

Woodland Management Plan

To be completed by the plan author:	
Woodland or Property name	<i>Brookside, Oswaldtwistle (Hyndburn Borough Council)</i>
Woodland Management Plan case reference	
The landowner agrees this plan as a statement of intent for the woodland	Yes
Plan author name	<i>Doug Mackenzie (Footprint Forestry)</i>

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
0.2	20/06/24	Draft	EM comments



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 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. Forests should be designed to achieve a diverse structure of habitat, species and ages of trees, appropriate to the scale and context. Forests characterised by a lack of diversity, due to extensive areas of even-aged trees, should be progressively restructured to achieve age class range.</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

Woodland Property Name		<i>Brookside (Bury Meadows)</i>	
Name	<i>Hyndburn Borough Council</i>	Owner	<i>Simon Prideaux (Sara Parsons acting as main POC at HBC)</i>
Email	<i>Simin.Prideaux@hyndburnbc.gov.uk Sara.Parsons@hyndburnbc.gov.uk</i>	Contact Number	<i>07989 205955</i>
Agent Name (if applicable)		<i>Doug Mackenzie</i>	
Email	<i>doug@footprintforestry.co.uk</i>	Contact Number	<i>07854 239099</i>
County	<i>Lancashire</i>	Local Authority	<i>Hyndburn Borough Council</i>
Grid Reference (e.g. ST 625 785)	<i>SD 723 271</i>	Single Business Identifier	<i>114778465</i>
What is the total area of this woodland management plan? (In hectares)		<i>35.04ha</i>	
You have included an Inventory and Plan of Operations with this woodland management plan?		<i>Yes</i>	
You have listed the maps associated with this woodland management plan? (PLEASE NOTE: Google Maps/ images of maps will not be accepted because they are copyright protected and should not be used commercially without the appropriate licencing from Google).		<i>Yes</i>	
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	<i>Yes</i>
		Thinning Licence	<i>Yes</i>
		Woodland Regeneration Grant	<i>No</i>

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*)

The vision for Brookside is to enhance the site for management of nature (improving biodiversity and wildlife), and for the use and involvement of the local community and visitors for recreation and educational purposes.

The local authority plans to instigate management to improve the opportunities for the safe enjoyment of the site by local people (social), and to enhance the range of biodiversity as well as ensuring the woodland is resilient and robust in the face of climate change and emerging pests and diseases (environmental).

Management will work towards the woodlands making an important contribution to local ecosystem services including sequestration of carbon, improving water quality and management of flood risk as far as is practical (environmental).



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	<p><i>To conduct management activity that maintains and enhances the recreational and educational benefits of the woodland to its users and stakeholders through,</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>volunteer work parties</i> • <i>school and educational visits</i> • <i>public engagement activities</i>
2	<p><i>To improve biodiversity through varying the range of tree and shrub species in the woodlands, and compliment adjacent non woodland habitats (including grasslands, open water and wetlands) by,</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Planting of flowering and fruiting trees and shrubs to encourage invertebrates and bird life</i> • <i>Coppicing, thinning and woodland edge management</i> • <i>Enhancing the field layer</i> • <i>Controlling invasive non native species.</i>
3	<p><i>To enhance resistance and resilience through silvicultural systems that vary age and structure, creating distinct vertical layers and habitats throughout the woodland, thinning for veteran and ancient trees and shrubs, and maintaining open glades by,</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Creation of regeneration/enrichment planted deer fenced coupes</i> • <i>Ride management – smoothing the structural transition from woodland to grassland/meadow/open areas, tracks and paths.</i> • <i>Coppicing – deer fencing hazel coppice stools for product and habitat improvement benefits</i>
4	<p><i>To explore and develop the carbon sequestration potential through tree species selection and utilisation of wood products.</i></p>



No.	Objectives (include environmental, economic and social considerations)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="304 255 1406 327">• <i>Planting of diverse native broadleaf and conifer species with moderate to high yield class for increased carbon capture</i><li data-bbox="304 331 1422 403">• <i>Creation of riparian buffer zones with water tolerant/loving species, to improve the aquatic habitat along Lottice Brook.</i>

