

Appendix I

The Robin and Repton Forest Plan Brief

Introduction

This Forest Plan (FP) summaries proposals by the Forestry Commission for the management of five woodlands, Robin (98.1ha), Repton (83.4ha), Hartshorne (31.7ha), Poppy (26.6ha) and Stanton by Bridge (19.2ha) which lie in the National Forest, South Derbyshire. The plan area of 259.1ha lies 10km south of Derby, 7km east of Burton on Trent and have easy access from both the M1 and A38.

Landscape setting

The plan area comprises of mature plantation on ancient woodland sites (PAWs) and new secondary woodland Situated in rolling, predominantly arable, countryside rising from the flood plain on the southern side of the River Trent. The area has a long history going back to when Repton village was the capital of Mercia in AD653 with many of the fields having ancient names handed down through the century's. Principal views of Robin, Poppy, Hartshorne and Stanton by Bridge are from the A514 that runs between Swadlincote north to Derby. Repton Wood is more remote and only clearly visible from a few minor roads west of Repton village.

Economic

The woodlands are all situated on fertile free draining soils producing high yields. Repton and Robin wood were planted between 1958 and 1968 with 50% pure conifer crops and 50% mixed conifer and broadleaves. Corsican and Scots pine were the main species planted and now at the end of their economic rotation, harvesting operations have now commenced. The plan will phase in the harvesting over the next 50 years to ensure a continuity of woodland cover which will mean retaining some stands past their economic rotation. This will ensure a sustainable harvesting programme can be delivered in the mature woodlands throughout the life of this plan.

Poppy and Hartshorne Wood were recently planted (2002 onwards) with a mixture of broadleaved species. The first thinning operations will begin in the next 10 year period to help restructure some of the more densely planted area. Stanton by Bridge is due to be

planted in the next year and their will now be income generated through harvesting operations of these new woodland sites over the next 20 years.

The is no income regeneration through recreation at this time although opportunities for events may generate some revenue to offset management costs in the future.

Environmental

The woodland structure in both the mature and new woodlands is quiet uniform which has limited the diversity of woodland habitats available. The new plan will diversity the structure through a combination of phased clearfell operations and Low Impact Silvicultural Systems. The forest plan will address the fact that there is limited deadwood habitats and no ecologically mature trees within the plan area. This will be achieved through the retention of some trees of special interest (TSI) in perpetuity and leaving some areas of woodland unmanaged and to evolve naturally. Water courses have not been managed and the plan will begin to restructure the dominant mature stands that have prevented an understory developing in the riparian zone. Ride side management is taking place in the new woodlands and this is having a positive effect on the butterfly population that is monitored annually.

3.3 Social

The FC will continue to promote access into its freehold woodlands (Robin, Poppy, Hartshorne and Stanton by Bridge) but due to the lease restriction under which Repton Wood is managed for forestry purposes the FC is prevented from allowing public access into Repton Wood. There is a car park in Poppy Wood used regularly on a daily basis by dog walkers and the acquisition of Stanton By Bridge will increase further the land avaiable for public access.

Consultation

The consultation period will run from Oct 2016 through to Nov 2016 after which time the Forest Pan will be finalised and submitted onto the public register for approval.

Appendix I—Glossary**Biological Diversity**

The richness and variety of wildlife and habitats.

Canopy

The mass of foliage and branches formed collectively by the crowns of trees.

Clearfell System

The removal of all trees in one operation >0.5ha.

Coupes

Areas of forest that have been or will be managed together.

Ecosystems

An ecosystem includes all of the living things (plants, animals and organisms) in a given area, interacting with each other, and also with their non-living environments (weather, earth, sun, soil, climate).

England Forestry Strategy (now England's Trees Woodlands and Forests)

Describes how the Government will deliver its forestry policies in England and sets out the Government's priorities for the next five to ten years.

Forestry and Water guidelines 5th edition 2011

Forests and Water is one of a series of seven Guidelines that support the United Kingdom Forestry Standard (UKFS). The UKFS and Guidelines outline the context for forestry in the UK, set out the approach of the UK governments to sustainable forest management, define standards and requirements, and provide a basis for regulation and monitoring including national and international reporting.

Forestry Commission Guidelines

Outline the principles and standards of good management practices in forests and woodlands for landowners, land managers and their advisors.

Forest Plan (FP)

An approved plan that outlines felling operation over a 10 year period, outlining proposals over the next 50 years. The FDP's are reviewed every 5 years and redrawn and approved every 10 years.

Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)

An internationally recognised body made up of non-government organisations promoting sustainable forest management to the forest industry and consumers.

