



Forestry Commission

North West England

High Stand Forest Design Plan

Future Woodland Management

This map shows the proposals for managing the woodland over the next 30 years.

3D computer generated perspectives have not been created as the woodland is not prominent enough on the landscape.

Future Woodland Management

- Clear Fell between 2007 & 2011
- Clear Fell between 2012 & 2016
- Clear Fell between 2017 & 2021
- Clear Fell between 2022 & 2026
- Clear Fell between 2027 & 2031
- Clear Fell after 2042
- Continuous Cover
- Minimal Intervention
- Scheduled for Restock 2010

Date Summer 2009
Scale 1:10,000
Contact Adrian Jones
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There are no wider landscape issues with High Stand, however, broadleaved species along external boundaries will be encouraged unless they are considered to pose a risk to health & safety.

This area will be managed under continuous cover prescription & while a conifer component will be retained for structural & habitat diversity, broadleaved species will be favoured.

Clearfell 1960/70 Corsican & Scots pine in two felling periods as growth is not expected to increase significantly mainly due to RBNB.

The swathe of woodland designated continuous cover will favour both broadleaved & conifer species with the exception of Corsican Pine which will be targeted for removal at thinning operations. This is an attempt to prevent further spread of RBNB.

Areas of advanced broadleaved natural regeneration will be allowed to grow to a harvestable age when they will be clearfelled (for example, for the woodfuel market) & then replanted with productive conifer species.

This part of the woodland has a high wind hazard class of 4. Comprising mature trees which are under thinned & increasingly unstable & prone to windblow, there are no internal windfirm edges to fell to so it will be clearfelled in one operation.

Remove the standing timber which survived the storm of 2005. These trees are unstable & vulnerable to further wind damage.

Remove the conifer component from the conservation area around the ponds. Include the small stand of alder so that it can be managed under a coppice system in the future.



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Future Woodland Species

This map illustrates the proposals for the future woodland species.

- Larch
- Larch & Douglas Fir
- Mixed Broadleaves & Mixed Conifers
- Open Ground
- Plan Boundary
- Neighbouring Woodland
- Ancient Semi-natural Woodland

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A broadleaved buffer zone along Highstand Gill & a reduction in conifer species overall in this area will benefit the wildlife corridor to the neighbouring ancient semi-natural woodland.

Regeneration of broadleaves, including wet woodland species such as alder will be encouraged. Continuous cover management will gradually remove conifers in favour of broadleaves although an element of up to 30% will be accepted.

Planned clearfells in this NE zone will be replanted with larch & managed under continuous cover systems. Regeneration of larch in these areas & in the existing larch stands will be encouraged through thinning operations. Up to 20% of broadleaf regeneration will be accepted & there may be opportunities to underplant with Douglas fir where suitable. Elsewhere in this zone, native broadleaves are expected to dominate and in particular birch.

Larch & Douglas Fir will become the dominant conifer species initially through planting & accepting regeneration that may occur. Planting will aim to be mainly intimate mixes dependant on site conditions. Up to 20% Spruce may be included in the mix either through planting or natural regeneration where soils are appropriate. Broadleaf intrusion of up to 10% will be accepted.

Forest edges will be kept back 5-20m from forest roadsides to provide either an open or graded shrubby habitat. Open space will develop throughout the forest as part of the dynamic process of natural regeneration. A broadleaved edge will be encouraged alongside path edges.










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Future Access, Community, Health & Well-being

This map illustrates how the plan aims to deliver actions toward Aim 4 of the 'England's Trees, Woods & Forests Strategy' to improve the quality of life of visitors & the local community.

-  Gate
-  Car Park
-  Permissive Path
-  Footpath
-  Forest Track
-  Forest Road
-  Forest Road Temp Heavy Usage
-  Public Road
-  Plan Boundary

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Managing this part of the woodland under continuous cover will maintain & enhance the environment for visitors from the caravan park, walkers & those who come to fish under the existing fishing lease.