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
<i>To conduct management activity that maintains and enhances the recreational and educational benefits of the woodland to its users and stakeholders</i>	
<i>To improve biodiversity through diversifying the range of tree and shrub species in the woodlands, and compliments adjacent non woodland habitats including wetlands, marsh and grasslands.</i>	
<i>To enhance resistance and resilience through changing the age and structure of the woodlands, eventually creating distinct vertical layers and therefore varied habitats throughout the woodlands.</i>	
<i>To develop and explore the carbon sequestration potential through tree species selection and utilisation of wood products.</i>	

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

<p>Brief description of the woodland property:</p> <p><i>Bury Meadows, or Brookside as it is known locally, is located south west of Oswaldtwistle, a town in the Hyndburn borough of Lancashire, to the southeast of Blackburn. The site has historical links to the textile and printing industries, as well as various mining and farming heritage sites located throughout the site.</i></p> <p><i>The woodland compartments are predominantly planted ash/sessile oak mix, with frequent Scot's pine and alder, and hazel, elder, hawthorn, dog rose at the shrub layer; planting year c.2004/5. Some mature trees exist, including beech, sycamore, and hawthorn hedgerows, most likely linked to the site's agricultural heritage.</i></p> <p><i>Boundaries are in varied state of integrity, of which are outlined in the compartment descriptions, including stock fence, dry stone wall and hedgerow. Possibility for some volunteer work parties to repair dry stone wall, but option for boundary capital improvements should be considered under a Countryside Stewardship agreement due to scale.</i></p> <p><i>Soil through the site ranges between 'freely draining slightly acidic loamy soils' in the north third, 'slowly permeable seasonally wet acid loamy and clayey soils' across the central third, and 'freely draining slightly acidic sandy soils' across the southern third.</i></p>

Compartments 5, 6, 10 and possibly 9 are located on former industrial landfill sites, registered under Duckworth Hall (EAHLD06962), BTP Duckworth Hall (EAHLD07595) and Cocker Chemicals (EAHLD07623)

The bedrock geology to the north and east of the site is 'Milnrow Sandstone – Sandstone', a sedimentary bedrock formed between 319 and 318 million years ago during the Carboniferous period, and to the south and west, 'Pennine Lower Coal Measures Formation - Mudstone, siltstone and sandstone', a sedimentary bedrock formed between 319 and 318 million years ago during the Carboniferous period.

There are a number of public rights of way throughout the site, which is used frequently by the local community. The site has a strong and focused community presence, with existing volunteer and educational sessions being held and well attended.

Compartment 1

Predominantly oak/ash woodland with occasional Scot's pine and alder throughout. Areas of overstood hazel shrubs in central, southeastern and northeastern areas of the compartment offer opportunity for coppicing. Power lines run overhead from northeast to south west, with a footpath and further hazel underneath. Wet area to north, west of obsolete quarry. Four roe deer seen during site survey in Feb 2024. Stock fence along western boundary in much disrepair; footpath north to south along eastern boundary. Evidence of ash dieback throughout. HV overhead electrical line running from north east to south west of compartment

Compartment 2

Predominantly oak/ash woodland with occasional Scot's pine and alder throughout. Hazel coppice along southeastern boundary. Evidence of ash dieback throughout. Central open wet clearing with rushes. Cluster of pine in narrow band jutting out to the west from main compartment area is cut north to south by HV overhead electrical line, continuing from compartment 1. A water course, Lottice Brook, borders south edge, with footpath along it.

Compartment 3

Predominantly oak/ash woodland with occasional Scot's pine and alder throughout. Significant ash regeneration throughout north of compartment, in a 50m band running east to west. Hazel coppice located at southeastern corner, alongside open marsh/wetland areas. Mature sycamore and beech on southern boundary adjacent to brook.

Interesting heritage feature of raised hawthorn hedgerow with stone banking, boxing out the south west corner of compartment. North and eastern compartment boundary mostly dry stone wall with stock fence on woodland side, with some gaps requiring repair. Compartment is bordered to south by Lottice Brook. Area of wetland in south east corner, outside of allocated woodland compartment. Overhead line at west end of compartment running north to south.

Lichens (spp.) abundant throughout. Evidence of ash dieback, with plenty of fallen trees and obvious structural defects/lost limbs; worst affected area surveyed.