Historic Environment

These are the physical remains of every period of human development from 450,000 years ago and include earthworks, buried remains, structures and buildings.

Landscape Character

England is renowned for its rich, diverse and beautiful landscapes which have their own distinct local character. These have been shaped over many thousands of years by natural influences such as soil and landform and by generations of human activity.

Long Term Retention

Trees that are being retained beyond their economic rotation.

Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS)

Describes a number of felling systems (shelterwood, group felling, selection systems) which avoid large scale felling coupes and the forest canopy is maintained at one or more levels.

Natural Character Areas (NCAs)

England is divided into 159 distinct natural areas. Each is defined by a unique combination of landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity and cultural and economic activity.

Natural regeneration

The growth of trees from seed found in the soil or cast from adjacent trees and shrubs.

Operational Plans (Ops1)

Detailed site plans that are prepared in advance of all major forest operations and identify site constraints, opportunities and areas requiring special treatment or protection.

Origin

The geographic locality within the natural range of a species where the parent seed source or its wild ancestors grew.

Provenance

The geographic locality of a stand of trees from where the seed was collected.

Public Rights of Way (PROW)

Access routes open to the public through legal designation.

Restocking

The re-establishment of trees where felling has taken place. Restocking may be achieved through natural regeneration but as a term, it is more usually associated with replanting.

Ride

Forestry term for unsurfaced roads, paths and tracks within a woodland.

Scheduled Monuments

Nationally important archaeological sites which are protected under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979.

Secondary Woodland

²⁸ Woodlands that have been established on land that was formally used as pasture, meadows, arable, quarries etc and has not continually been wooded

Selective Felling

Where individual trees of varying sizes are selected and removed from a stand. The whole stand is worked and its aim is to maintain full stocking of all tree sizes and ages, from seedlings to mature trees, in any one area.

Silvicultural Systems

Techniques of managing a forest through a variety of cutting / felling patterns and time scale.

Sub-compartments

Areas of forest comprising a more or less homogeneous crop in terms of age, species composition and condition. Their boundaries may change as the forest develops after felling and restocking.

Strategic Plan

Serves as a guide to the management of woodlands within Central England Forest District. It divides the district into zones for the purpose of management and ensures that forestry activities reflect the local ecological, social and cultural individuality of woodland. Strategic objectives for each zone are presented within the context of the Government's strategic priorities for forestry in England (e.g. forestry for rural development; forestry for economic regeneration; forestry for recreation, access and tourism and forestry for the environment and conservation).

Thinning

The removal of a proportion of the trees in a sub-compartment to improve the quality of the remaining trees, accelerate individual tree growth and provide income.

UK Forestry Standard (UKFS)

Outlines the Government's criteria and standards for the sustainable management of forests in the UK.

UK Woodland Assurance Scheme (UKWAS)

A voluntary scheme for the independent assessment of forest management in the UK. The Scheme has been developed by a partnership of forestry and environmental organisations in response to the growing consumer demand for timber products from sustainably managed forests. It has been designed to ensure that it reflects the requirements of both the Government's UK Forestry Standard - and through this the guidelines adopted by European Forestry Ministers at Helsinki in 1993 - and the Forest Stewardship Council's (FSC's) GB Standard.

Trees of special interest (TSI)

A tree that is of interest biologically, aesthetically or culturally because of its age, or a tree that is in the ancient stage of its life, or a tree that is old relative to others of the same species.

Yield Class

Yield class is a measure of the growth rate of a tree crop and is the maximum average rate of volume increment (increase) that a particular crop can achieve. For example, a crop capable of a maximum annual increment of 14 m³ per hectare has a yield class of 14.

Perspective No. 1 – View of the north west side of Repton Wood 2016



Perspective No. 1 – View of the north west side of Repton Wood 2003



Perspective No.2 – View of the western side of Repton Wood 2016



Perspective No.2 – View of the western side of Repton Wood 2003



Perspective No. 3 – View of the southern side of Repton Wood 2016



Perspective No. 4 – View from picnic benches overlooking Hartshorne Wood 2016



Perspective No. 5 – View of the west side of Hartshorne Wood 2016



Perspective No. 6 – View of Open wildflower meadow on the Southern side of Hartshorne Wood 2016



Perspective No. 7 – View of the south side of Robin Wood 2016



Perspective No. 7 – View of the south side of Robin Wood 2003



Perspective No. 8 – View of the east side of Robin Wood 2016



Perspective No. 8 – View of the east side of Robin Wood 2003



Perspective No. 9 – View north over Poppy Wood 2016



Perspective No. 10 – View west over Poppy Wood 2016



Perspective No. 11 – View of from car park onto Poppy Wood 2016

