within Cpts 1,5f and 7. Chalara has been identified within young ash natural regeneration, however older standards are yet to show signs of stress or disease. As the level of infection increases birch, oak and willow natural regeneration will help fill the gaps where ash regeneration fails. If chalara begins to affect a higher percentage of natural regeneration or mature trees, enrichment planting will be carried out with native broadleaf species that will suit the local geology and that can produce a suitable yield class whilst enhancing biodiversity. Suitable species would include oak, cherry, field maple hazel and wild service. Please refer to FC guide Tree species for ASNW.

Threat (e.g. Ash Dieback, <i>Phytophthora</i> , Needle Blight etc)	<i>Phytophthora ramorum</i> (in a small amount of rhododendron present)
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	High
Response (inc protection measures)	Monitor for sign of disease on annual basis. Inform Forestry Commission if evident and refer to updated advice from Forest Research for best practice guidance at the time.

Threat (e.g. Ash Dieback, <i>Phytophthora</i> , Needle Blight etc)	Chestnut Blight
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Monitor for sign of disease on annual basis. Inform Forestry Commission if evident and refer to updated advice from Forest Research for best practice guidance at the time.

### 5.3 [Deer](#)

Species - Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	High
Response (inc protection measures)	<p>Deer activity within the woodland is currently medium to high with visible signs of browsing and grazing damage.</p> <p>Due to the high percentage of coppice within the woodland a deer management plan and annual deer impact assessments will be established to monitor. Appropriate culls will be put in place, working with neighbours where appropriate to reduce populations and level of deer damage going forward.</p> <p>Monitoring of regeneration should be carried out by the woodland manager following harvesting operations and temporary deer fencing around coppice/restock areas will be required if browsing damage scores highly on the deer impact assessment.</p>

## 5.4 Grey Squirrels

Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	High
Response (inc protection measures)	<p>Current populations and level of damage within the woodlands are medium, moderate levels of bark stripping being recorded on native broadleaf species. Higher levels of squirrel damage were recorded within Cpt5 which forms part of an active pheasant shoot. Control measures require introduction within this area.</p> <p>Monitor damage to trees on an annual basis and carry out trapping and culling measures if damage increases.</p> <p>Refer to: Controlling Grey Squirrel Damage to Woodlands for advise on damage and index trapping.<a href="http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/fcpn004.pdf/\$FILE/fcpn004.pdf">http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/fcpn004.pdf/\$FILE/fcpn004.pdf</a></p>

## 5.5 Livestock and Other Mammals

Threat (Sheep, Horse, Rabbit etc)	Rabbit
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	Monitor damage on annual basis to coppice regeneration. Consider fencing, trapping and culling measures if damage begins to threaten successful regeneration.

Threat (Sheep, Horse, Rabbit etc)	Sheep
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	High
Response (inc protection measures)	Replacement of stock fencing to field margins is currently in hand prior to the introduction of grazing species on adjacent agricultural land. All fencing to be inspected and maintained by the landowner and his representatives on a regular basis to ensure stock do not gain access to the woodland compartments.

5.6 Water & Soil	
Threat (Soil Erosion, Acidification of Water, Pollution incidents etc)	Point pollution
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Follow UKFS soils and water guidelines. Machinery operatives issued with spill kits and emergency response plan in advance of harvesting operations.

Threat (Soil Erosion, Acidification of Water, Pollution incidents etc)	Soil erosion
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Pre-plan harvesting operations and extraction routes. Suspend/delay harvesting operations during periods of inclement weather.

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)	There are currently minor levels of windblow within mature coppice areas. Plan harvesting operations to allow for retention of mature windfirm edges until young crops are fully regenerated/established.

5.8 Social	
Threat (Rights of Way, CROW, permissive access, events sporting rights, Anti-social Behaviour etc)	Pheasant shooting
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	Shooting only in blocks with no Public Rights of Way. Warning signs to be placed at all access points during shoot days.

## 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)	Local markets are currently reasonably buoyant; will consider delaying harvesting if prices drop below £40/tonne roadside for fuelwood.

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)	Uniform structure
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Felling of mature broadleaf coppice in management coupes ranging from 0.25-0.5ha including the retention of standard trees as overstorey. Regular cutting will encourage genetic 'churn' of natural regeneration, supplemented by planting.

Threat (Uniform Structure, Provenance, Lack of Diversity etc)	Lack of tree species diversity
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Introduction of a wider range of native species and provenance diversity (2° south but within UK).