Compartment 4

Compartment dominated by reservoirs; edge trees include willow, hawthorn, wych elm and horse chestnut. HV overhead electrical line running from north to south at east edge of compartment

Compartment 5

Small section of oak/ash woodland with Scot's pine, holly, hazel, alder to north/east alongside reservoir. Band of mature sycamore, holly along east boundary north to south. Open area in south west corner, scattered with Scot's pine, ash, hawthorn, broom with evidence of ash dieback throughout. Abundant silverweed, dock (spp.), thistle (spp.) and buttercup (spp.) at ground layer.

Compartment 6



Dominantly oak/ash woodland with mature sycamore located centrally on west boundary. Open area to the east. Wall repairs required on southern boundary. Evidence of ash dieback throughout. HV overhead electrical line running from north to south at east of compartment

Compartment 7

Dominantly oak/ash woodland with dense pocket of Scot's pine at central eastern boundary near to reservoir, and alder to north east and south east at compartment boundary. Wall repairs required on southern boundary with adjoining grazed farmland. Evidence of ash dieback throughout. Himalayan balsam throughout north east of compartment

Compartment 8

Wet alder woodland located in northwest of compartment alongside track (Brookside Lane), open space to south and south east. Bordered by reservoir to south and footpath to east with woodland contiguous outside of site boundary. Sycamore, beech and birch along north boundary alongside Lottice Brook.

Compartment 9

Dominantly oak/ash woodland with occasional Scot's pine and alder. Veteran hawthorn dotted through infrequently. Evidence of ash dieback throughout. Hardstanding in south east corner where former farm buildings located.

Compartment 10

Dominantly oak/ash or alder woodland in very wet area reaching west to south west, with infrequent Scot's pine, and some veteran hawthorn. Open area running north west to south east, through middle of compartment. Stock fence boundary in disrepair all round, footpath running along north compartment edge.

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](#) and the [Forestry Commission Land Information Search](#).

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

Feature	Within Woodland(s)	Cpts	Map No	Notes
Biodiversity - European Protected Species				
Bat	Species (if known)	<i>Not known, but expected</i>		<i>Open rides and strong shrub layer</i>
Dormouse		No		
Great Crested Newt		No		
Otter		No		
Sand Lizard		No		
Smooth Snake		No		
Natterjack Toad		No		
Biodiversity - Priority Species				
Schedule 1 Birds	Species:	<i>Barn owl</i>		<i>Recorded in 2019 Habitat survey</i>
Mammals (Red Squirrel, Water Vole, Pine Marten etc)		<i>Water vole</i>		<i>Recorded in LERN data record (ref 2019 Habitat survey)</i>
Reptiles (grass snake, adder, common lizard etc)		<i>Not known</i>		
Plants		Yes		
Fungi/Lichens		Yes		

Invertebrates (butterflies, moths, beetles etc)	<i>Not known, but expected</i>			<i>Open rides and strong shrub layer</i>
Amphibians (pool frog, common toad)	<i>Not known, potential</i>			
Other (please Specify):	<i>No</i>			
Historic Environment				
Scheduled Monuments	<i>No</i>			
Unscheduled Monuments	<i>No</i>			
Registered Parks and Gardens	<i>No</i>			
Boundaries and Veteran Trees	<i>Yes</i>			<i>Hawthorn hedgerows, dry stone walling and revetment along brook.</i>
Listed Buildings	<i>No</i>			
Burial Grounds	<i>No</i>			
Other (please Specify):	<i>Yes</i>			<i>See below</i>
<p><i>The site has historical links to the textile, printing mining and farming industries (inc. mill lodges) identified by Lancashire County Archaeology Service. The Historic Environment Search, and subsequent provision of a Historic Environment Report and detailed maps, were provided on 28 Jan 2019. Specifically the entries within the site boundary are, PRN22913 - Colliery - coal mine, PRN22914 - Colliery coal pits, PRN7162 - Calico Printworks, PRN7164 - Duckworth Colliery, PRN7180 - Sandstone quarry, PRN35007 - Dye house, and PRN40428 - Bury Meadow Farm</i></p>				
Landscape				
National Character Area (please Specify): <i>NCA 35. Lancashire Valleys</i>				
National Park	<i>No</i>			
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	<i>No</i>			
Other (please Specify):	<i>No</i>			
Access				
CROW Access	<i>No</i>			
Public Rights of Way (any)	<i>Yes</i>			<i>Footpaths and desire lines throughout</i>
Other Access Provision	<i>No</i>			
Public Involvement	<i>Yes</i>			<i>Strong volunteer group and public engagement</i>
Visitor Information	<i>Yes</i>			<i>Heritage and nature information boards</i>
Public Recreation Facilities	<i>No</i>			
Provision of Learning Opportunities	<i>Yes</i>			<i>Courses already undertaken on site (educational school visits and volunteer work parties)</i>
Anti-social Behaviour	<i>Yes</i>			<i>Camping, anti social behaviour and fly tipping recorded</i>
Other (please Specify):	<i>No</i>			