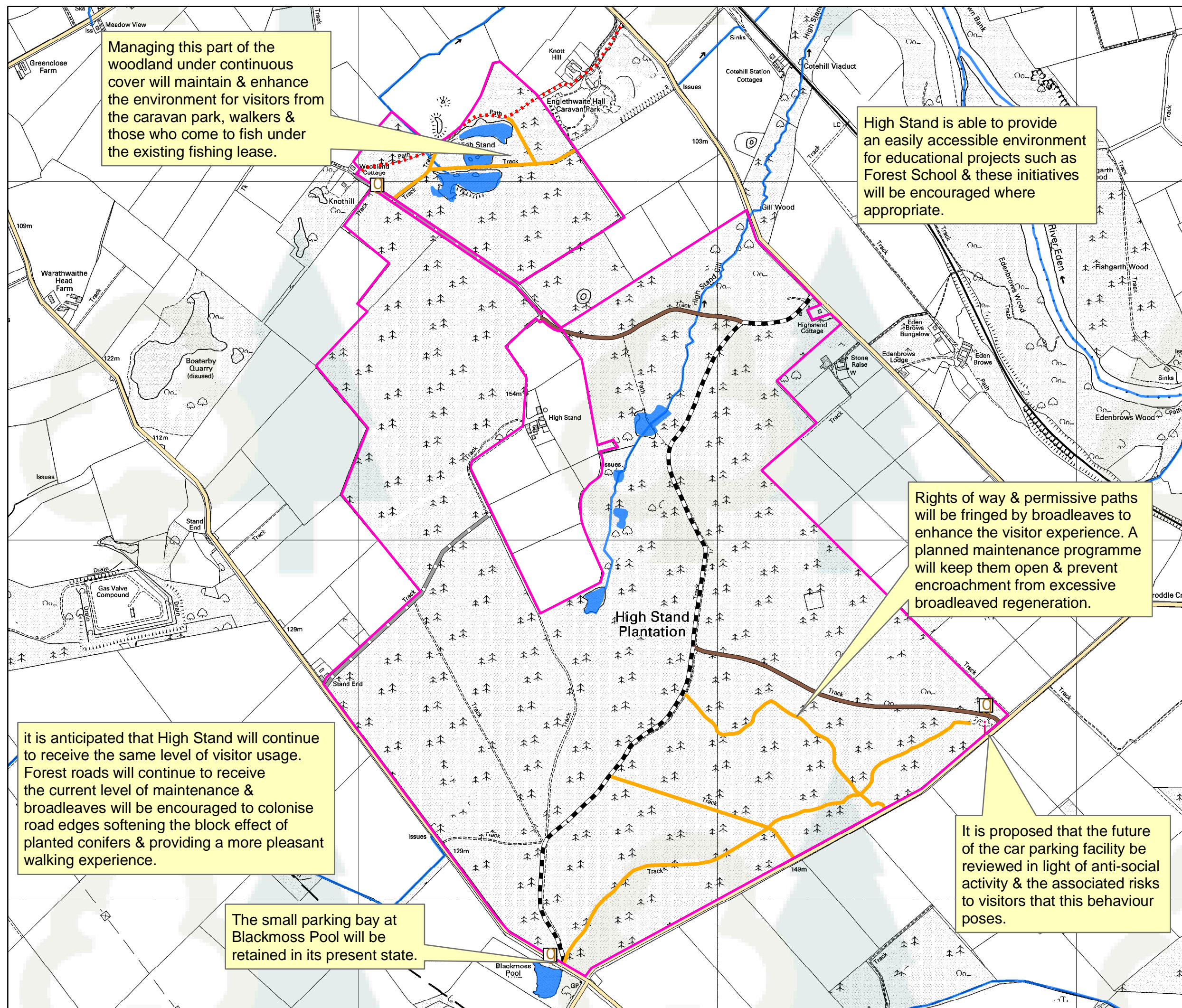
High Stand is able to provide an easily accessible environment for educational projects such as Forest School & these initiatives will be encouraged where appropriate.

Rights of way & permissive paths will be fringed by broadleaves to enhance the visitor experience. A planned maintenance programme will keep them open & prevent encroachment from excessive broadleaved regeneration.

It is proposed that the future of the car parking facility be reviewed in light of anti-social activity & the associated risks to visitors that this behaviour poses.

it is anticipated that High Stand will continue to receive the same level of visitor usage. Forest roads will continue to receive the current level of maintenance & broadleaves will be encouraged to colonise road edges softening the block effect of planted conifers & providing a more pleasant walking experience.

The small parking bay at Blackmoss Pool will be retained in its present state.





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Future Nature Conservation & Heritage

This map illustrates how the plan will deliver real benefits to the natural environment & in so doing significantly contribute to the aims of 'England's Trees, Woods & Forests Strategy'.

- Footpath
- Permissive Path
- /// Conservation Ponds Site
- CCF & Minimal Intervention
- Watercourse
- Plan Boundary
- Public Road
- Neighbouring Woodland
- Ancient Sem-natural Woodland

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The bird, owl & bat box programme is planned to continue by FC Wildlife Ranger staff. It is also anticipated that the annual butterfly monitoring programme will continue to be carried out by volunteers.

Broadleaved & wetland woodland will gradually develop in this part of High Stand as continuous cover management favours existing trees & regeneration.

The Conservation Ponds area will continue to be managed with the objective of maintaining & enhancing a variety of wildlife habitats. This also applies to the wider habitats including the River Eden cSAC.

Managing the alder under a coppice system will benefit certain butterfly species including fritillaries.

Within the areas of CCF & Minimal Intervention, open areas will develop as part of the dynamic woodland processes of regeneration, growth & decay. This process will also contribute to the deadwood component.

The reduction in conifer species & the creation of a riparian buffer zone which will become colonised by broadleaved species will act as a wildlife corridor to the adjacent ancient semi-natural woodland thereby greatly increasing its habitat value. All forest operations will ensure the protection of water quality.

Maintaining wider open &/or graded roadside edges will enhance butterfly & other invertebrate habitat.

Transformation to continuous cover management will encourage a continuous forest canopy benefiting the red squirrel population. The species will also benefit from a significant proportion of the forest being restocked with conifer species.



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Planning for Climate Change

This map attempts to illustrate how future management of the forest is taking into account understanding of how climate change may impact on UK forests. (see FC Bulletin 125)

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Species choice is based on Ecological Site Classification to ensure species are suited to the site. This will make it more likely that they are able to adapt to future changes in climate.

Maintaining a mixture of species will help to safeguard against the effect of species specific pest & disease, for example RBNB of pine.

increasing native woodland will increase the opportunities for local wood fuel production & provide a wider range of habitats where flora & fauna can find a suitable niche to help them mitigate the effects of climate change.

Increasing riparian woodland by enabling natural regeneration processes to take place will help to protect soils & watercourses against the threat of soil erosion from the predicted increase in quantity & intensity of rainfall.

Reduced carbon dioxide emissions by using local contractors wherever possible and therefore minimising travel to work sites.

Moving from clearfelling to continuous cover forestry management places greater emphasis on working with natural processes & reduces interventions such as ground preparation. This protects soils & helps maintain robust woodland processes which should be better adapted to climate change.