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>To enhance the capital value of the land and timber through sound silvicultural management.</p>	<p>Harvesting will follow all appropriate UK Forestry Standard recommendations and guidelines and will be carried so as to avoid damage to the woodland floor, contamination of watercourses, the disturbance of nesting birds and interference with European Protected Species (EPS).</p> <p>The majority of produce arising from harvesting operations within broadleaf woodlands formed of coppice and coppice with standards, will be of a fuelwood nature.</p>
<p>To provide a source of income for the woodland owner through the implementation and management of regular thinning, felling and coppicing cycles.</p>	<p>All felling work will be carried out using motor manual methods and low impact agricultural units to extract the wood. The use of competent local operatives will be favoured for these operations. Coppicing coupes will be limited to a maximum of 0.5ha in size, with a total of no more than 2.0ha being felled throughout the woodlands on an annual basis.</p> <p>Areas of mature coppice will be managed for the production of fuelwood. The average coppice rotation lengths will be between 15-30 years to produce timber of sufficient size and quality for these markets.</p> <p>Coppice coupes will be located so as to allow regeneration of at least two years growth between each individual block. The majority of lop and top arising from coppicing operations will be burnt on site, with a small volume being retained and stacked within coppicing areas to act as wildlife habitat features.</p> <p>Maiden and standard trees will be retained to form a canopy cover of approx. 15%. Above this figure some thinning may take place to remove suppressed trees or those with poor form. In addition to the above, new standards</p>

	<p>will be recruited from suitable trees within coppice coupes where the canopy cover falls below the 15% benchmark, or where existing standards are of an even-aged nature.</p> <p>Selected standard trees with veteran potential will be retained beyond their commercial life expectancy for biodiversity purposes and to form a stocking of veteran trees within the woodland for years to come.</p> <p>Semi natural features within woodlands such as banks, earthworks and pollards/stubbs will be identified, retained and protected during the course of all woodland management operations by means of pre- start meetings, marking with hi-visibility paint or tape and the issuing of a hazard and constraint plan. In the event of crossing archaeological features with machinery, they will be protected by the use of brash mats and log material as necessary.</p>
<p>To create an uneven aged structure through the implementation and management of regular coppicing cycles.</p>	<p>Within newly coppiced areas all restocking will be by regrowth of the cut stool and recruitment of suitable broadleaf trees which have regenerated following the coppicing operation. Regeneration will be monitored on an annual basis to ensure no detrimental browsing damage is caused by species such as deer, squirrel and rabbits.</p> <p>Temporary deer fencing will be required around individual coppice coupes, to ensure the successful regeneration of cut stools. In the event of this, grant support may be available from the Forestry Commission to contribute towards the cost of fencing operations and the provision of a deer management plan.</p>
<p>To improve species and habitat biodiversity within the woodlands.</p>	<p>EPS are present within the woodlands, particularly bat species in retained over mature standard trees. Dormice are present within the woodland due to the high proportion of broadleaf coppice species. Best practice guidelines will be followed to reduce the impact of harvesting on these populations (mainly coupe size and aerial walkways). (Forestry Commission Interim Guidance: Guidance on managing woodlands with Dormice in England. Version 2 – 5th September 2007. Woodland</p>