Water				
Watercourses	Yes			<i>Lottice Brook</i>
Lakes	No			
Ponds	Yes			<i>Four former industrial mill lodges (reservoirs)</i>
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	Yes	<i>All</i>		<i>Only 0.55ha recorded in 2019 Habitat survey</i>
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	Yes			<i>0.03ha recorded in 2019 Habitat survey</i>
Lowland heath land	No			
Lowland meadows	Yes			<i>0.54ha recorded in 2019 Habitat survey</i>
Lowland raised bog	No			
Rush pasture	No			
Reed bed	No			
Wood pasture	No			



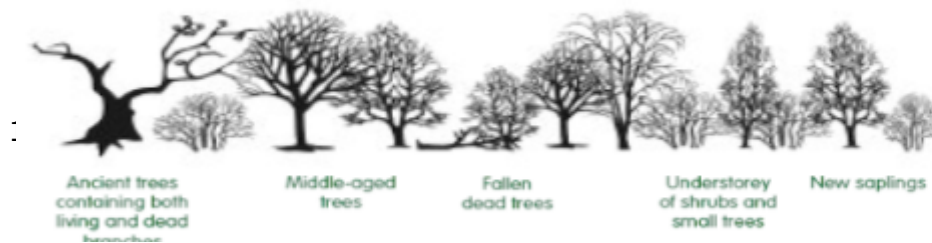
Upland hay meadows	<i>No</i>			
Upland heath land	<i>No</i>			
Unimproved grassland	<i>No</i>			
Peat lands	<i>No</i>			
Wetland habitats	<i>No</i>			
Other (please Specify):	<i>No</i>			

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)
<i>Mixed broadleaf</i>	40	<i>Even</i>	<i>Oak/ash stands with deadwood</i>
<i>Mixed broadleaf</i>	40	<i>Uneven</i>	<i>Some regen present, standing/fallen deadwood, windblow, understorey of holly/hazel</i>
<i>Coppice</i>	20	<i>Even</i>	<i>Overstood hazel coppice throughout site compartments, particularly under power line sections</i>

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)	<i>Ash dieback</i>
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	<i>High</i>
Impact (high/medium/low)	<i>High</i>
Response (inc. protection measures)	<i>Survey and felling of trees on public roads/footpaths underway – further work schedule to remove majority from site, with some areas left to monitor resilience/create deadwood habitat. Replant areas with native mixed broadleaves</i>

5.3 [Deer](#)

Species - Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	<i>Medium – Roe present</i>
Impact (high/medium/low)	<i>Medium</i>
Response (inc protection measures)	<i>No deer stalker operational at site due to public locality – address browsing throughout site with protection using deer fencing and tree tubes when establishing planting.</i>

5.4 Grey Squirrels

Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	<i>High – known presence</i>
Impact (high/medium/low)	<i>Medium</i>
Response (inc protection measures)	<i>Squirrel management should be undertaken at site, but facing similar issues as with deer management of public perception, removal/vandalism/tampering with traps. Investigations could be made with local squirrel managers to see whether control is feasible</i>

5.5 Livestock and Other Mammals

Threat (Sheep, Horse, Rabbit etc)	<i>Rabbits</i>
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	<i>Medium</i>
Impact (high/medium/low)	<i>Low</i>
Response (inc protection measures)	<i>Protection for new planting</i>

Threat (Sheep, Horse, Rabbit etc)	<i>Sheep</i>
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	<i>High</i>
Impact (high/medium/low)	<i>Low</i>
Response (inc protection measures)	<i>Stock fencing on woodland boundaries with grazed fields.</i>

5.6 Water & Soil

Threat (Soil Erosion, Acidification of Water, Pollution incidents etc)	<i>Diffuse pollution (silt and sediment) during felling operations near watercourses</i>
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	<i>Low</i>
Impact (high/medium/low)	<i>High</i>
Response (inc protection measures)	<i>Silt traps as required, if felling operations are in proximity to watercourses. Use of very small scale machinery would mitigate against any issues, as well as organising work to take place in dry weather</i>

5.7 Environmental

Threat (Pollution, Fire, Flood, Wind, Invasive Species, etc)	<i>Invasive species</i>
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	<i>High</i>
Impact (high/medium/low)	<i>Low</i>
Response (inc protection measures)	<i>Known presence of Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam. Address with volunteer groups; periodical monitoring throughout summer months JK would need to be treated with herbicide by a qualified contractor</i>

5.8 Social

Threat (Rights of Way, CROW, permissive access, events sporting rights, Anti-social Behaviour etc)	<i>Public footpaths</i>
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	<i>Medium – busy public use and high footfall</i>
Impact (high/medium/low)	<i>Low</i>
Response (inc protection measures)	<i>Maintaining footpaths for overgrown or fallen branches and windblow, ash dieback removal undertaken and continued monitoring required</i>

Threat (Rights of Way, CROW, permissive access, events sporting rights, Anti-social Behaviour etc)	<i>Access for timber extraction and areas for stacking timber</i>
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	<i>High</i>
Impact (high/medium/low)	<i>Low</i>
Response (inc. protection measures)	<i>Use of adjoining farmland/access may be required to facilitate harvesting operations – ground too steep or wet in parts</i>

Threat (Rights of Way, CROW, permissive access, events sporting rights, Anti-social Behaviour etc)	<i>Anti social behaviour – potential for vandalism</i>
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	<i>High</i>
Impact (high/medium/low)	<i>Low</i>
Response (inc. protection measures)	<i>Woodland management communicated through stakeholder engagement channels – woodland users vigilant and reporting of issues.</i>

5.9 Economic

Threat (Timber forecasting, markets, products, operational costs etc)	<i>Operational costs balanced by objective</i>
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	<i>Low</i>
Impact (high/medium/low)	<i>Low</i>
Response (inc protection measures)	<i>Commercial timber not an objective</i>

5.10 Climate Change Resilience

Threat (Uniform Structure, Provenance, Lack of Diversity etc)	<i>Uniform structure in most cpts due to young age and same planting year</i>
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	<i>Medium</i>
Impact (high/medium/low)	<i>Medium – woodland lacking distinct structural layers</i>

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><i>To conduct management activity that maintains and enhances the recreational and educational benefits of the woodland to its users and stakeholders</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Continue tree safety work addressing ash dieback by ensuring a programme of work is in place to address public site safety – currently underway with ash alongside public footpaths, to be included across all Cmpts in the Plan of Operations.</i> ▪ <i>Continue with public information/engagement on activities – mensuration, dieback awareness training etc.</i>
<p><i>To improve biodiversity through diversifying the range of tree and shrub species in the woodlands, and compliments adjacent non woodland habitats including wetlands, marsh and grasslands.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Establish regen/restock coupes in Cmpts 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9 & 10 to break up woodland species, age and structure (using trees and shrubs).</i> ▪ <i>Consider fruiting and flowering tree species such as wild cherry (<i>Prunus avium</i>), rowan (<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>), hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>), and hazel (<i>Corylus avellana</i>).</i> ▪ <i>Consider alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>), Scot’s pine (<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>), aspen (<i>Populus tremula</i>) hornbeam (<i>Carpinus betulus</i>) and field maple (<i>Acer campestre</i>).</i> ▪ <i>Hazel coppicing in Cmpts 1 2 & 3 with temporary deer fencing/dead hedging until regrowth is safe from browsing damage by deer.</i> ▪ <i>Ride management along open areas and woodland edges in Cmpts 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9 & 10 to develop transitional woodland structure for wildlife habitat.</i> ▪ <i>Wetland woodland habitat restoration in Cmpts 3, 4 & 8 planting alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>), downy birch (<i>Betula pubescens</i>), bird cherry (<i>Prunus Padus</i>), grey willow (<i>Salix cineria</i>) and goat willow (<i>Salix caprea</i>).</i> ▪ <i>Enhance field layer in targeted areas by planting native plant plugs</i> ▪ <i>Providing bird feeding stations and erecting bat boxes</i>
<p><i>To enhance resistance and resilience through changing the age and structure of the woodlands, eventually creating distinct vertical layers and therefore varied habitats throughout the woodlands.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Establish enrichment planting coupes in Cmpts 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9 & 10 to break up woodland species, age and structure; ensure appropriate tree protection measures – 1.2m tubes or temporary deer fencing for larger areas (to reduce amount of plastic in the environment and more likely to be removed).</i> ▪ <i>Repair or establish boundaries where required to protect woodland and non-woodland habitat from browsing sheep and deer, in all Cmpts.</i>
<p><i>To develop and explore the carbon sequestration potential through tree</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Establish restocking coupes with site selected tree species for carbon capture, sympathetic to the overarching conservation objectives.</i>