	<p>management for bats. Both produced in conjunction with Natural England.)</p> <p>Open ground will not be created in large areas but will be retained/enhanced and managed as such throughout the plan period and beyond. Opportunities to create open ground will be taken during thinning and coppicing operations, and the subsequent establishment of wider rides and small woodland glades in some places. The aim is to maintain 10% of the open ground within the woodland area.</p> <p>Ride management will not only benefit access within the woodland for management operations but also enhance and improve the biodiversity value of the site to create and support habitats for flora, mammal and butterfly populations. Ongoing management will include the following operations to areas highlighted on map No.8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Retention of standard trees along the ride edges will help create varying levels of shade along the ride surface and pinch points of canopy closure over the ride to allow the movement of woodland mammals.</li> <li>- Mature coppice up to 5-10 m from the edge of the herbaceous zone will be managed as short rotation coppice of uneven age in irregular length bays or scallops, helping to create greater habitat diversity.</li> </ul> <p>Dead wood will be an important element to enhance biodiversity. Deadwood will comprise of primarily fallen trees, or those felled and left in situ. Deadwood will also include habitat piles left scattered throughout the wood following coppicing operations. A significant proportion of deadwood will be located within long term retention/minimum-intervention areas (Refer to map No.8).</p> <p>Coppicing will be carried out on a regular basis to create an uneven aged structure within the woodland. This will improve conditions for ground flora and create a wide range of</p>
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	<p>habitats for many other species such as butterflies and nesting birds. In addition, the number of burn sites to dispose of the arising's from coppicing operations will be minimised to reduce the damage to ground flora.</p> <p>Long Term Retentions will be established with minimum intervention management objectives in mind. These reserves will be retained and managed for biodiversity and wildlife habitat purposes.</p> <p>Riparian zones to watercourses and water bodies Targeted margins varying from 2-5m around all ponds and water bodies will be selectively coppiced and maintained as short rotation coppice to enhance light levels and reduce organic litter content within the standing water environment. Selected native standards will be retained on these margins to create varying levels of shade, to provide a diversity of wildlife habitats.</p> <p>Works carried out around water bodies will take place between March and October ensuring disturbance to possible populations of great crested newts are minimised during hibernation. If great crested newts are found within the site a full ecological survey will take place and best practice guidelines followed: <a href="http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/england-protectedspecies-newt.pdf/\$FILE/england-protectedspecies-newt.pdf">http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/england-protectedspecies-newt.pdf/\$FILE/england-protectedspecies-newt.pdf</a></p> <p>Woodland adjacent to flowing water courses will be selectively thinned to waste, retaining approximately 50% canopy cover to a distance of 5m on either side of the stream edge. This will increase light levels and reduce vegetative litter levels within the riparian zone. In addition any non-organic litter fouling the stream will be removed and disposed off-site. Some woody debris adjacent to watercourses will be left in situ to slow the flow in instances of flooding.</p> <p>Enrichment planting of mixed broadleaf species (Oak, Cherry, Sweet Chestnut, Lime, Rowan, Whitebeam &amp; Wild service) will be undertaken to any areas of open ground created, with trees protected by individual tree shelters and</p>
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	<p>maintained for a minimum ten year period to ensure successful establishment.</p>
<p>To develop and improve infrastructure access throughout the woodlands to enable the implementation of proposed woodland management and harvesting operations</p>	<p>Access and infrastructure improvements (please refer to map No.9) will allow for the provision of adequate loading bays and forest roads to facilitate current and future harvesting/extraction programmes. Environmental Impact Assessment opinions will be sought from the FC.</p> <p>This will help to facilitate access and loading capabilities for timber lorries, increasing the productivity of timber extraction within the woodlands and enhancing their capital value.</p>
<p>To develop and improve the sporting potential of the woodlands for the rearing and presentation of driven game.</p>	<p>Establish and develop working relationships between the woodland owner, gamekeeper and woodland manager. Explore location and regeneration of pheasant holding pens. Identify location of well placed gun stands and development of flushing points through implementation of planned biodiversity operations such as ride and glade management.</p>
<p>To ensure all objectives are met in accordance with UK Forestry Standard guidelines (UKFS) with regard to Health &amp; Safety practices.</p>	<p>Completion of operational site assessments (OSA) prior to the implementation of all woodland operations.</p> <p>All operations will be carried out in accordance with the principles and expectations of the HSE Enforcement Policy Statement (EPS) and in line with the Health &amp; Safety at Work Act etc (1973), Occupiers' Liability Acts 1957 and 1984 and the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (2000).</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
Management Plan	Mr Neighbour	12.12.17	25.12.17	Request to work closely on boundary issues, particularly timing of coppice coupes	Harvesting Plan (map 6) modestly amended to accommodate
Management Plan	Mrs Otherneighbour	12.12.17	N/A	None received	Further attempts to informally contact this new neighbour
Management Plan	Forestry Commission			TBC as part of draft plan submission	TBC
Management Plan	Southham Parish Council	12.12.17	26.12.17	No substantive comments; pleased to have been consulted	None
Management Plan	Southless Parish Council	12.12.17	27.12.17	Request for additional public access close to village	Politely declined. There is a network of Public Rights of Way; shooting in other blocks is a material constraint

## 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.

<b>Management Objective/Activities</b>	<b>Indicator of Progress/Success</b>	<b>Method of Assessment</b>	<b>Frequency of Assessment</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Assessment Results</b>
To enhance the capital value of the land and timber through sound silvicultural management	Implementation of management plan proposal	Review of management plan versus completed woodland budgets	Annual	Woodland Manager	Budget update on annual basis
To provide a source of income for the woodland owner through the implementation and management of regular thinning, felling and coppicing cycles	Implementation of broadleaf thinning, felling and coppicing programme	Production forecast and budget review	Annual	Owner/ Woodland Manager	Budget update

Management Objective/Activities	Indicator of Progress/Success	Method of Assessment	Frequency of Assessment	Responsibility	Assessment Results
To create an uneven aged structure through the implementation and management of regular coppicing cycles	Implementation of broadleaf coppicing regime	Production forecast and budget review  Fixed point photography to deer Exclosure plots  Annual assessment of coppice regeneration	Annual	Woodland Manager	Budget update