species selection and utilisation of wood products.

- *Consider higher yield class 'feature' species for area (i.e. non native conifers such as Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*), Norway spruce (*Picea abies*), or Western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*). Consideration should be made towards public perception of replanting with non native conifers to balance appetite for carbon sequestration (a higher yield class will result in higher carbon capture). Consider management implications for felling large (+30m) conifer in future.*

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.

See Annex C for detail of wider stakeholder (steering group) engagement activity.

Work Proposal	Individual/ Organisation	Date Contacted	Date feedback received	Response	Action
All	Brookside Steering Group	31/07/24	August 2024	See notes below	WMP amended as appropriate to comments
<p><u>Notes</u> From Lancashire Wildlife Trust,</p> <p>Hello all,</p> <p>Following consultation with / permission from John Lamb, I would like to add the following comments to the management plan in unedited form:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I think the Ash dieback will naturally create glades in many areas, which might "save" on the expense of glade creation? The large areas where it is dying (as it has been planted in blocks in many areas) are developing into glades by default. I think coppicing some Hazel would be an excellent idea - a good habitat and enough Hazel on site for this to be beneficial / meaningful (ecologically). The combination of glades and coppicing could also allow for development of a woodland edge flora, which could happen naturally but may require seeding / plug planting as the site is cut off from potential species recruitment areas by very species poor grassland in most directions, or hard infrastructure. From a "balance" perspective (with Brookside being effectively an ex-farmland and chemical works - open habitats historically with very little woody species naturally present), I would think enough trees have been planted on the site? The habitats on site that have much declined / reduce and are rapidly losing condition / value on site are the grassland habitats (and to an extent, the waterbodies). What had previously been species-rich habitat mosaics on previously developed land and moderately species rich grassland (both neutral and acidic) is rapidly becoming species poor neutral grassland in most areas due to lack of management, atmospheric nitrification favouring coarse grasses / negative indicators (including Creeping Thistle) and encroachment of ruderals and scrub (especially Blackthorn to the west of the site) reducing valuable grassland cover. In the past the site has had Melancholy Thistle (probably to the west of the site on neutral grassland) has been present which gives an impression of how valuable / diverse that grassland probably was - historically and when managed (and how it may be restored and extended). I realise the objectives in the plan are predominantly from a forestry perspective but thought it was important to flag up how much the (previously valuable) open habitats have reduced and are rapidly losing ecological value. Even the much smaller areas that are left are far more valuable than the ecologically moribund agricultural land that surrounds them. Microhabitats and habitat mosaics are of great benefit, heterogeneity / varied structure across the site could be essential for the continued survival of a wide range of animals and plants. 					

- *Hornbeam and Field Maple are possibly v. rare relict native species in areas of North Lancashire / V.C. 60 (Greenwood, 2011) and would add to species diversity, but I don't know how well they would grow on the soils at Brookside - they thrive on less fertile, base rich soils - at least in Lancashire - where most have been planted as part of amenity schemes or as parkland trees.*
- *In terms of increasing the amount / quota of planted trees - if there is a pre-determined target (for carbon sequestration etc) could the relict hedges on site be gapped up, possibly with species boundary hedges re-instated in some areas? I suppose this cross cuts ecologically and culturally, but could in the former sense lead to restoration of long established habitat features.*

Kind regards,

*Ben Hargreaves,
Lancashire Wildlife Trust,
Invertebrate Projects Officer.*

From Proffitts,

Hi Doug

Im ok with the draft thanks.

Martin Proffitt

Proffitts - Investing in Communities

From Prospects,

Hi Doug,

I think it looks really good and I don't have much to add. I have learned a lot from reading through it with our tree action officer, Helen.

My only questions would be:

- *Do we have a timeframe for hazel coppicing in mind? There are some hazels on site that I think have gone 20+ years since the last cut judging by the growth. If we plan to do rotational coppicing, should we specify how many years of growth?*
- *Is it worth planting ash even in the face of the dieback? Your friend from LandScan was very keen on this idea to maintain the soil dwelling species that rely on ash. I don't have an opinion, I just thought it was an interesting perspective.*

It's also worth mentioning that Prospects are busily creating a tree nursery on the site of an old allotment. In the next few years we hope this will be up and running and could hopefully supply some trees for the site.

Best wishes,

<p>Alice</p> <p>Alice Pooley 07760 678087 Brookside Restoration Officer The PROSPECTS Foundation</p>					
All	Stanhill Village Residents Committee (Parish Council)	31/07/24	20/08/24	See notes below	Adjacent landowners consulted when planning operations
<p><u>Notes</u> Doug To document the 2 points I mentioned at the last steering group meeting. 1. The plan to consider the suggested boundary proposals between Brookside and Kemp Delph. 2. The 2 landowners to the north side of the brook to be consulted on the WMP.</p> <p>Regards Andy Barnes SVCA Mob:07941236633</p>					
All	Lancashire County Archaeology Service	20/09/24	None	See notes below	None
<p><u>Notes</u> Consulted Lancashire County Archaeology Service to understand if any update to Historic Environment Report and detailed maps, dated 28 Jan 2019. The report outlined all heritage monuments within the site boundary (see section 4.2). No response for update received.</p>					

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
<i>To conduct management activity that maintains and enhances the recreational and educational benefits of the woodland to its users and stakeholders i.e. selective felling for regen coupes, ash dieback, woodland restructure</i>	<i>On completion of programme of work</i>	<i>Survey relevant compartments on work completion</i>	<i>After each operation, and review annually</i>	<i>Forest Manager</i>	
<i>To improve biodiversity through diversifying the range of tree and shrub species in the woodlands, and compliments adjacent non-woodland habitats including wetlands, marsh and grasslands.</i>	<i>Completion and establishment of habitat restoration work, regen/restock coupes, coppicing and ride management</i>	<i>Survey relevant compartments on work completion; Habitat/wildlife surveys</i>	<i>After each operation, and review annually</i>	<i>Forest Manager, Lancashire Wildlife Trust, educational or volunteer Groups</i>	
<i>To enhance resistance and resilience through changing the age and structure of the woodlands, eventually creating distinct vertical layers and therefore varied habitats throughout the woodlands.</i>	<i>Completion and establishment of regen/restock coupes Completion of boundary repair where required.</i>	<i>Survey relevant compartments on work completion; Habitat/wildlife surveys</i>	<i>After each operation, and review annually</i>	<i>Forest Manager, Lancashire Wildlife Trust, educational or volunteer Groups</i>	
<i>To develop and explore the carbon sequestration potential through tree species selection and utilisation of wood products.</i>	<i>Completion and establishment of restock coupes</i>	<i>Survey relevant compartments on work completion</i>	<i>After each operation, and review annually</i>	<i>Forest Manager</i>	

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. 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-assessed and any necessary changes made to meet UKFS requirements. Forests should be designed to achieve a diverse structure of habitat, species and</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/No	