<b>Management Objective/Activities</b>	<b>Indicator of Progress/Success</b>	<b>Method of Assessment</b>	<b>Frequency of Assessment</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Assessment Results</b>
To improve species and habitat biodiversity within the woodlands.	Ride and glade management  Implementation of deer management plan	Review of budgeted works against completed annual programme Monitoring of ASNW indicator species and invertebrates  Deer & squirrel damage/population assessments  Fixed point photography to rides and glades	Annual	Woodland Manager	Annual report and budget update

<b>Management Objective/Activities</b>	<b>Indicator of Progress/Success</b>	<b>Method of Assessment</b>	<b>Frequency of Assessment</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Assessment Results</b>
To develop access throughout the woodland to enable implementation of proposed woodland management and harvesting operations	Provision of Forest roads and timber laydown areas/loading bays. Application to Countryside Stewardship for grant funding.	CS Grant applications  Permitted development planning application	Annual	Woodland Manager	Annual report and budget update - Visual improvements on site
To develop and improve the sporting potential of the woodlands for the rearing and presentation of driven game	Regeneration of existing pheasant pens.  Implementation of biodiversity based operations such as ride management and coppicing.	Review of budgeted works against completed annual programme  Fixed point photography to pheasant pens  Squirrel control  Monitor game returns	Annual	Woodland Manager	Annual report & budget update - Visual improvements on site

<b>Management Objective/Activities</b>	<b>Indicator of Progress/Success</b>	<b>Method of Assessment</b>	<b>Frequency of Assessment</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Assessment Results</b>
<p>To ensure all objectives are met in accordance with UK Forestry Standard guidelines (UKFS) regarding Health &amp; Safety practices</p>	<p>Implementation of planned management works</p>	<p>Completion of operational site assessments (OSA) prior to the implementation on of all woodland operations.</p> <p>Undertake H&amp;S tree survey to PROW.</p> <p>Accident recording.</p> <p>Production of risk assessments and method statements for all woodland activities</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Woodland Manager</p>	<p>Implement H&amp;S tree survey remedial works</p> <p>Collate H&amp;S information and accident statistics on annual basis</p>

## UK Forestry Standard woodland plan assessment

For FC office use and approval only:

UKFS management plan criteria	Minimum approval requirements	Achieved	Review notes
<p><b>Plan Objectives:</b> 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"> <li>• Management plan objectives are stated.</li> <li>• Consideration is given to environmental, economic and social objectives relevant to the vision for the woodland.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Forest context and important features in management strategy:</b> 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 <b>Sect.6</b> of the management plan are in line with stated objective(s) in <b>Sect. 2</b>. Management intentions should take account of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevant features and issues identified in the woodland survey (<b>Sect. 4</b>).</li> <li>• Any potential threats to and opportunities for the woodland, as identified under woodland protection (<b>Sect. 5</b>).</li> <li>• Relevant comments received from stakeholder engagement are documented in <b>Sect. 7</b>.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Identification of designations within and surrounding the woodland site:</b> For designated areas, e.g. National Parks or SSSI, particular account is taken of landscape and other</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survey information (<b>Sect. 4</b>) identifies any designations that impact on woodland management.</li> <li>• Management intentions (<b>Sect. 6</b>) have taken account of any</li> </ul>		

sensitivities in the design of forests and forest infrastructure.	designations.		
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<p><b>Felling and restocking to improve forest structure and diversity:</b> 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"> <li>• Felling and restocking proposals are consistent with UKFS design principles (for example scale and adjacency).</li> <li>• Current diversity (structure, species, age structure) of the woodland has been identified through the survey (<b>Sect. 4</b>).</li> <li>• Management intentions aim to improve/maintain current diversity (structure, species, and ages of trees).</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Consultation:</b> 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"> <li>• Stakeholder consultation is in line with current FC guidance, and recorded in <b>Sect. 7</b>. The minimum requirement is for statutory consultation to take place, and this will be carried out by the Forestry Commission.</li> <li>• Plan authors undertake stakeholder engagement (ref FC Ops Note 35) relevant to the context and setting of the woodland.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Plan update and review:</b> Management of the forest should conform to the plan, and the plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 5 year review period is stated on the 1<sup>st</sup> page of the plan</li> <li>• <b>Sect. 8</b> is completed with 1</li> </ul>		

should be updated to ensure it is current and relevant.	indicator of success identified per management objective		
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<p><b>Approved in Principle</b>  <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><i>b) You do not yet have a licence to undertake any tree felling in the plan.</i></b></p>	<b>Name (WO or FM):</b>	<b>Date:</b>
<p><b>Approved</b>  <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>	<b>Name (AO, WO or FM):</b>	<b>Date:</b>