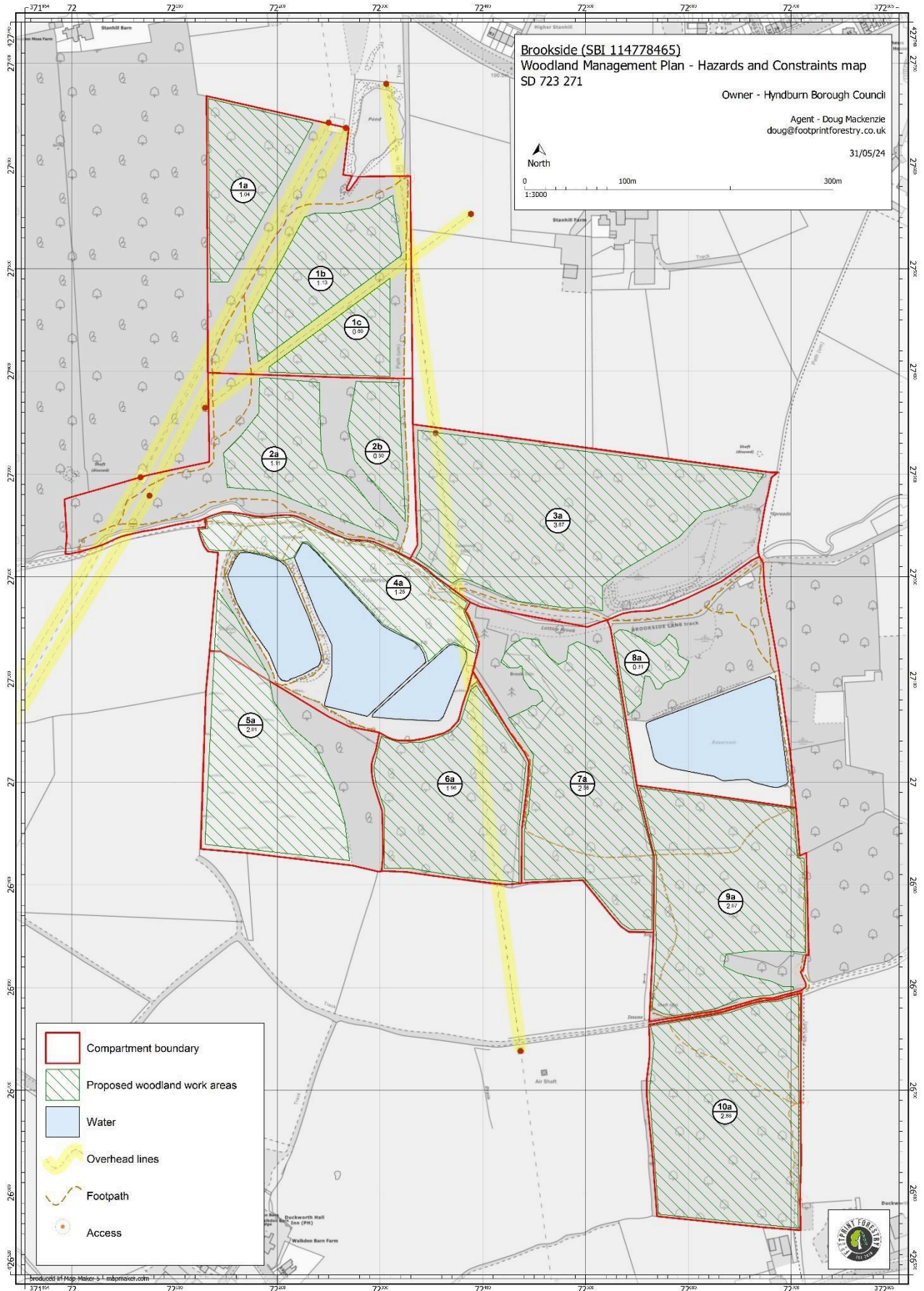
<p>age range of trees, appropriate to the scale and context.</p> <p>Forests characterised by a lack of diversity, due to extensive areas of even-aged trees, should be progressively restructured to achieve age class range.</p>			
<p>Consultation: Consultation on forest management plans and proposals should 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. 	Yes/No	
<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 identified per management objective 	Yes/No	

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

Annex A – Maps - Overview

but there was also evidence of the site being used for camping, fly tipping and other anti-social behaviour, [see photo below](#).

Annex B – Hazards and Constraints map



Annex C – Stakeholder Engagement

Group	Description	Stakeholder	Communication
Mandatory stakeholders	Contacted for review and comment on WMP once draft agreed with Hyndburn BC, as required by FC Ops Note	Hyndburn Borough Council Stanhill Village Residents Committee County Archaeology Service - due to be updated via HER report (last report 2019)	Email
Steering Group stakeholders	Interested parties/organisations consulted on WMP objectives at Steering Group, to understand any opportunities or constraints from existing or upcoming projects	Hyndburn Borough Council Stanhill Village Residents Committee Lancashire Wildlife Trust Ribble Rivers Trust Prospects Proffitts LCC Public Rights of Way Lancashire Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Footprint Forestry	Email/Video call/In person steering group meetings
Public stakeholders	Informed about WMP objectives and asked to contribute views on specific outcomes/uses/access.	All site users including educational groups, volunteer work parties	In person meeting